2nd Annual Mid-Atlantic and Great Lakes African Studies Conference

Pondering African Futures:
Technologies and Strategies for Growth

Saturday May 11, 2019
William Pitt Union
3959 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213
CONFERENCE AGENDA

8:30 - 9:30 am  Registration/Check In/Breakfast – William Pitt Union Ballroom

9:30 – 9:35 am  Opening Remarks from Yolanda Covington-Ward, Conference Organizer and Advisory Committee Member, African Studies Program

9:35 – 9:40 am  Welcome Remarks from Macrina Lelei, Associate Director, African Studies Program

9:40 – 9:45 am  Overview of Conference Logistics, Yolanda Covington-Ward

9:45 am  Take elevators upstairs to Fifth floor for concurrent panel sessions

SESSION I:  10:00 AM – 11:10 AM

Concurrent Panel A (10:00 am – 11:10 am, Room 540 WPU):
State Politics, Security, and Displacement

Chair: Buba Misawa, Washington and Jefferson College

Giving Them an Edge: Rethinking Refugee Education in Africa
Leonora Anyango-Kivuva, University of Pittsburgh

Explaining Compliance with the ECOWAS Regime on Small and Light Weapons: The Role of State Legitimacy
Daniel Banini, University of Central Florida

The Boko Haram Insurgency and Nigeria Foreign Aid Policy in West Africa: A New Security Environment
Buba Misawa, Washington and Jefferson College

Concurrent Panel B (10:00 am – 11:10 am, Room 527 WPU):
Critical Discussions on Poverty, Land rights, and Crop Production

Chair: Robert Maxon, West Virginia University

Large-scale Land acquisitions and the Dispossession of Poor Farmers in Sub-Saharan Africa: Why do Women in Cameroon, Ghana, and Uganda fit in?
Lotsmart Fonjong, University of Buea (Cameroon)

Poverty in Sub-Saharan Africa: The Impact of Historical Injustice versus Contemporary Injustice
Sylvanus Ayeni, Pan-Africa Children Advocacy Watch (PACAW) Inc.

Search for a Viable Vihiga: 1940’s to Present
Robert Maxon, West Virginia University
SESSION II: 11:20 AM – 12:30 PM

Concurrent Panel C (11:20 am – 12:30 pm, Room 540 WPU):
Developing People, Developing Nations: The Role of Education

Chair: Macrina Lelei, University of Pittsburgh

Potential Opportunities in Technical Education and Technology: The Case of South Sudan
Poggo Scopas, The Ohio State University

Mentorship and Faculty Development Programs for Africa-based Scholars: Best Practices
Henrike Florusbosch, University of Michigan

Quality Education for Africa's Future: Aligning the Curriculum to Contemporary Issues
Macrina Lelei, University of Pittsburgh & Emmanuel Wanjala, FLTA University of Pittsburgh

Concurrent Panel D (11:20 am – 12:30 pm, Room 527 WPU):
Pan-Africanism, Technology, and Medicine

Chair: Jean-Marie Makang, Frostburg State University

On the Social Discourses of Malariology: Africanus Horton and the Origins of Tropical Medicine
Oluwatoyin Oduntan, Towson University

Travel and Technology in the African Diaspora
Christina Harris, Temple University

Black Nationalism, Pan-Africanism, and White Nationalism
Jean-Marie Makang, Frostburg State University

BREAK FOR LUNCH

12:30 – 2:20 pm Lunch (featured keynote address by Patrick Manning, Andrew W. Mellon Professor of World History, Emeritus, at the University of Pittsburgh)
William Pitt Union Ballroom

2:20 – 2:30 pm Take Elevators to Fifth floor for concurrent panels

SESSION III: 2:30 – 4:00 PM

Concurrent Panel E (2:30 – 4:00 pm, Room 540 WPU):
Literacy, Social Media, and Local and International Power
Chair: Charles Lwanga, University of Pittsburgh

“But I Know You, You Are Not God”: African Responses to European Colonialism in “Mahoko a Becwana”
Stephen Volz, Kenyon College

The Aesthetic Politics of Vulgarity: Modern Media and Diasporic Citizenship in Senegal
Jason Buchea, The Ohio State University

Regime Consolidation and Regime Change: The Role of the International Community in Malawi, 1964-1994
Paul Chiudza Banda, West Virginia University

We’re Fighting for Freedom: Singing for Change, Contesting Greed in Postcolonial Uganda
Charles Lwanga, University of Pittsburgh

Concurrent Panel F (2:30 – 4:00 pm, Room 527 WPU):
African Perspectives on Democracy, Development, Philosophy, and Political Violence

Chair: Joshua Kivuva, University of Pittsburgh

Mandinka Philosophy and Ethics on How Societies Rise, Retrogress and Fall: Relevance to Contemporary Developments in Gambian Politics
Mariama Khan, Lehman College, City University of New York

Gift Kayira, West Virginia University

Assessing Relative Political Capacity, Political Violence, and Resource Politics in Sub-Saharan Africa
Orlandrew Danzell, Mercyhurst University

Africa’s Democracide: The Cost of Resurrection and Available Alternatives
Joshua Kivuva, University of Pittsburgh

BREAK FOR CLOSING

4:00 – 4:10 pm  Take Elevators to William Pitt Union Ballroom
4:10 – 4:35 pm  Advancing African Studies in the Region: Continuing a Discussion of Future Partnerships or Consortia
4:35 – 4:40 pm  Closing Remarks and Evaluations of Conference
4:40 pm  Departures
Prof. Patrick Manning

Andrew W. Mellon Professor of World History, Emeritus, University of Pittsburgh

Lecture Title:

African Population and Migration:
Past, Present, and Future

Patrick Manning is Andrew W. Mellon Professor of World History, Emeritus, at the University of Pittsburgh, where he served from 2008 to 2015 as founding director of the World History Center. Manning served as president of the American Historical Association in 2016-2017. Trained as a specialist in the economic history of Africa, he has become a specialist in world history overall, emphasizing the place of Africa and Africans in global affairs.
