SYMPOSIUM ON AFRICA AND THE INFORMATION SOCIETY

CONVERGE. CONNECT. COLLABORATE.
RE-FOCUSING THE AFRICAN INFORMATION SOCIETY

Tuesday, April 7, 2015 - 8:30am to Wednesday, April 8, 2015 - 6:30pm
Location: Palmetto Club, 1231 Sumter Street, Columbia, SC 29201

SPONSORED BY THE AFRICAN STUDIES PROGRAM

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA
WELCOME TO THE SYMPOSIUM ON “AFRICA AND THE INFORMATION SOCIETY.”

The theme of the symposium is “Africa and the Information Society.” The theme is representative of the wide-ranging relationships between technology and society, and is inclusive of the many disciplines involved in the impact of these changes. An information society can be described as one where the access and use of information results in economic, political, social, and cultural change. Sometimes referred to as the “information age,” the “knowledge economy,” the “information economy,” and so on, the relationship between technology, content, and social change can be profound in both positive and negative ways.

There are two purposes of the symposium: 1) to provide an overview of the information society in Africa and its impacts/challenges to USC faculty with interests in Africa; and 2) to create intellectual and social space for people to meet and discuss possibilities of interdisciplinary research on or about Africa across the University.

In order to facilitate discussion and potential collaboration, we have a second room where individuals may meet to continue conversations started during the symposium. If, for example, you find yourself engaged in an interesting topic with someone during one of the symposium breaks, and you’d like to continue your conversation even while the symposium is going on in the ballroom, you and your colleague(s) may step into this “information commons” to continue your discussion. There will be tables equipped with flip charts and markers, and the room will have a continuing supply of coffee and snacks to keep you going!

Along with presentations of campus faculty and student involvement in African-related work, we are pleased to have three additional speakers. Provost Johannes Britz, of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, will be our keynote and guide throughout the symposium, providing ethical reflection on our presentations. Dr. Edna Reid, Professor at James Madison University, is a former cybersecurity analyst for the FBI, specializing in East Africa. Eby Aka is the Founder and CEO of Global Caravan, a non-governmental organization who recently completed construction on a library building in Ghana. The Library and Information Science Students Association (LISSA), the African Students Association (PANASA), and the Information Science Students Association (ISSA), joined together this academic year to conduct a campus-wide book drive to collect books for the new library.

We are also pleased to have a beautiful exhibit of portraits created by students in Dr. Van Kornegay’s study abroad service learning project. Please take time to enjoy this display.

Thank you for joining us. We look forward to an interesting and productive symposium!

Kendra Albright (Library and Information Science), Symposium Chair, Acting Director of African Studies

Dick Kawooya (Library and Information Science), Symposium Co-Chair, Faculty Liaison to the African Students Association, PANASA
Symposium Schedule

Day 1

8:30-9:15  Coffee and Registration

9:15-9:30  Welcome: Dr. Bob Cox, Director, Walker Institute for International Studies and Dr. Kendra Albright, Acting Director for African Studies, Library and Information Science

9:30-10:15 Keynote: Dr. Johannes Britz, Provost, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee

10:15-10:30 Break and Refreshments

10:30-11:30 The Origins of the Information Society, Dr. Chris Cunningham, Library and Information Science
Overview of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) Infrastructure, Dr. Chris Cunningham, Library and Information Science
Overview of the Information Economy in Africa, Dr. Doug Barnett, African Development Bank

11:30-11:45  African Studies Database demonstration, Sara Chizari, PhD student, Library and Information Science

11:45-12:30 Discussion

12:30-2:00 Lunch

2:00-3:00 Economic Aspects of ICTs, Prof. Bob Sheppard, Moore School of Business
Intellectual Property and Socio-Economic Development, Dr. Dick Kawooya, Library and Information Science
Human Capital Development and Diaspora Resource Sharing: A Tale of Supply Chain Support, Prof. Sudie Nallo, Social Work

3:00-3:30 Break and Refreshments

3:30-4:30 Government Censorship and Freedom of Cultural Expression, Bernard Oniwe, Ph.D. Candidate, Comparative Literature
Cybersecurity in East Africa, Dr. Edna Reid, James Madison University

4:30-6:00 Reception and Entertainment:
   PANASA Dance Group
   Saxophone – soul funk
   Angolan Dance Medley
SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULE, CONTINUED

Day 2

8:30-9:15 Coffee and Registration

9:15-10:30 Health Challenges and Infectious Diseases, Yvon Woappi, Ph.D. Student, School of Medicine
The use of mobile technology to train and support decision-making of nurses and primary health workers, Dr. Ed Frongillo, School of Public Health

10:30-11:00 Break and Refreshments

11:00 – 11:30 Storytelling of Science, Dr. Buz Kloom, Environmental Health Sciences

11:30-12:00 Presentation of Books to Eby Aka, Founder and CEO of Global Caravan, by Travis Wagner, MSIS Candidate, Library and Information Science

12:00-1:30 Lunch

1:30-3:00 Panel: Overview of West Africa Education and Literacy:
Dr. Gloria Boutte, Education and Literacy
Ms. Marion Graham-- Founder and Director, Precious Gems Rescue Mission
Mr. Sidney Graham--
Dr. George L. Johnson, Jr., South Carolina State University
Dr. Susi Long, University of South Carolina

Study Abroad Service Learning: Cross-Cultural Experiences, Dr. Minuette Floyd, Art Education
Malawi Portrait Project, Dr. Vance Kornegay, Journalism

3:00-3:30 Break and Refreshments

3:30-4:30 Africa is Rising, Porchia Moore, Ph.D. Candidate, Library and Information Science
Cultural Heritage in Africa, Travis Wagner, MSIS Candidate, Library and Information Science
Women and Technology, Prof. Aparna Polavarapu, Law

4:30-5:00 Discussion: The Way Forward – Opportunities; Future Goals
Funding for projects with Africa
Moderator: Matsepo Ramaboli, Ph.D. Candidate, Chemistry and Dr. Kendra Albright, Acting Director African Studies, Library and Information Science

5:00-5:30 Closing Remarks from Provost Johannes Britz
Provost Johannes Britz, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Keynote

Dr. Britz holds two doctoral degrees from the University of Pretoria in South Africa. He is co-editor of the International Review of Information Ethics (IRIE) and serves on the editorial board of a number of academic journals. He is a member of the advisory board of the International Research Foundation for Development and he is a member of national and international committees in Higher Education. He is a member of the South African Academy for Science and Art.

Dr. Britz has broad international experience both as a researcher and consultant. Dr. Britz has a very specific interest in social justice and information poverty and works primarily in Africa on these topics. He is the author and co-author of more than 100 scholarly publications. He has acted as a consultant for a number of African governments as well as private sector firms. He played a key role in the development of Information Ethics in Africa. In recognition of his work he was acknowledged as a finalist for the Ethics award by the World Technology Forum.

Eby Aka, Founder and CEO, Global Caravan

Eby Aka is the Founder and CEO of Global Caravan for Education and Cultural Exchange (www.globalcaravan.org). Since 2014, he has had the honor of serving as the Chairman of the Policy Council for the Early Head Start and Head Start Program and as member of the Building Better Future mentor program for High School students, in Alexandria, Virginia. On February 25th this year he took part in a roundtable discussion on the importance of early learning with U.S Education Secretary Arne Duncan and Congressman Don Beyer. In July 2014, He was a featured speaker at the 20th Anniversary Celebration of the National Early Head Start Program held in Washington, DC. Eby is a teacher, youth mentor, motivational speaker and author of “The Walk to the Stage of Honor” and “Awanita the Baby Deer” (www.ebyaka.com).

Prior to coming to the United States, Eby served as President of the American Studies Association of the University of Bouake, Cote d’Ivoire and member of the Lions Club International in that country where he served as Chairman of the Training Commission.

Eby was born and raised in Cote d’Ivoire where he studied and taught English in local schools as well as French and African Studies at the International Christian Academy of West Africa, a United States International School.
Through his career both in Cote d'Ivoire, West Africa and the United States, from Minnesota to the Washington, DC Metropolitan area, Mr. Aka has been concerned with educating young people. He is not a stranger to the challenges and difficulties that face youth today. He is aware of the areas that cause the greatest pain for young people. He grew up in an environment and an educational system that did not give most children of his generation a full glimpse of what they could become. Mr. Aka’s journey through these low expectations and his overcoming all obstacles in his path stand as an example of what persistence and determination can enable one to achieve.

Global Caravan’s Missions Statement

The mission of Global Caravan is to give hope and opportunity to underprivileged children in Africa by creating classroom and physical libraries in their home villages and by providing STEM kits. Global Caravan believes that access to books and education is the first step toward equipping these children to rise above their circumstances and develop their inherent talents and abilities to improve their living conditions. Global Caravan sees that while book distribution campaigns are effective at placing one or two books in the hands of students on a sporadic basis, real opportunity comes when students have constant access to a supply of books that form the core of a good education. Global Caravan wants to create an environment where they can help children gain appreciation for education through exposure to books with a diversity of topics and disciplines.

In the vision Global Caravan Founders’ dearest hope is to see the children and students in those regions where they will operate succeed in education with the knowledge they need to be in the driver’s seat of their future and raise their families and communities out of poverty.

Dr. Kendra Albright

Kendra Albright is Associate Professor in the School of Library and Information Science at the University of South Carolina and serves as Acting Director for African Studies. Dr. Albright’s work explores the individual and social contexts that generate problems to be solved and the way information and communication are used to solve those problems. She has conducted research on HIV/AIDS information and communication strategies, policies, and dissemination for the past eleven years. Her work has focused primarily on the information and communication strategies used to successfully curtail the spread of HIV/AIDS. She has worked on three continents to understand the barriers to information, cultural impacts on design and receptiveness to HIV/AIDS messages, and ways in which these messages are most commonly and usefully disseminated. More recently, Dr. Albright has partnered with Dr. Karen Gavigan and a graphic illustrator to work with target populations in South Carolina to create their own HIV/AIDS prevention materials in the form of a graphic novel. Entitled, AIDS in the End Zone, the graphic novel was published in 2014 by Young Palmetto Press, an imprint of the University of South Carolina Press.

Dr. Albright teaches courses on information ethics and policy, business and strategic intelligence, and international information issues. She is the Editor-in-Chief for Libri, the international journal for libraries and information services. Previously, Dr. Albright served as Deputy Director of the Centre for Health Information Management Research (CHIMR), and Director of the MSc Health Informatics International
Program at the University of Sheffield. She holds a Ph.D. in Communications, a M.S. in Library Science, and a B.S. in Human Development.

Dr. Doug Barnett

Overview of the Information Economy in Africa
A modest overview of Africa immense geography, demographics, economy and implications for the future will be presented. This will help set the context for the second part of the presentation which examines the status and advances made in the ITC sector and ITC4D.

Biography
Doug Barnett worked in Africa for nearly 30 years, of which 20 were spent with the African Development Bank (AfDB). Some of his roles have included manager, development economist, M&E specialist, board member of a microfinance bank, and regional advisor with an international NGO. He resided in Cote d’Ivoire for 13 years, Tunisia (10 years), Senegal, and the Democratic Republic of Congo. In his last two years at the AfDB, Doug liaised with the US State Department’s Lions@frica program which aimed to build capacity and promote IT and other hi-tech forms of entrepreneurship across Africa. Doug has represented the AfDB at the Global Entrepreneur Congress (GEC/GEW) and the Global Social Business Summit, sponsored by Dr. Mohamed Yunis and his Grameen organization(s). Dr. Barnett has been a speaker, organizer, and participant at major economic, development, and entrepreneurial conferences across Africa. Doug has a MS and Ph.D in Applied (Agricultural) Economics from Purdue University.

Dr. Gloria Boutte

Panelists will give an overview of the tremendous range of variation in Education in West African countries, with specific emphasis on Sierra Leone. Promising practices and challenges regarding education and technology will be shared as well as practices designed to inform American teachers and children about linkages between West African languages and culture. An overview of a Fulbright-Hays Groups Abroad Project, Sankofa: Understanding Sierra Leone’s History, Language, and Culture To Teach Future Generations, which included 13 educators from the U.S. will be given.

Biography
Dr. Gloria Boutte holds the academic rank of professor at the University of South Carolina. For more than three decades, Dr. Boutte’s scholarship, teaching, and service have focused on equity pedagogies and teaching for social justice in Early Childhood Education. She has served as Department Chair and held a distinguished endowed chair for four years. Dr. Boutte is the author of two books: 1) Multicultural Education: Raising Consciousness and 2) Resounding Voices: School Experiences of People From Diverse Ethnic Backgrounds. She is currently completing a third book, Educating African American Students: And how are the children? She has received over $1,700,000 in grants and has more than 80 publications. Additionally, she has presented nationally and internationally on curriculum, instruction, and diversity issues. Dr. Boutte is the founder of the statewide Center of Excellence for the Education and Equity of African American Students (CEEEAAS). She has presented her work internationally in Colombia, China, Sierra Leone, Ghana, Zambia, Botswana, South Africa, Australia, Jamaica, Mexico, New Zealand, and Canada.
Dr. Chris Cunningham

The Origins of the Information Society and an Overview of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) Infrastructure

The Information Society has been developing over the last one hundred years. As technology has improved and expanded, its impact on society has correspondingly expanded. A brief description discussing the origins of the Information Society will start with the advent of ARPANET and bring us up to some of the uses of ICT’s today. This discussion will include an overview of what ICT’s are and how they have infiltrated almost every facet of our daily lives, from medical use via telemedicine to our daily use of social media.

A discussion on the advent of the infrastructure needed for ICT use will also take place, beginning with the use of telephone lines and moving into the wireless arena. Infrastructure is a critical segment of ICT’s that is often overlooked, especially in developed countries that already possessed significant telephone infrastructures. However, for developing countries, infrastructure, or the lack thereof, presents a significant barrier to entry in the adoption of ICT’s.

Biography

Chris successfully defended his dissertation last week at the University of South Carolina! He holds a MLIS from UNC Greensboro and a BA in History from UNC Charlotte. His dissertation and research focus on the digital divide and applications of ICT’s both globally and domestically. He worked in both the corporate and academic worlds, with a diversity of experiences ranging from Chief Information Officer to Program Coordinator to Corporate Librarian, prior to beginning his doctorate.

He is a technophile, who enjoys seeing how the latest and greatest new technological innovations work, as well probably trying to figure out how to fix them after he manages to mess them up. He is always looking for methods to use to leverage technology to increase productivity and efficiency while still keeping the human touch involved in its use.

Dr. Minuette Floyd

Study Abroad Service Learning: Cross-Cultural Experiences

Many stereotypes about the continent of Africa are still prevalent. Learn how fourteen non-art majors and one art education major used their own art and reflections to examine their stereotypes and biases of Africa. Art making and service was used to “initiate” and encourage dialogue at a children’s village and a school for girls in Ghana. Students recorded their new understandings of the culture in drawings and words in their altered books and journals. This presentation will examine the impact of cross-curricular and cultural experiences on students from multiple academic majors.

The presenter will describe the process of preparing for and mentoring university students to provide art experiences for children in Ghana. Examples of artwork, altered book pages, personal and professional experiences and written reflections will be shared. Learn how art and service was used to stimulate dialogue, while helping students relate to Ghanaian children.
Through meaningful investigative dialogue, university students used art making and service with Ghanaian children to examine perceptions of Africa. Sample student work will be shown.

**Biography**

Minuette Floyd is an associate professor of art education and director of the Young Artist's Workshop at the University of South Carolina in the Art Department. Her research focuses on multicultural art education, interdisciplinary art instruction, and documentation of folk traditions through photography. She is currently working on a book project that focuses on the African-American camp meeting tradition.

**Dr. Edward A. Frongillo, Jr.**

**The use of mobile technology to train and support decision-making of nurses and primary health workers**

Community health workers (CHW), if appropriately supported, can play a critical role in improving access to care and supporting key evidence-based HIV and maternal-child health and nutritional interventions. Community Health Worker Assistive Technologies (CHAT) has been developed on a handheld platform (i.e., a multi-function tablet computer) and leverages available, low-cost devices and open source software. CHAT provides CHW with sustained, integrated support including protocol training, powerful handheld technologies that are accessible, media enhanced resources (e.g., health education videos and animations) that promote interactive discussions with clients, communication with program managers, and documentation of referrals. It enables electronic data capture that supports high quality information gathering using data validation and branching logic, and supports communication with clinic-based health providers and CHW supervisors. Led by Dr. Lisa M. Butler, CHAT has been designed using participatory methods in partnership with academic, non-profit and government organizations, and media designers in KwaZulu-Natal Province, South Africa.

**Biography**

Edward Frongillo, Ph.D., is Professor and Chair of the Department of Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior in the Arnold School of Public Health at the University of South Carolina. He has a PhD in biometry, an MS in human nutrition and child development from Cornell University, and a ScB in biology from Brown University. He studies how to solve under- and over-nutrition of populations globally, especially children and families living in poverty, using qualitative and quantitative methods. His research interests are growth, development, and feeding of infants and young children; family stress and parenting; household and child food insecurity; policy advancement and programs for improving nutrition and development; and design and analysis of longitudinal studies. He has designed with others large longitudinal studies including the World Health Organization Multicentre Growth Reference Study, the Maternal and Infant Nutrition Interventions in Matlab study in Bangladesh, and the Healthy Communities Study in the United States.
Ms. Marion Graham—Founder and Director, Precious Gems Rescue Mission

Ms. Marion Graham is an educator from Sierra Leone. She is the founder and director of Precious Gems Rescue Mission—a mobile school for children who do not have access to education. For more than three decades, she has served as an educator in several settings. She has worked extensively on issues that relate to women and girls. She has led professional development and appeared on numerous radio and television programs.

Rev. Sidney Graham

Rev. Sidney Graham is the Senior Pastor of the Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Sierra Leone. Reverend Graham has ministered for 21 years, currently serving as the Director of the church schools as well as the Administrator of the school of Ministry and Leadership. His academic background consists of a B.A. and Masters in Christian Education from Wohprag Biblical University in Lagos, Nigeria. Additionally, Reverend Graham facilitated the development of education programs in 1990 in Guinea, West Africa and served from 1991-2000 as a school administrator with The International Rescue Committee School System in Guinea, West Africa. He has also served as Workshop facilitator for teaching teachers how to teach basic education. Reverend Graham is a renowned speaker on issues of the church and community throughout West Africa.

Dr. George L. Johnson, Jr., South Carolina State University

Dr. Johnson is an Associate Professor and Academic Coordinator of the Special Education Program at South Carolina State University. Dr. Johnson’s scholarship, research, teaching and service focus on equity pedagogies, teaching for social justice and critical race theory in education with an emphasis on culturally and linguistically diverse students. He has presented nationally and internationally on special education and disproportionality and equity issues.

Dr. Dick Kawooya

Intellectual Property and Socio-Economic Development

How can African Intellectual Property (IP) systems that govern knowledge production work better as tools for innovation and socioeconomic development? This presentation focuses on the research and training initiative of the African Innovation Research and Training project (The Open A.I.R.). Open AIR begun in 2011 with the goal of fostering policy and practical environments in which African innovators, creators and entrepreneurs to turn knowledge into concrete practices that can transform economies and drive human development forward. Specifically, the project hoped that, through its efforts and the efforts of other like-minded initiatives and groups, the intellectual property (IP) systems that govern knowledge in Africa can gradually be made to work better as tools for open innovation and collaborative creativity.
The project’s research focused on empirical case studies of conditions across the African continent and with future-focused foresight research. In turn, the project used its research findings to inform outreach and training targeted at African innovators, civil society and public- and private-sector leaders.

Polarized views on how IP facilitates or restricts innovation and creativity persist because there is little empirical research on this topic. Consequently, relevant actors tend to create or confront sub-optimal IP laws, policies and practices, all of which have the potential to impede development. This project revolved around the following two interrelated hypotheses in relation to IP and development in Africa:

1) African innovation and creativity are not properly valued by current IP-related metrics; and
2) African innovation and creativity are being constrained by sub-optimal IP-related policies and inefficient IP-related practices.

Open A.I.R. findings point to complex systems of IP ranging from formal to informal systems representing the diverse sectors of African economies and societies. Appropriate IP tools find application in different sectors like agro-processing or light manufacturing. The choice of IP tools depends on and reflects the needs of the sectors. This presentation will examine the different systems for IP protection and appropriation based on applicable sectors using Open AIR sectorial case studies.

Biography
Dr. Dick Kawooya is an Assistant Professor at the University of South Carolina School of Library and Information Science (SLIS), served as Lead Researcher for the precursor project to Open A.I.R., the African Copyright and Access to Knowledge (ACA2K) Project, from 2007 to 2010. Kawooya's current research focuses on IP rights in informal sectors in the African context, specifically relationships between IP rights (e.g. copyright) and informal sector activities. Kawooya holds a PhD in Communication and Information from the University of Tennessee, where his doctoral research explored Ugandan traditional musicians' construction of ownership. Kawooya held an Open Society Institute (OSI) Fellowship in 2006-2007 at the Center for Policy Studies, Central European University, Budapest, conducting research on the impact of copyright on representation of African knowledge and access to general knowledge (e.g. e-resources). Kawooya has served as a member of the Commonwealth of Learning (CoL) Copyright Expert Group and as Uganda's national copyright expert (representing the Consortium of Ugandan University Libraries) for the international Electronic Information for Libraries (eIFL) association. Kawooya has attended, and presented at, several meetings of the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO), including the June 2005 Inter-sessional Intergovernmental Meeting (IIM) on a Development Agenda for WIPO.

Dr. Buz Kloot

Storytelling of Science
In the last 10 years video media have become so much more accessible to new filmmakers and audiences alike. Buz Kloot, with a background in engineering and science, has found himself in this world in the last five years and shares some of his thoughts on the use of story and intuitive processes to get otherwise boing facts across to an audience – Buz will take about a few successes and some failures.
Biography
Buz is a research associate professor in the Environmental Health Sciences Department at USC’s Arnold School of Public Health. He started his professional life as a chemical engineer and spent 12 years in the mining/mineral processing industry in Namibia, Africa. In 1999, he joined the University of South Carolina and has been involved in various projects related to agriculture and environmental quality. His most recent research centers around soil health and profitable/sustainable crop growth with South Carolina farmers. Buz’s passion for soils has moved him into the roles of storytelling through video. His documentary “Under Cover Farmers” and his recent series on the “Science of Soil Health”, available online, are examples of his work and passion.

Buz holds a degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Cape Town in South Africa, and an MBA and PhD from the University of South Carolina.

Dr. Van Kornegay

Malawi Portrait Project
For the past two summers journalism students have traveled to Malawi, Africa to engage in service-learning projects for a non-profit organization that works with AIDS orphans. They have served in support roles in a mobile medical clinic and a crisis nursery and used their journalism skills to produce media content for the organization’s website, social media sites and print newsletter. They’ve also spent two days in a rural village capturing photographic portraits of people in the village and then produced an on-the-spot exhibit using a battery powered printer.

Upon returning to the states, students are asked to produce a media-oriented presentation or display that documents the experience and offers some reflection on how the experience impacted them and the people they went to serve. This presentation will share how their trip exposed students to a new understanding of what constitutes a service learning experience that is more than just "voluntourism."

Biography
Van Kornegay is an associate professor in the School of Journalism and Mass Communications where he is chair of the visual communications sequence. He has published research on the influence of the free press in emerging democracies and conducted journalism and photojournalism workshops in places such as Albania, Kosovo, French Polynesia, Trinidad and Tobago.

Dr. Susi Long, University of South Carolina

Susi Long is a Professor of Early Childhood and Language and Literacy Education at the University of South Carolina. Her research focuses on equity methodologies in early childhood literacy. Her articles and books, written in collaboration with teachers and university colleagues, focus on (a) understanding children and families’ expertise, histories, and heritages as essential to broadening normalized views of teaching and learning, and (b) supporting teachers in developing and sustaining that knowledge. She is currently working with colleagues on three new books building from those concentrations to focus on courageous leadership that creates spaces for overturning an unjust status quo; social justice and the qualitative dissertation; and culturally relevant practices in K-2 classrooms. Dr. Long teaches doctoral
seminars in sociocultural and critical theories and methodologies and undergraduate courses in literacy methods, culturally relevant pedagogies, and linguistic pluralism. She is the co-director of the Professional Dyads and Culturally Relevant Teaching project (sponsored by the National Council of Teachers of English), past Chair of NCTE’s Research Foundation, and recent recipient of the NCTE Early Childhood Assembly’s Early Literacy Educator of the Year Award.

**Porchia Moore**

**Cultural Heritage in Africa**

Africa is rising. As such, innovative advancements are being installed to ensure that Africans are fully engaged and active in the economic, political, and social growth of the continent to solidify relevance in the global stage in the Information Age. But, what about Africa’s cultural heritage? As a continent of many nations, Africa can only be as strong as its most preserved cultural heritage artifacts. This presentation will identify and explore what the preservation of cultural heritage objects and information means in the context of an African Information Society. The challenges of museum work and librarianship will be discussed with deep exploration of the need for articulating and teaching the value of cultural preservation to communities across the continent. The presentation will also seek to highlight the role of digital initiatives in assisting African cultural heritage institutions in securing its rich material culture for generations to come. Examples of preservation and conservation efforts will be shared with some suggestions and provocations on how cultural institutions such as libraries, archives, and museums can aid in helping Africans strengthen their cultural treasures and use cultural information as a tool for building and re-building national identity.

**Biography**

Porchia Moore, is a fourth year doctoral candidate dually enrolled in the School of Library and Information Science and McKissick Museum’s Museum Management Program at the University of South Carolina. She is the recipient of the Cultural Heritage Informatics Leadership fellowship as endowed by the Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Grant. Her work employs Critical Race Theory as an informative framework for interrogating and exploring the museum space as a means to advocate for inclusion in the museum world. In addition, she is interested in the intersection between culture, technology, information, and race. She is a 2013-2014, 2014-2015 Humanities, Arts, Science & Technology Alliance & Colloboratory (HASTAC) Scholar (http://www.hastac.org/). Currently, she serves a two year appointment to the Professional Development Committee, which helps design and plan the annual conference for the South Carolina Federation of Museums. Moore is a regular contributing writer for Incluseum. She periodically does contract work with local museums and performs racial inclusive training for historic house museums and organization such as the Historic Columbia Foundation. She regularly presents on race, culture, and museums at conferences such as Museums and the Web and Museum Computer Network. She is an avid lover of museums, having explored museums from Malaysia to New Zealand and back. Follow her on Twitter @PorchiaMuseM.
Prof. Sudie Nallo

Human Capital Development and Diaspora Resource Sharing: A Tale of Supply Chain Support
Hear about workforce development in Africa through value addition in textile production. Learn about trends in coalition building and partnership development between local communities and the diaspora.

Sudie Nallo is a Clinical Assistant Professor in the College of Social Work at the University of South Carolina (USC). As a faculty member, professor Nallo provides foundational instruction to students entering the social work field. As a practitioner she designs and implements programs that benefit marginalized and at-risk populations. Nallo received her master’s degree in social work from Washington University in St. Louis and has experience as a US Department of Energy project coordinator through Morris College and USC that aimed to increase minority student participation in STEM education and research. Ms. Nallo has also worked on programs with a focus on student retention, service scholarship, and first-generation and minority student success. Her community-based direct practice experience include small business development support at Justine Petersen Housing and Redevelopment Corporation in St. Louis, Missouri, and her international direct practice experience includes youth cooperative building and micro-business development at the Centre for Enterprise Development and Action Research in Nigeria, West Africa. She is founder of the International-Coalition for African Fashion (I-CAF), which supports human capital development by building a community that supports growth and sustainability in African Fashion.

Ms. Nallo’s research and practice interests focus on poverty alleviation programs with an emphasis on asset and wealth accumulation, education curriculum that highlights skill acquisition, and social entrepreneurship. She uses a range of qualitative and quantitative research methods that include focus groups, asset mapping, and community participatory research and engagement.

Bernard Ayo Oniwe

Government Censorship and Freedom of Cultural Expression
The influence of the Nigerian Film and Video Censor Board (NFVCB) established by decree 85 of 1993 on content and form of films and video is to a relative degree evident in the Nigerian film industry, otherwise known as Nollywood. The thriving video-film industry to some extent reflect criteria set down for film censorship, but it is arguable that a firm hold of a censorship board on quality and content of film production in Nigeria is a nebulous one. With the exception of a video-film by Helen Ukpabio that was banned from public viewing for its religious inflammatory quality, most of the relatively few number of video film banned were on the basis of bad moral. But for the first time, NFVCB made news for denying a license for public viewing of the movie adaptation of Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie’s Half of a Yellow Sun. In this paper I argue that the NFVCB’s delay (temporary “banning”) in granting a license to public release of the movie Half of a Yellow Sun in Nigeria reflects the murky form of its statutes empowering the banning of video and films with “potentials for encouraging ethnic conflict or discrimination” and “undermining national security.” I will examine how cultural production constitutes a nexus between aesthetics and freedom of speech, and argue how the vague framework within which NFVCB operates creates conflict between valid expression of citizens’ opinion and government’s goal of protecting national unity and security.
Biography
Bernard Ayo Oniwe completed his undergraduate studies in Dramatic Arts (Obafemi Awolowo University, Ife, Nigeria), then a M.A. in Theology (Duquesne University, Pittsburg) and a second M.A. in Comparative Literature (USC, Columbia) and now a PhD candidate in Comparative Literature (USC, Columbia). His research interests include postcolonial literature, globalization studies and representation of the migrant experience in 21st century Anglophone and Francophone African novels. Bernard is a passionate fan of Manchester United and loves to sing, perform poems, dance and watch movies.

Professor Aparna Polavarapu

Women and Technology
Technology is often touted as a great equalizer. Internet platforms such as twitter allow multiple voices to be heard for sometimes the first time. Mobile phone apps in Africa were initially seen as an inexpensive means of demolishing obstacles to health, wealth, and equality by creating and increasing access to information. However, women in most developing countries, including those in sub-Saharan Africa, have less of a presence than men when it comes to the use and creation of new technologies. I will explore some of the impacts of this inequality among men and women, in particular with relation to women’s ability to effectively participate in the legal system and exercise their rights.

Biography
Professor Polavarapu teaches in the areas of Rule of Law, Transnational Law, Human Rights Law, and Comparative Law. Her research focuses on rule of law and human rights, with particular emphasis on access to justice, land rights and customary/statutory law interaction. She has worked in Uganda, Kenya, Rwanda, and Tanzania, and has substantial experience throughout Africa. Prior to coming to South Carolina, she was a teaching fellow with Georgetown's International Women's Human Rights Clinic. Prior to that, she practiced law at Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge LLP in Boston. Professor Polavarapu received her JD and LLM from Georgetown University Law Center, her undergraduate degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and a Master’s degree in international affairs from The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy.

Dr. Edna Reid

Cybersecurity in East Africa
As the number and sophistication of cybersecurity incidents increase in the U.S., it is interesting to compare this to countries such as Kenya. Cybersecurity incidents such as data breaches at Target, Sony, and Anthem highlight the challenges, deceptive activities, and opportunities that networked information poses to our local and global society. As technological transformations are driven by digitalization of personal data, mobile technology, and networked business processes, cybersecurity and cybercrime have become a major concern to organizations in Kenya. As managers pursue technological responses for hardening their computer network defense, the human element must be considered such as the motivation of the attacks, the
How can USC faculty with interests in Sub-Saharan Africa help countries, such as Kenya, explore an interdisciplinary approach for dealing with challenges and opportunities of cybersecurity?

**Biography**
Dr. Edna Reid’s distinguished career uniquely qualifies her to span the disciplines of Library Science and Intelligence Analysis. Formerly an intelligence analyst at the FBI Headquarters in Washington, DC, she currently teaches at James Madison University. She previously served as Associate Professor of Library Science at Clarion University, PA. She has also served as research scientist and project manager in the Artificial Intelligence (AI) Laboratory at the University of Arizona, Tucson, and as Associate Professor with Nanyang Business School, NTU, Singapore. Prior to coming to Asia, Dr. Reid was at the SCLIS, Rutgers University, and as a postdoctoral researcher at the UC Berkeley, she conducted research in terrorism information services.

Edna holds a Doctorate from the University of Southern California, a Masters degree from the University of Maryland, and a postgraduate certificate in management information systems from American University. She is a member of several professional associations and a founding member of SCIPSgp.

**Prof. Bob Sheppard**

**Economic Aspects of ICTs**
Mr. Sheppard will discuss the issues relevant to financing African telecommunications and information technology, with a comparison to other infrastructure sectors. These issues concern political risks, the economic risks of investing in Africa, the state of domestic financial markets in Africa, and the credit risks posed by telecommunications and information investments. A brief consideration will also be given to the ability of communications technologies to promote other forms of infrastructure investment and market development.

**Biography**
Bob Sheppard has taught a course in international project finance at the Moore School of Business since 2008. Prior to joining the Moore School faculty, he was global head of Project Finance at NationsBank and global co-head of Project Finance at Bank of America. The project finance groups managed by Mr. Sheppard financed transactions in a wide variety of countries and in all major infrastructure sectors, including telecommunication. After leaving Bank of America, Mr. Sheppard has served as a consultant to private clients and to a variety of international organizations including the World Bank, the United Nations, the African Development Bank, and the Millennium Challenge Corporation. As a result of his work in Africa for the World Bank, the bank published Mr. Sheppard’s analysis of infrastructure financing in Sub-Saharan Africa. He has recently spent a substantial amount of time in Africa, working for the UN and AfDB, assignments that included project development and training of government officials.

Prof. Sheppard graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he was a Morehead Scholar. He also holds a JD, MBA, and an MA in European history from the same institution.
Travis L. Wagner

Cultural Heritage in Africa
Verne Harris propelled concepts of post-colonial oppression to the center of archival theory discourse when he asserted that censorship, government silence and purposeful ignorance on the part pro-apartheid archivist lead to removal of key information from South African archives. Further noting that archives are already incomplete spaces due to the myriad of problems which arise in the transfer of cultural memory to an institutional space, Harris asserts that archives are a “sliver of a sliver” of representation, when it comes to speaking about a nation, specifically making mention of the effect on oppressed populations.1 Moves to refigure the archive continue to arise, using Harris’s mantra as a reason to point out silences, curiosities and difference within archival spaces, while always remaining keenly aware of the role institutional organization plays or refuses to play in such materials. While these interventions are always worth pursuing, little has been written about the means with which the bodies represented these archives might benefit from reappropriation, repatriation and, most importantly, reclamation of their identities within the archive. Situated within the remarkable changes over the last five years to online content management, this presentation intends to argue in favor the possible benefits from a reclaiming of materials into a new online repository space, where the slivers present in various archives, by way of diasporic spread, can begin to be reconstituted, making for a more complete picture of the very thing which Harris notes cannot occur within previously colonized institutional spaces. Though this argument could include all types of archival materials, this presentation will specifically use moving image archival materials as an example, looking at how various social media and online content management systems have built in components that can aid in reclaiming archival representation and embodiment that is empowering, transnational and attuned to a need for global information literacy.

Biography
Travis L. Wagner is a Master’s candidate in The University of South Carolina’s School of Library and Information Sciences. His research focuses primarily on the function language plays in oppressing identities in moving image archives, specifically representations of LGTBIQQ bodies. He has published and presented on this research, as well as work on representations of gender and race in popular cinema. Travis will have a chapter in For His Eyes Only? The Women of James Bond: Feminism and Femininity in the James Bond Franchise, which is scheduled for release in Fall of 2015.

Yvon Woappi

Health Challenges and Infectious Diseases
Although the recent Ebola outbreak is currently at the forefront of global media, West Africa still faces many other serious, long-running health challenges, notably malaria, tuberculosis (TB), HIV/AIDS, and cervical cancer. Today, Africa represents 1/7th of the world’s population and is the second fastest growing region of the world, behind China. However, due to economic and governance difficulties, over 50% of people who live in sub-Saharan Africa live on less than $1.75 per day. These continent-wide financial difficulties reveal themselves in the form of insufficiencies in basic services such as health, education, water, sanitation, and many other health-related areas. When combined, sub-Saharan Africa accounts for 1/4th (25%) of the world’s disease burden, yet only 2% of the world’s doctors. In 2010 alone, over 90% of global deaths from malaria were in Africa. The region is now home to 69% of all
people living with HIV worldwide and 91% of all new infections among children. These infections and
diseases are all preventable, and the mortality outcomes can be significantly improved within a timely
treatment. The expanded disease profile is also likely driven by a lack of biomedical research and a
shortage in medical advances within the region, thus limiting holistic context-based analysis of the
disease landscape. Though Africa now accounts for 3.4 percent of the world’s people, it produces only
1.1 percent of the world’s scientific knowledge. Examining ways by which biomedical research can be
encouraged in sub-Saharan Africa therefore represents a useful strategy that can be employed to address
the current health challenges that exist within the region.

Biography
Yvon Woappi is a Cameroonian-born student from Hanover, PA. His research in the laboratory of Lucia
Pirisi-Creek, MD, focuses on investigating the role of epidermal stem-like cells on the susceptibility of
individual normal human keratinocyte strains to transformation by human papillomavirus type 16
(HPV16). He is a NIH-IMSD Fellow and the recipient of this year’s W. Morgan Newton Graduate Research
Award. Yvon obtained his degree in Biology from the University of Pittsburgh in 2011. He is currently a
PhD candidate in the department of Pathology, Microbiology and Immunology at the University of South
Carolina School of Medicine. Outside of the lab, Yvon is a member of the Cameroonian Chess World
League. He enjoys tutoring French and teaching the community about Africa. Yvon is also the 2014-2015
President of the University of South Carolina Pan-African Student Association (PANASA).

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