
The IAAE Newsletter Spring 2016

The first International Association of African Educators (IAAE) inaugural conference was held at the University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas from September 25 -26, 2015.



One of the plenary sessions during the IAAE conference

From the Newsletter Editor

By David N. P. Mburu

The IAAE held its first Inaugural Conference in September 25-26, 2015 at the University of Kansas, Lawrence. The theme of the conference was “Erasing Invisibility: Equity, social justice and Educational excellence of Africans in the [Diaspora](#).”

The conference established itself as a forum for African educators by bringing together researchers, faculty, Students, community agencies, families and policy makers from across the world. The conference attendees engaged one another in academic discourses during the plenary and capacity building sessions. The IAAE becomes the platform

where African Educators who have been invisible can meet and engage one another and share their academic experiences.

There were also great ideas that were generated during the conference on the way forward and the board members are willing to go an extra mile to make sure that those ideas are nurtured and implemented. The proceedings from the conference are also in the process of being published by Cambridge Scholars Publishing.

There were also encouraging words from the conference keynote speakers Dr. Rong Xue, Professor of Social Studies Education, School of Education, University of North Carolina and Dr. George J. S. Sefa Dei,

Professor of Social Education, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto. The African Educators were called upon not to shy away from stamping their mark in the world of academia. The conference lived up to the IAAE mission of creating a productive and professional network of African educators that builds a sustainable, supportive, professional collaborative network and academic space for African educators.

The conference had its light moments as the attendees went down memory lane in the use of African proverbs which are used as the first form of education and they also highlight virtues and vices indicating acceptable social acts and frowning at the unacceptable ones.

Dr. Clarence Lang, Chair, African and African-American Studies University of Kansas gave the welcoming remarks. IAAE was honored to have the presence of Dr Jacob Gordon, Professor Emeritus University of Kansas.

At the end of the conference the attendees enjoyed a variety of skits and African cuisine.

Message from the IAAE President

Dr. Omiunota Ukpokodu

Dear IAAE Family,

Happy New Year and warm greetings! I would like to use this opportunity to wish each one of you a productive, successful, healthy and exciting 2016.

How quickly time flies by! I cannot believe it is already March 2016! As I write this column, I am filled with gratitude for what we have done and accomplished thus far and, at the same time, anxious about what is ahead. I am pleased to share with you that our biggest accomplishment in 2015 was the inaugural conference that was held at the University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas, September 25-26, 2015. I am still reeling from all the excitement and fun-filled experience. The success of the conference proved to be a true validation of the need for IAAE. It fulfilled the vision and one of the goals of the organization— a space for our own professional community. The family-like ambience of the conference was heartwarming. Some participants' comments about their experience at the conference are gratifying and validating: "I personally felt so proud to be part of this awesome international conference of African educators!" "I loved the feeling of 'family' coming through strongly. I am in awe of the wonderful presenters!" What struck me most about the conference was our recognition of our common experience of invisibility in our spaces of work and learning. I am excited that we are beginning to recognize our common experience of marginalization within our diasporic spaces and boldly stepping up to speak for ourselves. The conference presentations spoke loudly about our invisibility and gave us permission to speak in our authentic voices. As Malala Yousafzai rightly expressed, "We realize the importance of our voice when we are silenced." I have never had so much laughter and fun at a professional conference as I did during the two-day IAAE

conference. The presentations were uplifting, entertaining, and enlightening, and revealed our connectedness as Africans. It was an experience I will forever cherish and remember.

I would like to express my deep appreciation to so many individuals for their tremendous effort, support, and contribution to the success of the conference—the presenters, sponsors, keynote speakers, co-chairs, the local committee, and volunteers. We are most grateful to the University of Kansas for the incredible support of the conference. My deepest gratitude goes to the presenters, especially those who came from the Motherland. I am also deeply grateful to our keynote speakers for their enlightening and uplifting presentations and, more importantly, for their generosity and flexibility. Thank you, Drs. Xue Rong and George Dei for your time and donation of your honorarium. IAAE will never forget your grace and kindness at a time of great need.

The success of the 2015 IAAE inaugural conference has given me a renewed sense of energy and urgency. The encouragement from many participants and their positive comments about the conference's success and commitment to support IAAE have been humbly. I feel optimistic about the prospect of IAAE, especially given the positive energy and cooperative spirit of the new board. In this newsletter you will find a profile of the new board members. I am thrilled to share with you that the new board is off to a great start. Our priorities this year are to grow the membership and to work toward our next conference. As I welcome

the new leadership team, let me also express my appreciation to past board members. Thank you for your service to IAAE!

Finally, I would like to use this opportunity to encourage you to be active members of the organization. IAAE needs you, your talent and positive energy to make it a premier organization for us all. If you are not a member, please join today. IAAE is a 501-c.3, non-profit organization. Its primary aim is to foster a professional network of African educators, students, and community in the Diaspora and homeland. IAAE operates exclusively as a charitable, benevolent, scientific, literary, cultural, and educational organization. I look forward to welcoming you to IAAE!

Board Members' Profiles

Dr. Omiunota N. Ukpokodu: IAAE Founder and President



Dr. Omiunota N. Ukpokodu is originally from Nigeria. She immigrated to the United States in 1982 and she is the founder and president of IAAE. Dr. Ukpokodu is a full professor in the Division of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies in the School of Education at the University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC), Missouri. Her research and teaching areas include multicultural education, urban education, social justice education, social studies/citizenship education, African immigrants, global education, and teacher

education. She coordinates graduate programs (masters and doctorate) with emphasis in multicultural education at UMKC. She is the co-editor of *Contemporary voices from the margin: African educators on African and American education*. Many of her publications have appeared in nationally-and internationally-recognized journals such as *Multicultural Education*, *Multicultural Perspectives*, *The International Journal of Critical Pedagogy*, *Journal of Excellence in Teaching*, *Journal of Social Studies Research and Practice*, *Journal of Interactive Online Learning*, *Social Education*, *Social Studies and the Young Learner*, among others. She has received some awards including the 2011 National Association for Multicultural Education (NAME) Equity & Social Justice Advocacy Award, Fulbright-Hays Scholar 2007 (South Africa).

Founding IAAE:

Dr. Ukpododu is the founder and founding president of IAAE. The idea to form IAAE was a personal quest for her that began at the commencement of her career in the U.S. academy. She has taught at two institutions since she began teaching in U.S. higher education in 1993. For the first 15 years of her teaching, she was the only minority in her department. As documented elsewhere in this article, she struggled with feelings of isolation and exclusion. Like many African immigrant professionals and scholars, she also found herself as a statistical “minority” in her field of social studies. She attended national conferences where she was mostly alone; occasionally she met a few other Africans. Until most recently, she negotiated

and navigated the rugged landscape of U.S. academia alone (see Ukpokodu, 2003, 2009, 2013). Reading the *Voices of foreign-born African American teacher educators in the United States* (Obiakor, Grant, & Obi, 2010) and other books, that highlighted the distinct collegiate experience of our “otherness,” it became very clear to her that an organization like IAAE was needed.

Additionally, although reports indicate that African immigrants make up the most educated ethnic group in the U.S., many of the African educators know that African immigrant students are marginalized, invisible, and bullied, and that they struggle academically in schools. She believes that IAAE is well positioned to provide and increase the visibility of African educators and students in P-20 institutions across the Diaspora, highlight their contributions, challenges and concerns, and serve as a mechanism for advocacy and social activism in order to foster their social integration and to equitably serve them.

Dr. Ukpokodu observes that in the United States, a glance at the list of professional and ethnic organizations reveals the absence of an African immigrant educational organization. IAAE effectively fills this void. Among other things, IAAE:

- Provides a network of support, mentorship, and community for African immigrant educators and students in P-20 institutions.

Provides a voice for addressing the needs, interests and concerns of African immigrant educators, students, parents, families, and communities.

- Provides opportunities to influence public policies on matters relating to African immigrant communities, professionals and students.
- Encourages and supports members' efforts to provide service to our Diaspora community and Motherland.

What IAAE Means to Her

Dr. Ukpokodu explains what IAAE means to her by providing a brief context. She says that throughout life, most people can look back and point to individuals who touched and transformed their lives or gave them the inspiration for great things. For her, two people stand out—her mother and maternal grandmother. Both of them never had a western education but they understood the call for human agency. They demonstrated to her the power of one to make a change and difference. Her mother modeled for her the force of social empowerment, activism and change agency when she defied all orders by her extended family to take her out of school, and get her married at age 12 so that her older brother would have the needed resources to further his education. Her grandmother modeled service to humanity when she served as a local midwife, delivering many babies in their community, caring for them for the first three months of their lives by giving them the traditional morning and evening herbal bath and, and as they grew, giving them physical and moral education—services she rendered without demanding or receiving monetary compensation.

In her role as a teacher educator and multicultural scholar, diversity and social

justice are at the center of her work. What IAAE means to her is that she has the privilege and opportunity to make a difference and become a change agent for her African brothers and sisters and children, both in the Diaspora and Motherland. IAAE means that she has the opportunity to become a member of the community of practice of a people who share her cultural worldview and a collegiate experience of being the “other” in an academic space that is racialized, gendered, and linguistically dehumanizing. It means that she has an outlet for nourishing her soul as she interacts with people who share her cultural heritage and travel the same rugged road of American academia.

My Vision for IAAE

As founder and president, her vision for IAAE is that it will be a dynamic, powerful, viable, sustainable, and premier organization that truly lives the core values of humanism and change agency. IAAE is envisioned as an empowerment organization that provides academic, cultural, social, emotional, political and economic support for its members. She also envisions IAAE as an activist organization that will advocate and act in the interest of its members. As a bridge-builder, she also sees IAAE building a bridge between education professionals and students in the Diaspora and education professionals and students in the Motherland. Dr. Ukpokodu observes that as educated African immigrants, we are well aware of the “brain drain” effect. She sees IAAE providing opportunities that allow its members to give back to their respective African countries. She says that, as Africans,

we were socialized to the values of communalism, obligation, and reciprocity. Many of us got our start in the world from our respective countries. We had teachers, families, and communities that provided the challenge, inspiration, support and empowerment that laid the foundation for what we have become today. As members of IAAE, we have the privilege and responsibility to give back and change the lives of others. Dr. Ukpokodu quotes Cesar Chavez, the Latino civil rights activist, who speaks poignantly of this responsibility when he writes: “We cannot seek achievement for ourselves and forget about progress and prosperity for our community. Our ambitions must be broad enough to include the aspirations and needs of others, for their sakes and for our own.”

Dr. Ukpokodu invites all African educators and students and friends of Africa, to join her in making IAAE a dynamic, powerful, life and professional-changing organization. She believes that there is so much that we can do for each other, for our African immigrant community, and for Motherland. Please join!!

Dr Michael Ndemanu: He is the IAAE Secretary



Dr. Michael Ndemanu was born and raised in Cameroon. Upon graduating from the College of Education (Ecole Normale Supérieure) in the University of Yaounde, in Cameroon, he taught French and English in public secondary schools in

the north of the country for eight years prior to immigrating into the United States in 2006. Upon arrival in the U.S, he enrolled in a Master’s program at Langston University in Oklahoma where he obtained his Master’s in English as a Second Language in 2008. No sooner did he complete his Master’s degree than he was admitted in Indiana University’s School of Education where he would earn his doctorate degree four years later in Curriculum and Instruction.

Upon graduation, he was hired by the University of Southern Indiana as an Assistant Professor of Multicultural Education and English as a Second Language. Three years later, he accepted an employment offer at Ball State University, a public research institution in the state of Indiana. Dr. Ndemanu now teaches social foundation and comparative education courses at the graduate and undergraduate levels. He currently does research principally in the realm of contemporary curriculum theorizing which encompasses multicultural education, transformative pedagogy, transnational education, translingualism, applied linguistic anthropology, and more specifically, the influence of West African languages on African American Vernacular English. He is a co-convenor of a 2017 World Conference on Transformative Education in Yaounde, Cameroon.

He is married to Elizabeth and they both have four children: Rita (17), Zita (17), Leslie (15), and Laretta (12) - who were all born in Cameroon. He draws a lot from his experiences as an immigrant, a public school teacher in Cameroon, a parent, and as a

speaker of five languages in teaching multicultural education, comparative education, and ESL courses.

He is the current secretary of IAAE. He first learned about the association from Dr. Omiunota Ukpokodu, the current IAAE president, when they met at a National Association of Multicultural Education conference in Tucson, Arizona in 2014. Upon learning about the association, he found the initiative quite laudable and he pledged to become an active member.

African-born immigrant population in the United States is growing rapidly and there is strong need to educate the world through scholarship not only about African immigrant children but also about the breadth and depth of Africa from epistemological and axiological standpoints.

My major contribution is to grow the membership of the IAAE as well as make it a well-known and well-respected academic entity on African education in the diaspora and in Africa.

Dr. Zandile Nkabinde: IAAE Board Member

She is an associate professor and a former chair person for the Department of Special Education at New Jersey City University. She was born and raised in South Africa.



Her immigration story to the USA began in 1983 when she was awarded the South Africa-Harvard Fellowship to come and do her Master's in

Education. After the completion of her Masters she returned to South Africa briefly. After getting married she joined her husband who by the then was studying in the USA and she never returned home except for visits.

Awards and Fellowships

Dr. Nkabinde is a recipient of a Carnegie African Diaspora Fellowship for 2016 and she will be working at the University of Kabianga in Kenya, East Africa during the Fall semester. She received the NJCU advisor award presented by the African Students Organization in 2007-2008. She was a visiting professor at Central Michigan University in 2000-2001. A Harvard Fellowship was granted in 1983-84. She has been serving as a member of the board of trustees of the Jersey City Community Charter School from 2015.

Dr. Nkabinde is the author of many articles in peer reviewed scholarly journals such as: The Journal of Special Education, European Journal of Special Needs, Journal of International Special Needs, International Encyclopedia of Education, Multicultural Learning and Teaching and The Negro Educational Review. Dr. Nkabinde has also written several book chapters on varied topics including one titled: Using assistive technology to educate students with developmental disabilities and autism in a book titled: Autism and Developmental Disabilities: Current practices and issue edited by Anthony F. Rotatori, Festus E. Obiakor and Sandra Burkhardt. Dr. Nkabinde is an active scholar who also enjoys doing community work and spending time with her family. She has presented her scholarship throughout the world in both national and international professional gatherings.

IAAE means sharing her academic journey with fellow African scholars and being inspired by them as well. IAAE has already opened so many doors to her professional growth. While attending one of the conferences she met outstanding African scholars and one of them invited her to achieve one of her lifelong desires to serve as an external examiner for the doctoral programs. This particular scholar ended up sharing some of the opportunities available to African scholars and because of his advice I applied and was granted the Carnegie Fellowship. My vision for the IAAE is that it will continue providing a forum for African scholars to share their expertise with each other and the academic community throughout the world. IAAE will continue to pave ways for research/collaboration amongst African colleagues in America and in other parts of the world. Dr Nkabinde serve as a service to the organization through her participation and recruitment so that many people can benefit from this organization.

Dr. Peter Ojiambo: IAAE Board Member

He teaches at the Department of African and African American Studies at the University of Kansas. Dr. Ojiambo is one of the IAAE Board Members.

Dr. Mohammed Nur: IAAE Board Member



Dr. Mohamed Ali Nur, Phd. Is Originally from Somalia and he was sent to USA by the Somali government in 1989 as an Army Officer Exchange Student to attend US

Army Command and General Staff College (CGSC) in Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas. After graduation from the CSGC in 1992, he was supposed to go back to Somalia, but he could not because of the civil war that was

taking place in Somalia at the time. So, the US government offered him a political asylum, which he was granted in 2000. Dr. Nur has six children (3 boys and 3 girls) who were all born in Kansas City, Missouri. Two of these children are currently attending UMKC. One is taking Software Engineering and the other one is attending the Medical School. The rest of the children are in middle and high school.

Dr. Nur is the director of operations for non-profit agency, Della Lamb Community Services in Kansas City, Missouri where his primary duties include managing all the departments within the agency comprising of benefits administration, payroll and human resources. He also manages a charter school in Kansas City Missouri which serves 560 students (K-8 grades).

Dr. Nur was introduced to IAAE by Dr. Ukpokodu and he says it means a lot to him as an African Educator in the USA. He believes it is important for African Educators to come together and establish an institution that can be a networking and information sharing forum. He hopes that our efforts will help to lend a hand to the people in Africa and he is committed to recruit more members to join the association.

Dr. Martin Ngom: IAAE Treasurer



He was born and raised in the French Speaking part of Cameroon, West Africa. As a teenager, he left his homeland to study in Manchester,

England. Upon his return to his native land

Cameroon, he started his professional career as a French and English instructor, and then as a Vice Principal at a Junior High School in Douala, the economic capital of Cameroon. In 1990, he came to the United States to be part of the Foreign Language Program in the Kansas City Missouri School District. After eight years of teaching 3rd grade in the French immersion program, he was offered a position as Vice Principal/ Program Administrator at Foreign Language Academy and later he was promoted to a Principal position at Longan French Magnet in the same School District. During his three years tenure as Principal, Dr. Ngom led his school to achieve one of the highest Missouri State academic performance measurements otherwise known as AYP, two years in a row before joining Benjamin Banneker Charter Academy of Technology in Kansas city as Chief Academic Officer in August 2011. Under his leadership, Benjamin Banneker Charter Academy of Technology gained the accreditation performance status coupled with the recognition by the state of Missouri as a District of Distinction.

Currently Dr. Ngom assumes the responsibilities of human resources director at the same institution. Besides his current professional responsibilities, he is also Adjunct Professor of Education at the University of Missouri Kansas City. Within the international association of African educators (IAAE), Dr. Ngom is a newly appointed committed Board Member and serves as the treasurer of the association. His dream for for IAAE is *“To see it on solid grounds as a well respected and viable professional organization locally and beyond.”* Dr Ngom says he will do his very best to contribute to the realization of this dream.

Besides the above mentioned responsibilities, he is also involved in many Community Organizations such as Heaven Sent Charter in Kansas City where he is the Board Vice President. He is also the President of the African Diaspora Association of Kansas City and a member of African Professionals Group in Kansas city. In addition, He is the Secretary General of the Ministry for World Evangelization Church in Kansas City founded by Reverend Abel Dossou Sognon, the Senior Pastor who is originally from Benin via Cote d’ivoire.

Dr. Martin Ngom is the recipient of the following degrees: Associate Degree from Abraham Moss College of Manchester, England, Bachelor of Art Degree in Bilingual Letters (English/ French) from the University of Yaounde, Cameroon- West Africa, Bachelor of Arts Degree in Education from the Higher Teachers’ Training College of Yaounde, Cameroon- West Africa, Master Degree in Education Administration from the University of Missouri Kansas City, Educational Specialist Degree in Educational Administration from the University of Missouri Kansas City and an Interdisciplinary PhD in Urban Leadership, Education, and Sociology from the University of Missouri Kansas City.

Mr Abdul Bakar: IAAE Board Member

Abdulkadir Bakar was born in Somalia where he spent his childhood prior to the outbreak of the civil war. At an early age Abdulkadir fled the violence at his home country for the relative safety of Kenya, and then came to United States in 1999 as a refugee. He currently works with Della Lamb Community Services as the Director of Refugee Resettlement Program, overseeing the refugee resettlement program

core services and community involvement. He is also a board member of the United Nations Association of Greater Kansas City.

Abdulkadir has received several awards among them; Young Global Advocate Award from the United Nations Association-USA , the Order of Malta MVP Award and Crescent Peace Award.

Abdulkadir is also a recipient of the following degrees and certificates: Bachelors of Science in Business Management (BSCBM), Master of Business Administration (MBA), International Public Health Intensive Course University of Missouri (INMED), United Nations Intensive Course Seton Hall University- John C. Whitehead School of Diplomacy and International Relations. He is currently pursuing an Interdisciplinary PhD in Primary Discipline- Curriculum and Instruction: Co-Discipline – Social Science Consortium at the University of Missouri Kansas, City.

Abdulkadir is proud to be a member of IAAE, an organization that creates a productive and professional network for African educators in which a strong dedication to total humanitarian and educational services can fully be utilized while strongly supporting its general mission of creating a productive and professional network of African educators that builds a sustainable, supportive, professional collaborative network and academic space for African educators. Abdulkadir hopes to encourage other professionals to join hand in supporting the IAAE mission and vision.

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Dr. David Mburu: IAAE Newsletter Editor



He grew up in Kenya where he also received his education before relocating to the USA where he is currently a lecturer in the Department of African and African American

Studies at the University of Kansas. He earned his Ph.D. in curriculum studies from the University of Nairobi, Kenya before moving to the USA. In 2012-2013 Dr. Mburu was a member of the Center for African Peace and Conflict Resolutions (CAPCR) at California State University, Sacramento. His main areas of research interests include Kiswahili, popular culture in East Africa, gender issues in Education, Action Research, Hidden Curriculum, Instructional Strategies and models, Educational Research, curriculum and instructions and comparative education.

Dr. Mburu came to know about the IAAE when it held its Round Table Forum and Retreat at the University of Kansas, Lawrence. He was attracted to the ideals of IAAE of building an organization committed to African scholarship. He is committed to the IAAE Mission and vision as we aspire to have the African voices heard. There is strength in numbers and African Educators need not work in isolation. He believes that IAAE will help in this collaboration because as African Educators we should not lose one of the most important ideals in our African culture: team work.

Highlights from the IAAE Conference



From left: Dr. George Dei being introduced by Dr. Ukpokodu during the conference.

The conference had a number of quality papers which were presented from all corners of the globe. The African educators no longer want to be invisible and they want to stamp their mark in the world of academia. On the African indigenous education, the first paper was presented by Zandile P. Nkabinde, New Jersey University who presented a paper on “African Indigenous Education: The case of South Africa.”, George J.S. Sefa Dei, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto, presented on “African Indigenous Philosophies, Counter Epistemologies an anti-colonial Education.” Teresa A. Wasonga, Northern Illinois University presentation was on “Making a difference: Beyond Educational opportunities for girls and Grace Tamara Handy, University of Kansas, “A Critical comparative policy analysis of the language-in-education policies in South Africa and Southern Sudan. The session’s presentations were well received by the audience, and they elicited good questions and discussions.



One of the IAAE Conference sessions

The first panel discussion was steered by Omiunota Ukpokodu and Abdulkadir Bakar, University of Missouri Kansas City and Della Lamba Community Services Refugee Resettlement Program, “African immigrant parents’ experiences and perspectives on US schools and teachers”. Margaret K. Mbeseha, Messiah College, presented on “Sub-Saharan African immigrant parents and the children’s special Education services in USA schools: Knowledge perception and experiences”.

The second panel discussion was led by Jake Gordon, University of Kansas whose discussion was based on “Culture Matters: The Ogah factor in the African Higher Education”. Barbara McDade Gordon, University of Florida, Gainesville, later presented on “A visiting scholar’s perspectives on undergraduate education at the University of Ghana-Legion.”

The IAAE visionary session was facilitated by George Dei, the African scholars, Ontario Institute for studies in Education, University of Toronto. The session was moderated by Dr. Omiunota Ukpokodu. Rong Xue, Professor of Social Studies Education gave the keynote address, “Hitting in the opposite Direction: Adaptive strategies of Asia

immigrant students and black immigrant students.”



One of the IAAE second Conference sessions

During the session on education in the African continent, there were presentations from David N. P. Mburu, University of Kansas and Ann W. Ndiritu, University of Nairobi was in “Integration of ICT in Early childhood Education centers curriculum: Exploring the pedagogical challenges of the 21st century in Kenya”. The last paper during this session was by Ithar Hassaballa and Bertilde Kamana, University of Kansas, “Using behavioral science to help assure conditions for health and wellbeing”.

During a session on education on the African continent Michael Takafor Ndemanu, University of Southern Indiana, presented a paper on “Education for a robust socio-economic and political transformation of Africa”. Teresa A. Wesonga, Northern Illinois University, presentation was on “Education and empowerment among Girls in Kenya: Enterprise learning and entrepreneurship”. Guolaug Erlensdottir, University of Malawi, presented on “Participating in educational project beneficial for all stakeholders: Teachers voices from Chimbende primary school in Malawi”. Sister Mary Aloysius

Onwuegbuchulam, University of Kansas presented on, “The struggle for catholic schools in Nigeria and its significance in the reconstruction of the Nigerian State: Post-colonial era to present.”



Proceedings during IAAE presentations

The closing key note address was given by Dr. George Dei, The African Scholar in the (Western) Academy, University of Toronto, Canada. Dr. Dei gave a background on what the African educators have gone through in their struggle to erase invisibility. According to Dei the African scholar benchmark is set higher than for the other Western scholars and they are expected to be near perfect for them to receive recognition.

On the African immigrants and identity issues, Alex Kumi-Yeboah, University of Albany-Suny, presented on “Educational and social experiences of African-Born immigrant students.” Rosaire Ifedi’s, Ashland University, presentation was on, “An African Transnational Educator’s voice: Troubling and Transforming Teacher Education in the USA” and David N. P. Mburu, University of Kansas presentation was on, “The changing gender roles: African Diasporic masculinity redefined.”

There was also a session on African migration and education, African refugees and race and Afro-phobia in education where papers were presented by Alex Kumi-Yeboah, University of Albany-Suny, “Multicultural online Education: Social Media and Technology use among African-born immigrant youth”. Peter Ojiambo, University of Kansas, presented on, “Nurturing Global Education at High School level: Lessons from Starehe Boys Centre and School in Kenya.”

There were also presentations on immigrant students’ education in P-12 and African educators’ contributions to American education. Mercy Agyepong, University of Wisconsin-Madison, presented on “The struggle of invisibility: Shedding some light on the experiences of African-born students”. Godlove Tebe from University of Missouri Kansas City presented on, “Challenges of African (Refugees) students in an urban high school.” Mohamed Nur, Abdulkadir Bakar, Jennifer Wilson and Karen Duffner, Della Lamb community services and Della Lamb Charter school, presented on “Refugees educational experiences in USA: The Kansas City metro area.” Flora O. Nkire, Abia State University, presented on, “Showcasing Nigerian Diverse Cultural Features through social studies education.”

The conference concluded with a banquet, featuring African cuisine, drums beats and dance. The IAAE founding members were also **appreciated.**”



Left: Ms. Grace Okoli, Dr. Xue Lan Rong, Dr. Omiunota Ukpokodu and Dr. Rosaire Ifedi during the break of one of the sessions.

Dr Rong, Xue Lan, from the school of Education, University of North Carolina was one of the Keynote speakers during the Inaugural conference



Proceedings from one of the sessions

The Africa region has experienced an impressive increase in the number of students enrolled in primary school. Between 1990 and 2012, the number of children enrolled in primary schools more than doubled, from 62 million to 149 million children.

Source: State of Education in Africa Report 2015

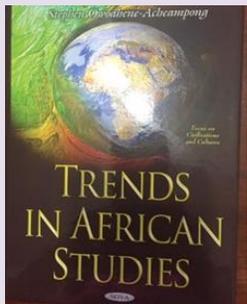
Members News

Dr. Barbara McDade, IAAE Member, and husband, Dr. Jake Gordon, attended the first African Studies Conference held at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria



From Left: Jacob Gordon, Barbara McDade-Gordon, Akin Mabogunje at the First Biennial Conference of the African Studies Association of Africa held in October 13-27, 2015 at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria.

Dr. Barbara McDade-Gordon joined participants from the USA, Europe, Asia, and throughout the African Continent, at the University of Ibadan in Nigeria for the First Biennial Conference of the African Studies Association of Africa (ASAA). Former Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo was among the keynote speakers, delivering addresses on the conference theme, "African Studies in the 21st Century: Past, Present, and Future."

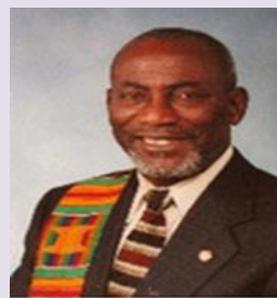


Dr. McDade-Gordon presented a paper titled, "African Diaspora in Ghana: Going Back to the Future" and also became a member of the ASAA Standing Committee on the African Diaspora.

Dr. McDade-Gordon also presented a paper during a conference of members from colleges and universities throughout the state of Georgia on the African Geography: A Development Perspective which includes history, the physical environment, politics and governance, population dynamics, rural and urban development, infrastructure, business and entrepreneurship as essential components of economic development in Africa,

This interactive workshop focused on how instructors can work with content, innovative methods, and pedagogical tools to integrate information about Africa into courses across the curricular spectrum: Social Sciences, Engineering, Humanities, Physical & Natural Sciences, and Business. The conference was held on February 12, 2016 at Clayton State University, Marrow/Atlanta, Georgia.

Jacob Gordon and Barbara McDade-Gordon were also recently elected to the Board of Directors of the United Nations Association, Gainesville.



Dr. Jacob U'Mofe Gordon

His book, "Trends in African Studies," 2016 co-authored with Dr. Stephen Owoahene-

Acheampong was published by Nova Science Publishers, New York. The book is a "response to the paucity of materials on

the history and development of African Studies in a global context." It includes information on programs in Africa, Asia, Middle East, Europe, Australia, North America, South America, and the Caribbean. Jacob U'Mofe Gordon, Ph.D. is Professor Emeritus, University of Kansas, and served as the Kwame Nkrumah Endowed Chair at

the Institute of African Studies, University of Ghana, 2012-2015. He was a Senior Fulbright Specialist in Ghana in 2012. Stephen Owoahene-Acheampong, Ph.D. the co-author of the book is a Senior Lecturer in Religion and Philosophy, at the Institute of African Studies, University of Ghana.

Continental News

AU Educational Press Release

African Union Heads of State and Government adopts the continental Education strategy for Africa (CESA 2016-2025) as the framework for transformative education and training system.

Addis Ababa 31 January 2016: The African Union Heads of State and Government during their Twenty-Sixth Ordinary Session on 31 January 2016 in Addis Ababa adopted the continental Education Strategy for Africa (CESA 2016-2025) as the framework for transformative education and training system in Africa; in relation with objective 4 of the sustainable development goals. They immediately called upon the member states, RECs, Partners, Private Sector, and NEPAD to popularize and raise awareness on CESA 2016-2025 and develop implementation plans, and mobilize domestic resources for its implementation; and to collaborate with the Commission towards the implementation http://www.au.int/en/sites/default/files/press_release-adoption_cesa.pdf

11th International Conference on ICT for Development, Education & Training

The 11th eLearning Africa conference for ICT enhanced development, education and

training in Africa is having the largest three day event in Cairo, Egypt on May 24- 26, 2016. It is a good event for those who want to develop multinational, cross-industry partnerships and contacts whilst sharing knowledge and learning new skills. The conference brings together decision makers and practitioners from across the education, business and public sectors to debate, share and take action on all themes surrounding access, openness, skills, pedagogy, sustainable development, best practice and more.

Upcoming Events

Conference invitation by Commission for University Education in Kenya link:

<http://cue.or.ke/services/planning-and-research>

The Commission now organizes and holds an annual conference on the state of university education in Kenya. In 2015 the focus was on expansion of university education and quality of postgraduate research training. In 2016, focus is one sustainable funding of University education and measuring quality of university education. The 2016 conference will be held in April, 2016. Those wishing to attend or

present papers at this conference can contact us at emukhwana@cue.or.ke

In August 2016 (22 to 26th) the Commission has partnered with the Society for the Advancement of Science in Africa (SASA) and is organizing the 4th SASA conference in Nairobi Kenya. The theme is “Advancing Africa’s Development through Science, Technology and Innovation”. More details are at www.sasascience.org. Those who would like to attend and present at the meeting are invited to their inquiries to sasa2016@cur.or.ke.

Film Conference

Broadcast, Film & Music Africa 2016 28 - 29 September 2016 | Oshwal Centre, Nairobi, Kenya <http://aitecafrica.com/> or <http://aitecafrica.com/event/view/127>



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African Proverbs

In the spirit of the African culture enjoy the following proverbs which depict the wisdom of the African Education.

- ◆ Do not look at where you fell but where you slipped.
- ◆ The surface of the water is beautiful, but it is no good to sleep on.
- ◆ Dogs do not actually prefer bones to meat; it is just that no one ever gives them meat.
- ◆ A chick that will grow into a cook can be spotted the very day it hatches.
- ◆ What an old man can see seated on a stool a young man cannot see even from the top of a tree.