

AFRICANA LIBRARIES NEWSLETTER

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INDIANA UNIVERSITY, BLOOMINGTON

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Wangari Maathai Plants Seeds of Peace

Kenyan environmentalist, Wangari Maathai became the first African woman to win the Nobel Peace Prize on October 8, 2004. Her work has sought to empower women, better the environment and fight corruption in Africa for almost 30 years.

The Norwegian Nobel Committee praised Maathai, Kenya's deputy environment minister, for founding the Green Belt Movement (GBM), in 1977, which has planted more than 30 million trees across Africa to slow deforestation and soil erosion as well as provide wood for fires used in cooking. Maathai is also known for many other accomplishments.

She was the first woman in central or eastern Africa to hold a Ph.D. and the first woman head of a university department in Kenya, the Department of Veterinary Medicine. She earned her biology degree from Mount St. Scholastica College in Kansas and a master's degree at the University of Pittsburgh. In 2002, she was a visiting professor at Yale University (School of Forestry and Environmental Studies), and she had been a visiting fellow at Dartmouth College. In December 2002, Maathai was elected to Parliament and has been Assistant Minister in the Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources and Wildlife since January 2003.

Maathai is the seventh African to win the prize since it was first awarded in 1901. Previous winners from Africa include: United Nations Secretary-General, Kofi Annan (2001), Nelson Mandela and F.W. de Klerk (1993), Desmond Tutu (1984), Anwar Sadat (1978), and Albert John Lutuli (1960).

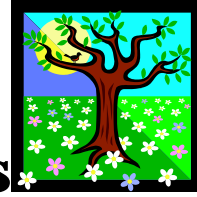
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Africana Librarians Council Minutes



Africana Librarians Council (ALC) Bibliography Committee Meeting Minutes

May 7th, 2004

1:35 – 3:10 PM

University of Michigan – Ann Arbor
Ehrlicher Room (411 West Hall)

Present: Peter Limb (Michigan State U), Chair; Joseph Lauer (Michigan State U), Gretchen Walsh (Boston U), Dan Reboussin (U of Florida), Andrew de Heer (Schomburg Center), Loyd Mbabu (Ohio U), Peter Kargbo (NYU), James Simon (CRL), Afeworki Paulos (U of Michigan), Akilah Nosakhare (Woodruff Library – Atlanta University Center), Phyllis Bischof (UC Berkeley), Al Kagan (U of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign), Miki Goral (UCLA), Karen Fung (Stanford), Margaret Hughes (Stanford), Edward Miner (U of Iowa), Helene Baumann (Duke U), Lauris Olson (U Penn), Loumona Petroff (Boston U), Patricia Kuntz (Madison, Wisconsin), Basseyy Irele (Harvard U), Patricia Ogedengbe (Northwestern U), Marion Frank-Wilson (Indiana U), Marieta Harper (Library of Congress), Stephanie Krueger, (JSTOR, Ann Arbor office), Guest.

SECTION I. BRIEF REPORTS

1. Introductions, Announcements, Handouts.

Chair Peter Limb called the meeting to order at 1:35 pm. An amendment to the agenda was announced: a discussion of LC Nairobi matters has been added to the agenda as agenda item 7(b). The previous agenda item 7(b) will be deferred to the fall ALC meeting in New Orleans, as will be agenda items 7 (c), (d), (e), and 8 (a).

2. Adoption of Minutes October 30th, 2003

The minutes of the bibliography committee fall meeting at ASA in Boston were approved.

3. **New Bibliographies/Reference Works, see appendix** (appendix will be online only).

4. Conover-Porter Award Progress Report

Limb reported that a good number of nominations was received, several of them from Africa. A more detailed announcement will be made at the Business Meeting.

SECTION II. DISCUSSION

5. **Bibliographic/Reference Tools: where are we going, what are we doing?**

(a) Resources for College Libraries:

Olson reported on ACRL plans to publish a new edition of *Resources for College Libraries*. Questions were raised about potential involvement of ALC members in the editing of the Africa-related part of that publication. Nosakhare volunteered to contact ACRL to find out more about the editing process. She will also contact other area studies associations (e.g., SALALM, CEAL, MELA, et al.) to find out if they share our concerns. She will post results of her inquiries to the list or bring them to the fall meeting.

(b) Indexes/Databases: who uses what, when and why?

Limb initiated the discussion by pointing out several issues relating to indexes and databases, including the discussion about open access (as represented by the LC Nairobi index, the African Studies Abstracts, and AfricaBib) vs. commercial indexes/databases (e.g., NISC's African Studies and South African Studies; Dissertation Abstracts, etc.); the quality and relevance of various databases; print vs. online, and the question whether the print indexes which tend to cover different sources than the online indexes, will go electronic; the high cost of some commercial databases which excludes

many libraries; shifts in some library catalogs to be more inclusive, as e.g. the African Studies Centre in Leiden which includes journal articles in its OPAC, as does the catalog of the University of Natal/Pietermaritzburg.

Walsh pointed out that with an index such as NISC it might be difficult to actually obtain the cited sources, since US libraries may not subscribe to many of the journals indexed. This problem does not occur as frequently with AfricaBib since most of the journals indexed are held by US libraries. Several ALC members also mentioned good experiences with the African Studies Abstracts although the different languages represented can sometimes be a challenge. Goral pointed out that Ebsco databases can be a good source for information on Africa for libraries with no Africana collections.

Limb mentioned that NISC has a South African subsidiary with South African staff working on content. He also pointed out that for the most thorough research it is best to search both NISC databases (African Studies and South African Studies) to make full use of all the information included. Both databases have been merged into one product but Kagan, who has tested it, feels that there is not enough quality control of the content.

Finnegan drew attention to the Commonwealth Bureau's database (CABI) as a good supplement to the Anthropology Index. As a conclusion of the discussion, it was suggested that librarians should liaise more with publishers and vendors to improve search features and content.

(c) Web guides & Search Engines in African Studies: where are we going?

There was general agreement that search engines for Africa are still limited. Concern was expressed over Google's reference service. Some Google answers to questions about Africa indicate that Google does not use Africana experts to answer Africa-related reference questions. This can be problematic for students who rely heavily on this service. Several ALC members stressed the importance of librarians

to educate students and faculty about sources other than Google.

6. Reference Trends and African Studies

(a) Online Reference Tutorials

Limb reported on software products which allow one to create websites which include voice-overs, videos, etc., and suggested that this might be an interesting future development in the field of African studies, e.g. for short introductions to African Studies in form of online tutorials. Boston University (using the ShowMe software) and Berkeley have examples of online tutorials on their websites at:

<http://www.bu.edu/showme/>

http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/TeachingLib/Guides/Internet/SearchPPT_files/frame.htm

(b) Using Scholarly and Professional Lists

Walsh reported on H-Africa and its usefulness to expose students to current scholarly debates. A problem noted by several ALC members in this connection is the fact that some professors do not appreciate having student questions posted on H-Africa and discourage undergraduates to join the list. It does, however work well for graduate students, and the discussion logs which can be accessed without subscribing to the list are a useful feature.

(c) Virtual (email/chat) Reference and Personal Contact:

Limb raised questions about virtual reference efforts, e.g. how successful is it?

Goral reported that UCLA is engaged in virtual reference service but receives few questions. A study showed that 54% of the questions received were technology related rather than reference questions. She pointed out that for in-depth reference questions 'chatting' is not sufficient and that there has to be either in-person or over-the-phone follow-up in addition to 'chatting'. It appears that users feel the same way since UCLA's reference dept. receives considerably more questions via e-mail.

Meeting adjourned at 11:05 am.

Minutes respectfully submitted by
Marion Frank-Wilson.



Calendar of Future Meetings

ASA

ASA Annual Meeting, 2004

New Orleans, LA: Nov. 11-14,
Marriott Hotel, in New Orleans' French Quarters
District.

ASA Annual Meeting 2005

Washington, D.C.: Nov. 17-20,
Marriot Wardman Park Hotel.

ALA

Annual Conference, 2005

Chicago, IL: June 23-29

Midwinter Meeting, 2006

San Antonio, TX : Jan. 20-25

Annual Conference, 2006

New Orleans, LA: June 22-28

Midwinter Meeting, 2007

Seattle, WA: Jan. 19-24

Annual Conference, 2007

Washington, DC: June 21-27

ACRL

ACRL 12th National Conference, 2005

Minneapolis, MN: April 7-10

ACRL National Conference, 2007

Baltimore, MD: Mar. 29-Apr. 1

IFLA

World Library and Information Congress: 71st IFLA General Conference and Council, 2005

Oslo, Norway: Aug. 14-18.

World Library and Information Congress: 72nd IFLA General Conference and Council, 2006

Seoul, South Korea.

World Library and Information Congress: 73rd IFLA General Conference and Council, 2007

Durban, South Africa



Using Google for African Studies Research: A Guide to Effective Web Searching

A pilot edition of this guide is now freely
accessible at:

<http://www.hanszell.co.uk/google/>. It is published
as an adjunct to the new third edition of The
African Studies Companion: A Guide to
Information Sources (online at
<http://www.africanstudiescompanion.com>)

although it can also be used on its own.

Preceded by an examination of Google's
extraordinary growth and popularity - and
looking at issues such as its page-ranking
methods and privacy concerns - the guide is
designed to help the user get the most out of
Google's Web searching techniques, and at the
same time provides a critical evaluation of
Google's many Web search features, services,

and tools. The guide is liberally interspersed with examples of searches, and search strategies, relating to Africa or African studies topics. Hans Zell welcomes comments and suggestions from users of the Guide, especially from Africana and reference librarians and from African studies scholars.

No print version is available at this time, but if any ALC members would like to have a copy of the matching Word document that formed the basis of the Web version, Hans Zell offers a copy of the file on request, to be sent as an email attachment. This document has a table of contents with page numbers (which do not appear in the Web version of course); it is 119 pages long and the file size is 883KB in RTF. Send requests to: Hans Zell at hzell@btopenworld.com or

hanszell@hanszell.co.uk.



Announcements

Call for Applications for ASA-Funded Book Donation Projects for the Year 2005

The African Studies Association (ASA) <<http://www.africanstudies.org/>> offers an annual grant program to assist book donation projects with shipping costs to send book donations to African libraries and schools. The Africana Librarians Council Book Donations Committee <http://www.loc.gov/rr/amed/afs/alc/bkdnccte.html> reads grant proposals and makes recommendations to ASA. The total amount of \$3000.00 generally supports small grants in amounts from \$200 to \$1000. Past awards are listed here

<http://www.albany.edu/%7Edlafonde/Global/ASAbookaward.htm>.

Those applying for partial funding of a project should clearly show how additional funding will be solicited. The grants are intended to encourage innovative projects that incorporate essential elements including:

1. Recipient participation

Book donation programs should reflect a partnership between institutions in Africa and the US with a liaison contact from each institution. While large scale donations of container-loads of books can be effective, the

ASA is trying to fill a perceived gap by increasing the number of small to medium-sized projects that focus on specific, articulated needs. Community based, grassroots project involvement with benefit to broad, non-sectarian populations are encouraged.

2. High quality materials

While books need not be new, they should be in good condition and relevant to the recipient's needs. Books can be procured from libraries' duplicates, personal libraries, books stores, students and publishers.

3. Attention to details of logistics The project plan should include a place to store books as they are being collected, a means of reviewing the books for physical quality and relevance to the recipient's request, materials and staff for packing, a means of shipping to Africa, and all necessary paperwork for customs and shipping. The ASA cannot offer any services in arranging shipping or other logistics. Our role is to supply funding to the greatest extent possible.

Applications for Funding

1. Project description: Send a 1-3 page description covering:

- * the recipient and relationship to donor
- * the materials requested (specific titles or subject areas)
- * the number of books, and means of obtaining them
- * shipping and other logistical plans
- * status of the project---is it already underway, or just in the idea stage?
- * who will administer the project? Who is the liaison in Africa?

2. Budget

- * What are total costs of the project?
- * How much is the request to the ASA?
- * How will ASA funds be used?
- * For partial funding requests, how will other funds be solicited?

3. Deadline

Applications are due in the ASA Secretariat, c/o Carol L. Martin, PhD, Executive Director, Rutgers University, Douglass Campus, 132 George St., New Brunswick, NJ 08901-1400 postmarked on or before June 1, 2005. Electronic submissions are welcome only if all accompanying documents can be sent via e-mail or are on the Web. Please send electronic submissions to Carol L. Martin, PhD, Executive

Director: clmasa@rci.rutgers.edu

A report on the project and a brief summary for ASA News are required at the project's completion. Photographs, websites, digitized information related to project progress is encouraged and may be used for development purposes by ASA or ALC.

Previous book donation award winners are listed on the website at the following URL:
<http://www.albany.edu/~dlafonde/Global/ASAbokaward.htm>
 <<http://www.albany.edu/%7Edlafonde/Global/ASAbokaward.htm>> .

For more information on Book Donation Programs:

<http://www.albany.edu/~dlafonde/Global/bookdonation.htm>
 <<http://www.albany.edu/%7Edlafonde/Global/bookdonation.htm>>

Book Donations Introduction and Tips:

<http://www.albany.edu/~dlafonde/Global/bkdonsuccess.htm>
 <<http://www.albany.edu/%7Edlafonde/Global/bkdonsuccess.htm>>

Africana Librarians Council, Book Donation Committee page:
<http://www.loc.gov/rr/amed/afs/alc/bkdncte.html>





Literature on Libraries and Information Science

African Publishing Reviews include:

Vol 12, no. 1, 2003:

"APNET Secretariat Relocation - Challenges and Joys"
"National Book Association Split - Zambia"
"Pursuit of Excellence in Publishing"
"SIEL 9 International Book and Publishing Fair"
"FILO Report 2002 (Ouagadougou)"

Vol. 12, no. 2, 2003:

"Digital Print-on-Demand for African Publishing"
"Mission to Central Africa"
"Meeting of ADEA Working Group on Books & Learning Materials"
"Training Mission to Pretoria"
"Regional Seminar for Central Africa"
Africa: Guest of Honour at BookWorld Prague 2003"
"Dialogue between Africa and Europe: Impediments and Possibilities"
"Speech by the chairman of the NOMA Award management Committee"
"Report on Tunis Fair 2003"

Vol. 12, no. 3, 2003:

"APNET at the Geneva book fair"
"Expansion of Intra-regional trade between the CEMAC and UEMOA Countries"
"Nigeria International Book Fair (NIBF) 2003"

Vol 12, no. 4-6, 2003:

"NEPAD and African Publishing"
"History and Culture in Africa"
"Current Opportunities and Challenges Facing African Publishers"
"Safeguard Authors' Works"
"The International Conference on Publishing in the Caribbean"
"2002 Noma Award Winner"
"A Report of the Zimbabwe International Book Fair (ZIBF)"
"APNET at the 2003 Nairobi International Book Fair"
"The Jomo Kenyatta Prize"
"Report of the 4th Foire International Du Livre de Ouagadougou"

Vol. 13, no. 1, 2004:

"Report on World Bank Seminar on Textbooks and Other Training Materials"
Textbook Provision in Africa: APNET's Perspective"
"History is Made as Cote d'Ivoire Selects Locally Published Set Books"
"Communication from International Publishers Association (IPA)"
"About FILDAK"
"Report of the 36th Cairo International Book Fair (CIBF)"
"Report on the 16th New Delhi World Book Fair"

Vol. 13, no. 2, 2004:

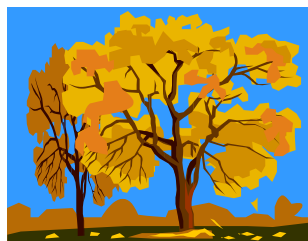
"Whither the South African Publishing Industry?"
"APNET Message to African Publishers on World Book Day"
"4th Salon International du Livre d'Abidjan (SILA) 2004"
"The Nigerian International Book Fair (NIBF) 2004"
"The NOMA Award 2003 Presentation."

African Research & Documentation no. 94, 2004 includes:

"The SOAS-Nigeria Link, 2003/2006"
Barbara Turfan. "Practical Applications in Library and Information Management: the School of Oriental & African Studies "(SOAS)-Nigeria Link, 2003/2006"
Umar Ibrahim. "Department of Library and Information Science, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria: past, present and future."
Maimuna Izah. "Library and Information Services in Ibn Kashim Ibrahim Library, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria."
John McIlwaine. "Writings on African Archives, Supplement 7."
Huw M. Jones. "Note on a "Mystery Pamphlet"
Thomas P. Ofcansky. "Rennie Montague Bere (1907-1991): a Bibliography."
Pippa Smart & Sioux Cumming. "Re-launch of African Journals Online (AJOL)."

FOCUS

Issue no. 4, Summer 2004, vol. XXIII of *FOCUS*, the Center for Research Libraries newsletter, is devoted to resources for the study of African history, culture, politics, economics, and societies.



Phyllis Bischof, "Power and Place of Black Diasporan Autobiography: an Annotated Bibliography of Bibliographies," in Genevieve Fabre and Klaus Benesch, eds., *African Diasporas in the New and Old Worlds: Consciousness and Imagination*, pp. 321-353.

Vendor News

(Please look in ALN 116 for more Vendor News)

Oriental and African Books published catalogue Number Twenty-Seven, "Africa." 33 Whitehall Street, Shrewsbury SY2 5AD, England;
Tel: +44(0)1743 352575
E-mail: paul@africana.co.uk
<http://www.africana.co.uk>.

Paul Mills—Clarke's Africana & Rare Books has issued a "Bargain List—July 2004" with Africana books at reduced prices.
E-mail: Africana@clarkes.co.za

The African Books Collective has published its *Summary Annual Report 2003*; African Books Collective Ltd., Oxford, UK
Tel: +44 1865 726686;
E-mail: abc@africanbookscollective.com;

<http://www.africanbookscollective.com>.

The Nordic Africa Institute has published its *Annual Report 2003*; Kungsgata 38; P.O. Box 1703; SE-751 47 Uppsala, Sweden;
Tel: +46 1856 22 00;
E-mail: nai@nai.uu.se;
<http://www.nai.uu.se>.

The Organisation for Social Science Research in Eastern and Southern Africa (OSSREA) has published *Catalogue 2004*; P.O. Box 31971 Addis Ababa, Ethiopia;
Tel: 251-1-551163/239773
E-mail: ossrea@telecom.net.et;
pub.ossrea@telecom.net.et;
<http://www.ossrea.net>

Of Interest...

NIPAD, NISC Information Publications and African Databases, combines NISC's African Studies and South African Studies databases. NIPAD allows for African Studies and South African Studies to be searched simultaneously; it provides access to full-text information on South Africa. NISC Pty Ltd, 19 Worcester Street, P.O. Box 377, Grahamstown, 6140, South Africa;
Tel: +27(0)46 622 9698;
E-mail: sales@nisc.co.za; <http://www.nisc.co.za>.

Oumane Sembene Interview on NPR, see <http://www.wnyc.org/shows/lopate/episodes/10122004> for Sembene's interview on NPR about his new film, *Moolaadé*. Scroll down to the third segment. A media player will be needed to listen to it.

New Books Noted

Bookbird, A Journal of International Children's Literature has devoted its July 2004 issue to Children's "Literature and Africa". It includes in its Focus IBBY (International Board on Books for Young People): Books for Africa, IBBY Uganda: Evangeline Ledi Barongo and Her Vision; IBBY World Congress: Cape Town, South Africa; Defining IBBY's place in Africa; IBBY in Africa: A History.

It also includes:

Jane Kurtz, "Africa and the Hunger for Reading"
Cecile Lebon, "The French-language African Novel for Young People."

Michael J. Siler, *Strategic Security Issues in Sub-Saharan Africa: A Comprehensive Annotated Bibliography*, Westport: CT: Praeger, 2004.

David Arnold and Christopher Shackle, eds. *SOAS Since the Sixties*. London: School of Oriental and African Studies, 2003.

National Liberation in Southern Africa: The Role of the Nordic Countries: A Series in 6 Volumes, Nordiska Afrikainstitutet, P.O. Box 1703, SE-751

47 Uppsala, Sweden; email: orders@fdnai.uu.se

Giorgio Miescher and Dag Henrichsen, *African Posters; A Catalogue of the Poster Collection in the Basler Afrika Bibliographien*, BAB, Basel, Switzerland 2004; orders from: bab@bluewin.ch



Exhibitions

Museum for African Art:
Personal Affects Power and Poetics in Contemporary South African Art
September 23, 2004 - January 3, 2005

A visual arts exhibition simultaneously on view at the Museum for African Art and the Cathedral of Saint John The Divine in New York City will be part of Season South Africa, a major program of contemporary visual and performing arts that runs from September 2004 through January 2005. In addition to the visual art exhibition there will be a series of theater productions, lectures and other public programming. Launched during the year that South Africa is commemorating its first decade of democracy, Season South Africa

will showcase contemporary visual and performing artists from the country.

Personal Affects includes commissioned and recently produced works by seventeen South African artists. The art works represent the artists' responses to a weeklong stay in New York and visits with the international team of curators. The exhibition features sculpture, drawing, photography, painting, installation, video, performance and dance. Visual artists include Jane Alexander, Wim Botha, Steven Cohen, Churchill Madikida, Mustafa Maluka,



Thando Mama, Samson Mudzunga, Jay Pather, Johannes Phokela, Robin Rhode, Claudette Schreuders, Berni Searle, Doreen Southwood, Clive van den Berg, Minnette Vári, Diane Victor and Sandile Zulu. For More Information please see:

www.seasonsouthafrica.org.

Glimpses from the South: A selection of African art from the Johannesburg Art Gallery

September 23, 2004 - February 28, 2005

This exhibition presents works from the collection of the Johannesburg Art Gallery, the

largest gallery in sub-Saharan Africa. Its collection is larger than that of the South African National Art Gallery in Cape Town and includes some of the most prized works not just in the country but also in the world. Because of limitations of space, this exhibition has been limited to woodcarvings. For more information please see: <http://www.africanart.org>.

Smithsonian National Museum of African Art: Playful Performers, Through December 12, 2004 This exhibition, which is about and for children, includes objects, photographs, and video presentations. It focuses on the role of masks in relation to children.

Insights, Through December 5, 2004 Features 40 artworks by contemporary artists. Includes paintings, sculptures, photographs, lithographs, films and mixed-media installations selected from the museum's collection, some of which have never been exhibited before.

UCLA Fowler Museum of Cultural History: Painting Ethiopia: The Life and Work of Qes Adamu Tesfaw

March 6-August 28, 2005

Qes Adamu Tesfaw (1935 -) is an Ethiopian artist. His works consist of narrative depictions of Christianity from an Ethiopian perspective, the political and military exploits of 19th- and 20th-century Ethiopian rulers, and rural and urban life have helped shape his country's identity. This traveling exhibition presents thirty-five of the artist's finest paintings produced over the past 40 years. For more information see:

<http://www.fowler.ucla.edu/incEngine/?content=cm&cm=future>.

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*In this issue of
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No. 115 (July/Sept 2004):

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- ALC Minutes
- Vendor News
- New Books Noted
- Exhibitions

Africana Libraries Newsletter (ALN) is published by the Office of the Librarian for African Studies, Indiana University, Bloomington and is funded by the Indiana University Libraries, the Indiana University African Studies Program, and Indiana University's Office of International Programs. Its purpose is to support the work of the Africana Librarians Council (ALC) of the African Studies Association. Contents include minutes of ALC and CAMP (Cooperative Africana Microform Project) meetings, as well as reports on other events and resources of interest in Africana librarianship. The newsletter is mailed free of charge to over five hundred interested individuals and organizations in sixty-nine different countries.

Editor: Marion Frank-Wilson, Librarian for African Studies
Tel.: 812-855-1481; Fax: 812-855-8068;
E-mail: mfrankwi@indiana.edu
Website: <http://www.indiana.edu/african/>

Staff: Nicole A. Beatty

Please send address changes to:
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