Welcome back to all at the start of the fall semester of 2012-13. The happiest event of the summer was Assistant Director Christina Lux’s being named July Employee of the Month in a surprise visit to our offices by Vice Provost Diane Goddard and Recruitment Coordinator Lynn George. The award, which carries a cash prize, was a well-deserved recognition of Christina’s tireless efforts to keep the daily business of the Center moving along, even with the constraints of a shoestring budget. The many activities discussed here below and throughout the newsletter owe their success to Christina’s hard work and long hours. We are fortunate to have her as a colleague, and I know I speak for many in thanking her and offering congratulations!

Last year’s constrained budget remains the same for this coming year. Unfortunately that means that we cannot fund faculty research travel or related activities. The good news is that FLAS funding remains stable, so we are pleased to be supporting nine FLAS fellows this year. In addition, Ithar Hassaballa secured a WHO internship in Nairobi during the summer, which will complement her work as she embarks on a graduate degree program in Public Health at KU. That internship came from connections made through a USAID grant proposal collaboration with Professor Steven Fawcett, as KASC sought to support him in preparing African-related materials for his community toolbox project. KASC also collaborated with Charles Jones on a State Department grant proposal for reciprocal leadership exchanges between Egypt, Libya, and Tunisia. Another grant project, KASC’s own NEH
A proposal for a summer teacher training workshop on Islam in K-12 classes was not successful, but received sufficient positive feedback to encourage us to reapply.

The major outreach activity of the spring was our hosting of the 5th E. Desmond Lee Africa World Documentary Film Festival, which Christina Lux orchestrated from finding the $5000 funding for it to vetting the films in committee and staffing the screening of the films at the Spencer Art Museum. This three-day event screened twenty-one new documentary films made in and about Africa, and made by film makers from all over the world. Topics ranged from historical, cultural, religious and socio-political issues to human rights concerns. We had more than 750 audience members whose enthusiastic response led to a decision to make this an annual event.

KASC is delighted to note the accomplishments of recent graduates connected to KASC. Two AAAS graduate students successfully defended their Master’s theses on Africa-related topics. Ginger Feather’s thesis focused on women’s roles in North Africa: “A Muslim Feminist Interpretation of Women’s Empowerment and Gender Parity: Case Studies of Morocco and Egypt” and Erika Kraus’s thesis explored the spiritual relevance of traditional forested sites, “People and Forests: a Case Study from Benin, West Africa” focused on Benin. Ginger is pursuing a Ph.D. in Political Science here at KU, and Erika has received funding for her Ph.D. program at Michigan State University. In Geography, former Hausa FLAS student Hilary Hungerford, whose fieldwork was in Niger, completed her Ph.D. and found a job teaching at South Dakota State University in Brookings, South Dakota. Kundai Chirindo, Ph.D. in Communication Studies, was hired at Lewis and Clark University in Portland, Oregon. Another KU Ph.D. in Geography, Makame Muhajir, was hired at West Point Military Academy. Congratulations to them all.
NEW COURSE ANNOUNCEMENT

WEST AFRICAN DRUMMING

One credit hour class, meets Thursdays 7:30-9:30pm

Explore traditional West African drumming styles from Guinea, Senegal, Mali and Ghana

Open to students of all skill levels and majors

No previous experience or coursework required in order to enroll

INSTRUCTIONS TO ENROLL:
1. Log onto KU Enroll & Pay: sa.ku.edu
2. Search course catalog:
   PENS 252
   Class # 24844

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Contact Instructor
Dylan Bassett, dbassett@ku.edu
K-16+ WORKSHOPS

At the World Heritage Sites Teacher Workshop, Liz MacGonagle presented “Ghana’s Slave Forts Over Time” to 35 K-12 teachers from schools across Kansas including: Topeka, Lawrence, Kansas City, Wichita, Pleasant Hills, El Dorado, Shawnee Mission, Putnam City, Lansing, Douglass, Baldwin, Lenexa, Richmond, and Holton. This collaborative workshop involved all area studies centers.

The Graduate Research Workshop, initiated by Glenn Adams, featured 16 participants with presentations ranging from “Barack Obama and the African Idea” (Kundai Chirindo, Communication Studies) to “French and British Colonial Water Systems in West Africa” (Hilary Hungerford, Geography).
PUBLIC LECTURES

Our Ujamaa brown-bag series featured presentations ranging from reconciliation in Sierra Leone to the trans-Saharan slave trade. KASC also partnered with Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies to host a roundtable on the Nobel Peace Prize Laureates.

VIRTUAL ENGAGEMENT

We reached an average of 104 unique users a day through Facebook from January through August (the sub-total of our daily reach for this period was 23,590). Our peak reach for one day was 1,151 unique users, during our film festival.

ARTS IN THE COMMUNITY

KASC partnered with the Spencer Museum of Art and ‘Niyi Coker at UMSL to present the Africa World Documentary Film Festival at KU, which featured 21 films and brought in a total audience of almost 750+.

The Spencer Museum of Art is featuring the work of South African artist Mary Sibande in the Central Court from August 11, 2012-January 13, 2013. They are also featuring an exhibit curated by Burdet Loomis, “Politics as Symbol/Symbol as Politics” from July 17, 2012-January 27, 2013 that includes two textile pieces donated by Beverly Mack featuring: Shehu Shagari and Queen Elizabeth II.
Every summer the U.S. Department of State in cooperation with the Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC) supports intensive language training through the Critical Language Scholarship Program (CLS). I was one of 42 students chosen to study advanced Arabic for eight weeks in Tunisia. Our school, about 20 kilometers from downtown Tunis, was situated in Sidi Bou Said, a picturesque Mediterranean village distinguished for its whitewashed homes and blue doors.

With support from CEMAT (Centre d’études maghrébines à Tunis) we participants lived and breathed Arabic 24/7. Our days were packed; besides grammar classes in Modern Standard Arabic and Tunisian dialect we had speaking practice, tutoring, language socialization activities, lectures, and culture clubs. Weekly, prominent citizens from the government, the media, academia, and the arts spoke to us on current topics relevant to the North African country that sparked the Arab Spring. At one point, we were even exposed to the on-going flux Tunisia is still experiencing a year and a half after her revolution; the country was put under a mandatory three-day curfew after an art gallery, two blocks from my house, was ransacked by a fringe political group.

A unique aspect of the Tunisian program is the host family component. It was through this living arrangement that I learned some of my most meaningful lessons. I was placed in the home of a lovely Tunisian woman, Sophie Hanafi. Sophie, or ummi, became my second mother. We would often cook together. Several unique events afforded me the opportunity to learn typical Tunisian cuisine. I now can make zreer (in honor of a new birth), brik (a Ramandan specialty), and, my favorite, malawi (flat bread from the south). These cooking lessons gave me insight into Tunisian home culture as well as a private space in which to have deep conversations in a mixture of Tuni, Fusha, and French. Tunisia never ceased to excite. It was not unusual for me to attend a concert at the Carthage International Music Festival with 5,000 Tunisians or explore a forgotten Roman ruin alone. Every day I felt I was on sensory overload. One of my favorite pastimes was photographing political graffiti. Deciphering the language of the street gave me linguistic tools to communicate with my new friends. And, ultimately, that was what the CLS program represented for me: the life-changing opportunity to meet new people and make good friends in a language I love, Arabic.
FLAS FELLOWSHIPS
FOR FOREIGN LANGUAGE & AREA STUDIES

Would you like to
- Have your tuition covered and receive a stipend for living expenses
- Fulfill your foreign language requirements
- Expand your knowledge of world cultures

YOU CAN! Apply for FLAS fellowships offered by these KU Area Studies Centers!

- Kansas African Studies Center
- Center for East Asian Studies
- Center for Global & International Studies
- Center of Latin American Studies
- Center for Russian, East European & Eurasian Studies

Undergraduate Awards
Academic Year awards provide up to $10,000 for tuition (limited to the actual amount of tuition and fees) and a $5,000 stipend for living expenses.

Summer awards provide up to $5,000 for tuition and a stipend of $2,500 for living expenses.

Graduate Awards
Academic Year awards provide full KU tuition and a $15,000 stipend for living expenses.

Summer awards provide up to $5,000 for tuition and a stipend of $2,500 for living expenses.

Qualifying Languages include:
Amharic, Arabic, Bosnian-Croatian-Serbian, Czech, Chinese, Farsi, Haitian Creole, Hausa, Hebrew, Hindi, Japanese, Kaqchikel Maya, Kiswahili, Korean, Mongolian, Portuguese, Quichua, Russian, Slovene, Spanish, Tajik, Tibetan, Turkish, Ukrainian, Uyghur, Yiddish, Wolof.
*Other languages available on demand, inquire with the Center with whom you wish to apply.

Application Deadline: February 1, 2013

Open information sessions:
Alderson Auditorium in the Kansas Union from 3:00-4:30 pm on Wednesday, October 24th and Thursday, November 15th.
Faculty Updates

Beverly Mack, KASC Director, gave a Kansas Humanities Council Book Talk on *My Prison, My Home* by Haleh Esfandari at the Lakeview Village Lenexa March 2, was invited to lecture on 21st Century ‘Yan Taru at Columbia University NY on April 5th, for the Ifriqiyya Colloquium series in Columbia’s Institute of African Studies, and worked with ACTFL as Hausa Language Item Reviewer, Defense Language Institute, Monterey, CA, April and June 2012; in ACTFL offices, White Plains NY, May 2012.

Giselle Anatol, Associate Professor of English, held an 8-week fellowship at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture (April 23 - June 21, 2012). In May, she presented a paper on David Chariandy’s novel *Soucouyant* at the Association of Caribbean Women Writers and Scholars Conference, held this year in Suriname.

Christina Lux, Assistant Director of KASC, published an article on multilingual literature in the *Journal of Transnational American Studies* (June 2012) and her poetry is forthcoming in an edited collection, *150 Kansas Poems*, in November. She was elected to Unclassified Staff Senate for a two-year term and received the KU Unclassified Staff Employee of the Month Award in July 2012.

Margaret Pearce, Assistant Professor, Department of Geography and Affiliated faculty, Indigenous Studies Program, received 2 fellowships for 2012-2013 to support her work on building climate dialogue in Tanzania through cartography. One fellowship is with ACLS and one fellowship is with SAR.

Tashia Dare’s chapter “Parents Circle-Families Forum: An Illustration of Conflict Management and Transformation in Achieving Peace through Nonviolent Methods” is forthcoming in the book *Living in Peace: Insights from World Religions*. She presented a paper at the Mid-America Humanities Conference, received the Lewis Ethics Essay Award, and participated on an archaeological excavation in central Italy. At present, she is curating a small exhibit on Coptic (Egyptian) textiles at the Spencer Museum of Art.

Ebenezer Obadare, Associate Professor of Sociology, received an SSRC Research Grant for his project: “Repertoires of Devotion: Prayer and the Rise of Charismatic Islam”.

Elizabeth MacGonagle, Associate Professor of History, traveled to Mozambique for fieldwork on Mozambique Island, and in July she conducted research in Cape Town, South Africa.

Beverly Mack, KASC Director, gave a Kansas Humanities Council Book Talk on *My Prison, My Home* by Haleh Esfandari at the Lakeview Village Lenexa March 2, was invited to lecture on 21st Century ‘Yan Taru at Columbia University NY on April 5th, for the Ifriqiyya Colloquium series in Columbia’s Institute of African Studies, and worked with ACTFL as Hausa Language Item Reviewer, Defense Language Institute, Monterey, CA, April and June 2012; in ACTFL offices, White Plains NY, May 2012.

Giselle Anatol, Associate Professor of English, held an 8-week fellowship at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture (April 23 - June 21, 2012). In May, she presented a paper on David Chariandy’s novel *Soucouyant* at the Association of Caribbean Women Writers and Scholars Conference, held this year in Suriname.

Christina Lux, Assistant Director of KASC, published an article on multilingual literature in the *Journal of Transnational American Studies* (June 2012) and her poetry is forthcoming in an edited collection, *150 Kansas Poems*, in November. She was elected to Unclassified Staff Senate for a two-year term and received the KU Unclassified Staff Employee of the Month Award in July 2012.

Margaret Pearce, Assistant Professor, Department of Geography and Affiliated faculty, Indigenous Studies Program, received 2 fellowships for 2012-2013 to support her work on building climate dialogue in Tanzania through cartography. One fellowship is with ACLS and one fellowship is with SAR.

Tashia Dare’s chapter “Parents Circle-Families Forum: An Illustration of Conflict Management and Transformation in Achieving Peace through Nonviolent Methods” is forthcoming in the book *Living in Peace: Insights from World Religions*. She presented a paper at the Mid-America Humanities Conference, received the Lewis Ethics Essay Award, and participated on an archaeological excavation in central Italy. At present, she is curating a small exhibit on Coptic (Egyptian) textiles at the Spencer Museum of Art.

Ebenezer Obadare, Associate Professor of Sociology, received an SSRC Research Grant for his project: “Repertoires of Devotion: Prayer and the Rise of Charismatic Islam”.

Elizabeth MacGonagle, Associate Professor of History, traveled to Mozambique for fieldwork on Mozambique Island, and in July she conducted research in Cape Town, South Africa.
KU graduating senior **Sarafina Kankam** received the 2012 Campanile Award for her demonstrated leadership, character and respect for KU. Kankam co-founded KU Project Africa in 2009, a nonprofit organization. Read the full story here: http://www.news.ku.edu/2012/june/20/campanileaward.shtml

Faculty member, **John Janzen**, Professor of Anthropology, received a Fulbright Senior Research grant to Democratic Republic of Congo to teach and conduct research. Read the full story here: http://www.news.ku.edu/2012/may/16/facultyfulbrights.shtml

**Hyunjin Seo**, Assistant Professor of Journalism at KU, analyzed the increased Internet connectivity in the Middle East and North Africa during last year’s Arab Spring uprisings. She looks at the relationship between uprisings and the increased use of social media and Internet. Read the full story here: http://www.news.ku.edu/2012/january/24/arabspring.shtml

**Town Peterson**, University Distinguished Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology and curator in the Biodiversity Institute, received a JRS Biodiversity Foundation grant for training sessions on biodiversity informatics, to be held in four African nations: Ghana, South Africa, Kenya and Egypt. Read the full story here: http://www.news.ku.edu/2012/july/12/biodiversity.shtml

**FLAS FELLOWS (2012-2013)**

Tashia Dare  
Amy Hunt  
Baiba Sedriks  
Abdifatah Shafat  
Emily Stratton  
Katherine Farrell  
Justin Wade  
Michelle Wilson  
Laura Wiseman  
Ward Byers  
Jesse McClelland  
Jacob Minniear  
Jennifer Nish  
Jeri Gariglietti  
Katherine Farrell
There were two main objectives to my Health Promotion Internship with the World Health Organization (WHO) in Nairobi, Kenya during the summer of 2012. The first objective was to collect examples of health promotion efforts being done by organizations in Kenya. The second objective was to develop the Community Tool Box (ctb.ku.edu) by featuring the collected examples on the website to be used by community organizers across Africa as best practice examples.

My passion has always been to build capacity for community health work and decrease health disparities worldwide. I’ve learned a great deal about community improvement and this knowledge will help me with my graduate studies in Applied Behavioral Science and Public Health. The internship in Kenya was an excellent way to get first-hand experience in community work. Visiting a country for the sole purpose of learning the ways in which communities improve their lives through different initiatives was rewarding. Many believe that they can go to Africa to help people, but people must go to Africa to absorb knowledge from community members and share ideas.

Without the support of the Kansas African Studies Center (KASC), this trip would not be possible. KASC helped prepare me for my trip and supported me in every way. I’ve been encouraged to take this great opportunity and learn everything I can from it. Thank you KASC for supporting my aspirations and big dreams!
The Mid-America Alliance for African Studies invites scholars to submit conference papers and full panel proposals for the 2012 MAAAS conference, which will take place at the Hilton at the Ballpark Hotel in St. Louis on November 2-3, 2012 in conjunction with the 2012 conference of the International Studies Association Midwest (for more information, see the ISA Midwest website: http://webs.wichita.edu/?u=isamw).

The organizing theme of MAAAS 2012 is Africa and Her Resources. Despite prevailing representations that emphasize poverty, portrayals of the African continent have also emphasized abundant natural resources. Moreover, researchers in the humanities and social sciences have emphasized the extent to which cultural and intellectual contributions of African peoples have been rich resources of energy and imagination for creativity and sustainable human progress. Reflecting this broad understanding of “resources” we invite papers that address the conference theme from a range of disciplinary and theoretical orientations including (but not limited to) feminist, Pan-African and postcolonial perspectives in education, fine and performance arts, gender studies, language, literature, natural sciences, and social sciences. Of course, we enthusiastically welcome proposals that address topics beyond this organizing theme, too.

To propose a paper or panel, please send a 250-word abstract or panel description by September 1, 2012 to the following address:

Glenn Adams, MAAAS Vice President (2011-2012)
Department of Psychology, University of Kansas
Email: adams@ku.edu

For more information, please see the MAAAS website: http://associations.missouristate.edu/maaas/default.htm.

**Attention Graduate Students**

We also encourage graduate students to consider submitting their work for the Ken Lohrentz Graduate Paper Award. Submission of Graduate Papers for the Ken Lohrentz Graduate Paper Award must be received by Dr. Glenn Adams at adams@ku.edu no later than Friday, midnight CST, September 23, 2012. Please refer to the Graduate Paper Award Announcement for additional criteria online at http://associations.missouristate.edu/maaas/KenLohrentzAward.htm.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 19, 1-2:45pm</td>
<td>Language Buffet</td>
<td>Wescoe Hall, 4th floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 22, 3-4pm</td>
<td>Fall Reception</td>
<td>Bailey Hall, Room 208</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| August 29, 11:30-1pm  | **Ujamaa Brownbag:** “Health Promotion in Nairobi: Development of the Community Tool Box”  
Ithar Hassaballa, Doctoral Student, Public Health, KU  
Governor’s Room, Kansas Union | |
| September 12, 11:30-1pm | **Ujamaa Brownbag:** “Testing for Electoral Fraud in Contemporary African Elections”  
Ryan Gibb, Doctoral Candidate, Political Science, KU  
Governor’s Room, Kansas Union | |
| September 24, 3:30-5pm | **Gender Seminar:** “Efua Sutherland”  
Omolofolabo Ajayi-Soyinka, Professor, Women, Gender, & Sexuality Studies/Theatre, KU  
Hall Center Seminar Room | |
| October 17, 11:30-1pm | **Ujamaa Brownbag:** “An African Slaving Port and the Atlantic World: Benguela and its Hinterland”  
Mariana Candido, Assistant Professor of History, Princeton University  
Governor’s Room, Kansas Union | |
| October 29, 3:30-5pm  | **Gender Seminar:** “Building Community Networks to Address Gender Based Violence in South Africa”  
Hannah Britton, Associate Professor, Women, Gender, & Sexuality Studies/Political Science, KU  
Hall Center Seminar Room | |
| November 2-3          | **Mid-America Alliance for African Studies (MAAAS) Conference**  
St. Louis | |
| November 14, 12-1:30pm| **Ujamaa Brownbag:** “Navigating Nairobi: Artists in a Workshop System”  
Jessica Gerschultz, Assistant Professor, African & African-American Studies, KU  
Governor’s Room, Kansas Union | |
| November 26, 3:30-5pm | **Gender Seminar:** “Women’s Access to Credit in Africa”  
Elizabeth Asiedu, Professor, Economics, KU  
Hall Center Seminar Room | |
| November 29 - December 1 | **African Studies Association (ASA) Conference**  
Philadelphia | |
| December 7, 12-1pm    | **Stop Day Reception**                                                | Bailey Hall, Room 208            |

*Ujamaa Brownbags include an initial 30 minutes for lunch and networking, followed by the presentation and Q&A.*