

AFRICANA LIBRARIES NEWSLETTER

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Africana Librarians Meet

Annual Meeting of SCOLMA, May 14th, 2003, in London

The Standing Conference on Library Materials on Africa (SCOLMA), the Africana librarians association of Great Britain, had its annual meeting on May 14th, at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) in London. The topic of the conference was "Developing Africa: NGOs and Information for Change", and speakers included members of various NGOs: Noel Treacy (Amnesty International), Sarah Hammond (Healthlink Worldwide, Regional Link Coordinator, Southern Africa), Daphne Kouretas (Source), Louise Pirouet (Trustee, Refugee Legal Centre and member, African Studies Centre, Cambridge), John Lindsay (Kingston University), Sandra Gibson (ITDG), June Stephen (Oxfam). The speakers presented overviews of their organization's activities, and there was time for discussion after each presentation. The day concluded with SCOLMA's annual general meeting. ALC members Ruby Bell-Gam (UCLA) and Marion Frank-Wilson (Indiana University) were among the conference participants as guests.

Africana Librarians Council (ALC) Meetings

This year's spring meeting of the ALC was hosted by Yale University. Many thanks to the many members of the Sterling Memorial Library at Yale University, and especially to Dorothy Woodson (Curator of African Collection) and Ann Okerson (Associate University Librarian for Collections) who contributed to this successful meeting and made ALC members feel welcomed. Thank you also to Curator Simon Samoeil of the Near East Collection, and Elizabeth Beaudin (OASIS Technical Administrator) for a fascinating presentation on the "Project OACIS – Middle East Serials Database Project".

Please look for minutes of the various committee meetings in this issue.

The fall meeting of the ALC will take place at the annual meeting of the African Studies Association in Boston, on Thursday, October 30th. Minutes of the fall meeting will appear in ALN no. 113.

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Africana Librarians Council Minutes

ALC Cataloging Committee

**Meeting April 24, 2003: 3:45-5:15pm,
New Haven, CT**

Present: Lygia Ballantyne (Library of Congress), Ruby Bell-Gam (Univ. of California, Los Angeles), Phyllis Bischof (Univ. of California, Berkeley), Simon Bockie (Univ. of California, Berkeley), Joseph Caruso (Columbia Univ.), Jill Coelho (Harvard Univ.), Andrew de Heer (New York Public Library), Vicki Evalds (Philadelphia), Gregory Finnegan (Harvard Univ.), Miki Goral (Univ. of California, Los Angeles), Marieta Harper (Library of Congress), Patricia Kuntz, Joseph Lauer (Michigan State Univ.), Robert Lesh (Northwestern Univ.), Peter Limb (Michigan State Univ.), Akilah Nosakhere (Atlanta Univ.), Anthony Oddo (Yale Univ.), Patricia Ogedengbe (Northwestern Univ.), Lauris Olson (Univ. of Pennsylvania), Laverne Page (Library of Congress), Loumona Petroff (Boston Univ.), Charles Riley (Yale Univ.), Gretchen Walsh (Boston Univ.), David Wesley (Boston Univ.), Dorothy Woodson (Yale Univ.), Joanne Zellers (Library of Congress).

History of Cataloging Committee for Britz memorial volume. Evalds announced that Lesh had agreed to write the chapter on cataloging developments. In part, this would be an update of Widenmann's chapter for the Panofsky festschrift which covered through 1988.

Unicode issues raised by James Agenbroad. After some discussion of this project to incorporate Unicode for foreign language characters in MARC21, Westley volunteered to chair this task force, with Walsh and Caruso as members. Walsh proposed a task force to prepare a response to Agenbroad's question and other issues being raised.

Africana Subject Funnel: Report distributed and procedures were reviewed. Agreed that lack of feedback did not indicate lack of interest and reworking of research was not expected. Agreed that work submitted outside the funnel should not be included in the report, but a few would like to see a list of work with Africana topics that was submitted outside of the funnel. Lauris Olson located and analyzed the reviews of James S. Olson's *Peoples of Africa* (1996). His survey found many non-critical notices along with devastating critiques from a few scholars or librarians.

Committee encouraged submitting changes through the funnel that would eliminate geographic subdivisions for "Bantu-speaking peoples" and would stop use of "Indigenous peoples" for majority populations.

In a discussion of classifying policies and problems, it was noted that DT covered more than just African history.

Discussed possible changes to the Committee website maintained by Zellers.

Draft Minutes of Title VI/Coop meeting.

Title VI/Cooperative Projects Meeting, April 24, 2003, Yale University.

Present: Lygia Ballantyne, LC, Non-Title VI; Ruby Bell-Gam, UCLA, Title VI; Phyllis Bischof, UC-Berkeley, Title VI; Joe Caruso, Columbia,

Non-Title VI; Jill Coelho, Harvard, Non-Title VI; Andrew deHeer, NYPL, Non-Title VI; David Easterbrook, Northwestern, Non-Title VI; Greg Finnegan, Harvar/Tozzer, Non-Title VI; Marion Frank Wilson, Indiana, Title VI; Miki Goral, UCLA, Title VI; Marieta Harper, LC, Non-Title VI; Al Kagan, U of Illinois, Title VI; Peter Kargbo, NYU, Non-Title VI; Patricia Kuntz; Deborah LaFond, SUNY-Albany, Non-Title VI; Peter Limb, MSU, Title VI; Loyd Mbabu, Ohio University, Title VI; Akilah Nosakhere, Atlanta University Center, Non-Title VI; Patricia Ogedengbe, Northwestern, Non-Title VI; Lauris Olson, UPenn, Title VI; Laverne Page, LC, Non-Title VI; Jason Schultz, Northwestern, Non-Title VI; Gretchen Walsh, Boston University, FLAS only; David Westley, Boston University, FLAS only; Joanne Zellers, LC, Non-Title VI. Title VI matters: Issues of concern in drafting common language on library cooperation for all Title VI applications were noted. Principal among these is the need for communication about the text and the amount requested, particularly for new applicants who may not attend the meeting prior to the deadline. Little was known about the results of the current competition except that the announcements would probably begin appearing around May 5, 2003. Rumors were discussed briefly, to no conclusion. Potential cooperative projects: Frank-Wilson reported that Indiana University had received a large donation of Liberian materials from the Friends of Liberia, and that Verlon Stone and Elwood Dunn of that group had proposed several projects in Liberia, including filming the Maryland County Archives, the Liberian Government Archives, the Presidential Archives, and the personal papers of William Tubman. Bischof noted that Berkeley has a related collection. There were many questions raised, and the group agreed that they needed a more concrete proposal, including budget and logistical information, before it could give serious consideration to the idea. Cooperation with Adam Matthews microfilm company was suggested as a possible avenue to explore. This private/non-profit cooperation was considered an interesting possibility. Would there be enough sales to interest a commercial vendor? Bischof noted that she had heard that three full-price customers were sufficient for a company to make a profit on a large project. Areas of overlapping interest were discussed. Kagan suggested a presentation at the fall meeting with the "right people" in the room. These would include the scholars from Indiana who had proposed the project; Liberian scholars; and Adam Matthews representatives. Senegal Project: Caruso reported on progress and problems. There have been delays due to illness of the senior film technician. Caruso visited Dakar on his way to Dar es Salaam to meet with participants and to check the film already done. Quality is now good, but progress is slow. There is a problem with one camera, and they are still waiting its return from repairs in France. The French government has resumed microfilming projects in Africa, causing more delays. These include Public Health Administration records for deposit in Aix en Provence. Caruso reiterated that CAMP needs outside funding to continue filming. Cameras are old, and staffing problems persist. Dissertations: Limb led a brainstorming session on acquisition of dissertations from Africa. MSU has complex arrangements with the University of Zimbabwe, but there is no overall project. A new African database vendor has a sizeable number of theses from Nairobi and Makerere. Sabinet has had success with ejournals, and is now looking at

dissertations. DISA is looking at archival materials. It plans to be self-sustaining, on a JSTOR model, with sales to US libraries.

Easterbrook reported that the head of CRL has been in dialogue with DATAD. Carnegie might be interested in a joint project.

Bischof suggested that the group set up a group of individuals each charged with forming liaison with groups in Africa, such as Sabinet, DISA, etc. Liaisons would express our interest and maintain an ongoing expression of that interest, with an invitation to "work with us." Bell-Gam reported that UCLA is getting a few dissertations from Nigerian universities, but the Nigerian University Council had raised obstacles. In Ghana there were different problems, largely copyright protection. They were waiting for DATAD to market their services.

Kagan reported that U of Illinois has some dissertations from Mozambique, but few results unless he goes himself. In Morocco there were questions of copyright permission. UI buys dissertations in book form.

Harper and Page reported that it is not LC's policy to collect theses, but some come in.

Frank Wilson reported that Indiana's linkage with Cameroon is now over. Hogarth is supplying theses, but there is a question of provenance and a danger of collecting stolen dissertations.

The aim of the Title VI cooperative project was to build one on one relationships between U.S. and African universities, maintaining respect for the African institutions. DATAD and other such projects take a regional approach.

European dissertations are also of interest. MSU is getting in published form from university departments. CRL will acquire these on request.

Projects involving Sandy Barnes at Penn (reported by Olson) and a Rockefeller project (reported by Bischof) were noted, but I failed to get full notes.

Book Donations Committee

Yale University, April 24, 2003

DRAFT Minutes

Present: Co-Chairs Deborah LaFond (SUNY-Albany) and Akilah Nosakhere (Atlanta University). Helene Baumann (Duke University, Ruby Bell-Gam (UCLA,) Phyllis Bischof (UC-Berkeley), Simon Bockie (UC-Berkeley), Joseph Caruso (Columbia), Jill Coelho (Harvard), Marion Frank-Wilson (Indiana), Marieta Harper (LC), Peter Kargbo (New York University), Bob Lesh (Northwestern), Edward Miner (Iowa), Laverne Page (LC), Gretchen Walsh (Boston), Joanne Zellers (LC)

- 1) Akilah Nosakhere was introduced as the continuing co-chair. She has been actively working with Deborah LaFond to respond to queries and discuss procedures with Carol Martin, Executive Director of ASA. Akilah will take over after the ASA meeting in Boston this fall. Call for nominations for a new co-chair/chair-elect were made.
- 2) Minutes from the 2002 Washington DC meeting, sent over e-mail previous to meeting in New Haven were approved.
- 3) Deborah announced a wording change in Section I of the Call for Applications, which was applauded by the group. The new sentence reads: "Community-based, grassroots project involvements with benefit to broad, non-sectarian populations are encouraged."
- 4) Awards 2003 Preparation- Chair requested that schedules for the summer be shared with Chair in

advance in order to work out a efficient response. Electronic response forms might encourage more efficient method for everyone. Deborah will look into. Discussion ensued about the history of the dual-review process which impacts negatively on the timing of grant awards. Deborah clarified that discussions with Carol Martin, Executive Director of ASA, proved beneficial. Ms. Martin agreed to raise these concerns with the ASA Board so that we could better ensure a timely selection of stipend winners. Suggestions to insert the Call for Applications in the ASA Meeting program were discussed to increase and promote the program. The group recommended that an invitation be made to Carol Martin, the new Executive Director, to our next ALC meeting.

Thank you notes are starting to come in for the latest round of awards. Peter Malanchuk is collecting success stories for previous awards. Chair requested more volunteers for this activity. Marieta Harper offered to assist on previous awardee success stories. Edward Minor agreed to pursue letters from the last round of recipients.

- 5) Book Donation Directory revision. The latest revision by Helene Baumann has been posted to the website. Helene Baumann requests feedback. She will continue to take the responsibility for incidental revisions and forward to current hosted site. Joanne will continue to link Directory to the ALC main page from host site/committee page but in addition will also add the directory on the main page of the ALC site to insure better outreach to potential award applicants.. Committee will add the success stories to the website, as well as a listing of all awards so that potential applicants understand that awards are given each year.
- 6) ASA Development Committee had invited the committee to work in collaboration with the ASA Development Board to pursue funding which would benefit overall ASA budget. The Board has made it clear that any funds would not necessarily go directly toward the Book Donation program. Chair wondered if the committee was prepared to work in this vein. Gretchen suggested we might add potential funding agencies to the Directory. Ruby will look into where we could get matching funds. Deborah will contact ASA to find out who currently serves on the ASA Development Board and follow-up with this discussion. Discussion also included recommendation to share information on small activities and projects, as e.g. asking faculty and graduate students traveling to Africa to carry a box of duplicates for the local library. The group decided to ask Al Kagan to include Book Donation efforts in his report to the ASA Board and to remind and encourage ASA members to help with the African Book famine as much as they can. The dire need for books is still there, in spite of electronic/digital .
- 7) Ruby Bell-Gam is collecting English language fiction and poetry for a Book Club in Eritrea.

Africana Librarians Council Bibliography Committee Minutes

Friday, April 25, 2003, 10:45 am-12:20 pm
Yale University, New Haven, CT

Present: Lygia Ballantyne (LC), Helene Baumann (Duke U), Ruby Bell-Gam (UCLA), Phyllis Bischof (UC Berkeley), Simon Bockie (UC Berkeley), Joseph Caruso (Columbia), Jill Young Coelho (Harvard), Andrew de Heer (NY Public Library), David Easterbrook (Northwestern), Greg Finnegan (Harvard), Vicki Evalds, Marion Frank-Wilson (Indiana U), Miki Goral (UCLA), Marieta Harper (LC), Al Kagan (U of Illinois), Peter Kargbo (New York U), Patricia Kuntz, Deborah LaFond (SUNY Albany), Joe Lauer (Michigan State U), Bob Lesh (Northwestern U), Peter Limb (Michigan State U), Edward Miner (U of Iowa), Akilah Nosakhere (Atlanta U Center), Patricia Ogedengbe (Northwestern), Lauris Olson (U of Pennsylvania), Laverne Page (LC), Loumona Petroff (Boston U), Jason Schultz (Northwestern), Gretchen Walsh (Boston U), David Westley (Boston U), Dorothy Woodson (Yale), Joanne Zellers (LC) Recorder: Jill Young Coelho

1. Preliminaries: Welcome, introductions and approval of minutes from the Fall, 2002 meeting in Washington, D.C.

The meeting was called to order at 10:45 am by Peter Limb, those present introduced themselves, and the minutes of the previous meeting were approved. The Chair moved agenda items around to accommodate those who had to leave early. [The minutes reflect the original order of the agenda. jyc]

2. Bibliographies in progress (Carried over from Fall meeting).

[To insure accuracy, recorder requested complete information by email after the meeting. jyc]

- Peter Limb will publish an AIDS bibliography in *Society in Transition*, a South African sociology journal, and longer versions, both print and electronic, are being offered to publishers.
- Marion Frank-Wilson has just completed a bibliography of travel writing by Africans. It will appear in *African Research & Documentation*. It is sub-divided into several categories, and she plans to develop more detailed bibliographies on each of the sub-categories. She is also looking for a publisher for an anthology on the topic.
- Ken Lohrentz is working on a bibliography of publications on the African émigré community in the U.S. and Canada since 1980.
- Hans Zell will publish a new edition of the *African Studies Companion: A Guide to Information Sources*, due in late June 2003, both in print and online at <http://www.africanstudiescompanion.com>
- David Westley is preparing *A Bibliography of Southeastern Bantu Languages* to be published by African Linguistic Bibliographies Hamburg: Helmut Buske Verlag.
- Phyllis Bischof is working on a bibliography of bibliographies of theses and dissertations completed at institutions of higher education in Africa. A second ongoing project is an annotated bibliography of autobiographies of the Black Diaspora.
- Akilah Nosakhere has completed a bibliography of resources for teaching African Studies, and is now looking for a publisher. The title is *African American Studies Core List of Resources*, co-authors, M. Elaine Hughes and Anne Page Mosby of Georgia State University. Funded by a Whitney-Carnegie Grant via ALA Publishing Committee(1997); completed 2003. The work is a collection of 304 annotations of books used by instructors of African American Studies courses used during the 1998-99 academic year. These items were identified through a nationwide survey of AAS instructors in 1998. The bibliography includes some 36 titles on African

History, Politics, and Cultural Arts.

- Edward Miner announced a three-year joint project between the University of Iowa and the University of Ghana, to revise and expand the curricula of both institutions in a way that will serve to internationalize the curriculum in Iowa and Ghana. The project is funded by the U.S. State Dept. and began in 2001. The co-directors are Christopher Roy of the Univ. of Iowa, Afeworki Paulos, now at the Univ. of Michigan, and Kofi Anyidiho of the University of Ghana.

The linkage will involve three steps to achieve this: the digitization of African library documents in the University of Ghana, which will be made available online; purchasing of contemporary African arts; and curricula development, which includes the introduction of new courses at both universities.

- Joseph Caruso offered copies of *Bantu Lexicography: A Critical Survey of the Principles and Process of Constructing Dictionary Entries*, published in Japan in 2000 by Dr. John Gongwe Kiango, Assistant Director of the Institute of Kiswahili Research at the University of Dar es Salaam. His book is not well distributed.

- Dorothy Woodson is indexing the papers of the noted Kenyan publisher, writer and dissident, Gakaara wa Wanjau.

Discussion followed regarding the appropriateness of the committee's name: A. Nosakhere and G. Walsh inquired if the term "bibliography" included such things as web pages and local libraries' online research guides. A question arose regarding whether the name "Bibliography Committee" ought to be changed to reflect the broader scope of the committee, given its regular discussions of reference and acquisitions as part of the committee's regular discussions, and there was a suggestion to create a Reference Committee. G. Finnegan pointed out that it would be impossible to squeeze in another set of meetings. D. Woodson suggested continuing the discussion on email, and there was general agreement.

3. Vendor reports.

- General: D. Woodson conveyed Paul Steere's regrets that he could not come, and a message from Chris Boyd of African Imprints that he had new shipments from various countries.
- Library of Congress: L. Ballantyne spoke for LC, and described the technical problems that have held up shipments from Nairobi; there are many boxes ready to ship. Buyers will be going soon to Uganda, Lesotho and Botswana. She added that the Quarterly Index is now on the Web <<http://lcweb.loc.gov/acq/ovop/nairobi/>> and seems to be working fine. She also announced that Judy McDermott will propose creation of an advisory board of LC's customers to give advice on matters affecting everyone and to give feedback so that customer concerns will be broadly reflected. McDermott welcomes any suggestions for the composition and activities of the new group. The advisory group's role will be to address general concerns and future directions of the Overseas Acquisitions Plans. Specific acquisitions problems will continue to be handled directly between the customer and the LC office concerned.
- G. Walsh brought up her concern about purchasing photocopied materials. Several minutes of discussion showed general agreement that there are collection development and ethical issues that need to be looked at. P. Limb asked for volunteers for a subcommittee to examine the problem more thoroughly and report back to the Committee. The subcommittee will consist of: P. Limb, G. Walsh, R. Bell-Gam, L. Ballantyne, P. Ogedengbe, P. Kargbo, D. LaFond.

4. Assessing bibliographic databases/indexing services, new and old.

- L. Olson brought up the question of Kwetu.net <<http://www.kwetunet.net/>>, a new database which appears to be expanding rapidly, and which has recently lowered its subscription price. Discussion followed, addressing a number

of general questions: how to evaluate the cost-effectiveness of this and other databases; how to make sure that the sources of materials included are clear (since information from an unknown source is useless for research); that any required licenses have been obtained; how to assure perpetual access to the materials; how to work with vendors to best focus their products. Further discussion was postponed until the Fall meeting.

5. Online developments.

P. Limb spoke on new developments including the DISA Project in South Africa, and brought up the problem of keeping track of and indexing online bibliographies. J. Coelho was concerned in particular about online materials that are included in the annual ABPR list, and agreed to start archiving them to CD-ROM as an interim measure.

6. Bib. committee web page.

(<http://lcweb.loc.gov/rr/amed/bibcte.html>)

P. Limb asked for suggestions for improvements and additions. Others asked about adding links to general

resources, tutorials, guides. It was agreed that members should take a look at the page and that the matter could be discussed further.

7. Other business/brief notices.

• African Studies Abstracts Online:

<<http://asc.leidenuniv.nl/library/abstracts/asa-online/>> African Studies Abstracts now exists only online, directly from Leiden University.

• **Conover Porter Award:** P. Limb announced that a new cycle is beginning, and that members should keep the award in mind as they examine new acquisitions.

• **"Recent Doctoral Dissertations" in ASA News:** J. Lauer said that the section is still appearing, but is behind schedule so that eight months of dissertations appeared at once.

• **Dan Britz memorial volume:** V. Evalds said that she would make a full announcement at the Business Meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 12:20pm.

Calendar of Future Meetings and Conferences

ALA

San Diego, CA, Jan. 9–14, 2004 ALA Midwinter Meeting

Orlando, FL, June 24–30, 2004 ALA Annual Conference

Boston, MA, Jan. 14-19, 2005 ALA Midwinter Meeting

Chicago, IL, June 23–29, 2005 ALA Annual Conference

San Antonio, TX, Jan 20–25, 2006 ALA Midwinter Meeting

New Orleans, LA, June 22–28, 2006 ALA Annual Conference

ASA & ALC/CAMP

Boston, MA, Oct. 30-Nov. 2, 2003 ASA Annual Meeting

Boston, MA, Oct. 30-Nov. 2, 2003 ALC Fall Meeting

IFLA

Berlin, Germany, Aug. 1-9, 2003 IFLA Annual Conference

Buenos Aires, Argentina, August 22-27, 2004 IFLA General Conference and Council

Oslo, Norway, August 14-18, 2005 IFLA General Conference and Council

Zimbabwe International Book Fair (ZIBF) 2003

ZIBF2003 - Imagination: Literature, Art and Culture, 29 July - 2

August 2003. Setting up day: 28 July 2003. COUNTRY OF FOCUS: Nigeria.

INDABA - History and Cultures in Africa: The Movement of Ideas, People and Books, 27 - 28 July 2003 List of Bookings as of June 26, 2003:

Cote d'Ivoire

APNET

Egypt

El Tamimy
Egyptian Collective

Ethiopia

Forum for Social Studies
OSSREA

Ghana

Sub-Saharan Publishers

India

Jaypee Brothers
Sterling Publishers
UBS Publishers

International

UNDP
UNESCO
UN Publications
Delegation of the European Commission to Zimbabwe
The European Union

Iran

Iranian Collective

Kenya

Sasa Sema

Lesotho

Southern News Book Centre

Malawi

Chancellor College
E & V Publications

Morocco

Ministere de la culture

Nigeria

ABIC Books & Material
Acena Ventures Ltd.

African First Publishers
Heinemann Educational Books
Inselberg Nigeria Ltd.
Literamed Publications
New Generation Ventures
Nigeria International Book Fair
Nigerian Publishers Collective
Rasmed Publications
The Book Company Ltd.

Senegal

CODESRIA

South Africa

Cambridge University Press
Little Happy People
New Africa Educational Publishing

Sweden

Nordic Africa Institute
Swedish Co-operative Centre

UK

Edinburgh University Press

Zambia

Zambia Women Writers' Association

Zimbabwe

AFRODAD
African Community Publishing
Amhadiyya Muslim Mission
Amnesty International
Baroda Trading t/a Book World
Bible Society of Zimbabwe
Budding Writers' Association

Centre for Popular Education
Child Protection Society
Christain Media Centre
City of Harare Libraries
College Press
Consumer International
EDICESA
E-Learning Solutions
Embassy of the Czech Republic
Fatima Zahra Women's Organization
FAWEZI
Hubbard Dianetics Foundation
Human Rights Trust
Intermediate Technology Development Centre
Islamic Books Display
Kingstons Ltd.
Legal Resource Centre
Longman Zimbabwe
Mambo Press
Mapungubwe Publishing Inc.
Media for Development Trust
Model Educational Suppliers
Pelum Association
Prestige Books
Priority Projects
Readwell Publishing
Rural Libraries Development Programme
Save the Children
SEATINI
Southern Africa Aids Information, SAFAIDS
SAPES
Silviera House
Southern African Research & Development Centre, SARDC
University of Zimbabwe Publications
Weaver Press
Women and AIDS Support Network
ZANA
Zimbabwe Albino Association
Zimbabwe Book Publishers Association
Zimbabwe Liberators Platform
Zimbabwe Publishing House
Zimbabwe Women's Resource Centre
Zimbabwe Women Writers
Zimcopy

For more information, please contact:
David Brine
Zimbabwe International Book Fair
London Office
P O Box 21303
London WC2E 8PH
Telephone & Fax: +44 (0)20 7836 8501
www.zibf.org

Upcoming Book Fairs in Africa:

Uganda International Book Fair (UIBF) 08-13 Sept. 2003

Uganda Publishers Association
c/o Kamala Limited
PO Box 4511, Kampala
Telephone: 256-41-270370/342121
Fax: 342121
E-mail: kamalu@imul.com

6th Nairobi International Book Fair (NIBF) 24-28 Sept. 2003

Kenya Publishers Association (KPA)
PO Box 42767, Nairobi
Telephone: 254-2-573259
E-mail: kenyapublishers@wananchi.com

Celebration of World Book Day Dar es Salaam International Book Fair 29 Sept-05 Oct. 2000

Publishers Association of Tanzania
PO Box 76640, Dar es Salaam
Telephone: 255 74493568
E-mail: publisherstanzania@hotmail.com

Fax: 670914
E-mail: dlba@voila.fr

9eme Salon International de l'édition et du livre (SIEL) Dec. 2003

Royaume du Maroc, Ministère de la culture et de la communication, Commissariat general du Siel 10, 17 Ave Michlifen, Agdal-Radat-Maroc
Telephone: 212 37670925

Salon du livre de Bamako (SALIBA)

Dec. 2003

c/o Omel, BP 2043, Bamako

Telephone: 223 296789

Fax: 297639

E-mail: jamana@malinet.ml/jamana@timbagga.com.ml



New York University Appoints New Librarian for Africana Studies

In September 2002, Peter Kargbo was appointed the new librarian for Africana Studies at New York University. Mr. Kargbo holds a Master of Arts in African Studies (University of Birmingham, England, 1997), a Certificate in Spanish Language and Literature (Palacio de Mondragon, Ronda, Spain, 1994), a Certificate in French Language and Literature

(Alliance Francaise, Freetown, Sierra Leone, 1987), and a Bachelor of Arts in Library Science (Leeds Metropolitan University, England, 1985). Before coming to New York University, Mr. Kargbo was an Instruction and Reference Librarian at Texas Tech. University, the University of Birmingham (England), Dudley College of Technology (England), Westhill College (Birmingham, England), the Bank of Sierra Leone (Freetown, Sierra Leone), and the Sierra Leone Library Board (Freetown, Sierra Leone).

The Rise and Rise of Journal Subscription Prices in African Studies

by Hans Zell

The process of compiling the now considerably expanded journals section in the forthcoming new 3rd edition of the *African Studies Companion*¹ has proven to be a useful exercise to compare subscription prices for African studies periodicals, and how they have increased since publication of the last edition in 1997.

While the good news is that there are now an increasing number of African studies journals published online and freely accessible – for example the *African Studies Quarterly* from the Center for African Studies at the University of Florida, the *Electronic Journal of Africana Bibliography*, or a range of free online journals from the Department of Africana Studies at Binghamton University – such free access is not available for most of the well-established key journals in the field, some of which have moved to different publishers, or have been gobbled up by large publishing conglomerates such as Taylor & Francis. Rates for

journals that have been subsumed by commercial publishers have risen quite exorbitantly. There is also some evidence that, for journals generally, mergers and acquisitions of publishers have exacerbated the already significant price increases of journals owned by the merging companies.

The table below provides an analysis of subscription rates in 1989, 1997, and current (2002/03) rates for 13 leading, multi-disciplinary African studies journals published in English (most published quarterly or 2-3 times yearly), plus two journals (ABPR and IAB) that are primarily bibliographic tools. Information is based on entries in the first (1989), second (1997) and third (2003) edition of the *African Studies Companion*, for institutional rates.

The table indicates that subscription rates for a total of six journals have increased at a relatively modest pace, by up to 50%, or an average of about 10% annually, and which is probably commensurate with inflation, increased editorial and/or production costs, mailing costs, etc. Another three increased rates by between 64-87% over the last five years, or by about 13-17% annually. The rest are all above 100%, two by more than 120%, two by over 200%, and one by an incredible 410%.

¹The *African Studies Companion: a guide to information sources*, 3rd revised and expanded edition, print and online (<http://www.africanstudiescompanion.com>), Lochcarron, Scotland: Hans Zell Publishing, forthcoming August 2003.

Table

Note: all subscription rates are institutional rates; * indicates print and online access for rates in 2002/2003

JOURNAL/PUBLISHER	FREQUENCY	SUBS. RATE IN 1989	SUBS. RATE IN 1997	SUBS. RATE IN 2002/03	PERCENT INCREASE SINCE 1997 (BASED ON US \$ RATES)
Africa. Jnl. of the Int. African Institute (including annual <i>Africa Bibliography</i> ; (IAI/Edinburgh University Press)	qtly	£70/ca.\$121	£132/ca.\$200	£205/\$374	87%
Africa Confidential (Blackwell Publishers)	25 issues yearly	£100/\$250	£180/\$468	£385/\$970*	107%
Africa Today (Grad. School of Int. Studies, Univ. Denver, then Lynne Rienner Publishers; now Indiana University Press)	qtly	\$35	\$64	\$92.50 (\$105 outside US)	44%
African Affairs (Oxford University Press)	qtly	£38/\$65	£38/\$65	£140/\$230*	253%
The African Book Publishing Record (Bowker-Saur, now K.G. Saur Munich)	qtly	£60/\$108	£120/\$200	£204/\$328	64%
African Studies (Witwatersrand University Press, now Taylor & Francis)	2Yr	R35/ca.\$13	\$37	£116/\$189	410%
Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS, then Cambridge University Press)	3Yr	£40/\$75	£76/\$134	£104/\$175*	30%
Canadian Journal of African Studies (Canadian Assoc. of African Studies)	3Yr	Can\$55	Can\$55	Can\$95	72%
International African Bibliography (Mansell Publishing, then Bowker-Saur, now K.G. Saur Munich)	qtly	£44/\$80	£125/\$215	£188/\$298	38%
International Journal of African Historical Studies (African Studies Centre, Boston University)	qtly	\$55	\$98	\$116	18%
Journal of African History (Cambridge University Press)	3Yr	£40/\$89	£71/\$123	£117/\$185*	50%
Journal of Contemporary African Studies (Carfax, now Taylor & Francis)	2Yr	----	£94/\$154	£282/\$465*	202%
Journal of Modern African Studies (Cambridge University Press)	qtly	£44/\$104	£78/\$147	£124/\$194*	31%
Journal of Southern African Studies (Oxford University Press, now Taylor & Francis)	qtly	£37/\$78	£114/ca.\$175	£222/\$394*	125%
Review of African Political Economy (ROAPE Publications, then Carfax, now Taylor & Francis)	3Yr now qtly	£12/\$28	£118/\$190	£241/\$420	121%

Vendor News

The least substantial increase was for a journal published by an institution, and the three African studies journals published by Cambridge University Press also managed to keep price increases to reasonable levels. The table demonstrates that the major culprit for the most dramatic increases is the Taylor & Francis publishing group – who now publish almost 800 journals – whose institutional subscription rates have increased by an average of over 200% over the past five or six years. For example, the well-known left/radical journal *Review of African Political Economy*, founded by Lionel Cliffe in 1974, cost a mere £12/\$28 in 1989; following its takeover by Carfax Publishing (now owned by Taylor & Francis) this shot up to £118/\$190 in 1997, and has more than doubled again since 1997. It currently costs £241/\$420, which amounts to about £60 or \$105 per issue (with an average page extent of around 180 pages). Other Taylor & Francis journals, not listed in the table, are equally expensive, e.g. Oxfam's *Development in Practice* costs £208/\$343 annually for five issues including online access, and the *Journal of African Cultural Studies* (coming out of SOAS and formerly entitled *African Languages and Culture*) costs £119/\$198 for just two issues annually. However, Taylor & Francis price increases pale into insignificance when compared to those of Elsevier, for example the monthly journal *World Development*, which cost £164 or about \$250 in 1997, is now priced at a staggering Euro 1,584 or US Dollars \$1,772 annually, an increase over five years of 608%!

If a library wanted to subscribe to just the 15 African studies journals listed in the table it would cost them \$4,525 in 2003, or an average of about \$302 annually per journal. Some of the major commercial publishers, faced with constantly dwindling subscribers to their journals, apparently believe that there are no limits to increasing subscription rates time and again, and by very substantial margins. On this basis, and if the pattern of rate increases continues at the same levels as it did between 1997 and 2003, we can probably expect that the average annual cost for subscribing to some of the major Africanist journals will be around \$800-\$900 in five or six year's time! One shudders to think what this will do to book acquisitions budgets.

African-published serials: In contrast to serials published in Europe and North America, many African-published journals, some of which have been accused in the past (wrongly, and unfairly, for the most part) of setting exorbitant subscription rates, have managed to keep overseas institutional rates at entirely reasonable levels. The 3rd edition of the African Studies Companion provides details of over sixty African studies periodicals published in Africa, and only nine of them have subscription rates in excess of \$100, of which five are South African journals now published and internationally distributed by the Taylor & Francis group. The average subscription rate for African-published journals (not counting the Taylor and Francis journals) amounts to approximately \$54 annually, with most of them published quarterly, or two or three times a year. A good reason, I think, for more active support of African journals by Africana libraries in the countries of the North.

Meanwhile there have also been some other welcome developments as it relates to African-published journals: first, the full text of some African journals can now be accessed by Project Muse subscribers as part of Michigan State University's *African e-Journals Project (AEJP)* <http://www.isp.msu.edu/africanstudies/aejp/>; and, secondly, table of contents and abstracts of articles of over 140 African-published journals can be freely accessed at INASP's *African Journals Online (AJOL)* project at <http://www.inasp.info/ajol/index.html>, and which is backed by a document delivery service. AJOL has become a major showcase for African journal publishing, and it is an outstanding resource.

African Imprint Library Services offers a twenty percent discount on their complete list of Caribbean titles in stock. Quantities are limited, and orders will be filled on a first-come first-serve basis. To view the list, please point your browser to <http://www.caribbeanbooks.com/CaribbeanClearanceSale0503.htm>

For more information please contact:
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Kenny's Collections now offers the following catalogue: A Selection of United Nations Pamphlets, Reports and Publications (The code is KSUNPR). Subject Index

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PRESS RELEASE

Africa Journal Goes Online

1 July 2003

Africa, the journal of the International African Institute, published by Edinburgh University Press, has gone online as of July 2003. Published quarterly, Africa's editorial policy encourages an Interdisciplinary approach, involving the social sciences, history, the Bibliography-an annual listing of published work in African studies from the previous year. Covering the whole of Africa, the bibliography is now recognized as the authoritative guide to available literature. Starting with Volume 73, Issue 1 (2003), the journal can be accessed online - free to individual subscribers.

How to access AFRICA online: Institutional Subscribers Institutional administrators must first register with Ingenta:

<http://www.ingentaselect.com/accesslibs.htm>

Once registered, institutions may then request immediate access to Africa online by following the links from the registration page above. Access is FREE to individual subscribers. Visit the Africa online journal homepage:

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and click on the Individual Subscription Activation link. Once your subscription status has been verified by the publisher, access to Africa online will be set up. For answers to questions, or help with problems, support is available at:

<http://www.ingentaselect.com/support.htm>.

See the Edinburgh University Press website for more details about the journal Africa: <http://www.eup.ed.ac.uk>



New Books Noted

Carnegie Hall has issued a "Global Encounters: South African Sounds" Teaching Guide. There is also a poster and music CD. It is aimed at ninth and tenth grade but can be adapted for middle, junior and high school. The 2 set CD has 33 cuts from the 1950s, 1960s, 1970s, 1980s and 1990s, is well worth owning, and is ordered separately. 5,000 of the teaching guides are being sent to South Africa. The teaching guide includes the reprint of a demonstration outside Ipi Tombi and a list of those who performed in South Africa reprinted from Southern Africa magazine.

For more information, including on how to order the teaching guide, poster and CD visit this web site:
<http://www.richardknight.com>
Alfred Obiora Uzokwe. *Surviving in Biafra: The Story of Civilian Suffering and Deaths during the Nigerian Civil War* (with maps and family photos). Available at:
<http://search.barnesandnoble.com/booksearch/isbninquiry.asp?u serid=53>



Exhibitions

Mali on the National Mall in Washington, D.C.

Mark your calendars and pack your bags. Mali is part of the 2003 Smithsonian Folklife Festival in Washington, D.C. The festival runs from June 25 to June 29 and from July 2 through July 6. On June 25th, President Toure will officially open the Mali program. All the events are free and open to the public.

Masons from Timbuktu and Djenné have already arrived in D.C. and are building replicas of the Thiam house in Segou and the Djenné city portal. A Tuareg tent and a Sonrai mat house will also be erected on site. The festival features a full program of crafts, cuisine, and music from every region. Crafts include weaving to healing and blacksmithing to karite butter making.

There are two Malian music stages with performances all day long from 11 to 5:30 pm including performances by groups from Sangare and the Ensemble Instrumental du Mali will take the stage. On Wednesday July 2nd, Salif Keita and Neba Solo will perform. On Saturday July 6th, Ali Farka Toure and Kanaga will rock out. Complementing the festival will be a film program featuring Malian films and filmmakers that will be held in the Baird auditorium, Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian which is located adjacent to the festival site.

The festival is a joint effort between Mali and the Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage and the planning has involved the creative efforts of scores of people in Mali and the United States.

Other Exhibitions:

"Ethiopian Icons: faith and Science,"
open through October 5, 2001.

"Ethiopian Passages: Dialogues in the Diaspora,"
open through October 5, 2003.

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- The Rise of Journal Subscription Prices in African Studies
- Vendor News

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