

Issue November & December 2021

University of California Los Angeles International Institute

AFRICAN STUDIES

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African Studies Center New Co-Director: Professor Harold Torrence

Effective January 1, 2022, Professor Harold Torrence, Department of Linguistics, will join Professor Andrew Apter as Co-Director of the African Studies Center. Professor Torrence is the current faculty Chair of the African Studies M.A. program and has taught courses at UCLA in Morphological Theory, Introduction to the Study of Language, and Field Methods. He studies the syntax and morphology of African and Native American languages, and has authored numerous publications. We look forward to his leadership in the new year! Click [here](#) to learn more about his research and background.

The African Studies Center Welcomes New Staff!



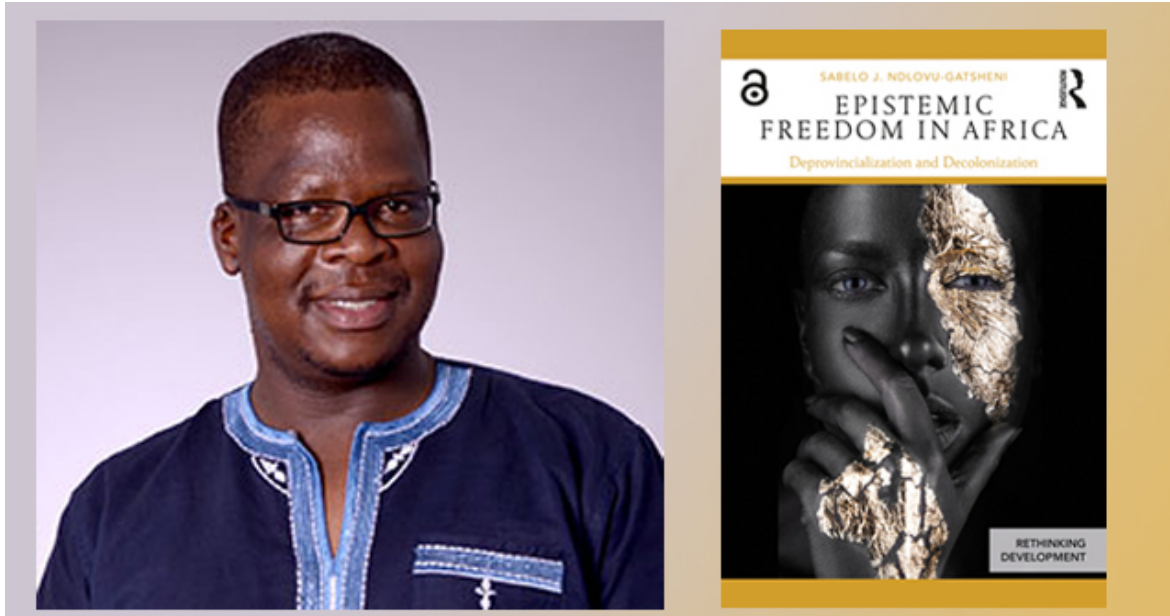
Dirsia Deandaru joins the Center as a Graduate Student Assistant. He obtained his degree in law at University of Indonesia and is currently pursuing a Master of Laws (LL.M) degree, with a specialization in environmental and energy law at UCLA School of Law. Before coming to Los Angeles, he was as a Law Analyst in the legal experts unit of the Indonesian Ministry of National Development Planning. Dirsia has conducted research and helped to formulate laws and regulations on the Indonesian government's public planning, environmental, and energy projects.



Wesleigh Gates (they/them) is a performance maker and scholar newly based in Los Angeles. They are a PhD student in the Department of World Arts and Cultures/Dance at UCLA, where they research the intersections of performance, gender/sexuality, and urban space. Wesleigh holds an MFA in Directing from Carnegie Mellon University and is an editor of Leaking Vessels, a journal of visual arts and performance writing forthcoming from 53rd State Press. They are very pleased to be joining the staff of African Arts.



NaaKoshie Mills is a PhD student in the Department of Anthropology (Sociocultural) and new Graduate Assistant at ASC. Her research is an ethnography of Black Diplomats, focusing on U.S. foreign policy towards Africa and Pan-African networks of belonging. NaaKoshie earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science at Howard University and later completed a dual Masters in International and Public Affairs at Columbia and Sciences Po Universities. She is a former U.S. diplomat at the Department of State, focusing on foreign policy initiatives in Africa and multilateral work at the UN. She has also worked in the United States Senate, consulted for the French Development Agency and private NGOs in Colombia and Nigeria. She is a feminist and Afro-Futurist from Washington, D.C., and enjoys visual art and theater,



Professor Sabelo Ndlovu-Gatsheni and the cover of his 2018 book

Coleman Memorial Lecture

On Tuesday, June 1, 2021 the African Studies Center hosted Professor Sabelo Ndlovu-Gatsheni, Chair in the Epistemologies of the Global South at the University of Bayreuth, Germany. Professor Ndlovu-Gatsheni's lecture offered a compelling analysis of decolonial turns as well as interdisciplinary frameworks in African studies literature. His continued scholarship challenges colonial interpretation and ushers new epistemic approaches to Africa and its global diaspora. For more on this event, be sure to read Peggy McNerny's post on our [website](#).



The Nile River Basin Crisis Lecture Series is organized by Professors Mekonnen Gebremichael, School of Engineering, and Edmond Keller, Political Science, and sponsored by the Samueli School of Engineering and the Coleman African Studies Center.

REGISTER FOR
EVENTS

Upcoming Events in the Webinar Series

- | | |
|---|---|
| January 12, 2022
8-9:30am PST | Current Perspectives of Egypt, Ethiopia and Sudan on the GERD Filling and Operation, and Long-Term Vision
<i>Speakers: Gedion Asfaw, Senior Expert, Member of Ethiopia's GERD Negotiation Team; Hesham Bekit, Ph.D., Professor, Irrigation and Hydraulics Department, Cairo University</i> |
| January 26, 2022
8-9:30am PST | The GERD Dam Filling Impact and Mitigation Strategies
<i>Speaker: Kevin Wheeler, Ph.D., Research Fellow, Environmental Change Institute – University of Oxford, U.K.</i> |
| February 9, 2022
8-9:30am PST | Nile Basin Reservoir Management and Operation Tools
<i>Speakers: Mohammed Basheer, Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Mechanical, Aerospace and Civil Engineering, University of Manchester, U.K. and Hisham Eldardiry, Ph.D., Postdoctoral Research Associate, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory</i> |
| February 23, 2022
8-9:30am PST | Successful River Basin Agreements in Other Basins Similar to the Nile
<i>Speaker: Susanne Schmeier, LL.M, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Water Law and Diplomacy, IHE Delft Institute for Water Education</i> |
| March 9, 2022
8-9:30am PST | Towards Long-term Solutions and Management Options for the Nile States
<i>Speaker: John Mbaku, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Economics, Weber State University in Ogden, Utah, and Nonresident Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution</i> |

REGISTER FOR
EVENTS

Past Events in the Webinar Series



December 8, 2021: The Nile Flows towards the Red Sea and not the Mediterranean

Speaker: Ana Elisa Cascão, Ph.D., Independent Consultant and Researcher

November 23, 2021: Current Uses of the Nile Water, and Impacts of GERD Dam

Speakers: Yohannes Gebretsadik, Ph.D., Nile Basin Initiative; Hani Sewilam, Ph.D., RWTH Aachen University, Germany; Dr. Ageel Bushara, Zuhair Fayez Partnership Consultants, Saudi Arabia

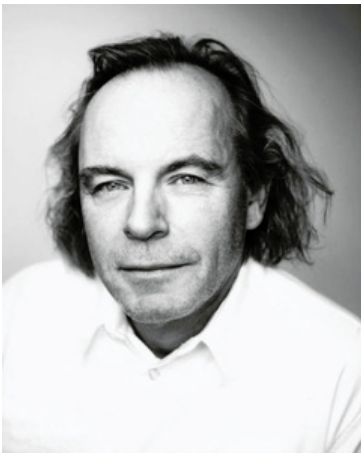


November 10, 2021: Interstate Security Issues in the Nile Basin after GERD

Speaker: William Davison, Senior Analyst, International Crisis Group

October 27, 2021: Post-Colonial Interstate Relations in the Nile Basin

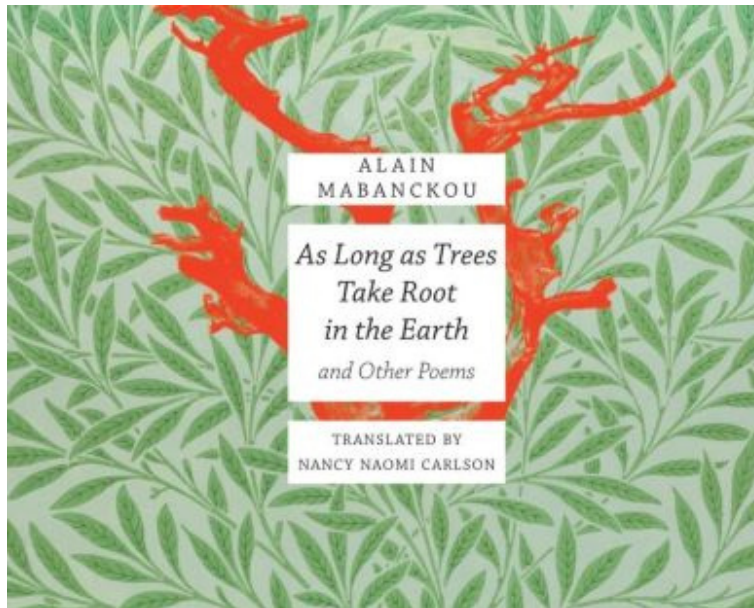
Speaker: Marina Ottaway, Ph.D., Middle East Fellow at the Woodrow Wilson Center



October 13, 2021: The Nile River from Colonial to the Immediate Post-Colonial Era

Speaker: Tereje Tvedt, Ph.D., University of Bergen

Faculty News



Professor Alain Mabanckou's book of poems, "As Long as Trees Take Root in the Earth and Other Poems" was recently featured in the Los Angeles Review online literary journal. Read the review article [here](#)!

Faculty News

UCLA Law and ASC Affiliated professor, E. Tendayi Achiume was recently named the Alicia Miñana Chair in Law for their ongoing work in human rights and advocacy for migrants and refugees worldwide. Learn more [here](#)!



African Studies Center Director Andrew Apter received funding for his archival project, “Quiet Revolutionaries: Digitizing the Jadeas Library Archive of Historians Who Transformed Africa, 1958-2007.” His work is supported by the Modern Endangered Archives Program at the UCLA Library with funding from Arcadia.

Ufahamu: A Journal of African Studies

- Editorial- A Return
- Part I—Essays
- Part II- Translation—France
through Race: Beyond
Colorblindness
- Part III—Arts
- Book Reviews



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LATEST VOLUME!



SPREADING CHEER ALL AROUND

SEASON'S GREETINGS

Season's Greetings to you, your loved ones, and
your communities. We are wishing you all
blessings, joy, and happiness.

Andrew Apter, Director

Erica Anjum, Deputy Director

Sheila Breeding, Budget & Program
Manager

Dirsa Deandaru, Student Assistant

NaaKoshie Mills, Student Assistant

African Arts Journal

Leslie Ellen Jones, Editor

Wesleigh Gates, Editorial Assistant



Visit our [website](#)
for events and
announcements
in the New Year!