

Announcements

Second CODESRIA/CASB Summer School in African Studies and Area Studies in Africa

Dakar, Senegal 22 to 27 August 2016

Interdisciplinarity in Area Studies: Basic and Applied Research

The Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA) and The Centre for African Studies Basel (CASB) call for applications for the 2nd CODESRIA/CASB Summer School in African Studies and Area Studies in Africa.

The Summer School sets out to stimulate and consolidate interdisciplinary approaches in research on Africa, but also on other regions of the world undertaken from within the African continent. It focuses on African Studies as an instance of area studies and seeks to identify themes that are theoretically, conceptually and methodologically relevant to the reflection on the intellectual challenge of Africa as an object of knowledge and its contribution to general scholarship while inquiring into the relevance of the findings to African approaches to other regions. The goals of the Summer School can be broadly defined in the following manner:

- The Summer School allows PhD students, under the guidance of senior scholars, to engage critically with new theoretical, conceptual and methodological developments in African Studies and Area Studies in Africa in general and make them relevant to their work;
- The Summer School stimulates PhD students to reflect on the potential relevance of knowledge on Africa to the task of improving our theoretical, conceptual and methodological tools both for the disciplines as well as for interdisciplinary work;
- The Summer School fosters among PhD students a sense of belonging to a community of scholars in pursuit of knowledge and scholarship;
- The Summer School encourages junior scholars to work towards carving a space for African Studies or Area Studies in Africa in general in the broader field of scholarship and in this way helping to place Africa right at the centre of knowledge production.
- The Summer School serves to identify young scholars who wish to develop or finalise a PhD-project in the field of African Studies and Area Studies in general and to further support them in their pursuit of their career goals.
- The Summer School is offered with the generous support of the Oumou Dilly Foundation (Switzerland) in cooperation with CODESRIA and aims at strengthening the links between the community of scholars organized in the CODESRIA community and scholars from the African Studies community in Switzerland.

Experts

- Elísio Macamo (Summer School Director), Associate Professor of African Studies at the University of Basel (Switzerland)
- Ralph Weber, Assistant Professor of European Global Studies at the University of Basel (Switzerland)
- Jean-Bernard Ouédraogo, Directeur de recherche au CNRS/EHESS (France), Rédacteur en chef de la revue Method(e)s ;
- Nkolo Foe, Professeur titulaire en philosophie à l'Ecole supérieure de Yaoundé I, Cameroun

Format

The Summer School will be structured in such a way that each thematic issue will form the focus of a workshop. The first two thematic issues, namely (1) research design and (2) analytical design are theoretical in orientation. They will deal with texts addressing issues in the philosophy and methodology of the social sciences. The remaining three thematic issues, namely (3) practical design, (4) policy design and (5) evaluation design are practical, hands-on blocks which draw from participants' own research projects, country profiles and institutional backgrounds to translate research results into policy action.

Already in advance, the participants prepare written input based on their own research as well as on readings. During the course they form workgroups preparing inputs for and playing an active role in the different sessions

Application & Registration

The summer school is open for PhD students enrolled at an Institute of Higher Education in any country. We encourage the application of PhD students enrolled in African and Swiss institutions. Travel, accommodation and meals during the summer school will be provided for participants enrolled at institutions in Africa.

Participants will be selected on the strength and merits of:

1. One duly completed application form;
2. A cover letter;
3. A five-page application in which they explain: (a) what they are working on, and (b) how their work relates to the topic of the Summer School;

In addition, applications must be supported by a CV and two letters of recommendation.

Please submit your application as PDF to area.studies@codesria.sn (until 31 May 2016).

2016 Child and Youth Institute: African Futures and the Futures of Childhood in Africa

Dakar, 17 – 28 October, 2016

The Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA) is pleased to announce its 2016 Child and Youth Institute that will be held for two (2) weeks, from 17 to 28 October 2016. The institute is one of the components of the Child and Youth Studies Programme and is aimed at strengthening the analytic capacities of young African researchers on issues affecting children and youth in Africa and elsewhere in the world. The institute is designed as an annual interdisciplinary forum in which participants can reflect together on a specific aspect of the conditions of children and youth, especially in Africa.

Objectives

The main objectives of the Child and Youth Institute are to:

1. Encourage the sharing of experiences among researchers, civil society activists and policy makers from different disciplines, methodological and conceptual orientations and geographical/linguistic areas;
2. Promote and enhance a culture of democratic values that allows to effectively identify issues facing children and youth on the African continent; and
3. Foster the participation of scholars and researchers in discussions and debates on the processes of child and youth development in Africa.

African Futures and the Futures of Childhood in Africa

The theme of 2016 child and youth institute is "African futures and the futures of childhood in Africa", and explores the interface between the future aspirations of children and versions of African futures in order to develop insights into how children are both living embodiments and prospective agents of social transformation in African societies.

Laureates

Applicants should be PhD candidates or scholars in their early career with a proven capacity to conduct research on the theme of the Institute. Intellectuals active in the policy process and/or social movements and civil society organizations are also encouraged to apply. The number of places offered by CODESRIA at each session is limited to ten (10). Non-African scholars who are able to raise funds for their participation may also apply for a limited number of places.

Application for resource persons

Applications for the position of resource person should include:

1. An application letter;
2. A curriculum vitae;
3. Two (2) published papers;
4. A proposal of not more than five (5) pages in length, outlining the issues to be covered in their three (3) proposed lectures, including one on methodological issues;

Applications for laureates

Applications for the position of laureate should include:

1. One duly completed application form in word format;
2. An application letter;
3. A letter indicating institutional or organizational affiliation;
4. A curriculum vitae;
5. A research proposal not more than ten (10) pages including a descriptive analysis of the work the applicant intends to undertake, an outline of the theoretical interest of the topic chosen by the applicant, the relationship of the topic to the problematic and concerns of the theme of the 2016 Child and Youth Institute ;
6. Two (2) reference letters from scholars or researchers known for their competence and expertise in the candidate's research area (geographic and disciplinary), including their names, addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses;
7. A copy of the passport.

Submission of Applications

All applications should be sent electronically to: child.institute@codesria.sn.

For specific questions, please contact:

CODESRIACHILDANDYOUTHINSTITUTE

Tel.: (221) 33 825 98 21/22/23

Email: child.institute@codesria.sn

Deadline for the submission of applications

15 July 2016

Announcements

STIAS launches Iso Lomso Fellowships for Early Career Researchers

Iso Lomso, "the Eye of Tomorrow" in isiXhosa, is a new fellowship programme that will boost the careers of some of the brightest minds in African academia.

Early career African researchers who have completed their doctoral studies during the preceding eight years are invited to apply for the fellowship. For the 2016 call at least three candidates will be awarded a three-year Iso Lomso fellowship.

Fellows will spend various periods of residency at the STIAS Wallenberg Research Centre in Stellenbosch to pursue their research projects. They will also receive support to attend international conferences, convene workshops, and visit a sister institute for advanced study in North America, Europe or elsewhere.

"Iso Lomso signals our conviction that Africa's emerging scholars are more aware than ever of the importance of carving out their research niche", says STIAS Director, Prof Hendrik Geyer. "Africa's emerging position in the knowledge society means that the continent's research productivity is growing exponentially and STIAS provides a unique space to fuel this growth."

Iso Lomso recognises that for many younger academics the pressures of teaching, administration and contract work means

they receive little support and incentive to develop their research strengths. This programme will provide sustained research support to meet this need.

It fills the gap that often exists between completion of a Ph.D. and becoming an established scholar. While in residence, Iso Lomso fellows will find themselves in the company of leading scholars from around the world and from different disciplines. Informal research guidance from other fellows will form an integral part of life at STIAS.

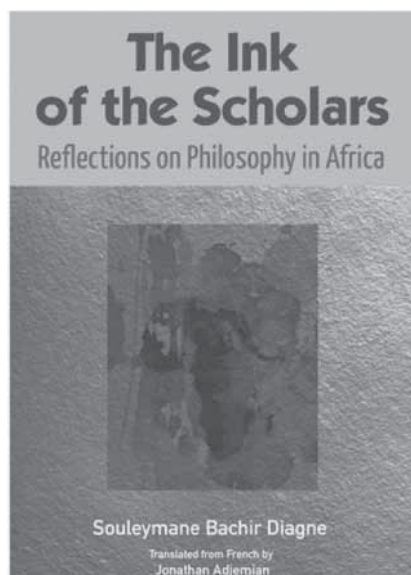
A unique element of Iso Lomso fellow-ships is that STIAS will offer lecturer replacement support to the home institutions of fellows during times of residency at STIAS. It also provides for a child care subsidy in the case of women fellows who are accompanied by young children during periods of residence at STIAS.

The call for applications is now open and can be found at www.stias.ac.za/iso-lomso/

Applications for the 2016 call close on **25 May 2016**. For any enquiries, contact the STIAS Programme Manager Dr Christoff Pauw, cpauw@sun.ac.za, tel. +27 21 808 9331.

The Ink of the Scholars *Reflections on Philosophy in Africa*

Souleymane Bachir Diagne
(Translated from French by Jonathan Adjemian)



What are the issues discussed today by African philosophers? Four important topics are identified here as important objects of philosophical reflection on the African continent. One is the question of ontology in relation to African religions and aesthetics. Another is the question of time and, in particular, of prospective thinking and development. A third issue is the task of reconstructing the intellectual history of the continent through the examination of the question of orality but also by taking into account the often neglected tradition of written erudition in Islamic centres of learning. Timbuktu is certainly the most important and most famous of such intellectual centres. The fourth question concerns political philosophy: the concept of "African socialisms" is revisited and the march that led to the adoption of the "African Charter of Human and Peoples' Rights" is examined. All these important issues are also fundamental to understanding the question of African languages and translation.