



# AFRICA NETWORK

PROMOTING THE STUDY OF AFRICA IN  
THE NATION'S LIBERAL ARTS INSTITUTIONS

## Announcing the Annual Conference of THE AFRICA NETWORK

### AFRICA ON CAMPUS

*Enhancing The Place Of Africa  
Inside And Outside The Classroom*

**APRIL 17-19, 2009**

Hickory Ridge Marriott Conference Center  
Lisle, Illinois – Suburban Chicago

#### THE AFRICA NETWORK

The Africa Network is a growing national consortium of liberal arts colleges committed to literacy about and concern for Africa in American higher education. Some of the member colleges have substantial offerings in African studies; others have very little and are seeking, often with scarce resources, to enhance the representation of Africa in and outside the classroom. Through a variety of creative programs, including an annual conference, the Africa Network seeks to ensure a place for Africa on the agenda of a new generation of college students. Although the Africa Network is focused primarily on opportunities for the nation's private liberal arts colleges, faculty from public institutions and large research universities are invited to participate.

Last April, the Africa Network held its annual conference at Colorado College. The attendance exceeded expectations, and the theme of the conference, "Africa and the Liberal Arts," underscored the special opportunities that liberal arts institutions have for leadership and innovative contributions to the study and understanding of Africa. In the late summer (2008), the Africa Network learned that it had been awarded a grant from the Henry Luce Foundation to expand its programs. With the support provided by this grant, the Africa Network will be launching a pilot inter-institutional consultation program in 2009. Information concerning this program and other projects of the Africa Network can be found on the organization's website: [www.africanetwork.org](http://www.africanetwork.org).

#### AIMS OF THE CONFERENCE

The weekend conference will explore the diverse ways—inside and outside the classroom—in which colleges and universities represent Africa to the campus community. This theme will be developed in plenary sessions, concurrent panels, and through special evening presentations. In addition, the conference will offer valuable opportunities for informal discussion of "best practices" and the experience of conference participants in enhancing the place of Africa in the liberal arts curriculum.

The Africa Network aims to stimulate greater attention to Africa in the nation's liberal arts institutions. Its annual conference offers a forum for both veteran Africanists and newcomers to the study of Africa to discuss their interests and needs.

*The general public is invited.  
Membership in the Africa Network  
is not required for participation  
in the conference.*

#### PROGRAM SCHEDULE

##### Friday, April 17

4:00-7:00 p.m. Registration  
7:00-9:30 p.m. Dinner and Program  
*Speaker: Dr. William Moseley, Macalester College African Studies and the Area Studies Debate: A Liberal Arts College Perspective*

##### Saturday, April 18

8:00-9:00 a.m. Breakfast  
9:00-10:30 a.m. **PLENARY SESSION:**  
*The Experience of Africa: Students on Campus and Abroad—Panel Chaired by Dr. James Pletcher, Denison University*  
10:30-10:45 a.m. Coffee Break  
10:45-12:15 p.m. **CONCURRENT PANELS:**  
(1) *Africa on Campus through the Visual and Performing Arts*  
(2) *Understanding Africa through Film: Methods and Resources*  
12:30 p.m. Lunch  
1:30-3:00 p.m. **CONCURRENT PANELS:**  
(1) *The Role of Off-Campus Organizations in Enhancing the Understanding of Africa on Our Campuses*  
(2) *Africa's Place in the Design and Management of International Program Offices: Challenges and Exemplary Responses*  
3:00-3:15 p.m. Coffee Break  
3:15-5:30 p.m. **PLENARY SESSION:**  
*African Faculty and Students on the American Campus: Perspectives and Lessons—Panel Chaired by Dr. Joseph Mbele, St. Olaf College, Dr. Mwenda Ntarangwi, Calvin College*  
6:30-7:30 p.m. **Concert/Reception**  
*Wamidani: Wabash College African Music Ensemble, Dr. James Makubuya, Conductor*  
7:30-9:30 p.m. **Dinner and Program**  
*Advanced Screening of New Film*  
**Professor Cherif Keita, Carleton College**

##### Sunday, April 19

8:00-9:00 a.m. Breakfast  
9:00-10:30 a.m. **PLENARY SESSION:**  
*Shrinking Campus Funds and Support for African Studies: Projections and Strategies—Panel Chaired by Dr. Thomas L. Benson, World Leadership Corps*  
10:30-10:45 a.m. Coffee Break  
10:45-12:00 Open Business Meeting  
12:00 p.m. Lunch

#### CONFERENCE ADJOURNS

#### ACCOMMODATIONS

The Hickory Ridge Marriott Conference Hotel is conveniently located in suburban Chicago, between O'Hare and Midway Airports. The hotel, situated on a 26-acre campus, features well-appointed single and double rooms, with free hi-speed Internet access and work desks. The Africa Network has used the Hickory Ridge Marriott Conference Hotel in the past—as has the ASIANetwork—and we have found that the conference rooms, the dining facilities, and the private accommodations were ideally suited to our needs. The Africa Network plans to hold its annual spring meeting at the Hickory Ridge Marriott Conference Hotel in odd years and on member campuses in even years. (Next spring, 2010, the Africa Network will meet at Denison University in Granville, Ohio.)

#### TRAVEL INFORMATION

The conference hotel is equidistant from the two major airports in Chicago—O'Hare and Midway. Limousine service is available from both airports. Conference participants may call A-1 Limousine Service at (630) 833-3788 for advance reservations. The special conference rate (for events at the Hickory Ridge Conference Center) is \$24 each way. For those driving to the conference, maps and special directions for the Hickory Ridge Marriott Conference Center are available online. There is ample free parking available at the conference hotel.

#### CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

The deadline for conference registration is April 6, 2009. The conference registration fee of \$175 includes the conference fee, plus all the meals from Friday evening through Sunday lunch and the costs of the refreshments breaks and the use of the fitness center and other recreational facilities at the conference center. The conference room rate is \$96.57 per night for a single room and \$118.77 per night for a double room. (These rates include all taxes and fees.) Room reservations may be made directly by calling the Hickory Ridge Marriott Conference Center at (800) 334-0344. Be sure to identify yourself as a participant in the April 17-19 Africa Network Conference at the Hickory Ridge Marriott Conference Center in Lisle, Illinois. Registration for the conference may be completed online at [www.africanetwork.org](http://www.africanetwork.org). It is also possible to download the registration form from the website and mail it to:

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E-mail inquiries and telephone calls concerning the conference should be directed to:  
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