



The African Studies Association of Australia and the Pacific

Habari kwa ufupi – AFSAAP
Newsletter No. 95 – March 2019

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Retirement of Dr. Tanya Lyons

With a heavy heart the AFSAAP executive team announces that Tanya Lyons is retiring from her responsibilities as the Managing Editor of the Australasian Review of African Studies, and also acting- Treasurer of AFSAAP.

Tanya has been invaluable to AFSAAP. She has been part of the AFSAAP team for an impressive 25 years. In 1994, she attended her first AFSAAP conference, as a postgraduate from the University of Adelaide. Between 1995-1999, she was the Postgraduate Coordinator of AFSAAP. After completing her PhD in 2000 (*Guns and Guerrilla Girls: Women in the Zimbabwean Liberation Struggle - African World Press, Lawrenceville, NJ, 2004*), since 2000 she has undertaken various executive roles such as Secretary, Treasurer, Webmaster and administrator for AFSAAP online.(when websites became necessary, and then when social media took over). From 2008 onwards, Tanya became the Managing Editor of the Australasian Review of African Studies (AFSAAP's Journal), a role in which she has been annually re-elected to, by the AFSAAP membership. With various co-editors, she has been able to get ARAS recognized by the main indexes and all the while remain an independent journal, published by AFSAAP. Between 2012-2017 Tanya was the President of AFSAAP. Tanya also convened and hosted three AFSAAP conferences in 2003, 2011 and in 2017.

We are incredibly grateful to Tanya for very many reasons. Thanks to Tanya, AFSAAP is where it is today. Because of her, many excellent articles have been published in ARAS, and students, academics and others have gathered at AFSAAP conferences – sharing knowledge as well as celebrating African Studies in the region. Especially for postgraduate students her everlasting promotion of and interest in their research projects, and her always encouraging words have been extremely valuable. In particular she has facilitated the annual AFSAAP Postgraduate



Prizes, and other travel grants helping students to promote the research. Tanya was truly the glue that held the AFSAAP family together, our very own 'mama AFSAAP'.

Tanya's retirement from AFSAAP means that it is now time for a younger generation of Africanists to step up and lead AFSAAP into a bright future. Let's not let her down!

We want to wish Tanya all the best with her future endeavours.

AFSAAP 42nd Annual Conference, Dunedin, New Zealand Dates are now out!!!

The 42nd Annual conference will be held at the University of Otago, New Zealand. The dates for the Conference for 2019 are now out!!!

The conference will be held on the 26-27th (and provisionally the 28th) of November 2019 at St. Margaret's College, University of Otago, New Zealand. This will be a historic conference as it coincides with the 150th anniversary of the University of Otago, the oldest university in New Zealand

Further information, including details about the theme of the conference, the Call for Papers and registration costs will be announced in due course. For now, please save the dates and keep checking the AFSAAP website.

AFSAAP Executive 2019

As normal, all office bearing positions of the African Association of Australia and the Pacific (AFSAAP) were declared open at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). The AGM was held on November 23rd, 2019 at the tail end of the UNSW Conference. AFSAAP thanks all members who participated in this process, chaired by David Lucas.

The following were either retained/re-elected or newly elected into the 2019 Executive:

- ❖ **President** - Peter Limb (re-elected)
 - ❖ **Vice-President** - Anne Bartlett (re-elected)
 - ❖ **Secretary** - Edson Ziso (re-elected)
 - ❖ **Treasurer** - James Dhizaala (elected)
 - ❖ **Postgraduate Representatives** - Leighann Spencer (Executive - re-elected)
Chiemezie Nwosu, Necia Billinghamurst
(both elected)
 - ❖ **ARAS Journal Editorial Team** - Peter Limb, Geoffrey Hawker (*Editor in Chief*), and co-editors Mengistu Amberber, Peter Limb, and Anne Bartlett; Tass Holmes
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NEW Cherry Gertzel Bursary Award!!!

Professor Cherry Gertzel AM (1928 – 2015) was an internationally recognised scholar of history and politics in the field of African Studies. She was a foundation member of the African Studies Association of Australasia and the Pacific (AFSAAP). The Cherry Gertzel Bursary Award is an annual award to assist female post-graduate students to complete study or research in African Studies. Please find more details on our [website](#).

RECENT EVENTS

41st AFSAAP Annual Conference a resounding success!

The 41st AFSAAP Annual Conference held under the theme 'Africa in Transition: Governance, Society and Culture' was successfully held between November 21st – 23rd 2018 at the University of New South Wales, Sydney. Convened by Africanist scholar Dr. Anne Bartlett (University of New South Wales), the conference which consisted of fascinating panels, roundtables, thematic conversations and individual papers drew participants from many countries.

Ryszard Kapuściński's book on Angola in 1976 has been made into a film. The link to the film can be found [here](#).

Australia National University (ANU)

In February, the ANU African Studies group held its first monthly discussion of the year. The speaker, Dr. Ibrahim Abraham, the Hans Mol Fellow in Religion and the Social Sciences, Humanities Research Centre, ANU, stimulated a great discussion about class and governance among the participants, with examples from Nigeria and Ghana, bouncing off the speaker's own case study on the ambitions and constraints of the new black middle class in South Africa and its relationship with the student movement. The group discussed coming plans for the year, including future speakers. (Margaret O'Callaghan)

[Facebook](#)

ADELAIDE/PERTH

The WOMAdelaide Festival

In March 2019 included several top African performers, including Angélique Kidjo of Benin, Fatoumata Diawara (Mali), Baloji (DR Congo/Belgium), Circus Abyssinia and BCUC (Bantu Continua Uhuru Consciousness) from Soweto. The Festival of Perth in February-March 2019 also included African performers such as the ballet Giselle by South African dancer and choreographer Dada Masilo.

Award-winning African author Ben Okri discusses life, arts and politics at UWA.



Ben Okri is a Nigerian poet and novelist whose work is a celebration of artistic valour. [More information here.](#)

'Hands off Africa' Conference

The conference on Hands Off Africa!! conference was held on 6 December 2018 at the University of London by the Institute of Commonwealth Studies (ICWS), School of Advanced Study, and Westminster United Nations Association, under the title of 'Hands Off Africa!!' The 1958 All African People's Conference: Its Impact Then and Now'. It brought together people from that era, including Cameron Duodu, Joseph Amamoo and Bereket Habte Selassie, who - as it turned out - all knew Lord Paul Boateng, who chaired the Round Table. This was very moving. More details [here](#).

NEW ZEALAND

The 2019 University of Otago Arts Fellows include Antonio Ssebuuma, performer, teacher, choreographer, community arts practitioner, and director of arts initiatives. His artistic repertoire includes a blend of styles including hip-hop, contemporary, dancehall break-dance, house dance, and Ugandan traditional dances.

AfREC events

AfREC produces research, teaching, training and other collaborations with partners to address sustainable development challenges and responsibilities and to strengthen wider Australia-Africa relations.

AfREC convenes inaugural Africa Research Showcase at UWA

AfREC convened its inaugural Africa Research Showcase on Friday 15 February 2019 to highlight and promote the Africa-focused research being done by the Centre's Research Fellows, Postgraduate Fellows and their collaborators . More information [here](#).

AfREC cited in Australian Government response to Senate inquiry recommendations

AfREC has [received](#) a positive citation from the Australian Government in its formal response to the Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Reference Committee.

South Sudanese academic and senior policy advisor gives public lecture at UWA

On 21 February 2019, The University of Western Australia [hosted](#) Dr. John Gai Yoh, Special Advisor on Education to the President of South Sudan Salva Kiir.

AfREC participates in JAMBO Africa Festival 2019. Details [here](#).

WA Minister for Women's Interests to speak at launch of new AfREC-OAC Women's leadership program.



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UPCOMING EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

Academic Writing in a Tranquil Environment

Escape for a week to write in the secluded mountains of Bali! This residential writing retreat is designed for scholars requiring deep work and focus. Details [here](#).

Miss Africa Perth 2019

Date: Sat 30 March 2019,

Venue: Astor Theatre, Mt Lawley, WA

AfREC Advisory Board Member Dr Casta Tungaraza is involved in convening this [fantastic annual event](#). Tickets are available [here](#) and going fast!

A special film shot in Malawi

Date: To be confirmed,

Where?: University of Western Australia (UWA)

A special screening of new Netflix film shot in Malawi [The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind](#), convened by AfREC in partnership with the [Association of Malawians in Australia \(WA\)](#).

AfREC-OAC African Diaspora Engagement Conference at UWA.

Coinciding with Africa Day 2019 and Gala Dinner by OAC. More details to follow.

Dates: Fri-Sun 24-26 May 2019

NEW PUBLICATIONS BY AFSAAP PEOPLE

AfREC members contribute to new book on Africa and the SDGs

Eight members of AfREC have contributed to a new collaborative international book project exploring Africa's interaction with the SDGs. Details [here](#).

A new book by Dr. Nikola Pijovic,

A new book by Dr. Nikola Pijovic, Book Reviews Editor of AFSAAP's *Australasian Review of African Studies* has appeared: *Australia and Africa: A New Friend from the South?* (Palgrave, 2019): <https://www.palgrave.com/gp/book/97898113342201> Congratulations to Dr Pijovic, and look out for possible book launches in Australia around September.

Readers interested in being considered for book reviews can contact Nikola at aras.bookreviews@gmail.com



Dr David Mickler of UWA is co-editing a new book from Springer, which features contributions from many African- and Australian-based authors, including eight associated with AfREC. The book, *Africa and the Sustainable Development Goals*, will be published in Springer's 'Sustainable Development Goals' series in September.

CALL FOR PAPERS/FELLOWSHIPS

3rd Biennial Conference African and Africana Knowledges: Past Representations, Current Discourses, Future Communities

Venue: United States International University-Africa, Nairobi, Kenya

Date: October 24-26, 2019

More information [here](#).

Call for fellowships for AFRINIC-30 is Now Open

AFRINIC is offering fellowships for the AFRINIC-30 meeting to be held in Kampala, Uganda from 15 June to 21 June 2019. The fellowship is reserved for individuals representing small organisations, universities, and media who are actively involved in Internet operations and development or ICT policies in their countries. More details [here](#).

JOIN AFSAAP Today for 2019

If you were unable to attend the AFSAAP 2018 conference, don't forget to Please RENEW your AFSAAP Membership Today. The African Studies Association of Australasia and the Pacific (AFSAAP) is in its 41st Year and looks forward to your ongoing membership and subscription. AFSAAP publishes its journal the Australasian Review of African Studies in June and December each year and sends out a monthly newsletter with relevant information to those interested in African Studies generally. AFSAAP has 40 years worth of conference proceedings, now archived. AFSAAP also hosts an annual conference. Please see the latest AFSAAP news at www.afsaap.org.au and you can also follow on [Twitter @AFSAAP](#) and [Facebook](#).

AFSAAP is a Not For Profit Association and depends upon your memberships to achieve this. Please RENEW your AFSAAP Membership Today. Membership fees are very modest. You might like to also review the Opportunities for AFSAAP Members.