

David Easterbrook to retire this spring



After 23 years at Northwestern, David Easterbrook will retire as curator of the Melville J. Herskovits Library of African Studies at the end of May. His colleague Esmeralda Kale, bibliographer for Africa, wrote this tribute.

David Easterbrook is a true gem, and his tenure as curator of the world-renowned Herskovits Library testifies to it. During the 11 years I have known David, his knowledge, passion, and attention to detail remained unparalleled within our field. David's memory is formidable: he remembers the people he meets, what they discussed, their interests, and the materials they consulted for their research. This remarkable quality gives him a sound and thorough knowledge of the largest Africana collection in existence. He knows the collection so well that very often he reaches for an item without having to consult the catalog.

Complementing David's knowledge of Africana is his ability to nurture relationships with donors and colleagues while identifying opportunities to expand and enrich an ever-growing collection. During a trip to South Africa, David identified a growing interest in President Barack Obama among Africans. Upon his return he suggested we consider documenting Africa's response to the president. His insight and suggestions put faculty, vendors, and graduates students on high alert, resulting in

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Africanist art historian joins Block Museum

Africanist art historian Kathleen Bickford Berzock joined the Mary and Leigh Block Museum in January as associate director of curatorial affairs. She will play a leading role in developing dynamic exhibitions that look at the visual arts across cultures and time periods and draw on the University's unique collections, faculty, and students.

Berzock, who was most recently curator of the African art collection at the Art Institute of Chicago, says she brings to the Block not only the skills of an experienced museum professional and Africanist art historian but also "an openness to multiple perspectives and diverse voices that will enrich the museum's approach to presenting art from around the world. The Block Museum is poised to play a major role as an ambassador for

groundbreaking research and a laboratory for the innovative work of faculty and students."

"Dr. Berzock will have a critical shaping role in the artistic program of the museum, advancing its new emphasis on a global perspective that considers the relations between art and cultures cross-historically," says Lisa Corrin, the Ellen Philips Katz Director of the Block. "Her presence will also enable the Block to contribute to Northwestern's significant legacy of African scholarship grounded in research through its extraordinary Melville J. Herskovits Library of African Studies."

During her 18 years at the Art Institute, Berzock guided the development and display of the African art collection, acquiring major iconic works, including significant works from Ethiopia

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Africanist art historian joins Block Museum, *continued from front page*

and Morocco, that broadened its scope. In 2011 she conceived, developed, and implemented a new, larger permanent gallery for African art. She spearheaded a collaboration that produced three short films to contextualize the works on view.

Berzock presented internationally acclaimed exhibitions, including the innovative *Benin-Kings and Rituals: Court Arts from Nigeria* (2008), which set an Art Institute record for attendance at an African art exhibition. She also curated exhibitions from the museum’s permanent collection, including *African Artistry: Gifts from the Faletti Family Collection* (2003); *The Miracles of Mary: A 17th-Century Ethiopian Manuscript* (2002); and *Yoruba Masquerade* (1999).

“Kathleen leaves the Art Institute with lively new African galleries, an expanded collection of international standing, and the example of ambitious exhibitions that have broadened our awareness of the breadth of African art and culture,” said Richard Townsend, chair of the Art Institute’s Department of African Art and Indian Art of the Americas.

Berzock’s book *Representing Africa in American Art Museums: A Century of Collecting and Display* (conceived and coedited with Christa Clarke of the Newark Museum) was published by University of Washington Press in 2010. Contributors chronicle the building and presenting of US African art collections and explore shifts in meaning and public perception.

Before moving to Chicago, Berzock was research assistant for African art at the Metropolitan Museum of Art (1993–95) and adjunct curator at the Milwaukee Art Museum (2000). Last year she was named a fellow at the prestigious Center for Curatorial Leadership and was awarded a residency at the British Museum in London.

She received a PhD in African art history from Indiana University. Her dissertation, on factory-printed textiles in Côte d’Ivoire, has served as the springboard for articles in several journals and a catalog essay for the University of Missouri–Kansas City Art Gallery (1997).



Kathleen Bickford Berzock, the Block Museum’s new associate director of curatorial affairs

Her longtime colleague, Northwestern alumna Kate Ezra (PhD 1983), the Nolen Curator of Education and Academic Affairs at the Yale University Art Gallery, observes that Berzock has substantially contributed to the field of African art and the way that museums have shaped understanding of it: “At the Block, Kathleen will bring her unique perspective as an Africanist, which—rather than restrict her focus—has given her a broad understanding of the importance of global connections throughout history and the contemporary world.”

“Her international experience, strong commitment to collaboration, and willingness to turn our galleries into a place for fresh, interdisciplinary thinking about art and ideas will set a new standard for the Block’s programming,” Corrin adds. “Known for her thoughtfulness and integrity, she will be a tremendous mentor to our students.”

Reflections on fieldwork across four countries

By Moses Khisa

I'm writing from the Ghanaian capital, Accra, in February. The weather is furnace-like, in stark contrast to the freezing conditions in Chicago this winter. Before arriving in Ghana two months ago, I spent 10 weeks in Ethiopia and a combined 12 weeks between Rwanda and Uganda last spring quarter.

Here are some thoughts on the ease or difficulty of doing fieldwork across four African countries. Assuming that these four are minimally representative of the continent, I hope to



Moses Khisa at the Nungua landing site outside Accra, in February

offer a heads-up for those planning summer field research trips. I don't intend this to be a blueprint because I know individual research experiences have peculiarities, and countries have social-cultural diversity and varied histories.

Ghana and Uganda are multi-ethnic, multireligious former British colonies and, as such, predominantly English speaking. One effortlessly communicates with food sellers in shanty markets and the drivers of *matatus* (the term Ugandans use for taxis) and minibuses (called *trotros* in Ghana). If you run afoul, you can easily ask your way to your destination.

Not so in Ethiopia and Rwanda. Ethiopia, the only black African state to defeat a major European colonial power at the zenith of colonial conquest in the late-19th century, has no significant usage of a foreign language, so without at least a minimal knowledge of Amharic, it's difficult to get along. Rwanda

for long has been Francophone, although it has recently gravitated towards being Anglophone. Since 1994 it has received more aid and moral support from the United States and the United Kingdom than from France, and the ruling elite in its capital, Kigali, were schooled in Uganda.

Another issue is the financial cost of doing fieldwork. Ethiopia and its capital, Addis Ababa, are the most inexpensive places I have been to. A heavy meal of local Ethiopian food at a decent restaurant goes for about \$3. In Kigali and Accra, however, you may have to pay more than twice that. The same applies to hotel accommodations and public transport, but the ease with which you can drive around Kigali offsets its higher cost of living. Kampala's cost of living occupies a somewhat middle position.

While Africans are known to be unreservedly welcoming of strangers, you will get along better in Ghana and Uganda than in Ethiopia and Rwanda. Ghanaians and Ugandans are exuberant; Ethiopians and Rwandans can be reserved. It is easier to get interviews in Ghana and Uganda than in Ethiopia and Rwanda, especially on political issues. Regardless, getting a crucial local contact to kick-start a chain of respondents is critical. With such an initial contact, I easily scheduled an interview with the head of Rwanda's central bank.

When I met the director of the Institute for Democratic Government, a governance research and policy think tank in Accra, he engaged me for two solid hours in conceptual and theoretical questions about my project. Even though that encounter gave me no chance to ask my own questions about Ghana, it reinforced the following fact: Field research is an invaluable opportunity to learn, to be pushed, and not simply confirm assertions in one's dissertation proposal.

Moses Khisa is a PhD candidate in political science. His dissertation work focuses on the divergent evolution of political institutions in contemporary Africa.

Panel explores Islamic libraries in Africa

By Rebecca Shereikis

“The Islamic Archive of Africa,” a roundtable sponsored by the Institute for the Study of Islamic Thought in Africa at the African Studies Association’s November meeting in Baltimore, brought together senior and junior scholars to raise questions about the meaning of Islamic archives and collections in Africa.

Many Islamic manuscript collections in Africa are imperiled—due to political instability (as in the recent case of Timbuktu) or lack of resources and neglect. Along with manuscript preservation and safety, the panelists discussed the need to view manuscripts not as isolated objects but as parts of collections with histories of ownership, usage, dispersion, and reassembly.

Panel organizer Anne Bang (Chr. Michelsen Institute) discussed two East African collections—one institutional and one private, both links in the chain of intergenerational transmission of knowledge in the region. The manuscripts kept at the Riyadhha Mosque in Lamu, Kenya, the longest continuously functioning Islamic teaching institution in the Swahili world, are crucial to understanding the historical orientation of Islamic education in East Africa. The private collection of Zanzibari scholar and religious leader Muhammad Idris Muhammad Salih (1934–2012) is valuable to scholars due



Zuheri Ali Hemed, custodian of the *Qur'an tafsir* written by his father. Tanga, August 2012. Photo by Ridder H. Samsom.

to its totality, but Maalim Idris built the collection primarily to help young Zanzibaris access their history when teaching about Islam was banned after the Zanzibar revolution.

Susanna Molins-Lliteras (University of Cape Town) discussed the Fondo Ka’ti, the private library of the Ka’ti family in Timbuktu, which traces its origins to Andalusia. The library’s manuscript marginalia records a family

history of exile, reunification, and dispersion, along with events of the day. Molins-Lliteras’s presentation demonstrated how assembling a collection is actually an intervention in the production of history.

Ridder Samsom (University of Hamburg) described the Al-Buhry collection in Tanga, Tanzania, a small private collection maintained by the son of its developer, influential qahdi Ali Hemed Abdallah Al-Buhry (1889–1957). This family collection contains many items in Swahili in Arabic script. Samsom posed questions about the ownership of a dispersed collection (the definition of “family” can be contested), who uses it and why, and how it is perceived by the wider community.

Panel chair Scott Reese (Northern Arizona University) observed that while academics have traditionally viewed libraries and collections as storehouses to be mined for their own research, each collection retains meanings for its owners and local and translocal Muslim communities.

Presenters also spoke of a tension between modern cultural heritage discourse, often invoked by those seeking funding for manuscript initiatives, and the intentions of those who assemble libraries—such as maintaining Islamic knowledge transmission (in the case of Maalim Idris and Al-Buhry) or assembling a family history (in the case of Fondo Ka’ti and Al-Buhry). To what extent have the context-based knowledge-transmission functions of private collections been affected by the adoption of cultural heritage discourse to gain access to resources?

Some of the collections, moreover, are sources of income for the owners in resource-poor environments. How do we reconcile—or can we—competing agendas and needs, or the meanings of “access,” which has a different connotation to a university researcher than to a religious scholar or a student?

The panel proposed no easy answers, and clearly no one-size-fits-all solution exists. Participants agreed, however, that serious attention to these issues—and the creation of forums for their open and inclusive discussion—must be an integral part of planning and implementing manuscript projects on the continent.

First global health case competition promotes cross-campus collaboration

Every Northwestern school was represented among the 40 undergraduate and graduate students—in eight teams—participating in the first Northwestern University Intramural Global Health Case Competition, held in February.

Five days before presenting in Harris Hall, the teams were given the case: As managers of maternal and child health programs for the US Agency for International Development, how would they use a three-year, \$10 million grant to combat childhood pneumonia in Uganda?

The teams' proposals were judged by Megan Rhodes, deputy chief of USAID's Maternal and Child Health Division; Marissa Leffler, senior strategy and innovation adviser at USAID's Global Health Center for Accelerating Innovation and Impact; and Mandy Sharp Eizinger, global citizenship fellow in the Midwest office of the US Fund for UNICEF.

The first-place prize— \$1,000 and an all-expenses-paid trip to Emory University's International Global Health Case Competition in March—was won by the team of Emily Drewry, Smitha Sarma, Pooja Garg, Grace Jaworski, and Suvai Gunasekaran under the mentorship of Noelle Sullivan, lecturer in anthropology.

Below in abridged form is Drewry's account of the experience—aptly titled “A Lesson in Collaboration”:

After sending in my application to join a team, I found myself on Team 5 with a group of four capable women. We met for breakfast, Skyped weekly, and prepared through research and practice to tackle whatever problem we were given at the beginning of the competition week.

When we got to know the details of the case, we prepared to impress the judges with a solution that aimed to be innovative, realistic, and successful overall. We thought we had our solution figured out after a few hours of brainstorming, research compilation, and productive processing. We presented it to Noelle Sullivan, the expert assigned to answer our questions, who—in the most eloquent way—asked us the perfect questions to get to the core of our solution: Why were we taking this approach, and why did we think it was the right

path? After bouncing ideas around in a collaborative frenzy, we transformed our solution into a better, more innovative concept.

The work that went into creating our presentation was exasperating at times—and it certainly wasn't easy—but it was perhaps the most real real-world opportunity I've had since coming to Northwestern. I was terrified to present to the judges—three professionals from UNICEF and USAID. How could we possibly impress them in a presentation about the problems they work with on a daily basis? Earlier in the day, I told a peer that I was intimidated by how established many of the participants were. “But here's the thing,” she responded, “We know so much.” My first inclination was to disagree—but it dawned on me that as individuals we knew what we had learned at this



Northwestern University Intramural Global Health Case Competition participants

incredible institution, but as teams we knew so much more.

The theme of the weekend wasn't competition. It was collaboration. Though our goal was to create a viable solution, the work each participant put into the weekend was reciprocated two-fold in opportunity. We put an incredible amount of time into the case itself, learning about pneumonia, Uganda, and past public health efforts.

In his closing remarks, global health professor Michael Diamond stressed the same point that I had arrived at by the end of the day. “Collaboration, as we all know,” he said, “does not come easily.” Neither do the solutions to global health problems. But after this weekend, I am confident that members of the eight participating teams will be part of the movements that, with dedicated efforts and innovative ideas, will go on to change the world.

Emily Drewry's full account is at <http://blog.globalhealthportal.northwestern.edu/2014/02/a-lesson-in-collaboration-nus-first-case-competition>.

The changing character of conflicts in Africa

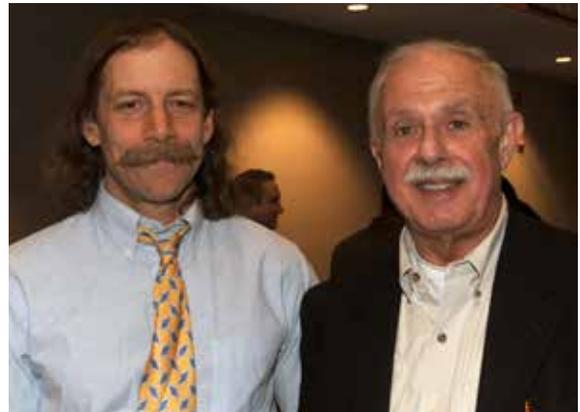
By Will Reno

Following is an excerpt from the inaugural Dr. Lawrence Frank Lecture presented by PAS director and professor of political science Will Reno at Northeastern Illinois University on February 20.

Some argue that the increased physical mobility of resources on a global scale changes how people fight. Economic incentives do shape armed groups, but armed groups in Africa show that they are not hostage to a pure economic calculus. Evidence from Africa's conflicts suggests that this material aspect of conflicts might be a result of underlying shifts in political contexts rather than causes of the decline in armed groups' attention to ideology and mass mobilization.

I argue instead that two other causes decisively shaped these changes in how armed groups in Africa fight and in how they mobilize people, ideas, and resources differently from their predecessors: First, the end of the Cold War, which brought major shifts in the international stakes in African wars. Second and more important, the evolving character of the state regimes against which Africa's armed groups fight. This politics is reflected in the nature of most contemporary armed groups and is the principal cause of the declining incidence of centrally organized and ideologically driven armed groups.

The end of the Cold War was not just about AK-47s flooding out of Soviet armories. Until the early 1990s, political success in armed conflict was closely tied to the capacity of leaders to convince powerful foreign backers of the virtues of their cause. Soon after the Organization of African Unity (now the African Union) was created, it established a Liberation Committee to provide material and political support for the armed overthrow of colonial and apartheid regimes. UN agencies such as the Institute for Namibia insisted that their beneficiaries limit factional struggles within their ranks so they could present a single face to assure concerned foreigners of their common goals. Adherence to a well-conceived political program, along with evidence of links to local populations, favored ideologically minded individuals who could recruit and organize politically committed followers ahead of the self-interested and business-minded who became more prominent in later wars.



Will Reno (left) and Lawrence Frank, professor emeritus and former provost of Northeastern Illinois University

External sponsorship became a source of division when opposing foreigners each backed opposing insurgent factions, such as US and Soviet support for contending factions in Angola in the 1970s. Nonetheless, the external relationships of armed groups in Africa during the Cold War favored ideologically articulate leaders who had better access to overseas resources to eliminate rivals, discipline fighters, and attract supporters.

By 1994 Africa was free of apartheid and colonial rule. Perhaps more important was the emerging pretense of neutrality among a rapidly growing number of nongovernment organizations, and, to some extent, among international organizations and foreign governments. This approach justified the injection of resources into conflicts on the basis of the needs of suffering noncombatants. Even when NGOs attempt to coordinate efforts, their rejection of political criteria as a condition for assistance leads them to be much less discriminating about what groups get access to aid, in contrast to the coordination of aid to anticolonial and antiapartheid insurgents. This created incentives for commanders within the ranks of armed groups to split from their bosses and claim some benefits of warfare for themselves. The proliferation of armed groups in Liberia, for example, occurred against the backdrop of some 40 cease-fires and 13 peace agreements of that country's 13-year war.

Easterbrook retires, *continued from front page*

a 550-strong item collection that continues to grow. Attending a conference in South Africa this summer, when I mentioned the Herskovits Library, I was often met with, “Do you know David Easterbrook?”

David remains proud of his efforts in regard to the library’s endowment growth, acquisition of rare and unique collections, and library-wide digital initiatives that expand access to materials. Yet his modest nature compels him to say, “All of this would not be possible without a dedicated staff of librarians and assistants who share an enthusiasm and commitment to the mission.” He is quick to mention “the Africanists and the generous donors across the globe, predecessors who expanded the collection, and of course the research, fortitude, and vision of Melville J. Herskovits.”

The Herskovits Library is home to 450,000 volumes in more than 300 African languages across many disciplines in African studies. It houses rare books, manuscripts, maps, posters, electronic resources, and subscriptions to 3,000 academic journals, newspapers, magazines, and serial publications. It has proven to be an invaluable resource within and beyond the immediate Northwestern community, assisting in global research as well as African-focused theater productions. David’s achievements have deepened its resources and consequently the studies of scholars, researchers, and educators.

David’s career grew out of a deep interest in history, travel, and libraries. These interests motivated him to complete his junior undergraduate year in Kenya and to work in the Peace Corps. Before joining the Herskovits Library in 1991, he worked in various capacities at Syracuse University Libraries (1975–79), Indiana University Libraries (1980–83) and the University of Illinois at Chicago Library (1983–91).

David’s enduring passion, keen insight, and ability to identify opportunities have enriched our community immensely. His interest in Africa remains as strong as the day I met him. He will leave an indelible mark on the collections and will be sorely missed. As the Zulu say, “Hamba Kahle!” (go well).

The proliferation of externally supported peace negotiations and roundtable discussions as part of the new international strategy for conflict management gave subordinate commanders incentives to claim their own place at negotiations.

While these global changes are significant, changes in the characters of some state regimes in Africa play a more important role in shaping how armed groups use the mobility of people, ideas, and resources. The highly factionalized style of wars across Africa correlates well with regimes that engaged most heavily in violent patronage-based strategies to keep themselves in power. Three such regimes—Somalia, Congo, and Liberia—were top recipients of US aid in the 1980s. This foreign largesse gave these regimes even more leeway to engage in destructive domestic political strategies. Their strategies focused on controlling access to patronage and the violent suppression of independent political or commercial activities.

This danger led many presidents to build multiple security services, as much to watch each other as to protect the regime. Many allowed political allies to organize militias outside the framework of state security forces. Some exacerbated local conflicts to keep local activists focused on protecting their communities against neighbors and to create a role for presidents to arbitrate conflicts that they had a hand in promoting.

Competitive elections in Africa have not necessarily broken this pattern of regime politics. Some have made politics more violent. Struggles over land and access to government largesse have marked Kenya’s competitive elections since 1992. Nigerian elections have become occasions for armed violence when political factions vie for access to oil revenues. Congo-Brazzaville’s elections in 1992, 1997, and 2002 were marked by bloody battles. In these cases, the problem has been that competitive elections have not broken patterns of patronage politics. Instead, elections gave political bosses opportunities to renegotiate their positions within these networks. Their preexisting positions within these networks, especially their access to commercial opportunities and the capacity to arm and mobilize young men to fight in election campaigns, can turn these into violent contests.

PAS research funding opportunities for Northwestern faculty and undergraduates

Faculty Research Grants

These awards encourage, develop, and support faculty research and creative endeavors. They are intended to supplement other Northwestern department, school, and University support, but they might be used to develop proposals for subsequent external funding.

Funds may be used for research and scholarly efforts; instructional-impact projects; other professional development activities; salaries and benefits of students, technicians, and other nonfaculty project personnel; supplies, equipment, and miscellaneous expenses, such as project-related photocopying and postage. Funds may not be used for faculty salaries, unrelated travel, consultants, office equipment, or computers.

The award of up to \$4,000 is for no more than one year, and all unused funds revert to the funding pool. Awardees are asked to disseminate their project results in refereed outlets or another appropriate venue.

All full-time faculty may apply once each academic year. Applications from pretenure faculty are given preference. Deadline to apply: May 1.

TO APPLY

Complete application instructions for awards for faculty can be found at www.northwestern.edu/african-studies/faculty-scholars/funding.html.

For full details about PAS undergraduate awards, go to www.northwestern.edu/african-studies/undergraduate-studies/awards.html.

If you have questions, please call 847-491-7323 or email african-studies@northwestern.edu. All award decisions are made by the PAS Executive Committee.

Working Groups Awards

PAS will fund up to \$5,000 of an interdisciplinary working group addressing research issues in African studies. Scholars in a working group come together regularly to reflect and work on important problems of common interest. Groups may take different approaches, such as a lecture series inviting leading scholars; discussion of empirical and theoretical works of scholarship; a collaborative, interdisciplinary research project; a working paper series; and commenting on and analyzing members' works in progress.

Working groups must involve at least one Northwestern faculty member. PAS requires a final report from the group. Deadline to apply: May 1.

John Hunwick Research Fund

Honoring professor emeritus John Hunwick (history and religious studies), this endowment supports faculty and graduate student research on Islam in Africa. Awards of varying amounts are given annually and may be used to fund travel to an archive or library or to conduct field research. While the priority is for those purposes, funds may be made available to bring a scholar of Islam and Africa to Northwestern to give a lecture,

visit a class, or interact with students. Applications are received on a rolling basis.

Herskovits Undergraduate Research Awards

Intended to encourage undergraduate research in the Herskovits Library's world-renowned Africana collection, these awards allow selected students to earn credit for research that will culminate in a final project. PAS administers the award program in collaboration with the Herskovits Library, the Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences, and the associate provost for undergraduate education.

African Research Leadership Awards for Undergraduates

Grants are awarded to develop and lead a research project examining an issue in African studies related to a student's academic interests and studies. Students develop, manage, and complete the project, which may be an extension of the research/immersion experience requirement of the African studies adjunct major or of research completed in a past course. Deadline to apply: April 15.

Community news

Karen J. Alter (political science) has published two books. The first, *The New Terrain of International Law: Courts, Politics, Rights* (Princeton University Press, 2014), includes a case study on modern-day slavery in Niger and discussions of the prosecution of Charles Taylor and the Francophone African Organization for the Harmonization of Business Law in Africa. The second, *The Oxford Handbook on International Adjudication*, coauthored with Cesare Romano and Yuval Shany (Oxford University Press, 2014), includes a chapter by rights law scholar Solomon T. Ebovrah on human rights regimes in Africa and beyond.

In addition, Alter was coauthor (with Laurence Helfer and Jacqueline McAllister) of the article “A New International Human Rights Court for West Africa: The Court of Justice for the Economic Community of West African States” in the *American Journal of International Law* (http://scholarship.law.duke.edu/faculty_scholarship/2868). Three African scholars discussed the article in an online symposium hosted by *Opinio Juris*.

Karen Tranberg Hansen (emerita anthropology) is coeditor and contributor (with Walter E. Little and B. Lynne Milgram) for *Street Economies in the Urban Global South* (School for Advanced Research, 2013). The book focuses on the economic, political, social, and cultural dynamics of street economies across the region and argues that the recent conjuncture of neoliberal economic policies and unprecedented urban growth in the global South has changed the equation. It features case studies of street economies in Ghana (by Hansen and Wilma

Nichito), Senegal (by Suzanne Scheid and Lydia Siu), and South Africa (by Ilda Lindell, Maria Hedman, and Kyle-Nathan Verboomen).

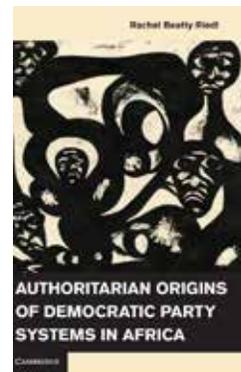
Moses Khisa (political science graduate student) published “Maneuver Welfare as an African Way of War?” a review of Muhoozi Kaineruga’s *Battles of the Ugandan Resistance: A Tradition of Maneuver*, in *Africa Review of Books* (http://codesria.org/IMG/pdf/Africa_Review_of_Books_Vol-9_No-1_2013.pdf).

Undergraduates **Madeleine May** and **Jaclyn Skurie** received the National Geographic Young Explorer Grant to travel to South Africa in September to film their multimedia series *Under the Wire*, about human-lion conflict in Kruger National Park. In March their documentary on witch camps in Ghana (discussed in an article in the fall 2012 issue of *PAS News & Events*) premiered at Northwestern.

Kennedy Ochieng (PAS visiting scholar) has published two articles examining the problems of persistent authoritarianism and electoral irregularities in achieving democratic legislative elections in Kenya and Africa: “The Long Road to Institutionalization: The Kenyan Parliament and the 2013 Elections” in the *Journal of Eastern African Studies* (www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.1080/17531055.2013.869009), and “African Elections: Two Divergent Trends” in the *Journal of Democracy* (http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/journal_of_democracy/v023/23.3.opalo.pdf).

Jeff Rice (history) spoke on “Old and New Ways of Thinking about Africa” in February as part of Elgin Community College’s celebration of Black History Month.

Rachel Beatty Riedl (political science) has published *Authoritarian Origins of Democratic Party Systems in Africa* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2014). The book addresses the question of why seemingly similar African countries have developed different forms of democratic party systems.



Marlous van Waijenburg (history graduate student) has been awarded Northwestern’s most prestigious fellowship, a Presidential Fellowship. Presidential Fellows are students who combine outstanding intellectual or creative ability with the capacity to be active in the Society of Fellows, whose members are distinguished faculty members and previous Presidential Fellows.

Email your news updates

to african-studies@northwestern.edu so that PAS can share the word with the Africanist community at Northwestern and beyond.

Former Herskovits student Warren d'Azevedo dies at 93

Warren L. d'Azevedo, one of the last students of Melville J. Herskovits, died January 19 at his home in Healdsburg, California, at age 93. Following reception of his PhD from Northwestern in 1962, he devoted his life to expanding the study of the Gola people of Liberia and the Washoe tribe of Nevada.

Herskovits was an influence even before d'Azevedo met him. D'Azevedo carried Herskovits's classic *The Myth of the Negro Past* (1941) with him as a merchant marine seaman in World War II. After the war and a short career as a labor unionizer on the Oakland docks, d'Azevedo was drawn to graduate school by a fascination with anthropology. He started at the University of California, Berkeley, and transferred in 1951 to Northwestern, where he studied with Herskovits.

Although his initial interest was the Washoe tribe of Nevada, a growing interest in Africa led d'Azevedo to do his PhD fieldwork among the Gola people of Liberia. For the rest of his life after receiving the PhD, he devoted his ethnographic research, publications, and institutional interests to expanding the study of both ethnic groups.

After teaching at the University of California at Berkeley, the University of Utah, and the University of Pittsburgh, d'Azevedo in 1963 was invited to found the anthropology department at the University of Nevada. He led the department to international renown for its focus on the Great Basin, the largest area of contiguous endorheic watersheds in North America. He was also one of the pioneers in setting up the Social Sciences Center of the Desert Research Institute. Active in promoting the first minority student organization on campus, the Black Students Union, he supported minority and Native American civil rights in academic life and society at large throughout his life.

D'Azevedo continued to do fieldwork and publish on both the Washoe and the Gola well after his retirement in 1988. He published numerous scholarly works and served as editor of the Great Basin volume of the Smithsonian Institution's encyclopedic *Handbook of North American Indians* (vol. 11; 1986). The Smithsonian published a book of essays in his honor, *Others Knowing Others: Perspectives on Ethnographic Careers* (1994, ed. Dan D. Fowler and Donald L. Haresty).

In African studies, d'Azevedo's ideas concerning the role of the traditional artist in society influenced scholarship



in anthropology, art history, and museology. He promoted more inclusive views about the intersection of the creativity of individual artists and the changing sociocultural dynamics of their local societies. Now commonplace, inclusivity was revolutionary in 1965, when d'Azevedo chaired a Lake Tahoe conference on the traditional artist in African society that brought together many innovative scholars who later became known for their work in this area. The resulting volume, published by Indiana University Press in 1973 and edited by d'Azevedo, was dedicated to the memory of Herskovits, who "persistently urged his students and colleagues to discover the art in culture."

D'Azevedo continued his association with PAS and had two PAS publications, one a working paper and the other a special publication. The first, *Rebel Destinies: Remembering Herskovits* (Working Paper No. 15), was a memoir of his long association with Herskovits, which he recalled as marked by "a considerable degree of ambivalence" and "an awkward mix of gratitude and peevishness." The second was *The Zogbenya of Gola Sande: Tutelars of a Charter Myth*, a study of a Liberian women's secret society.

D'Azevedo's legacy to the study of Liberia will continue through the special collection of his Liberian papers and other materials at Indiana University Libraries. He housed a core collection of his papers on the Washoe and the Great Basin at the Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center at the University of Nevada, Reno.

APRIL

- 3 noon**
“Autocratic Legacies, Organizational Adaptation, and the Containment of Violent Islamic Fundamentalism in the Republic of Niger.” **Sebastian Elischer** (comparative politics, Leuphana University).
- 4 noon**
“An Ethnography of Childhood, Caregiving, and Concealment in Zambia.” **Jean Hunleth** (Washington University School of Medicine).
- 7 3:30 p.m.**
“Reforming Customary Rule: Are There Trade-offs between Good Governance, Political Order, and Social Cohesion?” **Kate Baldwin** (political science, Yale University).
- 7 5 p.m.**
“Twenty Years of Democracy in South Africa.” **Vuyiswa Tulelo** (South African Consulate). University Library Forum Room, 1970 Campus Drive.
- 10 6 p.m.**
Africa Seminar (Afrisem) for graduate students: “Workshopping Papers in Interdisciplinary Settings.”
- 23 noon–1:30 p.m.**
“The Rollback of Democracy: Weakening, Accelerating, or Stabilizing?” **Larry Diamond** (sociology and political science, Stanford University). Room 201, Scott Hall, 601 University Place.
- 23 4:30 p.m.**
One Acre Fund Lecture by Matt Forti (director, One Acre Fund USA). McCormick Tribune Center Forum, 1870 Campus Drive.
- 25 5–7 p.m.**
Book launch: *Authoritarian Origins of Democratic Party Systems in Africa* by **Rachel Riedl** (political science).
- 24 5 p.m.**
“The State and Civil Society: The Democratic Tradition of South Africa.” **Allan Boesak** (Desmond Tutu Center, Butler University). University Library Forum Room, 1970 Campus Drive.

- 28 4:30 p.m.**
“The End of Apartheid and US Segregation: Reminiscences of a Scholar-Activist.” **Richard Joseph** (political science). University Library Forum Room, 1970 Campus Drive.
- 30 noon**
“Legislatures and the Building of Democratic States: The Cases of Kenya and Zambia.” **Kennedy Opalo** (PAS visiting scholar).

MAY

- 1 6 p.m.**
Afrisem: Topic to be announced.
- 5 4 p.m.**
“The Democratic Republic of Congo: Between Hope and Despair.” **Michael Deibert** (freelance journalist).
- 5 4 p.m.**
“Black Americans and South Africa after Apartheid: From Pan-Africanism to Post-Racialism, 1994–2014.” **Alvin B. Tillery** (political science). University Library Forum Room, 1970 Campus Drive.
- 6 noon**
“Shame: Confessions of an Aid Worker in Africa.” **Jillian Reilly** (author and public speaker). Buffett Center, 1902 Sheridan Road.
- 2–4**
“Queertopia! Queering Pride: LGBTQ Identities on the Global Stage.” Academic festival organized by the Queer Pride Graduate Student Association and cosponsored by PAS. Visit http://groups.northwestern.edu/queerpride/?page_id=1218 for details.
- 8 6 p.m.**
Afrisem: “Unveiling the Ambiguities: A History of Françafrique and African Military Elites.” **Nafissatou Sall** (sociology) and **Maavi Norman** (political science).
- 12 noon**
“The Derailing of the Arab Spring: Lessons Learned about Democracy and Governance.” **Dan Brumberg** (government, Georgetown University). Room 201, University Hall, 1897 Sheridan Road.

- 12 4 p.m.**
“Mandela’s Living Legacy.” A panel discussion moderated by **Douglas Foster** (journalism). University Library Forum Room, 1970 Campus Drive.

12–16

- “Bodies Out of Bounds: Performance and Migration in Contemporary South Africa.”** Series featuring an art installation (**May 12–16**) and performances on LGBT asylum seeker narratives (**May 12, 6 p.m.**) and responses to xenophobic violence in South Africa (**May 15, 6 p.m.**).
- 22 7 p.m.**
“The Tyranny of Experts: Economists, Dictators, and the Forgotten Rights of the Poor.” **William Easterly** (economics, New York University). Room 107, Harris Hall, 1881 Sheridan Road.
- 30 3–5 p.m.**
Celebration honoring retiring Herskovits Library curator David Easterbook.

JUNE

- 3 12:15 p.m.**
“Ethnic Parties, Political Coalitions, and Electoral Violence: An Analysis of Kenya’s Presidential Elections, 1992–2013.” **Aditi Malik** (political science). Buffett Center, 1902 Sheridan Road.
- 4 6 p.m.**
Red Lion Seminar: “Artists and the Art of Life in 20th-Century South Africa.” Daniel Magaziner (history, Yale University). DePaul University (room to be announced).
- 6 3–5 p.m.**
PAS end-of-year picnic.

Unless otherwise noted, all events take place at PAS, 620 Library Place, Evanston. Lunch is provided at PAS events that start at noon. For more information, please visit the PAS website or call 847-491-7323.

Exhibit documents South Africa's road to democracy

By Esmeralda Kale and John Kannenberg

"Apartheid to Democracy: 20 Years of Transition in South Africa"
April 7–August 29 | Herskovits Library of African Studies

To many of us it seems it was only yesterday that Nelson Mandela walked out of prison, fists raised, and South Africans went to the polls in their first free democratic elections. For others the exhibit "Apartheid to Democracy: 20 years of Transition in South Africa" may be a first encounter with the atrocities of apartheid, the bitter struggle preceding its downfall, and the two decades since that have redefined South Africa on the world stage.

As early as the 1950s, as reports of South Africa's racial apartheid system prompted the international community to wonder what to do, Northwestern was a microcosm of conversations taking place around the world. In the 1970s, while the Board of Trustees considered divesting from US corporations involved in South Africa, Northwestern students mobilized and protested. Such protests, as well



as debate within the US Congress, the UK Parliament, and international organizations such as the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations resulted in cultural, political, and economic sanctions against the South African government, which was forced to reconsider its policies in the 1990s. Talks with banned political parties, especially the African National Congress, led to the release of Mandela and other political prisoners and to the charting of a new direction for South Africa.

To be on display through August 29 in the Main Library, Deering Library, and the Herskovits Library, the exhibit draws on University Archives and other University Library collections to visually document South Africa's path since the end of apartheid. Complementing the exhibit are a Wednesday evening film series (dates and titles below) and a lecture series featuring anti-apartheid activist Allan Boesak and South African Consul General in Chicago Vuyiswa Tulelo (see events calendar on page 11). Northwestern alumnus Jim Lewis will reminisce about student activity during the late 1970s, and faculty members will discuss the legacies of the advent of democracy in South Africa. See <http://exhibits.library.northwestern.edu/southafrica> for further details and updates.

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UNIVERSITY

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The "Apartheid to Democracy" films series will be shown in the Forum Room of University Library (1970 Campus Drive, Evanston). Films start at 5:30 p.m. and are free and open to the public.	4/16	<i>District 6 (5 p.m. start)</i>
	4/23	<i>A Dry White Season</i>
	4/30	<i>Cry the Beloved Country</i>
	5/7	<i>Red Dust</i>
	5/15	<i>Tsotsi</i>
	5/21	<i>Invictus</i>