It's the annual roundup of Africana Librarians Council members at the African Studies Association Annual Meeting, held in Houston, Texas, this year from November 15th to 18th. On this year's program are committee meetings for ALC and CAMP (Cooperative Africana Microforms Project), as well as discussions with vendors and exhibitors. Librarians also attend the ASA panels; this year's theme — Africa and the African diaspora — past, present, future.

Look for more on this meeting, as well as approved minutes from the Spring 2001 meeting in Bloomington, Indiana, in the next issue of Africana Libraries Newsletter. Yippee!

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CALL FOR NOMINATIONS:

The Africana Librarians Council (formerly called Archives-Libraries Committee) of the African Studies Association (U.S.) seeks nominations for the twelfth biennial Conover-Porter Award for excellence in Africana bibliography or reference work. Any Africa-related reference work, bibliography or bibliographic essay published separately or as part of a larger work during 1999, 2000, or 2001 can be nominated for the 2002 award. The award includes a prize of $300 that will be presented during the 2002 annual meeting of the African Studies Association in Washington, D.C. Nominations must be received by January 15, 2002. Please include a brief justification and at least one review.

Helen Conover was senior bibliographer in the African Section of the Library of Congress, serving 32 years before her retirement in 1963. Dorothy Porter Wesley was librarian of the Moorland-Springarn Research Center, Howard University, retiring in 1973 after 45 years of service.


A list of additional Conover-Porter winners, as well as a copy of the form for submitting nominations for Conover-Porter 2002, may be found on the Africana Librarians Council Web site at http://lcweb.loc.gov/rr/amed/conport2.html.

Please send nominations or requests for further information to: Kenneth P. Lohrentz, 320 Anschutz Library, University of Kansas Libraries, 1301 Hoch Auditoria Dr., Lawrence, KS., 66045-7537, USA (phone 785-864-4593, fax 785-864-5705, e-mail klohrentz@ukans.edu)
CALENDAR OF FUTURE MEETINGS

ASA & ALC/CAMP
Fall 2001, 15-18 November, Houston – ASA Annual Meeting
Fall 2002, Washington, D.C. – ASA Annual Meeting
Fall 2003, to be determined – ASA Annual Meeting

IFLA ANNUAL CONFERENCES
Glasgow, UK, 18-24 August 2002
Berlin, Germany, 1-8 August 2003
Buenos Aires, Argentina, 2004
Oslo, Norway, 2005
Seoul, Korea, 2006

ALA
January 18-23, 2002, New Orleans – Midwinter Meeting
June 13-19, 2002, Atlanta – ALA Annual Conference
June 19-25, 2003, Toronto – ALA Annual Conference
2004, Orlando – ALA Annual Conference

PEOPLE AND PLACES

Loyd Mbabu is the new Africana Studies Bibliographer for the Ohio University Libraries. He is from Kenya and has attended universities in Britain, Canada, and the United States. Loyd’s research interests are in the development and use of libraries in Africa. He may be contacted at: Ohio University Libraries Center for International Collections, Athens, Ohio 45701 Tel: (740) 597-1317 email: mbabu@ohio.edu

Afeworki Paulos has moved from the University of Iowa Libraries to the University of Michigan. He is now the African Studies Librarian at the University of Michigan at 209 Harlan Hatcher Graduate Library, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1205, Phone: (734) 764-7289, Fax: (734) 764-0259, E-mail: apaulos@umich.edu

Edward Miner, former Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in African Studies Research Librarianship at Indiana University, is now Government Documents/Reference Librarian, Jack Tarver Library, Mercer University, Macon Georgia.

Farewell to Dorothy Ansart, Assistant to the Librarian for African Studies at Indiana University, Bloomington. Dorothy has helped edit ALN since it moved to Indiana University, and was part of the organizing team for the ALC Spring Meeting in Bloomington. We wish her well as she dons the mantle of motherhood.

Dorothy found herself among stars at the Spring 2000 ALC Meeting in Los Angeles
Africa’s 100 Best Books of the 20th Century — Update


The members of the Jury for Africa’s 100 Best Books of the 20th Century met on Friday 3rd August, 2001 under the chairmanship of Professor Njabulo Ndebele, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Cape Town.

The following thirteen members of the 17 person Jury were present. They were: Dr. Adotey Bing (Ghana); Mr. Kassahoun Checole (Eritrea); Ms. Wanguiwa Goro (Kenya); Professor Fatoumata Keita (Cote d’Ivoire); Hon. Samir Saad Khalil (Egypt); Mr. Bernard Magnier (France), Professor Fatima Mendonca (Mozambique); Dr. Zifike Mguni-Gambahaya (Zimbabwe); Professor Njabulo Ndebele (South Africa); Dr. Alastair Niven (UK); Dr. Ato Quayson.(Ghana); Professor Helge Rønning (Norway); and Dr. Nana Wilson-Tagoe (Ghana).

Four jurors were not able to attend. They were Professor Ali Mazrui (Kenya); Professor Thomas Odhiambo (Kenya); Professor Bankole Omotoso (Nigeria); and Professor Niyi Osundare (Nigeria). Professor Alois Mlambo (Zimbabwe) was an ex-officio member of the Jury.

The Jury confirmed that to date approximately 1,700 nominations had been received. The meeting also confirmed that the closing date for nominations from the public would remain 30 September 2001.

Nominations have been made under three categories: Children’s literature, Creative writing, Non-fiction or Knowledge

A searchable list of all nominations is available at:
http://zibf.org/databases/BestBooks/default.htm

In August, the Jury reaffirmed its hope and expectation that the existence of the list will serve to promote awareness of the rich heritage of African culture, creative writing, and scholarship, stimulate reading of the existing canon of such writing, encourage further work in this area, and in particular encourage indigenous African publishing.

The main purpose of the jury’s deliberations was to arrive at the rules by which the nominations received would be assessed. To this end the judges affirmed that their final list would seek to represent all geographic regions of the continent, all the major languages in which Africans have written, works from all decades of the 20th Century, and the gender balance of African writing and representative genres.

The Meeting decided that each member of the Jury would, on the basis of the rules agreed, produce their own list of 100 best books.

The final shape of Africa’s 100 Best Books of the 20th Century will take place during the next meeting of the Jury scheduled to take place in Cairo in early 2002. At this meeting the Jury will take responsibility for the choice of Africa’s 100 Best Books, drawing from their wide range of experience, and informed by the nominations.

The Jury was concerned, however, that indigenous languages, and the literature of the Maghreb were very under represented in the nominations so far received.

It was agreed that books in the children's literature and creative writing categories would be assessed among other things on the relevance of their subject matter, popular appeal, artistic quality, the degree of public debate provoked, linguistic innovation, contribution to a genre, creative integrity, and their overall influence. Books in the non-fiction category would be assessed additionally in accordance with the degree to which they introduce and popularise knowledge not previously available to the general reader, or on the extent to which they interpret existing facts in a new and more inclusive way.

The Jury feels confident that its deliberations have laid a firm basis for its programme of work to proceed, and looks forward to celebrating Africa’s 100 Best Books at the Zimbabwe International Book Fair in August 2002.
Caine Prize for African Writing 2001

The Caine Prize for African Writing was awarded in July to 33-year-old Nigerian author Helon Habila for his short story, “Love Poems.” It was published in Nigeria in a limited edition of 1000 copies in a collection of his short stories entitled, *Prison Stories*. This is the second annual Caine Prize for African writing, which carries a prize of $15,000 and is awarded for a short story by an African published in any country.

Commonwealth Writers Prizes Awarded in Accra

This year Ghana was the host for the Commonwealth Writers Prize ceremonies. The best book prize for the Africa region went to South African writer Zakes Mda for his novel, *The Heart of Redness*, published by Oxford University Press in South Africa. The best first book prize for Africa was won by another South African, K. Sello Duiker, for his novel *Thirteen Cents* (David Phillips Publishers).

Children’s Africana Book Award Winners

The African Studies Association has announced the winners for the 2001 Children’s Africana Books Award. They are:

Young children category: Margy Burns Knight, Mark Melnicove, Anne Sibley O’Brien (illos.), *Africa is not a country* (Brookfield, CT: The Millbrook Press, Inc., 2000).


The honor books are: Cristina Kessler and Walter Lyon Krudop (illos.). *My great-grandmother’s gourd* (New York: Orchard Books/Grolier, 2000).

Tololwa Mollel and Linda Saport (illos.) *Subira* (New York: Clarion (Houghton Mifflin, 2000)).

EXHIBITS

Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago

The Short Century: Independence and Liberation Movements in Africa, 1945-1994. September 8, 2001 - December 30, 2001, an exhibition organized by the Museum Villa Stuck, Munich, curator: Okwui Enwezor, includes works by over forty artists from fourteen African countries from sculpture, photography, and painting, to prints, drawings, film, and video. Artists include Yinka Shonibare, Kendell Geers, Jane Alexander, Georges Adeagbo, Kay Hassan, and Bodys Isek Kingelez, among others. In conjunction with this multidisciplinary exhibition, a 400-page illustrated catalogue will be published and an extensive film program and other events are planned at the MCA.

Smithsonian National Museum of African Art, Washington, DC

LITERATURE ON LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES


African Research & Documentation, no. 84, 2000, includes:
- Ros Sherwin, "ABC's Experience: Selling Books on the Web."
- John McIlwaine, "Writings on African Archives: Supplement 4."
- Kiflom Tesfamariam Tewelde, "War and Record Keeping Practices in Eritrea."
- Terry Barringer, "Why are Missionary Periodicals [not] so Boring?"
- Huw M. Jones, "Compiling a Gazetteer of the Second Anglo-Boer War."

"The Impact of Technology on the Publishing Trade,"
"Technological Developments in Publishing and Book Distribution,"
"New Print-On-Demand Equipment Could Change Book Buying Habits."

"Marketing Indigenous Languages Books in Namibia,"
"The Ghanaian Experience in Modern Marketing Techniques,"
"Books Crossing Borders: Translation and Rights Deals in the North."

Library Review, Volume 50 Issue 01, includes, "The need for the collection and bibliographic control of grey literature in Ghana", by A.A. Alemna Pages 38-42.

"Internet access in East Africa: a future outlook," by Stephen M. Mutula. Pages 28-34.

[The following were submitted by Lauris Olson, Social Sciences Bibliographer, University of Pennsylvania.]


**NEW BOOKS NOTED**


**The African Publishing Companion**, to be published both in a print version and in electronic format, will contain over a thousand email addresses and links to Web sites and Internet documents. It is intended as a one-stop reference source that will facilitate access to a wide array of up-to-date information relating to African publishing, and to serve as a desktop companion for quick answers to questions about the African book industries and the various players, organizations, and publications involved. Additionally, it will provide an extensive bibliographic survey of the literature on the key issues and topics that dominate African publishing today, with an emphasis on the most recent literature published over the past five years. ca. 240 p. Wiro-bound ca. £75.00/$120.00 combined print and online version (not available separately) ISBN 0954102908 Publication date: November 2001 Purchase of the print version will entitle purchasers to free access to the password-protected online version, and updates for a limited period. More details, and complete contents, can be found at http://www.hanszell.co.uk/apclink2.htm

VENDOR NEWS

The **African Books Collective** has added the following publishers to their member list:

Cogito, Nigeria. A small Nigerian publishing house specialising in poetry, fiction, and non-fiction with an emphasis on African philosophy and women's studies. Their publishing programme seeks to produce books to promote a healthy civilisation of individuals at the service of the culture, paving the way for plurality.

CSS, Nigeria. CSS is a dynamic and successful bookshop in Lagos, which also has a publishing programme. The concentration is on religion, and general interest/cultural titles.

Mary Kolawole Publications, Nigeria. Mary E. Kolawole is an African theorist and literary critic. She has published books and articles nationally and internationally on African women writers, biographies, women's oral genres, literary theory, gender and cultural productions.

Mambo Press, Zimbabwe. Mambo Press, founded originally in 1957 as the Catholic Mission Press has evolved into one of Zimbabwe's biggest and leading publishers. It's philosophy is to promote indigenous knowledge and culture, operating as a commercial enterprise but within the spirit of Christian humanism seen against the background of both traditional and modern Africa. It publishes religious and scholarly books, fiction and recreational reading, as well as guides of a civic, educational and instructional nature.

Noni's Publicity, Kenya. This woman publisher has published her account of the Mau Mau revolt in Kenya and its impact on women's daily lives. An earlier novel, and a humorous book, published by the Kenya Literature Bureau will also be distributed by ABC.

Organisation for Social Science Research in Eastern and Southern Africa, Ethiopia. OSSREA is a long-established and highly respected organisation, dedicated to the encouragement and promotion of study and research in the social sciences. Their book publishing programme is the product of this research, and they also publish research report series on social sciences, and gender issues, and an environmental forum publications series.

Sedco Publishing, Ghana. An established family firm, Sedco has a very active children's book publishing list. Their list also covers development, history, law, literature, politics and sociology.

Tema Publishing, Tanzania. Tema publish on politics, economics and development. They specialise in publishing books emanating from the research activities of the Eastern and Southern African Universities Research Programme.

Women in Law in Southern Africa, Zimbabwe. An action-oriented Research Trust, which operates in seven countries of southern Africa: Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Their mission is to contribute to the socio-economic, political and legal advancement of women specifically within those countries.

Kachere, Malawi. Kachere is one of the leading religion and theology publishers in Africa. The kachere tree carried religious significance as the traditional communal meeting place in central Africa, and it was adopted by Christian missionaries as the natural place to conduct the first schools. It is this symbol under which the Department of Theology and Religious Studies at the University of Malawi publishes. The aim is to promote the emergence of a body of literature engaging with religion in Malawi, its social impact, and with theological questions raised.

**Hogarth Representation, Books from Africa**

(Hogarth Representation, Books from Africa (Unit 54, Millmead Business Centre, Millmead Road, Tottenham Hale, London N17 9QU England, tel. (0)20 8365 1515, fax (0)20 8808 7090) now has a website to replace his paper selection lists at http://www.meabooks.com/

Michael Graves-Johnston has issued Catalogue 76, “Oceania” and 78, “Africa: Travel and Ethnology”: P.O. Box 532, 54 Stockwell Park Road, London SW9 0DR, email: books@gravesjohnston.demon.co.uk

David Philip Publishers Catalogue 2000/1 has been issued. Johannesburg Office, P.O.
The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) offers a wide range of publications, books (in English, French, Spanish and other languages), videotapes, photos on the activities of the ICRC, the Geneva Conventions and various issues of international humanitarian law and the armed forces, ICRC medical activities, helpful for studies, teachings or training. For further information and to receive a free catalogue, contact the ICRC at ocrc_wash@msn.com. The publications, videotapes, and photos are on display at: http://www.icrc.org/eng/publications

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mônga Beti, one of Cameroon's and Africa's foremost writers died in hospital in Douala on October 10, 2001 at the age of 69. Among his best-known works are Ville cruelle (1954), Le Pauvre Christ du Bomba (1956), Remember Ruben (1974), and Perpetua and the Habit of Unhappiness (1974).

Roy Sieber, Associate Director for Collections and Research at the National Museum of African Art (June 1983–December 1993) died September 14, 2001 in Bloomington, Indiana where he was Rudy Professor Emeritus at Indiana University's School of Fine Arts. Professor Sieber was the first scholar in the United States to receive a Ph.D. in African art history and his subsequent career shaped the study of African art in the United States. Some of Professor Sieber's many publications include: Sculpture of Black Africa (1968), with Arnold Rubin, African Furniture and Household Objects (1980), and African Art in the Cycle of Life (1987), co-author, Roslyn Adele Walker. Roy Sieber was one of ASA's Distinguished Africanist Award Winners for 2000 for his lifetime of contributions to African studies.
CALL FOR PAPERS.

International Conference on African Literatures: Versions & Subversions

HOSTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN STUDIES
HUMBOLDT UNIVERSITY, BERLIN(MAY 1-4, 2002)

This is the first international conference on African literature to be hosted in Berlin after the reunification of the two Germanies. It aims at raising attention to the field of African literary studies within German academia, and to assemble scholars, writers, publishers and students from Africa, Europe and around the world to enter into debates about newly emerging, thought-provoking, inspiring topics and concepts in African literary criticism. VERSIONS & SUBVERSIONS stand for the multiple facets, themes, styles emerging currently in African literatures that question hegemonic discourses in this field.

Keynote addresses and plenary papers will be delivered by prominent writers and scholars such as Simon Gikandi and Yvonne Vera. Panel sessions will be devoted to the following topics:

- Popular literatures - conformist or subversive?
- Body, illness, insanity
- Orature and literature: Continuity or discontinuity?
- Sexuality and homosexuality
- Gender roles and subversion in orature and literature
- Literatures in the "new" and the "old" African languages - New impulses, themes, styles
- Comparatist approaches to African literatures
- Racism in literature
- Postcoloniality in relation to modernity and postmodernity
- War, violence, and memory
- Gendered Racialism - The relationship of "race", gender and sexism in African literature
- Cross-references: Possibilities and limitations of intertextuality
- Theatre in Africa – New trends, new meanings
- Film, video, and the new media

Scholars prominent in the respective fields will be invited to chair panels and present papers, among them Homi Bhabha, Chantal Zabus, Karin Barber, Obioma Nnaemeka, Chikwenye Ogunyemi, Eileen Julien, Graham Furniss, Alain Ricard, Bernard Mouralis, Janos Riesz and Eckhard Breitinger.

The deadline for submission of abstracts is October 30, 2001.

English and French are the official languages of the conference. Proposals and papers in both languages will be accepted.

CONTACT and further information: Prof. Flora Veit-Wild and Dr. Susan Arndt, Conveners, Dept. of African Studies, Humboldt University at Berlin, Unter den Linden 6, 10099 Berlin; Tel.: 0049/30/20936699; Fax:0049/30/2093 6666; email: versions@rz.hu-berlin.de
Association for Rhetoric and Communication in Southern Africa

5th (biennial) African Symposium on Rhetoric

Final call for papers: "Rhetorics at the Margins: gender, sexuality, violence"

The 5th biennial symposium of ARCSA will be held at the Roma campus of the National University of Lesotho from July 3rd – 5th 2002. While papers are warmly invited on any topic relevant to rhetoric studies, the central focus of the symposium will be on gender, sexuality and violence as marginalised yet powerful discursive agents for social deliberation. Sub-topics under this broad theme will include:

discourses of gender, "culture" and human rights legislation (and their conflicts)
discourse on rape and other expressions of power/forms of violence
women between "tradition" and "modernity"
discourses of homsexualities
the rhetoric of rights and freedoms in language (including the intentions and effects of taboo, the hate speech debate, the rhetoric of PC, etc)
the rhetoric of humour (especially in relation to gender, sexuality and race)

Proposals for papers and offers to chair/organize panels on specific sub-topics should be addressed (preferably by e-mail) to the conference convener, Professor Chris Dunton, Department of English, National University of Lesotho, P.O. Roma 180, Lesotho. Fax: (Lesotho) 340000; email: c.dunton@nul.ls. The closing date for submissions is October 31st 2001.

The registration fee will be US$50 or the equivalent in Sterling or Rand, covering tea/coffee breaks; lunch (3 days); reception; mountain excursion; conference documents; internal transport, etc.

The conference venue is located at the NUL campus in the beautiful Roma valley, easily accessible from South African main road routes and from Maseru airport. Delegates traveling by air will be transported to/from the airport, place of accommodation and campus. Accommodation will be at the Trading Post, Roma (estimated rate 200 rand per night, B &B and evening meal). For full details of accommodation, transport routes, climate, visa requirements, etc., please contact c.dunton@nul.ls and request the ARCSA Symposium Information Flier.
In this issue of

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- Africa’s 100 Best Books of the 20th Century Update
- ASA’s Children’s Africana Book Award Winners
- New Books Noted
- Announcements