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Melville J. Herskovits, founder
PAST LEADERSHIP

Melville J. Herskovits
1948-1963

Abraham Demoz
1974-1980

Jane I. Guyer
1994-2001

Gwendolen M. Carter
1964-1974

John Paden
1980-1986

David William Cohen
1989-1994

Richard Joseph
2002-2007
Throughout the 2010-2011 academic year, the PAS Executive committee oversaw the overall intellectual direction of PAS and its programs. The committee was made up of the following affiliated faculty:

Karen Tranberg Hansen (Anthropology)
Brian Hanson (Director of Programs, Research, and Operations for the Buffett Center for International and Comparative Studies)
D. Soyini Madison (Performance Studies, African American Studies, and Anthropology)
   Evan Mwangi (English)
   William Reno (Political Science)
   Jeff Rice (History and WCAS Advisor)
   Nasrin Qader (French & Italian)
   Hendrik Spruyt (Director, Buffett Center for International and Comparative Studies)
   Muhammad Sani Umar (Religion and ISITA director)

The Buffett Center for International and Comparative Studies continues as the administrative home for PAS and oversees business and administrative functions. Kate Dargis, Assistant Director and Kelly Coffey, Program Assistant 2 handle the programming and administration at PAS.
For the 2010-11 academic year, PAS added four titles to its Working Papers Series. PAS also registered the Working Papers Series with the Library of Congress, and was assigned International Standard Serial Numbers (ISSN) for its print and online publications. All working papers are edited by affiliated faculty members, matching paper content with faculty specialization. Working papers are available in the Melville Herskovits Library of African Studies, the PAS website, and in print by request. New papers include:

“Melville Herskovits and the Visual Arts”  
by Justine Cordwell PhD, Anthropology, Northwestern University

Cordwell, an early student of Melville J. Herskovits at Northwestern, graduated in 1952 with a PhD in Anthropology. Her works include, Fabrics of Culture: Anthropology of Clothing and Adornment (with Ronald A Schwarz) and The Visual Arts: Plastic and Graphic. In 2008, she curated the Focus on Africa: Celebrating 60 Years at Northwestern at the Dittmar Gallery for the Program of African Studies 60th anniversary.

“Setting the Tone: Students’ Recollections of Herskovits and the Study of African Arts”  
edited by Philip Peek, Professor of Anthropology, Drew University


“Muslim Relations in the Politics of Nationalism and Secession in Kenya”  
by Hassan Ndzovu, Professor of Religion, Moi University

Ndzovu teaches at Moi University in Kenya and has been a visiting scholar at PAS. This paper explores the tension between Arab Muslims and non-Arab Muslims caused by a rift over secession in post-independence Kenya. This rift has influenced the way Muslims as a whole are treated by political elites. It is this marginalization, Ndzovu argues, that helps to perpetuate this division.

“Paternity and Partnership? EU-ACP Economic Partnership Agreement and Implications for Nigeria’s Oil Sector Development”  
by Samuel O Oloruntoba, Visiting Scholar, Program of African Studies, Northwestern University and doctoral candidate, Department of Political Science, University of Lagos, Nigeria

Oloruntoba was a visiting scholar at the Program of African Studies during the 10-11 academic year. During the course of his stay, he worked on this research project which explored the cooperative relationship between the European Union (EU) and the countries of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP). Particularly, Oloruntoba focused on how this development partnership impacted trade economics in Nigeria’s oil sector.
This year PAS created a publication series for papers written by emeriti professors and alumni students. So far, two papers have been published, in print and online, in this series.

‘A Once and Past Love: Israel 1948, Palestine c 1949’ by Ivor Wilks, Emeritus Professor of History, Northwestern University

Ivor Wilks, Professor Emeritus of History at Northwestern University and formerly Herskovits Professor of African Studies has had one of the most distinguished careers of any historian of Africa. Living in Ghana from 1953 to 1966, Ivor made extensive collections of Asante and other oral histories and plumbed European, African, and Islamic archives so rigorously that to this day, his 1975 book, “Asante in the 19th Century” remains both a classic and a standard work of Africanist scholarship. Prior to his moving to the Gold Coast in 1953 Ivor had a rich ‘pre-career’ as a Lieutenant in the British Army in Palestine, as a student, and as an ardent supporter of Welsh independence (that is another tale to be told). His days in Palestine which are the subject of this work, forged his commitment to the anti-colonial struggle, and he subsequently devoted his long career in Ghana to what he described as the decolonization of West African history. The study which you have before you is a memoir of his service in Palestine and displays some of the concerns which will show up much later in his voluminous work on Africa. So I recommend reading this book both because it is a superb primary source on the early stages of the formation of the modern state of Israel as well as a porthole into the mind of Ivor Wilks who emerges some years later as one of the masters of African historiography.

(Written by Jeff Rice, Senior Lecturer in History and teacher in the African Studies and Political Science departments, Advisor, Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences and student of Ivor Wilks)


Warren d’Azevedo is an ethnographer of both the Washoe and the Gola of Liberia. His research interests in the Great Basin and Africa date back to the 1950s. An emeritus professor of anthropology at the University of Nevada, Reno, he taught from 1964 to 1988. He is the author of numerous publications, including Straight with the Medicine: Narratives of Washoe Followers of the Tipi Way, and editor of Great Basin, which is Volume 11 in the Smithsonian Institution’s encyclopedic Handbook of North American Indians. Professor d’Azevedo is equally well known in the field of African Studies, where he is acknowledged as a pioneer in the field of African arts. Warren d’Azevedo’s scholarly interests have never been divorced from his action in the world. He founded the Anthropology Department at the University of Nevada, and was instrumental in creating the Black Students Organization. He has been an advocate of Native American religious freedom, and coordinated field schools for graduate students that were funded by the National Science Foundation. Nationally, he helped create the Smithsonian Institution’s collection of African art, and internationally he has been a human rights observer of elections in Liberia following the protracted civil war, and an important friend to Liberians forced into exile. (Taken from the biography, Warren d’Azevedo Collection, Indiana University).
PAS’ Working Group Award is now in its second year and has become a vibrant source for the support of faculty and graduate student collaborative research. The purpose of the award is to fund interdisciplinary working groups who work to address research issues in African Studies. PAS believes that working groups promote community building between scholars working on problems of common interest. The maximum award per group is $5,000. In the AY 2010-11, PAS awarded two groups, who will begin work during the 2011-12 academic years. PAS also maintained one group that began the prior year, for a total 3 working groups. Groups are encouraged to use part of their time and funds towards pursuit of external grant funding. Below are descriptions PAS’ three working groups:

**The Oral History and Performance as Social Action (OPASA) Institute for Africana Studies:** The Oral History and Performance as Social Action (OPASA) Institute for Africana Studies has been funded as a working group for its initial planning stage. The purpose of OPASA is to serve researches, artists, and community organizers that employ spoken testimony and oral history as a central methodology in examining the performatives or the symbolic actions that constitute public dissent, social movements, and human rights activism in Africa and the black Diaspora. OPASA is a scholarly resource for all those seeking a greater understanding of the following: the methodological techniques as well as the theoretical underpinnings that encompass the complex dynamics of spoken testimony and oral history research, analysis, and documentation. OPASA is a pedagogical resource in illuminating how adapting performance theory or analysis extends and deepens the social, historical, and political domains of collective action and individual agency relative to justice and democracy on the continent and throughout the Diaspora.

**Midwest Group in African Political Economy (MGAPE):** The Midwest Group in African Political Economy (MGAPE) brings together junior faculty and advanced graduate students in Political Science, Economics, and Public Policy who combine rich research experience in Africa with training in political economy methods. MGAPE is a sister group to WGAPE on the West Coast. The group meets to discuss works-in-progress of its regular members and invited guests. MGAPE meetings begin with a dinner on Friday and end after a full day of discussion on Saturday. Meetings are built around in-depth discussions of six to eight papers (see archive of past MGAPE papers). The emphasis is on discussion rather than presentation, and members are encouraged to present work on which they would like feedback from the group.

**Remixing Borders: Transnational Hip-Hop Praxis and Youth Culture(s) in Africa:** Last year, this working group sponsored several talks from scholars doing fieldwork on hip hop in Africa, culminating in a Hip-Hop “Teach-In” May 7-10, 2011. In 2011-2012, the Working Group will continue to explore the theory and practice of hip-hop in African cultural contexts, including the role of hip-hop cultural workers in African civil society, the effects of structural adjustments programs in Africa through hip-hop lyrics, and the potential for social activism and cultural bridge building through the diverse elements of hip-hop culture. Hip-hop in Africa has grown in popularity over the past decade, to the point where indigenous hip-hop scenes have emerged with multilingual emcees ‘rapping’ in local languages. Hip-hop throughout Africa is important both as a platform for youth to express themselves and a constantly evolving agent for social change. Indigenous hip-hop movements have popped up in Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania and Morocco. In each case, local artists bring their own unique cultural repertoires and life experiences to a music and culture already famous for transgressing artistic and conceptual boundaries.
After 5 years of extensive community mobilization, data collection, and capacity building in Nigeria, the Research Alliance to Combat HIV/AIDS (REACH) recently ended its activities at Northwestern University. During the last year of the project, REACH findings were disseminated widely at community dissemination events in almost all REACH study communities in Nigeria, at the 5th National HIV/AIDS Conference in Abuja, the NACA-REACH HIV/AIDS Symposium in Abuja, and another event at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria. In addition to these dissemination events in Nigeria, the REACH results were shared with audiences in the United States with events held at Northwestern University, the Chicago Council on Global Affairs, and the Brookings Institution in Washington DC. To a wider international audience, results were presented at the last International AIDS Conference in Vienna in July, 2010.

From the study, there were many interesting findings which were shared with colleagues and partners from Nigeria’s National Agency for the Control of AIDS (NACA). One of the primary goals of REACH was to influence HIV/AIDS health policy in Nigeria. Discussions have begun to ensure that the findings from REACH are of use to REACH partners at NACA and in Nigeria. The final REACH report is available at http://www.cics.northwestern.edu/projects/reach/reports.html.
Faculty associated with the Institute for the Study of Islamic Thought in Africa (ISITA) continued work on their core research project, “Constituting Bodies of Islamic Knowledge, Part II.” Funded by the Ford Foundation, this project involves research in multiple African locations and will result in the publication of several scholarly works designed to enhance understanding of the Islamic intellectual tradition in Africa. Collaborative work including an ever-widening network of international scholars continued this year through workshops, exhibitions, consultation with visiting scholars, and faculty research visits to Senegal, Mauritania, and Nigeria.

ISITA organized two major events in 2010-11 in conjunction with “Constituting Bodies of Islamic Knowledge.” An international workshop in Dakar in December 2010 advanced work on an anthology of Sufi texts from Senegambia in English translation. Classically trained Muslim intellectuals joined university-trained academics in the proceedings, which were conducted primarily in Wolof and attended by academics, journalists, and the general public. A well-attended April 2011 photograph and manuscript exhibition at the Program of African Studies and the Melville J. Herskovits Library of African Studies brought attention to another important area of ISITA’s work on the Ford grant—producing a reference volume on the literary production of the Tijaniyya, Africa’s most prominent Sufi order.

In addition to its grant-related work, ISITA organized a number of events at the Program of African Studies, most notably a March 2011 workshop on “Islam in East Africa and the Western Indian Ocean: Historical Connections, Contemporary Debates” that responded to graduate student interest in more ISITA programming on East Africa.

ISITA also continued to host its Chicago-area Islam and Africa Seminar, which brings together a multi-disciplinary group of colleagues from Chicago-area universities with shared interests in Islam and Africa. This year the group met three times to discuss papers by colleagues from the University of Chicago, Indiana University, and the CCHS, Madrid.
PAS continues to support the students of Northwestern University by offering an adjunct major and minor for undergraduates and a certificate in African Studies to its graduate students.

In 2009, the launch of the Adjunct Major in African Studies successfully capitalized on the growing undergraduate interest in African Studies and the unique interdisciplinary nature of PAS and its faculty. The major, offered through the Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences, focuses on interdisciplinary studies and research, drawing on a robust and diverse African Studies curriculum. To complement the interdisciplinary coursework, an immersion research practicum is also required.

The minor in African Studies is for students interested in the study of African societies, cultures, histories, religions, and arts across disciplines and in the professions. Undergraduates in any of Northwestern’s academic departments and professional schools can minor in African Studies by merging a core of Africa content courses with their major programs of study. Students are welcome to participate formally or informally in the activities of PAS, which are intended to advance the training of Africa specialists at Northwestern and promote awareness of African realities in a broader context.

Graduate students with Africanist research interests make significant contributions to the scholarly community at PAS. PAS awards graduate certificates in African studies to those who fulfill interdisciplinary course requirements, focusing particularly on Africa. Students also demonstrate linguistic competence in an African language.

PAS students enjoying a lecture in the conference room.
Africa Seminar

The Africa Seminar (AfriSem) provides an interdisciplinary and area-defined setting for graduate students studying Africa. AfriSem is a forum for works-in-progress by graduate students, Northwestern faculty and visitors. AfriSem provides opportunities to develop, present, and draw advice on papers and research proposals and invites guest speakers to address special topics.

During the 2010-2011 academic year, some topics of the Afrisem meetings were: grant writing strategies, presentations of pre-dissertation research, presentations on job opportunities outside the academy, interviewing and job talks, and publishing. On average about 15-20 students from across the university attended each meeting. AfriSem is open to graduate students (and advanced undergraduates by permission) from any discipline, department, or school of Northwestern, at whatever stage of completion of their graduate program. Graduate students are encouraged to participate in AfriSem throughout their graduate years.

AfriSem meets every other week in the evenings and is student-driven. The ideas for sessions are generated in conjunction with the students and the faculty coordinator. The faculty coordinators during AY 10-11 were Prof. Muhammad Sani Umar (Religion) and Prof. D. Soyini Madison (Performance Studies). Professor Wendy Griswold (Sociology) will co-ordinate AY 2011-12.

Undergraduate Africa Seminar

Created in conjunction with the Adjunct Major in African Studies, the Undergraduate Africa Seminar (UAS) was established to foster student interest in African issues.

The UAS is a student-led seminar that meets frequently throughout the quarter, with input on topics coming from the members and student coordinators. In the sessions, students discuss topics of interest, share experiences on the continent, learn from faculty speakers, and present their own work. Throughout the year, attendance continued to grow, as students benefited from having a forum to discuss topics related to Africa.

During the year, the Undergraduate Africa Seminar presented films, hosted faculty discussions on Politics, Religion, Violence, the complexities of teaching Africa, and hosted presentations by Study Abroad organizations.
The Program of African Studies is proud to welcome two incoming Carter/Annan fellows this coming fall. Each year the Program of African Studies awards Gwendolen M. Carter and Kofi Annan Fellowships to as many as two outstanding African students admitted to Northwestern’s Graduate School for disciplinary studies of Africa leading to the PhD. Each fellowship provides three years of support, including full tuition for three years of graduate study and a monthly stipend, and a teaching or research assistantship within the student’s department for two additional years.

Our two Carter Annan Fellowship awardees, arriving in the fall of 2011 will be Nafissatou Sall, from Senegal and Abdeta Beyene, from Ethiopia. Abdeta will join the Department of Political Science, studying the micro dynamics of Somali politics. Nafissatou will join the Department of French and Italian, to research the social, cultural, and political dimensions of colonialism and postcolonialism represented in Francophone African literature.

We welcome our incoming fellows and look forward to their active participation in the program.

During the 2010-2011 academic year, PAS hosted the following visiting scholars:

Samuel Oloruntoba, Assistant Professor, Political Science, University of Lagos, Nigeria
Laura Weinstein, PhD candidate, Department of Political Science, University of California, Los Angeles
Cristina Lombardi-Diop, Department of French and Italian, Northwestern University
Marta Garcia Novo, PhD candidate in Arabic and Islamic Studies at the Centro de Ciencias Humans y Sociales-Conseil Superior de Investigaciones Científicas, Madrid
Muhammed al-Munir Gibrill, PhD Candidate in Arabic Languages and Literature, Indiana University
Hassan Ndzovu, Department of Religion, Moi University, Kenya
Charles Stewart, Emeritus Professor, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
Said Bouterfa, Project Manumed, Algeria
Abdallah Chanfi Ahmed, Zentrum Moderner Orient, Berlin
Funding Awarded to Students

The Program of African Studies supports the research and academic advancement of many undergraduate and graduate students each year through our grants and awards program. This year we have given nine Panofsky Predissertation Awards for graduate students to travel to Africa and conduct research that will inform their dissertation work. The following students were awarded Panofsky funding in 2010-11:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Name</th>
<th>Home Department</th>
<th>Country of Study</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Brown</td>
<td>Performance Studies</td>
<td>South Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valerie Freeland</td>
<td>Political Science</td>
<td>Uganda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moses Khisa</td>
<td>Political Science</td>
<td>Uganda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nate Mathews</td>
<td>History</td>
<td>Swahili-Oman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maavi Norman</td>
<td>Political Science</td>
<td>Liberia &amp; Senegal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rachel Vanderpoel</td>
<td>Political Science</td>
<td>Congo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marlous van Waijenburg</td>
<td>History</td>
<td>Senegal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nikki Yeboah</td>
<td>Performance Studies</td>
<td>Ghana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chelsie Yount</td>
<td>Anthropology</td>
<td>Senegal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additionally, three graduate students received Morris Goodman Language Grants to fund tutoring in an African language: Emilie Boone (Art History) and Kimberly Seibel (Anthropology).

Chris Day (Political Science) received funding through the Guyer-Virmani Award which allows winners to travel to conferences and archives.

Mark Birnahu (African Studies and Social Policy) and Lydia Hsu (African Studies and SESP) were this year’s Herskovits Scholars, having been granted the Herskovits Undergraduate Research Award, which provides funding and course credit for research conducted in the Melville J. Herskovits Library of African Studies.

Created this year, the African Research Leadership Award provides money for undergraduate students to develop and lead a research project or program relating to African Studies. Students develop key leadership skills by developing, managing and completing a project exploring an issue related to the student’s academic interests. This year, two students were granted awards ranging from $500 to $2000: Abhit Bhandari (Political Science) and Sara Freeman (International Studies).

Rachel Riedl (Political Science) received the John Hunwick Award. Awards of varying amounts are given annually to Northwestern University graduate students and faculty to pursue their research on a topic related to Islam in Africa.
During the 2010-11 academic year, PAS is proud to have partnered with the following Northwestern University departments, centers and groups, other area universities and organizations:

- African Students Association
- Alice Kaplan Institute for the Humanities
- Anthropology Department
- Art Theory and Practice Department
- Block Museum
- Bluhm Legal Clinic
- Center for Global Culture & Communication
- Center for the Writing Arts
- Chabarja Center for Historical Studies
- Columbia College
- Department of African American Studies
- Department of Performance Studies
- Department of Religious Studies
- Doctors Without Borders
- English Department
- French Interdisciplinary Group
- Global Engagement Summer Institute
- Global Public Health Program
- History Department
- International Studies/Center for Forced Migration
- Kellogg African Business Association
- Medill School of Journalism
- Office of the President
- The Graduate School
- The Old Town School of Folk Music
- The United African Organization
- University of Chicago’s African Studies Workshop
- University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign
- Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences

In total, PAS raised over $20,000 in co-sponsorship funds and awards for the 10-11 academic year of events programming.
OPASA two-day symposium featuring presentations by Kristin Langellier, Professor of Communication and Journalism, at the University of Maine and Lisa Ndejuru and Ted Little from the Montreal Life Stories Project.

After Tahrir: Egypt’s Ongoing Social Transformation, a day-long workshop with presentation and discussions on the various social, religious and political issues affecting and affected by Egypt’s January 23 revolution. Participants included Hisham Hellyer, University of Warwick and founder of www.tahrirsquared.net; Jessica Winegar, Northwestern University, Anthropology; Kristen Stilt, Northwestern University Law School; Paul Sedra, Simon Fraser University, History; Malika Zeghal, Harvard University, Political Science; Mohammad Fadel, University of Toronto, Law; and Joshua Stacher, Kent State University, Political Science.

Midwest Hip-hop Teach-in: Remixing the Art of Social Change took place for 4 days in the city of Chicago with various workshops and discussions on hip-hop’s cultural impact and power to address issues from the political to the social across the world.

Forum on Teaching Africa, a day-long workshop featuring keynote speaker, Northwestern student Lydia Hsu and guest speakers David Kanamugire, ICT Advisor to President Paul Kagame and Ida Carruthers.


Tuesday, 10/12: “Africa On My Mind,” Johnnetta Cole (Director, Smithsonian Institute Museum of African Art)

Wednesday, 10/13: “Islamic Law and Slavery in Pre-Modern Bilad al-Sudan: Readings on Ahmad Baba’s Mi’raj al-su’ud,” Chicago-area Islam and Africa Seminar Marta Garcia-Novio (ISITA Visiting Scholar and Centro De Ciencias, Humanas Y Socialies, Madrid)

Wednesday - Friday, 10/13 - 10/15: PAS cosponsors Making History: Terence Ranger and African Studies

Monday, 10/25: “Globalization, Hip Hop, and Youth Agency in East Africa,” Mwenda Ntarangwi (Anthropology, Calvin College)


Tuesday, 11/1: “Paternity or Partnership? EU-ACP Economic Partnership Agreement and Implications for Nigeria’s Non-Oil Sector Development,” Samuel Oloruntoba (PAS Visiting Scholar, Political Science, University of Lagos, Nigeria)

Tuesday, 11/2: Reading and Talk by Adulrazak Gurnah (English, University of Kent), Author of Paradise, Admiring Silence, and By the Sea


Friday, 11/5: PAS cosponsors African Students Association’s Afropollo


Tuesday, 11/9: Red Lion Lecture Series with the University of Chicago Mark Canavera (Associate, Child Frontiers, and Activist, LGBTQI issues in Africa) “Les Forces Nouvelles: Gay Identity and Armed Conflict in Côte d’Ivoire”


Friday, 11/12: Buffett Center Presents: “Right to Exit (And Not Return): Youth and Women Clientalism in Post-Conflict Liberia and Sierra Leone,” William Murphy (Anthropology, Northwestern)

Friday, 11/12: “Migration and Mobility,” discussion and readings by writers Doreen Baingana, Benjamin Kwakye and Bayo Ojikutu

Monday, 11/15: “Mugabe, Reconciliation and the Critique of Patriotic History: The Construction of the Novel We Are All Zimbabweans Now,” James Kligore (Center for African Studies, University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana)

Friday, 11/19: Buffett Center Presents: “Strategies of Rebel Cohesion in Difficult Environments,” William Reno (Political Science, Northwestern)
Monday, 1/10: Chicago Area Islam and Africa Seminar “Exchange between West Africa and Islamic Egypt: An Archaeological Perspective,” Choukri Hedduochi (Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations Department, U of Chicago)

Tuesday, 1/11: Global Health Lecture Series “Our Bodies Belong to God: Bioethics, Islam, and Organ Transplants in Egypt,” Sherine Hamdy (Anthropology and Social Science, Brown University)

Wednesday, 1/12: Film Screening of In Pieces (Ashla) with Filmmaker Hakim Belabbes

Wednesday, 1/19: “Travel Humanitarianism and Becoming American in Africa,” Kathryn Mathers (Visiting Assistant Professor, Anthropology, Duke University)

Friday, 1/21: Ama Ata Aidoo (Author and Playwright)

Monday, 1/24: “Quest for Statelessness: Qaddafi’s Libya Since 1969,” Sabrina Ramet (Buffett Center Visiting Scholar, Norwegian University of Science and Technology)


Wednesday 2/2: “A Heart for the Work: Journeys Through an African Medical School,” Dr. Claire Wendland, MD, PhD (Anthropology, U of Wisconsin)

Wednesday, 2/9: Global Health Lecture Series, NU One Book, One Northwestern: Author Tracy Kidder talks about Strength in What Remains


Friday, 2/18: “Transforming Politics, Dynamic Religion: Religion’s Political Impact in Africa” Buffett Center Presents: Rachel Beaty Riedl (Political Science, Northwestern)

Wednesday, 2/23: PAS Faculty & Students Brown Bag Lecture “Writing Boards and Blackboards: Islamic Education in Africa,” Robert Launay (Anthropology, Northwestern)

Monday, 2/28: “Challenging Social Inequality, Debating Islam: Ethnicity, Belonging and Muslim Politics in Mauritania,” Zekeria Ould Ahmed Salem (Political Science, University of Nouakchott, Fulbright Scholar at University of Florida)

Tuesday, 3/1: Global Health Lecture Series “The Republic of Therapy: Triage and Sovereignty in West Africa’s Time of AIDS,” Vinh-Kim Nguyen, MD, PhD (Anthropology, McGill University, and Clinical Medicine, University of Montreal)

Wednesday, 3/2: PAS Faculty & Students Brown Bag Lecture Katherine Hoffman (Anthropology, Northwestern)

Friday, 3/4: “Islam in East Africa and the Indian Ocean: Historical Connections, Current Debates,” an ISITA workshop
Monday, 4/ 4: Reception for “Traces of Light: Portraits of the Tijaniyya Sufi Order” on display April 4 - May 2 Said Bouterfa (photographer and scholar), Ruediger Seesemann (Religious Studies, Northwestern), Imam Ibrahim bin Hassan Cissé

Wednesday, 4/6: “La tariqâ Tijania, étude critique sur les écrits coloniaux” (The Tariqa Tijaniyya: A critical study of colonial writings), Said Bouterfa (photographer and scholar)

Wednesday, 4/6: “The Egyptian Revolution and Women” Margot Badran (Senior Fellow, Prince Alwaleed ibn Talal Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding, Georgetown University)

4/7 – 4/10: PAS cosponsors the GlobeMed Global Health Summit “A Call to Action: Leveraging History to Build a Movement”


Wednesday, 4/13: “Bush Path to Self-Destruction: The Demise of Sierra Leone’s Revolutionary United Front,” Chris Day (PhD Candidate, Political Science)


Monday, 4/18: “Public Space, Islamic Festival, and State Knowledge in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania,” James R. Brenan (History, University of Illinois at Urbana and SOAS, University of London)


Monday, 5/ 2: “Social Structure and Electoral Politics in West Africa,” Dominika Koter (Post Doctoral Fellow, Political Science, University of Chicago)


5/ 6 & 5/7: “Of Worlds and Languages: The Writings of Boubacar Boris Diop (Des mondes et des langues: L’écriture de Boubacar Boris Diop),” workshop

5/ 6 - 5/ 8: “Chicago’s 1st Annual Hip Hop Teach-In: “Remixing the Art of Social Change”

Tuesday, 5/10: “The Hip Hop Movement in Senegal: When the Revolution Comes from Below?” Abdoulaye Niang (Sociology, University of Gaston Berger, Senegal)

Wednesday, 5/ 11: “Decentralization and the ‘Local State’ in Northern Mali: Elected Officials as Public Servants,” Aurelian Mauxian (PhD candidate, Anthropology)


Chowke Mask (Angola), part of the PAS art collection