

# AFRICANA LIBRARIES NEWSLETTER

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE  
LIBRARIAN FOR AFRICAN STUDIES,  
INDIANA UNIVERSITY, BLOOMINGTON

No. 113, Dec 2003/Jan 2004

ISSN 0148-7868

## ALC Members Provide Access to Important Collections

### ALC Members at Work...

Several ALC members have been involved in projects that provide access and preserve important Africana collections:

**Marieta Harper**, Area Specialist in the African Section at the Library of Congress, collaborated on an exhibition of manuscripts from Timbuktu. The exhibition can be viewed on the Library of Congress web site at <http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/mali/>. The manuscripts on view are from the Mamma Haidara Commemorative Library and the Library of Cheikh Baye of Boujbeha in Timbuktu. Copies of these manuscripts will be deposited in LC's collections and will be available for use by researchers and scholars. The Timbuktu manuscripts date back nine hundred years and cover many aspects of life during a time when Timbuktu was an important religious, cultural, and trading center. This exhibition reflects the realization among the international community that the manuscripts need to be preserved not only as artifacts, but also as an example of early African literary tradition. ALC member **David Easterbrook** (George and Mary LeCron Foster Curator, Melville J. Herskovits Library of African Studies at Northwestern University), became aware of yet another set of manuscripts when Professor John Hunwick of Northwestern University discovered documents in a family library in Timbuktu. Since then, Easterbrook has collaborated with Professor Hunwick and CAMP to digitize some of these

manuscripts. For more detailed information on other initiatives to preserve Timbuktu manuscripts, see: [http://www.safrica.info/what\\_happening/news/features/timbuktumanuscripts.htm](http://www.safrica.info/what_happening/news/features/timbuktumanuscripts.htm). <http://www.sum.uio.no/research/mali/timbuktu/index.html>. <http://www.ssa.sri.com/projects/kati/>

**Helene Baumann** (librarian for African and Western European Studies at Duke University), has been selected to receive the 2004 Coutts Nijhoff International West European Specialist Study Grant to translate the subject thesaurus of the Pictorial Archive of the German Colonial Society (*Bildarchiv der Deutschen Kolonialgesellschaft*) from German to English. For more details, see page 4 of this newsletter.

**Marion Frank-Wilson** (librarian for African Studies at Indiana University) and **Edward Miner** (International Studies bibliographer at the University of Iowa) have completed a project to digitize linguistic field notes on the Nuer language. The notes were compiled by former missionary to South Sudan, Eleanor Vandevort, between 1949 and 1963 and have not previously been published. The project, which also includes slides, a pedagogical grammar, and contextual essays about Vandevort's life and South Sudan's missionary/linguistic history, can be viewed at: <http://www.dlib.indiana.edu/collections/nuer/>

### Table of Contents

Conference Announcements.....2	Vendor News .....7
Awards.....2	New Serials.....8
News.....3	New Books Noted.....9
Literature on Libraries and Information Science.....4	Book Review.....10



# Conference Announcements

## **AEGIS European Conference on African Studies, London, June 29 to July 3, 2005.**

AEGIS was founded in 1991 as a network of European Centres of African Studies. Its current membership is Barcelona, Basel, Bayreuth, Bordeaux, Brussels, Copenhagen, Edinburgh, Hamburg, Leiden, Lisbon, London, Naples, and Uppsala. For more detail, see <http://www.aegis-eu.org>.

For more information about the

conference contact  
Centre of African Studies (email:  
[cas@soas.ac.uk](mailto:cas@soas.ac.uk))  
School of Oriental and African Studies  
Thornhaugh Street  
Russell Square  
London  
WC1H 0XG  
UK



## **Awards**

### **Winner of the 2003 Herskovits Award**

The 2003 Herskovits Award was presented to Joseph Inikori for *Africans in the Industrial Revolution in England: A Study in International Trade and Economic Development* (Cambridge University Press).

### **Finalists for the award include:**

Kelly Askew for *Performing the Nation: Swahili Music and Cultural Politics in Tanzania* (Chicago: University of Chicago, University of Chicago Press).

Carolyn Bledsoe for *Contingent Lives Fertility, Time, and Aging in West Africa* (Chicago: University of Chicago, University of Chicago Press).

Elizabeth Elbourne for *Blood Ground: Colonialism, Missions and the Contest for Christianity in the Cape Colony and Britain 1799-1853* (Montreal and Kingston: McGill-Queens University Press).

Kathryn Linn Guerts for *Culture and the Senses: Bodily Ways of Knowing in an African Community* (Berkeley: University of California Press).

Sandra Green for *Sacred Sites and the Colonial Encounter: A History of Meaning and Memory in Ghana* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press).

Sean Hawkins for *Writing and Colonialism in Northern Ghana: the Encounter Between the LoDagaa and "the World on Paper"* (Toronto: Toronto University Press).

Rosalind Shaw for *Memories of the Slave Trade: Ritual and the Historical Imagination of Sierra Leone* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press).

Michael West for *The Rise of an African Middle Class: Colonial Zimbabwe 1898-1965* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press).

## Conover-Porter Award 2004

The Conover Porter Award is presented in even numbered years to the author of the most outstanding achievement in African bibliography and reference works published during the previous two years. The award is administered by the African Librarians Council. It includes a cash prize of \$300.

The Conover Porter Award is named for two pioneers in the field of African studies librarianship: Helen F. Conover and Dorothy B.

Porter, who enjoyed long careers at the Library of Congress and Howard University, respectively.

For information and nomination forms contact Peter Limb, Africana Bibliographer. Michigan State University, 100 Library East Lansing, MI, 48824-1048 USA: Tel: (517) 432-6123 extension 239; fax: (517) 432-3532; email: limb@msu.edu. Submissions should be postmarked on or before Jan. 2004.



# ASA Book Donations Award 2004 Call for Proposals

## ASA Book Donations Award 2004

The ASA makes available up to \$3000 annually to assist groups with shipping costs for book donations to African Libraries and schools. The committee generally provides grants from \$200 to \$1000. 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 African 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 and 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, bookstores, 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.

For more information please contact:  
Alikah S. Nosakhare, Chair 2004  
Supervisor/Librarian III  
Special Collections Reading Room  
Atlanta University Centre  
Robert W. Woodruff Library  
111 James P. Baldwin Dr.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30314  
Tel: 404-522-8980 x1171  
Fax: 404-577-5158  
Email: Alikah@afronet.com.



## **Africa at the London Book Fair**

"How can Literary Festivals and Book Fairs promote African Books and Reading?" Seminar at the London Book 2004, Olympia Exhibition Centre, London W14 on Monday 15 March, 3.30pm-6pm in the International Welcome Point, Grand Hall, Olympia, followed by the launch of Reading Africa.

Organized by the Southern African Book Development Education Trust (SABDET) in partnership with the British Council. With AMINATTA FORNA, author of *The Devil that Danced on the Water: A Daughter's Memoir*; PETER FLORENCE, director, Hay Festival of Literature; DANA KALINOVA, managing director of Bookworld Prague; and ADAM PUSHKIN, Cheltenham Festival of Literature.

Africa at the Fair will explore how the quality and diversity of African books and writing can enrich the programmes of book fairs and literary festivals. Speakers will have a range of experience of bringing Africa to popular audiences in Europe and Africa - as book fair or festival organizers, as publicists, publishers, booksellers, or as writers themselves. Their common concern is more exposure for African books and writers in the UK and Europe, and in the intra-African book market, increasing awareness, readership and sales.

Outline programme:

3.30-3.45 Keynote presentation  
3.45-4.30 Chatshow with UK literary festival directors  
4.30-4.45 Break  
4.45-5.30 Presentations from international book fair directors  
5.30-6.00 Discussion 6.30-8.00 Launch of Reading Africa

Africa at the Fair is part of Reading Africa, a nationwide initiative by SABDET to raise awareness in the UK of African writing and

publishing and to promote reading of African books. A promotional campaign aimed at librarians and reading groups and designed to encourage public library users to read African writers is a central part of the programme.

Reading Africa is inspired by the Zimbabwe International Book Fair's Africa's 100 Best Books of the 20th Century. It is supported by the Arts Council of England and SABDET's partners in developing the programme are the British Council and Book Aid International. Reading Africa will be officially launched at LBF2004 at the end of the seminar.

Africa at the Fair is free of charge to LBF04 participants. Librarians, reading promoters, educators and all interested visitors and exhibitors are warmly invited to attend. Please register your interest by emailing Margaret Ling of SABDET, [margaret.ling@geo2.poptel.org.uk](mailto:margaret.ling@geo2.poptel.org.uk) or phone +44 (0)20 8348 8463.

To register as a visitor to the London Book Fair, go to <http://www.lbf-virtual.com/page.cfm>.

For further information on SABDET and Reading Africa, including how to bring the campaign to your library, contact:

Paul Westlake, Director, SABDET, 26b Bewdley Street, London, N1 1HB or by email at: [sabdet@impz.demon.co.uk](mailto:sabdet@impz.demon.co.uk)

## **Baumann named 2004 Coutts Nijhoff International West European Specialist Study Grant Recipient**

Helene S. Baumann, librarian for African and Western European studies at Duke University, has been selected to receive the 2004 Coutts Nijhoff International West European Specialist Study Grant. This grant covers airfare to and from Europe, transportation in Europe, and lodging and board for up to fourteen (14) days. The primary criterion for awarding the grant is the significance and utility of the proposed project as a contribution to the study of the acquisition,

organization, or use of library materials from or relating to Western Europe.

Baumann will use the grant to translate the subject thesaurus of the Pictorial Archive of the German Colonial Society (*Bildarchiv der Deutschen Kolonialgesellschaft*) from German to English.

“Helene Baumann’s project is a top-drawer example of the unique and innovative ways that librarians, in this case area-studies librarians, contribute to research and scholarship around the world,” said committee chair Gordon Anderson. “Her work with the Frankfurt University Library and its German Colonial Society Archive will make more accessible to English-speaking scholars this extremely valuable source of documentation about an important period in African and European history.”

Baumann will receive her plaque and 4,500 Euros at the WESS meeting at the 2004 ALA Annual Conference in Orlando on Monday, June 28, at 10:30 a.m.

ACRL is a division of the American Library Association, representing 12,000 academic and research librarians and interested individuals. ACRL is the only individual membership organization in North America that develops programs, products and services to meet the unique needs of academic librarians. Its initiatives enable the higher education community to understand the role that academic libraries play in the teaching, learning and research environments.

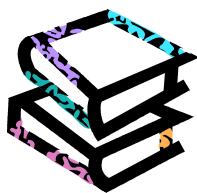
## **A Celebration of African Literature at the Africa Book Centre 1 - 10 March 2004**

Jose Eduardo Agualusa, the award-winning novelist from Angola, will be joining Mia Couto, Africa's best known Portuguese-language writer, in conversation at the Essex Book Festival and The Royal Festival Hall. His latest novel *Creole* is published by Arcadia and has met with widespread critical acclaim. 'Creole winged me into the little known lore of 19<sup>th</sup> century Portuguese colonies and the slave trade.' Lisa Appignanesi, Independent Books of the Year. The novel was awarded the Portuguese Grand Prize for Literature. For full event details click: <http://www.serpentstail.com/events/?p=EVT10300>.

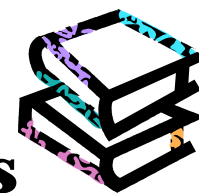
This tour has been organized by Serpents Tail and Arcadia and is supported by Arts Council England. Serpent's Tail and Arcadia are both independent publishing houses, committed to publishing outlaw voices neglected by the mainstream, which includes fiction in translation.

For more information, visit the website or contact the tour manager at [info@serpentstail.com](mailto:info@serpentstail.com) or 0207 354 1949.

Submitted by The Africa Centre  
38 King Street  
Covent Garden  
London WC2E 8JT  
Tel: 020 7836 1973  
Fax: 020 7836 1975  
Email: [info@africacentre.org.uk](mailto:info@africacentre.org.uk)  
[www.africacentre.org.uk](http://www.africacentre.org.uk)



# Literature on Libraries and Information Science



## ***African Research & Documentation***

*African Research & Documentation* no. 92, 2003 includes:

Philip Murphy, "Censorship, Declassification, and the History of End of Empire in Central Africa."

Marion Frank-Wilson, "African Travel Writing."

Thomas P. Ofcansky, "Sir Albert Cook, CMG, OBE: A Bibliography."

David Westley, "An Annotated Bibliography of Reference Sources for Hausa Studies."

Kathleen McConnell, "The Homer L. Shantz Collections, 1904-1958: A Botanist in Africa and the Americas."

*African Research & Documentation* no. 93, 2003 includes:

Papers presented at the SCOLMA Annual Conference 2003, "Developing Africa: NGOs and Information for Change":

June Stephen, "Ngos: an Under-Tapped Resource of Development Information: the Case of Oxfam (GB)."

Sandra Gibson, "ITDG's Approaches to Knowledge Sharing."

Sarah Hammond and Victoria Richardson, "Keeping Information Alive: Resource Centres for District Level Health Workers in Tanzania."

Noel Treacy, "Amnesty International: Information for Human Rights Activism in Africa."

Louise Pirouet, "Materials Used in making Asylum Decisions in the U.K."

Jill Rush & Mandy Banton, "Improving Access to Modern African Sources at the National Archives of the United Kingdom."

Tom Ofcansky, "The Eritrean Insurgency: A Selected Bibliography."

## **More Literature on Libraries and Information Science:**

John M. Kistler. "Special Acquisitions: Collecting African Materials." *Acquisitions Librarian* (29) 2003, pp. 31-50.

Lisbeth Levey and Stacey Young. "Rowing Upstream: Snapshots of Pioneers of the Information Age in Africa." *College and Research Libraries*, 64 (6), November 2003, pp. 502-503.

Juan Jose Romero Fuentes. "The Concept of a National Library in Less Developed Countries, with Special Reference to Africa." *Alexandria* 15 (1) 2003, pp. 23-35.

Veena Jayaram. "The Merger Process Between Libraries of ML Sultan and Technikon Natal: Reflections of a Practitioner." *South African Journal of Library and Information Science*, 69 (1) 2003, pp. 84-91.

Jeanette Vosloo. "Die Volmaakte Biblioteek. The Perfect Library." *Cape Librarian* 47 (2), March 2003-April 2003, pp. 44-46.

Juris Dilevko and Lisa Gottlieb. "Book Titles Published in Africa Held by North American University Research Libraries and Review Sources for African-Published Books." *Library and Information Science Research* 25 (2), 2003, pp. 177-206.

T. Barben. "By Rock and Heath and Pine: Rudyard Kipling and the University of Cape Town. Part 1: Kipling, Rhodes and Empire (1891-1899)." *Quarterly Bulletin of the National Library of South Africa*, 57 (2), February 2003, pp. 58-70.

G. Dominy. "The Conundrum of Community Libraries in Provinces." *Cape Librarian* 47 (1), January 2003-February 2003, p 40-1.

S. le Roux. "School Library Policy in South Africa: Where do We Stand?" *South African Journal of Library and Information Science* 68 (2), 2002, pp. 112-22.

M. N. Mgobozi and D. N. Ocholla. "The Use of Electronic Journals for the Dissemination of Scholarly Information by the University of Natal and the University of Zululand." *South African Journal of Library and Information Science* 68 (2), 2002, pp. 81-93.

Felix N. Ubogu. "Competing for a Slice of the Budget Cake: an Academic Library Perspective." *African Journal of Library, Archives and Information Science*, 13 (2), Oct. 2003, pp. 175-185.

Violet Matangira. "A Survey of the Position of Audiovisual Archiving in the ESARBICA Region." *IASA Journal*, (21), July 2003, pp. 31-37.

Elizabeth F. Watson. "Preserving our Past/Guarding Their Future: the Role of Information Professionals in Archiving Cultural Heritage." *IASA Journal* (21), July 2003, pp. 17-30.

John Wilemse. "Library Funding: Adequate Financial Support for African University Libraries." *African Journal of Library, Archives and Information Science*, 13 (2) October 2003, pp. 203-204.

Margaret Adeogun. "The Digital Divide and University Education Systems in Sub-Saharan Africa." *African Journal of Library, Archives, and Information Science*, 13 (1), April 2003, pp. 11-20.

Murray, K. "The Dissemination of Preservation Information in the Republic of South Africa." *Library Resources & Technical Services* v. 47 no. 4 (October 2003) p. 140-8

Ngulube, P. "Preservation Reformatting Strategies in Selected Sub-Saharan African Archival Institutions." *African Journal of Library, Archives & Information Science* v. 12 no. 2 (October 2002) p. 117-32

Aina, L.O. *African Journal of Library, Archives and Information Science* as a Resource Base for Library and Information Science Research in Africa. *African Journal of Library, Archives & Information Science* v. 12 no. 2 (October 2002) p. 167-75

#### **Article:**

Submitted by Hans Zell

Article of interest in The Book & the Computer online symposium "Book Culture at the Crossroads." The article is freely accessible at [http://www.honco.net/os/index\\_0310.html](http://www.honco.net/os/index_0310.html).

## **Vendor News**

### **News from MEABOOKS:**

Please, note the new MEABOOKS address and amend your records accordingly:

MEABOOKS  
34 CHEMIN DU BOISE  
LAC-BEAUPORT  
QC G02 2C0  
CANADA  
TEL. 418-841 3237

FAX. 418-841 1644  
WEB: [www.meabooks.com](http://www.meabooks.com)

We have just finished updating our web site, adding several hundred new titles to our interactive catalog and creating new lists on anthropology, African Christianity, economics, history, law, African languages and linguistics.

In addition, the 2004 Hogarth

Representation schedule of book buying trips to Africa is now also available on our website.

Thank you for your attention.

Best Regards, Oleg Semikhnenko  
MEABOOKS / Hogarth Representation

**Paul Mills - Clarke's Africana & Rare Books** has issued a new Africana Catalogue number 19. The catalog is available on <http://www.clarkes.co.za>.

### Table of Contents Catalogue 19

General  
Anglo-Boer War  
Anglo-Boer War Ephemera  
Architecture, Art and Photography  
Big Game Hunting  
Biography  
Botany  
British Settlers  
Bushmen and Rock Art  
Ethnography  
Exploration and Travel  
Folding Maps  
Frontier Wars  
Military History  
Mining and Related Fields  
Mission Field  
Natural History  
Railways  
Rhodesia and Zimbabwe  
Royal Tours  
Ships and Shipwrecks  
South African Literature  
South West Africa and Namibia  
Transvaal  
Western Cape  
Zululand, Natal and the Zulu

**On SOUMBALA**, you can find around 10 000 titles of books dedicated to Black Africa and Sahara. SOUMBALA's team is pleased to

present its monthly NEWSLETTER  
<<http://www.soumbala.com/news/news0204/news0204WK.htm>>

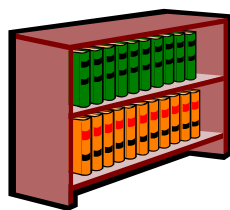
February , our newsletter is dedicated to books published by the NEI of Abidjan and by ENDA of Dakar, to African Prehistory, and to Africana new books published in French in 2003 and in January 2004.

D. Ieuan Lloyd has Issued 'Rare Book Catalogue 2003'. For more information, contact D. Ieuan Lloyd, 452 Mumbles Road, Mumbles, Swansea, SA3 4BY, UK; e-mail: [dilloyd@rbooks.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:dilloyd@rbooks.fsnet.co.uk); Tel: 01792-363175; Fax:01792-366747.

McBlain Books has issued Catalogue 153 on "Sub-Saharan Africa, Scarce and Rare Books". For more information, contact McBlain Books, P.O. Box 185062, Hamden, CT 06518, USA. E-mail: [books@mcblainbooks.com](mailto:books@mcblainbooks.com); Tel: (203) 281-0400 Fax: (203) 230-1629; see also Journals. <http://www.mcblainbooks.com>

Bennett-Penvenne has issued List 76 with books and pamphlets on Africa & the Portuguese & Spanish Worlds. Email: [normanbennett#earthlink.net](mailto:normanbennett#earthlink.net); Bennett-Penvenne, 162 Oak St., Duxbury, MA 02332, USA; Tel: 781-934-0961

**AJOLS** wants to promote its service to African Studies libraries and organizations worldwide. AJOL is an online service offering ToCs and abstracts for over 175 African-published scholarly journals (most disciplines), and also offers a document delivery service. The service is a non-commercial funded initiative, with the purpose of promoting African-published research worldwide. There is no charge to the journals participating in the service, and money paid for document delivery is returned to the journals.



## New Serials

### ***Afrique & histoire***

The first issue of a new journal : *Afrique & histoire* has been published in December 2003. *Afrique & histoire* is a history journal which focuses on the whole of Africa (Maghreb) as well as sub-Saharan Africa) and surrounding oceans and seas (Indian and Atlantic Ocean, Mediterranean and Red Sea). Contributions cover all historical periods from the Antiquity up to today. The publication aims at enhancing the most innovating aspects of today's historical research and welcomes contributions from other disciplines such as archaeology, anthropology,

linguistics. Articles are published in French as well as in English. Two issues are published yearly in September and in April. The journal is published by Les Editions Verdier (Paris/Lagrasse, France). It is run by an international editorial board, and the director of the publication is Jean-Pierre Chrétien (CNRS-Paris).

For more information: [contact@editions-verdier.fr](mailto:contact@editions-verdier.fr) (edition, sale, subscription) or [hafrique@univ-paris1.fr](mailto:hafrique@univ-paris1.fr) (to contact the editorial board, submit articles and book reviews).



## New Books Noted

***Africa 2004.***  
ISSN 1536-1454  
ISBN 0-916673-13-8

Quality Paperback  
400 color pages illustrated

Obtain your copy of the latest edition, AFRICA 2004, from a bookstore or by credit card purchase [www.allafrica.com](http://www.allafrica.com) <<http://www.allafrica.com/>> .  
Also available directly from [www.businessbooksusa.com](http://www.businessbooksusa.com) <<http://www.businessbooksusa.com/>>.

Price: \$28.95

The book is also available in its entirety on a CD in Adobe Acrobat format, compatible with both PC and Mac platforms-complete with bookmarks and easy search and find features.

CD VERSION  
ISBN 0-916673-14-6  
\$38.95

***The Return of El Negro: The Compelling Story of Africa's Unknown Soldier***, by Caitlin Davies. Johannesburg: Penguin Books South Africa, 2003.

N.C.G. Mathema. ***Newspapers in Zimbabwe.*** Lusaka: Multimedia Publications, 2001

National Archives of Malawi. ***Malawi National Bibliography***, 1997-2001 Zomba, 2001-.

Kiobe A. Lumenganeso, Congo. ***Guide Des Archives Nationales***, Kinshasa, 2001.

M.A. Mohamed Salih (ed.). ***African Political Parties: Evolution, Institutionalisation and Governance.*** London, Sterling, VA: Pluto Press, 2003.

Mary Jay and Susan Kelly (eds.). **Courage and Consequence: Women Publishing in Africa.** Oxford: African Books Collective, 2002.

**Spirit of the Deep: A soulful celebration of Nelson Mandela and the beautiful South African people.** Publisher's link is: <http://www.rowepublishing.com/humanity.html>.

To preview/buy, please, go to: <http://www.rowepublishing.com/humanity.html>. E-book, also available on CD-Rom, and sold online.

**An Investigation into the Funding of University Libraries in Zambia/** Muyoyeta Simui and Christine Kanyengo. Oxford: INASP; Kampala: SCANUL-ECS, 2004. xii, 60p. ISBN: 1 902929 24 5. £6.50 (including postage and packing).

Those wishing to purchase the book may do so via the INASP Web site (<http://www.inasp.info>), by e-mail (to [inasp@inasp.info](mailto:inasp@inasp.info)), by post to INASP, P. O. Box 516, Oxford, OX1 1WG, UK or through any bookshop or book supplier.

### New Annotated Bibliographies:

The Women and International Development (WID) Program is pleased to announce the Website publication of two new bibliographies regarding issues of critical importance in the gender, development and globalization arena today: "Gender and HIV/AIDS" and "Gender: Not Just Women - Masculinity in a Global Perspective." Please visit the WID Website <http://www.isp.msu.edu/wid/> and click on the Annotated Bibliographies menu option under Publications to view each.

### The Union List of Theses and Dissertations

held by Universities and Research Institutions in Kenya. Issue No. 1, march 2003. Compiled and produced by Kenya Information Preservation Society, P.O. Box 4363, 00200 Nairobi, Kenya. E-mail: [Kenyadocumentation@yahoo.com](mailto:Kenyadocumentation@yahoo.com). Project directors: Ruth Thomas and Jared Oriwa.



## Book Review

**The African Studies Companion: A Guide to Information Sources.** 3rd ed. Edited by Hans M. Zell. Hans Zell Publishing. Glais Bheinn; Lochcarron; Ross-shire, Scotland, 2003. 545 pp. \$170.00 [combined print and electronic version] ISBN: 0-9541029-1-6

Originally published in 1989 in response to an expression of a need for precisely such a handbook expressed by members of the Africana Librarians Council's Bibliography Committee, this greatly expanded and revised edition of the African Studies Companion [ASC] offers improved access to information essential to all who seek to study, learn, or conduct research about Africa, or to communicate with institutions and organizations concerned with the continent. Even with the deletion of many entries in the course of a massive revision, the number

of entries has more than doubled since the second edition in 1997. With well-earned pride, Hans Zell claims: "this new edition ... is at this time at least, the only reference tool available that is published both in print and online formats and lists both online and prints resources for African Studies. Both versions are handsomely presented and epitomize the thoughtful attention to content and detail associated with Zell's previously published, often prize-winning, works of Africana reference. The online interface is attractive, intelligently organized, easy to navigate, and offers cogent advice for users in need of it. Access to the password-protected electronic version requires purchase of the print edition, and can be via username and password, or via IP address recognition for libraries requiring their own authentication methods, via proxy servers. Purchase of the print edition

entitles access to the online version at no further charge. See <http://www.africanstudiescompanion.com> for more details, including the full contents, preface, and the introduction.

The electronic version of this title released in late August has already been updated, and Zell plans to produce future print versions at several-year intervals, with a constant updating of the electronic. Given the speed with which urls and other electronic data change, this practice will maintain an ongoing currency previously unavailable in reference works issued only in print. While the web access is to be celebrated, much is gained by issuing this resource in both print and online versions. The several editions of the ASC alleviate problems inherent in the impermanence of web resources because they capture permanent snapshots of the data gathered in the years 1989, 1997, and now 2003. How helpfully these earlier editions provide benchmark information may be seen in the use to which Zell, himself, recently put information on the prices of journals in his compelling article "The Rise and Rise of Journal Subscription Prices in African Studies," *Africana Libraries Newsletter*, No. 111, June/September 2003, pp. 7-9. In this article he documents an over 200% price increase over the past five or six years by using data on the pricing of journals gleaned from all three editions of the ASC. Readers seeking to document changes in the global distribution of the principal publishers of Africana, patterns in the publication of journals in African Studies, prizes and awards available in the field, changes in dealers and distributors of African Studies materials, and much else can compare data between these editions.

The ASC is organized into twenty-three sections, most with sub-sections, with nearly all entries annotated extensively. It provides data on over 300 publishers listed by country, with detailed information regarding topics they cover; contact information includes emails, web addresses for online catalogs, and language of publication. Also offered is an invaluable section of essential reference works. New sections include major biographical sources, map sales, vendors and cartographic sources, resources on African languages, guides to film and video resources, news sources, chief African studies online discussion forums, and guides to African

newspapers. One expects that these compilations of often hard-to-locate directory and contact information will help librarians and scholars to increase the worldwide store of Africana resources.

Although some detail for such institutions as Africana libraries has been omitted in this edition with the wise decision to provide web addresses in lieu of such information as hours and size of collections, the level of other detail for topics like African studies journals and associations remains constant. The present edition includes for the first time information on digital purveyors of Africana journals, such as African Journals Online, JSTOR, etc., while its listings of individual journals expanded from 158 in the previous edition to 219 titles. Thus the ASC now includes journals from Cuba, Botswana, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, Mali, Tanzania, and Zambia.

Evaluative, it indicates superior online resources with a symbol. Although it provides a thoroughly international perspective, the work emphasizes materials in English. This reviewer particularly likes the international breadth of this source in that it includes not only the resources of the English speaking world, as in the case of giving high marks to Karen Fung's superb Africa South of the Sahara Selected Internet Resources web page and to Joe Caruso's excellent Columbia University Libraries - African Studies Centre page and A Guide to Africa on the Internet. Selected Information Sources and Databases hosted by the Nordic Africa Institute. This publication, done to the highest standard, has my highest recommendation for all libraries, research institutes, and scholars concerned to locate information on Africa. It is a great happiness for one who cares about locating reliable information about Africa expeditiously, whether current or retrospective, to explore and utilize this remarkable compendium. In its earlier incarnations in 1989 and 1997 this resource is one of those I have most frequently recommended to students and scholars. This much more substantial edition will be recommended even more frequently.

Phyllis B. Bischof  
Librarian for African and African American  
Collections University of California, Berkeley

Office of the Librarian for African Studies  
Indiana University Main Library E-660  
1320 E 10th Street  
Bloomington IN 47405-3907  
U.S.A.

BULK RATE  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT No. 2  
BLOOMINGTON, IN

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

*In this issue of*  
***Africana Libraries Newsletter***  
No. 113 (Dec 2003/Jan 2004):

- **ALC Members Provide Access to Important Collections**
- **Conference Announcements**
- **Awards**
- **Literature on Libraries and Information Science**
- **Vendor News**
- **New Serials**
- **New Books Noted**
- **Book Review**

**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](mailto:mfrankwi@indiana.edu)  
Website: <http://www.indiana.edu/~libsalc/african/>

Staff: Nicole A. Beatty

**Please send address changes to:**  
**Librarian for African Studies**  
**Indiana University Main Library E-660**  
**1320 E 10<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**Bloomington IN 47405-3907**