



Crossing Boundaries, Building Connections

- Faith, Scholarship, Activism
- Social Location, Social Differences, Social Justice
- Africa, Europe, the Americas

2019 Conference

Transatlantic Roundtable on Religion and Race
with Hekima College Institute of Peace Studies and International Relations

Old Divisions, New Social Formations: Africa and the Diaspora



July 1-5, 2019
Hekima Institute of Peace Studies and International
Relations
Nairobi, Kenya

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE

Mon-Tue, July 1-2: Pre-Conference Program

- July 1: 8:00-7:00 Leave from HIPSIR for immersion in Eastleigh (migrant area) and for cultural visits. (Lunch at mall, dinner at Carnivore restaurant. Each responsible for own meal costs).
- July 2: 9:00-4:00 Local community presentations at HIPSIR (lunch provided)

Wednesday, July 3: Conference Program

- 9:00 a.m. Invocation
Musical Selections (Dr. Stephanie Boddie, Baylor Univ., and others)
- 9:15 Welcome (Dr. Elias Opongo, HIPSIR)
- 9:20 Conference Purpose (Dr. William Ackah, Birkbeck Univ. of London)
- 9:30 Keynote Address: Bishop David Oginde, Christ is the Answer Ministry, Nairobi
- 10:30 Tea break
- 10:45 Plenary 1: Old Divisions, New Social Formations: East Africa Perspectives
- 12:30 Lunch
- 1:30 Plenary 2: Responses to Religious Diversities and Conflicts
- 3:15 Tea break
- 3:30 Concurrent panels 01 and 02
- 5:15 Adjournment

Thursday, July 4

- 9:00 a.m. Invocation (Rev. Dr. Waltrina Middleton, Transatlantic Roundtable)
Musical Selection (Jessica Disu, USA)
- 9:15 Plenary 3: Immigration as Crisis and Opportunity
- 11:00 Tea break
- 11:15 Concurrent panels 03 and 04
- 1:00 Lunch
- 2:00 Plenary 4: Resisting Patriarchy and Promoting Women's Empowerment
- 4:00 Tea break
- 4:15 Small group discussions
- 5:15 Adjournment

Friday, July 5

- 9:00 Invocation (Pastor James Okalo Ekweng, Truth Fountain Cathedral, Lira, Uganda)
Musical selection
- 9:15 Plenary 5: Toward Post-Colonial Formations of African Peoples
- 11:15 Tea break
- 11:30 Working Session on TRRR Strategies and Approaches (R. Drew Smith)
- 12:30 Lunch
- 1:30 Plenary 6: Cultures of Development, Empowerment, and Agency
- 3:15 Tea break
- 3:30 Small Group Discussions and Reports
- 5:15 Final Overview and Challenge (Elias Opongo and William Ackah)
- 5:30 Closing Music and Benediction

PANELS, PANELISTS, AND SPEAKERS

Plenary 1: Old Divisions, New Social Formations: East Africa Perspectives

Dr. Connie A. Mumma-Martinon, Univ. of Nairobi (Conflict and regional politics in East Africa and the Horn)
Dr. Philomena N. Mwaura, Kenyatta University
Dr. Elias Opongo, Hekima College/HIPSIR (Conflict and reconciliation in northern Uganda and South Sudan)
Ms. Lucy Poni, Hekima College/HIPSIR (Conflict and reconciliation in South Sudan and northern Uganda)

Plenary 2: Responses to Socio-Religious Diversities and Conflicts

Rev. Babila Fochang, Presbyterian Church of Cameroon (Mediation frameworks within the Cameroon conflict)
Prof. Richard N. Rwiza, Catholic University of Eastern Africa (Race and Catholic social teaching on conflict)
Dr. Ronald E. Peters, Presbyterian Church USA (Theological resourcing of cultures of cooperation)

Plenary 3: Immigration as Crisis and Opportunity

Prof. Miroljub Jevtić, University of Belgrade (Orthodox Christian responses to migrant crisis in Europe)
Mr. Sonari Chidi, Univ. of Pennsylvania (filmmaker) (Documentary film: "Shattering Refugee")

Plenary 4: Resisting Patriarchy and Promoting Women's Empowerment

E. E. Offiong, PhD. and A. E. Offiong LLB, Univ. of Calabar (Patriarchy and social development in Nigeria)
Rev. Cynthia Holder Rich, PhD, Tumaini Univ., Tanzania ('White' women in Protestant mission in Africa)
Dr. Eric M. Washington, Calvin College (Post-Colonial criticism of Igbo Christian patriarchy)
Dr. Jocelyn S. McGee, Baylor University (African grandmothers caring for vulnerable children)

Plenary 5: Toward Post-Colonial Formations of African Peoples

Rev. Menard Musendekwa, Reformed Church Univ. (New forms of dependence in [in]dependent Zimbabwe)
Mr. Mbhekeni Nkosi, Univ. of the Western Cape (Intellectual framings of South African social transformation)
Prof. Jualynne E. Dodson, Michigan State University (Conceptualizing race & religion in the African diaspora)
Dr. Melinda Contreras-Byrd, A.M.E. Ministerial Institute, Dominican Republic (Racism, evil, and overcoming)

Plenary 6: Cultures of Development, Empowerment, and Agency

Dr. Monwabisi Gantsho, Africa Rising Capital (HIV advocacy movement and women's health: S.Afri. and USA)
Dr. Stephanie Boddie (Baylor U.) & Dr. Trina Shanks (U. of Michigan), Collective asset building: race and rel.)
Dr. Veronica Gaylie, University of British Columbia (Kenyan children teach climate change)
Ms. Rosemary Wasilwa, Buckner Family Hope Centre, Kenya (Asset-based family and social development)

CONCURRENT PANELS

Panel 01: Theorizing Sources of Conflict Within Africa

Dr. James Mwita, Catholic University of East Africa (Church responses to ethnic land conflicts in Kenya)
Rev. Dibo Mathias Ngomo, Presbyterian Theo. Seminary, Cameroon (The Anglophone crisis in Cameroon)
Rev. Martin O. Wesonga, Bishop Hannington Inst. of Theo. and Development (Pol & rel authoritarianism: Afr)
Dr. Daniel Olisa Iweze, University of Benin, Nigeria (Interfaith dialogue and Boko Haram insurgency)

Panel 02: Religious Nationalist Identity in Africa and the Diaspora

Mr. E. Okelloh Ogera, Catholic Univ. of Eastern Afr. (Nationalist, ethnic, and rel. identity in post-colonial Kenya)
Dr Pauline Muir, Goldsmiths, University of London (Formations of African identity in congregational music)
Dr. E. Obiri Addo, Seton Hall Univ. (Home, belonging and Afro-diasporan dialogue)
Dr. Keith Augustus Burton, Claremont Lincoln Univ. (Separatist models of Afro-diasporan identity, USA)

Panel 03: Ideological and Governmental Strains on Democracy

Dr. Donn Worgs, Towson University (Typologies of black moral activism)

Dr. Michael R. Fisher, Jr., Wesley Seminary (Donald Trump, race representation, and the immigration debate)

Rev. Cobus van Wyngaard, Univ. of South Africa (Beyers Naudé on Apartheid as totalitarianism)

Mr. Fred Nyabera, Arigatou International (Religious and ethnic prejudice in Eastern Africa)

Panel 04: Identity and Socio-Cultural Formation Among African-Descended People

Dr. Eric Kyere, Indiana Univ.-Purdue Univ. (Liberation and identity formation among people of African descent)

Ms. Belinda T. Onyango, Baylor University (Advocacy against female genital mutilation in Northeastern Kenya)

Ms. Keyona Saquile Lazenby, Pacific School of Religion (Reconstructing the strong black woman narrative)

Dr. Mubarak Tukur, Umaru Musa Yar'Adua University, Nigeria (Muslim women scholars in N. Nigeria)

2019 Host Committee

Elias Opongo (Host convener); Nathan Chiroma (Kenya); Connie Mumma-Martinon (Kenya);
Philomena Mwaura (Kenya); Nancy Nyamolo (Kenya); Kifle Wansamo (Kenya)

2019 TRRR Coordinating Committee

William Ackah (chair); Stephanie Boddie (USA); Yolande Cadore (USA); Itumeleng Mothoagae (South Africa);
R. David Muir (UK); Ronald Nathan (UK); Elias Opongo (Kenya); R. Drew Smith (USA); Jamye Wooten (USA);
Gosnell Yorke (Zambia)

2019 Collaborating Institutions

