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2016

### The 4th Annual Africa Conference March 31-April 1, 2016

Tennessee State University

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# THE 4TH ANNUAL Africa Conference

*Theme:*

**AFRICA IN THE 21ST CENTURY:  
THE PROMISE OF DEVELOPMENT  
AND DEMOCRATIZATION**



**March 31—April 1, 2016**

**Tennessee State University  
Avon Williams Campus  
Nashville, Tennessee**



## Welcome Remarks from the Conveners

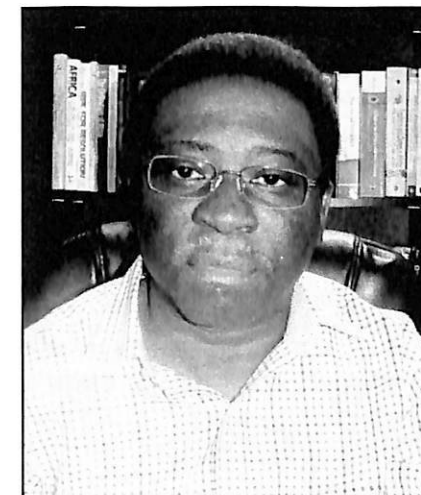
April 2016

Dear Conference Participants,

We are delighted to welcome you to Tennessee State University for the 4th Annual Africa Conference hosted by the Department of History, Geography, Political Science, and Africana Studies. The theme of the conference for this year is: **"Africa in the 21st Century: The Promise of Development and Democratization."**

Africa has made significant strides in economic growth and democratization in recent years as apparent in a number of states. Indeed, the international media and various organizations such as the World Bank and the IMF, have noted that African states are among the fastest growing economies in the world. Advancements have been made in many areas such as healthcare, education, access to technology, and poverty alleviation. While there are many bright spots and the continent's economic and democratic prospects are promising, it is still evident that the vast majority of Africans presently languish in poverty. It is equally valid to say that Africa's democracy, for the most part, is limited to formal elections without the necessary independent institutions to support the rule of law, human and civil rights, freedom of the press, speech, and assembly, and an independent judiciary. Institutionalized political corruption, detrimental to good governance, is also still very rampant.

This year's conference will provide a platform for scholars and other participants to examine within a multidisciplinary location, milestones in economic growth, development, and democratization, including the challenges, opportunities, and future prospects in contemporary Africa. From the wide range of scheduled presentations and lectures, we have no doubt that this conference will be an intellectually engaging and fulfilling exercise. We wish everyone an enjoyable conference.



Adebayo Oyebade  
Professor of History



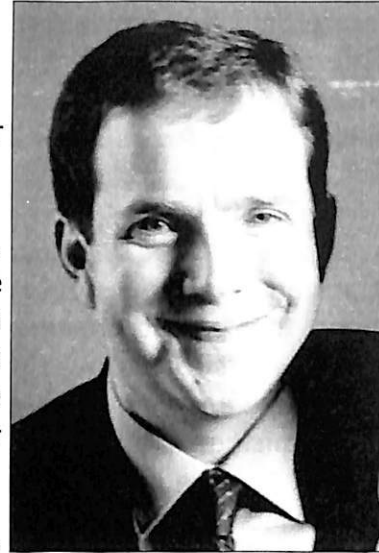
Gashawbeza Bekele  
Assistant Professor of Geography

## Welcome Remarks from the ASSOCIATE DEAN, COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

April 2016

On behalf of the College of Liberal Arts at TSU, it is my honor to welcome you to our fourth Africa Conference.

Following on previous conferences in 2012, 2013, and 2015, the Africa Conference is now an established feature of the College's spring calendar. I have been honored to attend each of these years and to watch the conference grow from an ambitious vision of Dr. Oyebade in the fall of 2011 to become a recognized annual institution, both for the University and for a wider community of scholars.



The quality and scope of this year's conference certainly suggest that this tradition will continue. The 2016 conference on "Africa in the 21st Century: The Promise of Development and Democratization" is our largest yet and once again brings together a diverse group of participants around issues of vital contemporary importance.

Especially the conference's principal organizers and my colleagues of many years, Dr. Oyebade and Dr. Bekele, I extend profound thanks for the creativity, dedication, and hospitality that make this event possible. And to all guests and participants, it is a privilege to extend the College's welcome and best wishes for a very successful conference.

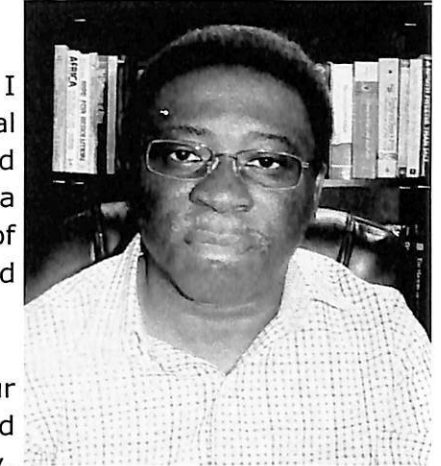
*Joel Dark*

Joel Dark  
Professor of History and Associate Dean  
College of Liberal Arts

## Welcome Remarks from the Department Chair

April 2016

As chair of the department, it is with great pleasure that I welcome you all, from all walks of life, to the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Africa Conference. This year again, the department is proud to host this conference, an event which is fast becoming a major intellectual enterprise, not only in the state of Tennessee, but in the entire mid-south region of the United States.



I would like to share with you a little bit about our department. The department offers degrees in History and Political Science, and minors in Africana Studies, Geography, International Affairs, Intelligence Studies, and Women's Studies. Demonstrating the outstanding depth of the department is the wide range of courses available to student as well as a number of extra-curricular activities. Other initiatives, such as an online publication, *Journal of Student Historical Research* (JSHR), provide great benefits to students across the university. Apart from the Annual Africa conference, the department also plays a major part in organizing the Nashville Conference on African-American History and Culture in the month of February every year.

Once again, I welcome you to this year's conference. Although, a two-day event, I trust that you will enjoy all that the meeting has to offer—film streaming, plenary sessions, panel discussions, and informal sharing of ideas along the hallways, corridors, and over lunch. I hope the conference will also afford participants the opportunity to engage in trans-Atlantic networking and camaraderie.

*Adebayo Oyebade*

Adebayo Oyebade  
Professor of History & Department Chair

## CONFERENCE SPEAKERS



### Guest Speaker

Dr. Olayiwola Abegunrin  
Professor of Political Science  
Howard University, Washington, D.C.

### Title of Address:

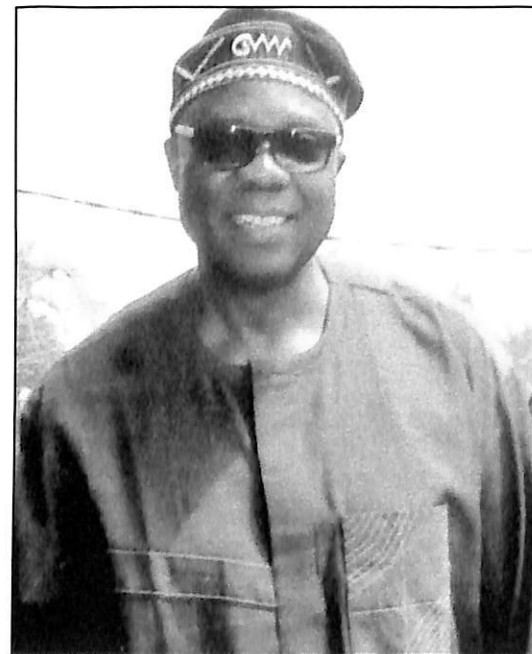
"Challenges of Democratization and  
Development in Africa in the Age of Terrorism:  
Perspectives for Good Governance in Nigeria."

### Keynote speaker:

Dr. Mayowa Ogedengbe,  
Adjunct Professor of Africology  
Temple University, Philadelphia; &  
Director of Research and Development  
Oodua Foundation  
Wilmington, DE.

### Title of Address:

"The African Psyche and Africa's  
Development in the 21st Century."



## THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 2016

### 4.00-6.00 pm

Screening of *The Black Candle* (A film by M.K. Asante, Jr.)

Venue: The Forum (210), Floyd-Payne Student Center, Tennessee State University Main Campus

### 6.15-7.30 pm

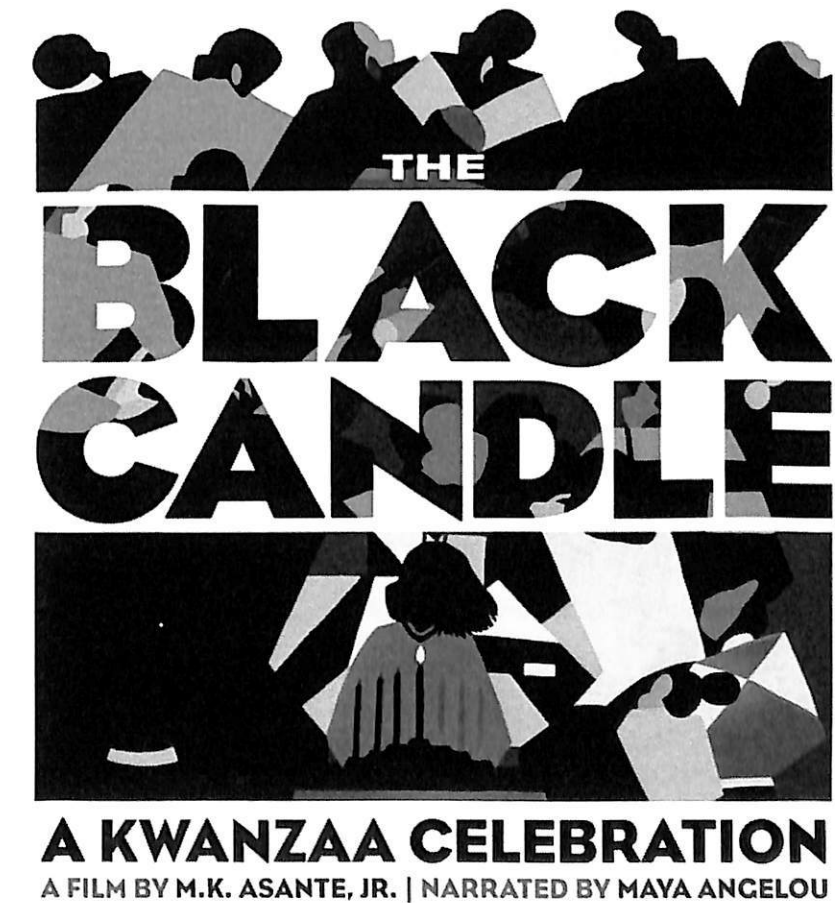
Reception for conference participants

Venue: Faculty & Staff Dining Room, Floyd-Payne Student Center, Tennessee State University Main Campus

### 7:45-9:45 pm

Visit to Gaylord Opryland

"MORE THAN A FILM ABOUT A HOLIDAY,  
THIS IS THE CELEBRATION OF A PEOPLE."  
-MAYA ANGELOU



# FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 2016

All conference events will be held at the Avon Williams (downtown) Campus of Tennessee State University, 330 10th Avenue North, Nashville, TN 37203

## **7:45-8:30: Arrival and Registration**

Venue: The Atrium

## **8:00-8:40: Continental Breakfast**

Venue: Capital Dinning Hall

## **8:40-8:55: Opening Remarks**

Venue: Training Room 1

Dr. Adebayo Oyebade, Professor of History, Tennessee State University (Conference co-convenor)

Dr. Joel Dark, Professor of History and Associate Dean, College of Liberal Arts, Tennessee State University



## **9:00-10:50—CONCURRENT SESSION A** **Panel #1: Religion, the African Diaspora, and Development**

Venue: Training Room 1

Chair: Dr. Michael Bertrand, Associate Professor of History, Tennessee State University

Panelists:

1. **Africa in the 21st Century: Revisiting the Promise of Democracy and Development**, Prof. Phillip E. Agbebaaku & Mohammed Itakpe, Department of Political Science, Ambrose Alli University, Ekpoma, Nigeria; & Dr. William E. Odion, Department of Political Science and Strategic Studies, Federal University, Otuoke, Nigeria
2. **Nigeria's Per Capita Gross Domestic Product (GDP): Religious Attendance and Belief Perspectives**, Dr. Ed Efonayi, The Word Still Works, Nashville, TN.
3. **Black Judaism: A Growing Religious Movement in Africa**, Dr. Nathan P. Devir, Interim Director, Middle East Center, Department of Languages and Literature, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT.
4. **African Diaspora and the Quest for Democracy in Nigeria: The June 12, 1993 Presidential Election Experience**, Dr. Undiyaundeye Udida, Department of History and International Studies, University of Uyo, Nigeria
5. **The Repeating Tragedy of the African Diaspora in Caryl Phillips' Higher Ground and a Distant Shore**, Dr. Rebecca S. Dixon, Associate Professor, English and Women's Studies, Tennessee State University, Nashville, TN

## **9:00-10:50—CONCURRENT SESSION A** **Panel #2: Economic Growth and National Development**

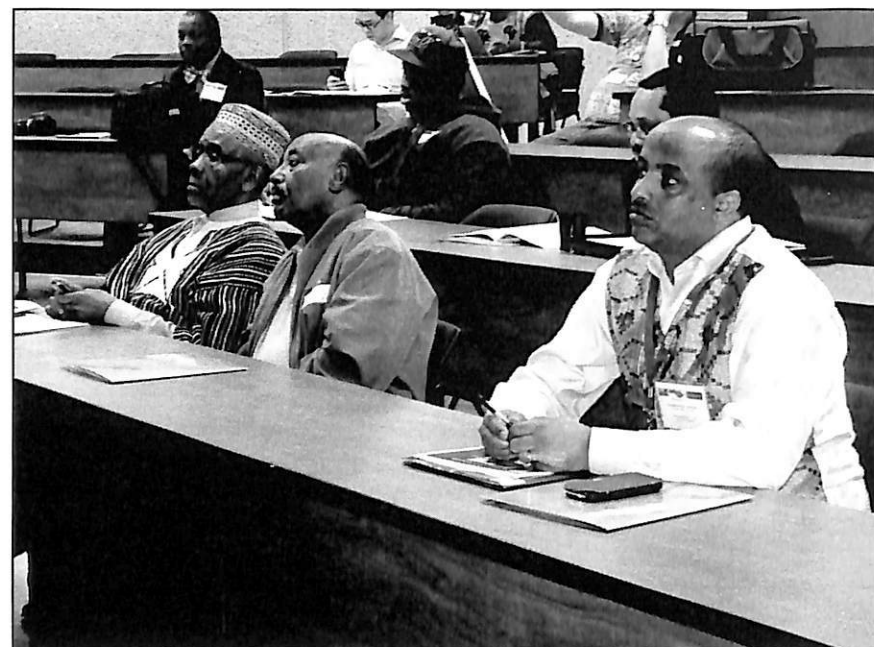
Venue: Training Room 2

Chair: Dr. Erik Schmeller, Professor of History, Tennessee State University, Nashville, TN

Panelists:

1. **Botswana's Economic Growth and Development: Achievement, Challenges and Opportunities**, Eckton Chinyanga, PhD, Candidate, College of Education, Tennessee State University, Nashville, TN
2. **Democratizing the Economy and the Challenge of Pervasive Poverty in Africa**, Dr. Larry E. Udu, Department of Public Administration, Ebonyi State University, Nigeria; & Dr. Joseph Okwesili Nkwede, Department of Political Science, Ebonyi State University, Abakaliki, Nigeria
3. **National Development and Millennium Development Goals**, Uzoma Patience Agwu, Department of Linguistics and Literary Studies, Ebonyi State University, Nigeria
4. **The Family as a Key Player In Sustainable Development In Africa**, Dr. Bridget Itunu Awosika, Dept. of Home Economics, Adeyemi College of Education, Ondo, Nigeria
5. **Rethinking Development Assistance to Sub-Saharan Africa**, Dr. Kenneth E. Kalu, Visiting Research Scholar, Department of History, University of Texas at Austin

**10:55-11:00**  
**Tea/ Coffee Break**  
Venue: Capital Dining Hall



**11:05-12:35—CONCURRENT SESSION B**  
**Panel #3: Natural Resources and Economic Growth**

Venue: Training Room 1

Chair: Dr. Learotha Williams, Assistant Professor of History, Tennessee State University, Nashville, TN

Panelists:

1. **Opacity: The Real Curse of mineral Wealth**, Dr. Audrey C. Cash, Lecturer, African Politics and International Development, Department of Government, Christopher Newport University, Newport News, Virginia
2. **Africa's Natural Resources: A Curse or a Blessing**, Ven. Jonathan Egesi, Imo State Polytechnic, Umuagwo-ohaji, Nigeria; Akakuru Chihinwa, Alvan Ikoku Federal College of Education, Owerri, Nigeria; and Mary Ikeanyionwu, Federal College of Education (Technical), Umunze, Nigeria.
3. **The Nigerian Television Authority's Roles and Analysis in Agricultural Development: The Situation in the South Eastern States**, Dr. Christiana Ogeri Chukwu, Department of Mass Communication, Ebonyi State University, Aabakaliki, Nigeria
4. **Assessing the Impacts of Mining on the Land Use-Land Cover and the Peoples' Livelihood using GIS**, Chukwudi Nwaogu, Palacky University, Olomouc, Czech Republic

**11:05-12:35—CONCURRENT SESSION B**  
**Panel #4: Governance, Democracy, and Development**

Venue: Training Room 2

Chair: Dr. Wosene Yefru, Professor of Africana Studies, Tennessee State University

Panelists:

1. **Constitutional Democracy and Presidential Term Limits in Africa: A Study of Nigeria**, Juliet Egesi & Iwunze Fidel chibuogwu, Imo State Polytechnic, Owerri, Nigeria; & Dr. Chinyere Onyenze, Alvan Ikoku Federal College of Education, Owerri, Nigeria
2. **Political Economy of Postcolonial Rail Transportation Development and Management in Sub-Saharan Africa**, Dr. Tokunbo A. Ayoola, Department of History and International Relations, Elizade University, Ilara-Mokin, Nigeria
3. **The Promise of Development and Democratization in Africa: Looking Through the 8th National Assembly Session in Nigeria**, Dr. S. Adele Doherty, Wellness Center, P.C., Goodlettsville, TN
4. **Post-Independence Development Policies in Africa: A Paradigm Shift**, Justina Alaneme, Imo State Polytechnic, Owerri, Nigeria; Dr. Charity Igbokwe & Emmanuel Iheanacho, Department of Political Science, Imo State University, Nigeria

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**12:40-1:30**  
**Lunch Break:**  
Venue: Capital Dining Hall

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**1:40-2:25**  
**Guest Lecture:**  
Venue: Room 353

**Introduction of Speaker:**

Dr. Gashawbeza Bekele, Assistant Professor of Geography, Tennessee State University

**Guest Speaker:**

Dr. Olayiwola Abegunrin, Professor of Political Science, Howard University, Washington, DC.

**Title of Lecture:**

"Challenges of Democratization and Development in Africa in the Age of Terrorism: Perspectives for Good Governance in Nigeria"

**2:30-4:15—CONCURRENT SESSION C**  
**Panel #5: Women and Development**

Venue: **Training Room 1**

Chair: Dr. Rebecca S. Dixon, Associate Professor of English and Women's Studies, Tennessee State University, Nashville, TN

Panelists:

1. **Women and Sustenance of Democracy in Nigeria**, Grace I. Ibe-Enwo, Department of Public Administration, Akanu Ibiam Federal Polytechnic, Unwana, Nigeria.
2. **Vanishing or Emerging Voices? The Resilience of Women Involvement in Nigerian Democracy**, Dr. Ngozi U. Emeka-Nwobia, Department of Linguistics and Literary Studies, Ebonyi State University, Abakaliki, Nigeria.
3. **Nigerian Women in Development and Democratization: The Igbo Perspective**, Dr. Chinwe Obianika, Ebonyi State University, Abakaliki, Nigeria
4. **African Women in Development and Democratization: A Paradigm Shift**, Dr. Juliana Agu, Alvan Ikoku Federal College of Education, Owerri, Nigeria; Ijeoma Ewunonu, Federal University of Technology, Owerri, Nigeria; & George Okoroafor, Imo State Polytechnic, Owerri, Nigeria
5. **The Role of Nigerian Women in National Development**, Mercy Agha Onu, Ebonyi State University, Abakaliki, Nigeria

**2:30-4:15—CONCURRENT SESSION C**  
**Panel #6: Healthcare, Food Culture, and Migrations**

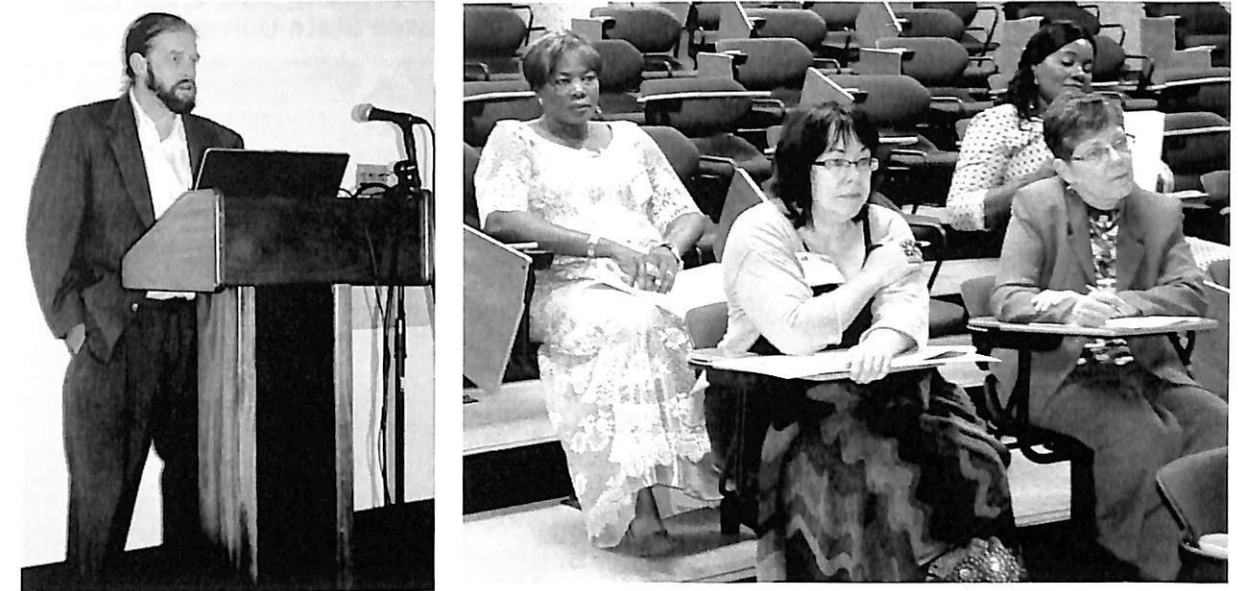
Venue: **Training Room 2**

Chair: Ms. Pamela Bobo, Assistant Professor of History, Tennessee State University

Panelists:

1. **Foreign Investment Health in Gambia: Study of Groundnuts**, Shonka'an Randle, Tennessee State University, Nashville, TN.
2. **Gabon's Giant Step in Healthcare**, Biale Zua, Ph.D. candidate, College of Education, Tennessee State University, Nashville, TN.
3. **Ecological and Socioeconomic Impacts of Solid Waste Dumping and Burning on the Major Motorways in Africa**, Chukwudi Nwaogu, Department of Ecology, Faculty of Environmental Sciences, Czech University of Life Sciences, Prague, Czech Republic.
4. **Vulnerability of African Women to HIV/AIDS: The Prescriptive Role of the Media**, Dr. Ifeyinwa Nsude, Head of Department of Mass Communication, Ebonyi State University, Abakaliki, Nigeria
5. **Parental Involvement in Human Trafficking and Migration: An Empirical Evidence from South-South Nigeria**, Godday Ehichoya Imonie, Department of Public Administration, Ambrose Alli University, Ekpoma, Nigeria

**4:20-4:30**  
**Tea/ Coffee Break**  
Venue: **Capital Dining Room**



**4:35-6:25—CONCURRENT SESSION D**  
**Panel #7: Education, Rights, and Development**

Venue: **Training Room 1**

Chair: Dr. Kyle Patrick Murray, Instructor of History & Politics, Tennessee State University, Nashville, TN

Panelists:

1. **The Provision of Inclusive Special Education to Children with Disabilities in Nigeria**, Sarah Iriogbe-Efionayi, PhD candidate, College of Education, Tennessee State University, Nashville, TN
2. **The Complimentary Basic Education Program as a Tool for Bridging the Basic Literacy Gap in Ghana: An examination of School for Life programming in the Nadowli District of Ghana**, Felicia S. Odame, Department of Social, Political and Historical Studies, University for Development Studies, Tamale, Ghana
3. **Challenges and Prospects of Sustaining School Feeding Program in Nigerian Primary Schools: Case Study of Osun State**, Dr. Cecilia Abiodun Olarewaju, Department of Home Economics, Adeyemi College of Education, Ondo, Nigeria
4. **The Role of ICTs in the Attainment of MDGs in the Nigerian Educational System**, Dr. Ogonnia Ibe-Enwo, Rector, Akanu Ibiam Federal Polytechnic, Unwana Afikpo, Nigeria
5. **Bill of Rights for Africa: Uneven Regional Development and Indigenous Peoples Protests**, Prof. R. T. Akinyele, Department of History and Strategic Studies, University of Lagos



**4:35-6:25—CONCURRENT SESSION D**

**Panel #8: Development Agenda, Theory, and Political Institutions**

Venue: Training Room 2

Chair: Dr. K.T. Ewing, Assistant Professor of History, Tennessee State University

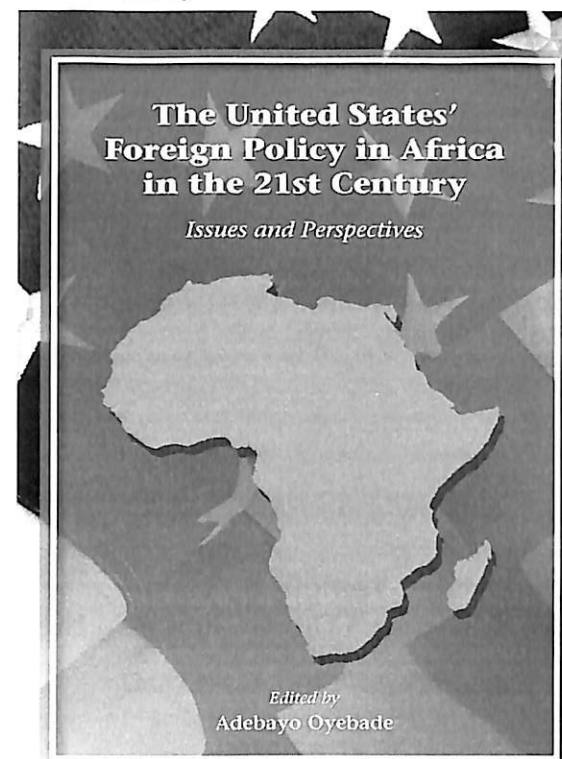
Panelists:

1. **Beyond the MDGs: Localizing the Development Agenda**, Prof. Funmi Adewumi, Professor of Industrial Relations & Program Coordinator, Trade Unions, Labor Studies & Human Rights Education Centre, Ibadan, Nigeria
2. **The Nigerian Electoral Process and the Growth of Democracy: Issues for Concern**, Babatunde Ojedokun, the Electoral Institute, Independent National Electoral Commission, Abuja, Nigeria
3. **"Perhaps the Wolf May Arrive, but When?" The Impact of Demographic Theory in Africa in the 20th Century and Beyond**, Kristen Carey, Graduate Student, Boston University
4. **Politicians and Administrators, Theoretical Analysis of Good Governance and Development in Nigeria**, Godday Ehichoya Imonie, Department of Public Administration, Ambrose Alli University, Ekpoma, Nigeria
5. **Yoruba Traditional Political Institutions and the Nigerian Democratic Structure: A Yoruba-Consequentialist Explanation**, Dolapo Z. Olupayimo, Department of History, Adeyemi College of Education, Ondo, Nigeria



**PUBLICATIONS FROM EARLIER CONFERENCES**

**THE UNITED STATES' FOREIGN POLICY IN AFRICA IN THE 21ST CENTURY: ISSUES AND PERSPECTIVES**, edited by Adebayo Oyeade (from the 2012 Conference)



"The question of what Africa should mean to the United States and vice-versa has again come to the fore of critical discussion, especially since President Barack Obama became the President of the United States. Often at the centre of the debate is what should be the extent (or intent) of the relationship. The chapters in this book take a bold attempt at addressing some of these issues and provide a compelling study for which we should be grateful." — Abiodun Alao, King's College London

"A particular strength of the work is its multi-disciplinary approach...[the book] is a useful addition to an understanding of the many opportunities and challenges vis-à-vis the United States and Africa. Students, scholars, and general readers alike should benefit from its detailed exploration of the relationship between US foreign policy in Africa and the contributors' cogent suggestions for improving upon that important relationship in the future." — William A. Taylor, Angelo State University.

**THE LONG STRUGGLE: DISCOURSES ON HUMAN AND CIVIL RIGHTS IN AFRICA AND THE AFRICAN DIASPORA**, edited by Adebayo Oyeade, & Gashawbeza Bekele (from 2015 Conference)

**Chapter Contributors**

Adebayo Oyeade | Gashawbeza Bekele  
Abolade Adeniji | Tunde Agara | Martha Alibah  
Tokunbo Ayoola | Patrick Balogun | Rebecca S. Dixon | Ngozi U. Emeka-Nwobia | Bessie House-Soremekun | Guangzhi Huang | Bernard Steiner  
Ifekwe | Sarah Iriogbe-Efionayi | Cynthia Gadsden | Chinwe Obianika | Felix Omoh Okokhere | Leslie Stubbs | Biale Zua

**THE LONG STRUGGLE:  
DISCOURSES ON HUMAN  
AND CIVIL RIGHTS IN AFRICA  
AND THE AFRICAN DIASPORA**

Edited by  
Adebayo Oyeade, &  
Gashawbeza Bekele

**Forthcoming 2016**

**6:30-8:50**  
**Banquet and Keynote Address**  
Venue: The Atrium

**Dinner & Entertainment**

**Welcome & Opening Remarks:**

Dr. Adebayo Oyebade, Professor of History, TSU

**Poetry Rendition:**

Dr. Adebayo Oyebade, Professor of History, TSU

**Awards Presentation:**

Dr. Rebecca S. Dixon, Associate Professor of English and Women's Studies, TSU  
Dr. Gashawbeza Bekele, Assistant Professor of Geography, TSU  
Dr. Adebayo Oyebade, Professor of History, TSU

**Introduction of Keynote Speaker:**

Dr. Adebayo Oyebade, Professor of History, TSU

**Keynote Speaker & Address:**

Dr. Mayowa Ogedengbe, Adjunct Professor of Africology, Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, "The African Psyche and Africa's Development in the 21st Century."

**8:50**  
**Closing Remarks**

Dr. Joel Dark, Professor of History & Associate Dean, College of Liberal Arts, TSU



**Conference Advisory Committee**

Dr. Adebayo Oyebade, Professor of History  
Dr. Gashawbeza Bekele, Assistant Professor of Geography  
Dr. Erik Schmeller, Professor of History  
Ms. Pamela Bobo, Instructor of History  
Dr. Rebecca Dixon, Associate Professor of English and Women's Studies  
Dr. Learotha Williams, Assistant Professor of History  
Dr. Kyle Murray, Instructor of Political Science

**Sponsors**

College of Liberal Arts, Tennessee State University  
Department of History, Geography, Political Science, & Africana Studies,  
Tennessee State University

**Appreciation**

The conference would like to acknowledge the support of the listed:

Dr. Gloria Johnson, Dean, College of Liberal Arts, Tennessee State University  
Dr. Joel Dark, Associate Dean, College of Liberal Arts, Tennessee State University  
Dr. Erik Schmeller, Professor of History, Tennessee State University  
Ms. Cordia McCutcheon, Senior Office Assistant, Office of the Dean, College of Liberal Arts, Tennessee State University  
Ms. Angela Denmark, Administrative Assistant, HPGA, Tennessee State University  
The Redeemed Christian Church of God, Agape House, Nashville

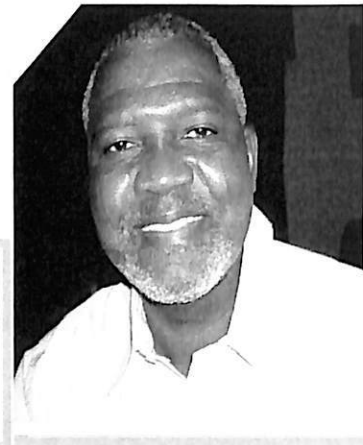


## Previous Conference Speakers



**Dr. Toyin Falola** was the Keynote Speaker in the maiden edition of the conference (2012). He is the Jacob and Frances Sanger Mossiker Chair in the Humanities and University Distinguished Teaching Professor at the University of Texas at Austin.

**Dr. Akanmu Adebayo** gave the keynote address at the second conference (2013). An accomplished scholar, he is Professor of History and Director of the Center for Conflict Management (CCM) at Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw, Georgia.



**Ambassador Neneh MacDouall-Gaye** was the Plenary Guest Speaker in 2012. She was the former Gambian Ambassador to the United States. She had also served as Secretary of Trade and Industry, and as Secretary of Communications and Information Technology in the Gambian government.

**Dr. Peter Nwosu** gave the Guest Lecture address at the second conference (2013). A Fellow of the American Council on Education (ACE) and Fulbright Scholar, he is a professor of communications and former Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs at Tennessee State University.



**Dr. Bessie House-Soremekun** was the Keynote Speaker in 2015. She is the Director of Africana Studies and Professor of Political Science and Africana Studies, Indiana University-Purdue University, Indianapolis. She is also the founding Executive Director of the Center for Global Entrepreneurship and Sustainable Development at the university.

**Mrs. Elizabeth Harbour McClain** delivered the Guest Lecture in 2015. She is a retired professor of history at Tennessee State University. She was an active figure in the Civil Rights Revolution of the 1960s.



**NOTES**

**NOTES**

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