

UCI and Africa: Expanding Engagements, Ongoing Dialogues

December 6-7, 2012

The University of California, Irvine, is pleased to present ongoing work and collaborative projects with universities and non-governmental groups in Africa. These engagements represent a wide range of initiatives in the areas of fine arts, literature, finance, social media, religion, and social activism. These initiatives share a guiding philosophy of mutuality: we seek to engage, learn, and produce joint research, policy, and artistic endeavors. We are also working to enrich ties between universities, institutions and groups across our two continents. Participants include faculty from the University of Ghana-Legon, the University of KwaZulu-Natal, Kenyatta University, and the Université Cheikh Anta Diop, as well as faculty from UCI, other UC and North American campuses, and local and transnational NGO representatives.

To register for the conference, please go to:
<http://uciandafricaconference2012.eventbrite.com>

Thursday, Dec. 6
 Pacific Ballroom C, Student Center

- 10:30 Coffee & Refreshments
- 11:00 Welcome: Cecelia Lynch, Director, International Studies
 Opening Address: Michael Drake, M.D., Chancellor, UC Irvine
- 11:30 Honoring the Work of Ngugi wa Thiong'o
- 1:15 Lunch (provided), Guest Speaker Dr. Thomas Parham (Vice Chancellor Student Affairs)
- 2:30 Charity and/or Justice? The CIHA Blog takes the Great Humanitarian Debate to the Next Level
- 4:15 Coffee Break
- 5:00 International Studies Public Forum: "Fighting Words!: Protest and Popular Culture in Africa" (Held in SSPA 1100)

Friday, Dec. 7

Social and Behavioral Sciences Gateway 1517

8:30 Coffee & Refreshments

9:00 NGOs and Development

10:30 Coffee Break

10:45 NGOs, Consortia, and Sharing Virtual and Practical Knowledge

12:15 Lunch (provided) with undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty
Guest Speaker Marcella Khelif (The Study Abroad Center, UCI)

1:30 Collaborative Conversations: Exploring Artistic Connections between
Ghana and Africa-America

3:00 Coffee Break

3:15 Mobile Money Transformations in Africa: An IMTFI Roundtable

4:45 Conference Wrap-Up and Next Steps in Collaborations

The conference is sponsored by the UCI International Studies Program and the Center for Global Peace and Conflict Studies, with support from the Office of the Chancellor, the Office of the Vice Chancellor Student Affairs, the School of Social Sciences, the Division of Undergraduate Education, the Education Abroad Program, and the Institute for Money, Technology, and Financial Inclusion (IMTFI). We also gratefully acknowledge support from the Henry R. Luce Initiative on Religion and International Affairs.

For questions about the conference, please contact Tanya Schwarz at tschwarz@uci.edu.