GHANA STUDIES ASSOCIATION

Perspectives on Ghana

An International Conference

All sessions will take place on the KNUST Campus at the New Science Complex

23-26 May 2013
KUMASI

Co-Sponsors:
Temple University
Wake Forest University
Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology
PROGRAM

THURSDAY (23 May)

1:00-2:30 pm
Buffet Lunch — New Science Complex Cafeteria
Welcome — Dr. Wilhelmina Donkoh (KNUST)

3:30-5:00 pm THURSDAY SESSION I

Panel A – Conference Room – New Science Complex (KNUST)

New Histories of European Colonialism
Moderator: Trevor Getz (San Francisco State University, California)

Jonathan Roberts (Mount Saint Vincent University, Canada), “Dungeons, Castles or Resorts?: The Changing Meaning of the Slave Forts of Ghana”

Larry Yarak (Texas A&M University, Texas), “‘Creative [and] Expedient Misunderstandings’: Edena-Dutch Relations in the 19th Century”

Pierluigi Valsecchi (University of Pavia), “Free People, Slaves and Pawns in the Western Gold Coast: The Demography of Dependency in a Mid-Nineteenth Century British Source”

Jennifer Hart (Wayne State University, Michigan), “Anibue, Mobility, and the Modernity of Motor Transportation in Late Colonial Ghana”

Panel B – Graduate Seminar Room – New Science Complex (KNUST)

The Economics of Everyday Life I
Moderator: Samuel Adu-Gyamfi (KNUST)

Stephen Armah (Ashesi University College) and Daniel Torku (West African Exams Council), “Can Ghana’s Policies on Oil Help Her Avoid the Resource Curse?”

Sena Afi Agyepong and Kwadwo Boakye Owusu-Adjei (Ashesi University College), “Meeting Ghana’s Housing Deficit”

Sarah Oti Sarkodie (UniCredit Ghana), and Stephen Armah (Ashesi University), “The Impact of Microfinance Services on Poverty Alleviation in Accra: A Case Study of UniCredit Ghana Limited”

Kofi Takyi Asante (Northwestern University, Illinois), “Nets and Nettles: Two Conceptions of Community for Two Ghanaian Migrant Enterprises”
5:15-6:00 pm THURSDAY  Special Presentation and Discussion Session II

Conference Room – New Science Complex

Presenter: Manu Herbstein (Independent Scholar), “The Sargenti War in Pictures”
Discussant: David Owusu-Ansah (James Madison University)

7:00-9:30 pm THURSDAY
Opening Reception and Dinner

The Engineering Guest House

Special Performance by
Agya Koo Nimoh

FRIDAY (24 May)
8:30-10:00 am FRIDAY  SESSION I

Panel A – Graduate Seminar Room

‘Democracy’ in the Fourth Republic
Moderator: Cyril Daddieh (Miami University of Ohio)


Collins Adu-Bempah Brobbey (University of Ghana, Legon), “The Logic of Neopatrimonialism and the Democratic Deepening in Ghana’s Fourth Republic”


Kafui Tsekpo (University of Ghana, Legon), “Allowing the ‘system’ to work!: Institutional Democracy in Ghana’s Fourth Republic, 2009-2012”

Panel B – Conference Room
The Economics of Everyday Life II
Moderator: Nate Plageman (Wake Forest University, North Carolina)


Lauren Adrover (Northwestern University, Illinois), “Chiefly Festivals, Corporate Sponsorship, and Political Power in Ghana”

Giulia Casentini (University of Pavia, Italy), “Space, Politics and Identity. The Construction of the Northern Section of the Ghana-Togo Border”

10:010-11:40 am FRIDAY SESESSION II

Panel A – Graduate Seminar Room

Environmental Sustainability, Deforestation and the Green Economy
Moderator: Simon Stephens (Columbia University, New York)

Prince Adjei (KNUST), “Decentralized Forestry Governance, Community Livelihoods and Environmental Sustainability: Assessing the Viability of the of the Modified Taungya System”


Mary A. S. Owusu (University of Cape Coast), “Red Gold Prospecting: A Study of the Effects of Oil Palm Related Activities on Local Knowledge and Ecosystems in Southern Ghana”

Mohammed-Anwar Sadat Adam (Oxfam, Ghana), “Car REDD+ Really Halt Deforestation? A Look at the Political Economy of Forestry Reforms in Ghana”

Panel B – Conference Room

(Re)Envisioning Sovereignty and the State in Ghana I
Moderator: Jennifer Hart (Wayne State University, Michigan)

Carly Goodman (Temple University, Pennsylvania), “Green Cards, Greener Pastures, and Ghana: Ideas of Citizenship in Recent History”

Esperanza Brizuela-Garcia (Montclair State University, New Jersey), “Beyond Cultural Nationalism: Why Are Nineteenth Century Gold Coast Intellectuals Still Relevant Today?”

Aziz Mostefaoi (University of Adrar, Algeria), “Pan-Africanism and Gold Coast Nationalism throughout the First Decades of the Twentieth Century”

**11:45-1:15 pm FRIDAY  Session III**

Panel A – Conference Room

**Faith, the Body, and Outreach in Local Society**
Moderator: Wilhelmina Donkoh (KNUST)

Eric Debrah Otchere (University of Cape Coast), “‘Teaching ‘Everything’ with Music: The Objective of Teachers Now Realized”

Florian Carl (University of Cape Coast), “The Ritualization of the Self in Ghanaian Gospel Music”


**1:30-2:30 pm FRIDAY – New Science Complex Cafeteria**

*****LUNCH*****

**2:30-6:30**
Excursion to Adum (Centre City Kumasi)
and
The Kumasi Cultural Centre

Dinner is on your own
**SATURDAY (25 May)**

**9:00-10:30 pm SATURDAY**  
**SESSION I**

**Panel A – Conference Room**

*Disability, Public Health, and Human Rights I*
Moderator: Wilhelmina Donkoh (KNUST)

Denise McLane-Davison (University of Georgia) and Naa Ashley Vanderpuye-Donton (International Health Care Center/West African AIDS Foundation) “In Search of Yaa: Evidence of African Womanist Leadership in Ghana’s HIV/AIDS Fight”

Leah McMillan, (Tyndale University College, Canada), “From HRBAD to HRBANRG: the Case of Ghana”

Aminu Dramani (KNUST), “The Right to Education in Ghana: Rhetoric and Reality”

**Panel B – Graduate Seminar Room**

*Re-Conceptions and New Debates: Gender, Sexuality and Masculinity*
Moderator: Esperanza Brizuela-Garcia (Montclair State University, New Jersey)

Daniel Yaw Fiaveh (University of Ghana), “I Feel it More When am In-charge!” The Politics of Sexual Techniques among Heterosexuals in Urban Accra”

Abena Kyere (University of Ghana, Legon), “Women in Ministry: Who is the Pastor’s Wife?”

**10:35-12:05 pm SATURDAY**  
**SESSION II**

**Panel A – Graduate Seminar Room**

*Narrative Histories of the Gold Coast*
Moderator: Lauren Adrover (Northwestern University, Illinois)

Trevor Getz (San Francisco State University, California) “The Marriages of Abina Mansah: Gender, Power, and Slavery in Late Nineteenth Century Gold Coast”

Alessandra Brivio (University of Milano-Bicocca, Italy), “Wade Harris ‘Passage’ in the Gold Coast (1914)”
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Allison Martino (University of Michigan), "Visualizing Imaginary Narratives: Cultivating Social Space and Collaboration at Philip Kwame Apagya's Photo Studio"

Sarah Kunkel (Humbolt University, Germany), “Administration and Labour in the Gold Coast, 1930-1950”

Panel B – Conference Room

Contemporary Perspectives on Diaspora
Moderator: Ifetayo Flannery (Temple University, Pennsylvania)

Alison Okuda (New York University), "Crossing Oceans and Cultures in London: Narratives of Music, Literature, and Perspective"

Louise Muller (Leiden University, Netherlands), “The Reception of West African Video Films in Southeast Amsterdam”


Simon Stevens (Columbia University, New York), “Setting the Ball Rolling”: The First All-African People's Conference and the Origins of the Sanctions Campaign Against Apartheid South Africa”

Herman von Hesse (University of Ghana, Legon) (for Kwame Essien (Lehigh University, Pennsylvania)), “Invisible Diasporan Returnee Communities: Silences and the Challenges in studying Trans-Atlantic History in Ghana”

12:15-1:30 pm SATURDAY  Session III

Panel A – Conference Room

Sekondi-Takoradi: New Perspectives on Ghana’s “Old” Port City
Moderator: Larry Yarak (Texas A&M University, Texas)

Nate Plageman (Wake Forest University, North Carolina), “Sizing-Up a ‘Model Tropical Town’: Imagination, Contestation, and the Making of Takoradi Township”


Jennifer Boylan (for Brenda Chalfin) (University of Florida),” Oil City versus Oil State? Takoradi, Ghana and Governance of Off-shore Oil”
1:45-5:00 pm SATURDAY
Mid-Day Excursion--Lake Bosomtwe
(Transportation Provided for Registered Participants)

7:00-9:30 pm SATURDAY
Closing Reception
The Residence of Agya Koo Nimoh

Sunday (26 May)

12:00 Noon
Bus Departs for Accra
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

To Our Sponsors, thank you!
GSA extends heartfelt thanks to the International Programs Office of KNUST for its generous support and the generosity of Mr. Vincent Dodoo, Head of Department of History and Political Studies, KNUST. The organisers are also grateful for generous support from Dartmouth College and the Institute of African Studies of Columbia University.

GSA is extremely grateful for the support of our official Institutional Co-Sponsors:

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Professor Wilhelmina Donkoh (KNUST, Ghana), Chair—Local Arrangements Committee

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