

A black outline map of the African continent is centered on the page. The map includes the main landmass and several islands, including Madagascar and the Cape Verde archipelago. The western coast of Africa is shaded in a light gray color.

MAAAS 2025 Annual Conference
Mid-America Alliance for African Studies

Democracy and Environmental Justice

Lincoln University of Missouri
October 10 & 11, 2025

MAAAS 2025 Annual Conference: Democracy and Environmental Justice
Lincoln University of Missouri, Jefferson City, MO

October 10, 2025, Friday, 9:00 CT (14:00 UTC) – 4:30 PM (Check-in Opens at 8:15 AM) Opening & Keynote Address, Scruggs University Center Ballroom (SUC Ballroom) Concurrent Sessions in Page Library, Room 100 (Lib 100) & SUC Ballroom

8:15 – 9:00 (14:15 UTC) **Registration and breakfast table** (SUC ballroom, 2nd floor

and 2nd floor foyer) 9:00 – 9:30 **Opening Welcome** (SUC Ballroom)

Elizabeth Chunda, MAAAS President (2025-2026), Call to Order

Lincoln University Welcome Address

Glenn Adams, Director, Kansas African Studies Center (KASC), University of Kansas

Bukola Oyeniyi, African & African American Studies Committee, Missouri State University

Elizabeth Chunda, President, MAAAS, Closing Remarks

9:40 – 11:00 (14:45 UTC) **Keynote Address** (Virtual, <https://tinyurl.com/maaas2025a> Lib 100)

Settling Africa's Socioecological Debt: A Demand for Environmental Justice

Professor Maano Ramutsindela, Keynote Speaker

University of Cape Town, South Africa

Introduction by Elizabeth Chunda, President, MAAAS

11:00 – 11:15 (16:00UTC) **Break**

11:15 – 12:35: First Concurrent Sessions

(Lib100 <https://tinyurl.com/maaas2025a> and SUC Ballroom) Session A (Lib 100):

***Agency in Religion and Healthcare through Social Justice* Chairperson:** Jamaine Abidogun, Missouri State University

- ◇ Proposal on Tecno-Optimism and Medical Evangelism in Yorubaland: Nigerian Baptist Convention, 1975 – 1986 - (V) Olufemi T Ogunbode, Ladoka Akintola University, Nigeria
- ◇ Community Power and Equitable Justice: Religious and Community Leaders Addressing Intimate Partner Violence - (V) Ricka O Mammah, University of Kansas
- ◇ *Enhancing Professional Education through Collaborative Online International Learning Experiences: Notes from Recipients of KASC COIL Awards* - Glenn Adams, University of Kansas
 - Connecting Midwifery Students to Global Practice Through Collaborative Online International Learning - (V)Michell S Cochran, University of Kansas Nursing School & (V)Everlyn Nyangwaria-Rotich, University of Eldoret, Kenya
 - Embedding Global Health and Cultural Effectiveness in Academic Programs - (V)Lisa Trujillo, University of Kansas, School of Health Professions.

Session B (SUC Ballroom): *Governance, Democracy, and Environmental Social Justice.*

Chairperson: Bukola Oyeniyi, Missouri State University

- ◇ Fatshe Leno La Rona: An Assessment of Government Subsistence Agricultural Initiatives as a Pathway to Addressing Food Insecurity in Botswana - Boitshoko Molefhi, University of Toledo
- ◇ Oil Exploitation and Environmental Justice in Nigeria – The Challenge to Democratic Governance - Bukola Oyeniyi, Missouri State University
- ◇ AI, Democracy and Environmental Justice in Africa - Oluwakorede Ajibona, University of Kansas.

12:35 – 1:30 Lunch - LU cafeteria (SUC, first floor)

1:30 – 2:50 Second Concurrent Sessions (Lib 100 and SUC Ballroom)

Session A (Lib 100, <https://tinyurl.com/maaas2025a>): *Women's Agency, Art, and*

Social Justice Empowerment. **Chairperson:** Ashley Leinweber, Missouri State University

- ◇ From Survival to Thriving: Indigenous Women's Resilience and a Critique of Negro-Feminism – (V) Chibuzor Azubuike, University of Kansas
- ◇ New Democracy Art: Women, Art and Identity in an African Democracy - Adrienne Walker Hoard, University of Missouri-Columbia
- ◇ The Age of All Women: The Becoming of Younoussé Seye - Merve Fejzula, University of Missouri-Columbia
- ◇ Performing the Third Chimurenga - Shingi Mavima, University of Toledo

Session B (SUC Ballroom): *Identity and Gender - Mapping Socio-Cultural Strengths and Challenges*. **Chairperson:** Rachael L. Pasierowska, Lincoln University of Missouri

- ◇ Adapting Identities: Afro-Brazilians' Maintenance and Recreation of African Culture in Bahia, Brazil - Adedolapo A Adewuyi, University of Kansas
- ◇ The Attack on Women's Sexuality and Africa and its Relation to International Affairs - Abigail Hardwick, Missouri State University
- ◇ When Women Breathe, the Earth Breathes: Black and Brown Women at the Crossroads of Democracy and Environmental Justice - Tashja Dixon, Kansas City, MO.

3:00 – 4:30 Lincoln University Walking Tour and/or Archive Tour

6:30 [Koolruninyardis](#), 219 Madison Street, Jefferson City, MO
Registered Conference Participants

MAAAS 2025 Annual Conference: Democracy and Environmental Justice
Lincoln University of Missouri, Jefferson City, MO

October 11, 2025, Saturday, 9:00CT(14:00UTC) – 5:30 PM (Check-in
Opens at 8:15 AM) Keynote Address, Scruggs University Center Ballroom
(SUC Ballroom) Concurrent Sessions in Page Library, Room 100 (Lib 100) &
SUC Ballroom

8:15 – 9:00 **Registration and breakfast table** (SUC ballroom, 2nd floor and 2nd floor foyer)

9:00 – 10:20 **Keynote Address** (Virtual <https://tinyurl.com/maaas2025b>, Lib 100)

Democratic Backsliding: Perspectives from the Global South

Dr Egídio Estêvão Chaimite, Keynote Speaker

Eduardo Mondlane University, Maputo, Mozambique

CH Research and Consultancy, Mozambique

Introduction by Dr Brian Norris, Lincoln University of Missouri

10:20 – 10:35 **Break**

10:35 – 11:55 1st Concurrent Session (Lib 100 <https://tinyurl.com/maaas2025b> and SUC ballroom)

Session A (Lib 100): *Navigating Health Environmental Justice, Migration, and Immigration.*

Chairperson: Anatole Balma, US Army Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth

- ◇ An Assessment of Environmental Justice and Human Rights in Nigeria: A Health Perspective - (V) Agbo F Ojonugwa, Veritas University, Nigeria
- ◇ Extalgia and *Trauma in Situ*: The Continual Search for *Ori Olokun* in Wole Soyinka's *You Must Set Forth at Dawn* - (V) Senayon Olaoluwa, University of Ibadan, Nigeria
- ◇ Food and Food Spaces: Experiences of Nigerian Immigrants in Uptown Chicago - Osamamen O Oba Eduviere, University of Iowa
- ◇ A Taste of Home: Africans Growing Food and Community in Iowa City - Brady G'Sell, Iowa State University & Sunday Goshit, Iowa State University.

Session B (SUC Ballroom): *Social Justice – Children, Labor, Health and Community Activism.*

Chairperson: Julie Morris, University of Kansas

- ◇ A Cross-national Multicultural Analysis of the Definition and Measurement of Childhood Adversity - Omowunmi Olaleye, University of Kansas
- ◇ Silent Chains: Family and Religious Systems as Foundations of Child Slavery and Labor in Ghana - Patricia Quianoo, Jefferson City, MO
- ◇ Resisting Environment Justice in Nigeria – Community Activism and Democratic Accountability - Bukola Oyeniyi, Missouri State University.

11:55 – 12:55 Lunch prepared by international students (SUC ballroom)

12:55 – 2:15 2nd Concurrent (Lib 100 <https://tinyurl.com/maaas2025b> and SUC Ballroom)

Session A (Lib 100): *Democratic Governance and Issues Seeking Social Justice.*

Chairperson: Elizabeth Chunda, University of Kansas

- ◇ Is This the Beginning of the Third Congo War - Ashley Leinweber, Missouri State University
- ◇ Rural Mozambique's Remembrance of the Revolution Fifty Years Later - Brian Norris, Lincoln University of Missouri

- ◇ Oil Exploitation and Environmental Justice in Nigeria – The Challenge to Democratic Governance - Bukola Oyeniyi, Missouri State University.
- ◇ Westward Mobility of African Students across the Iron Curtain - Rou Hu, Washington University, St Louis.

Session B (SUC Ballroom): *Education, Science and the Search for Social Justice.*

Chairperson: Jamaine Abidogun, Missouri State University

- ◇ The Impact of Education on Democracy and Environmental Justice in Modern Africa - Anatole Balma, US Army Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth.
- ◇ The Wretched and the Damned: Frank Chapman's Prison Writings - Alexis Trouillot, University of Kansas
- ◇ Evaluating Post-Colonial Zimbabwean Education Policies through the Lens of the Capability-Based Theory of Social Justice - Angellar Manguvo, University of Missouri-Kansas City.

2:15 – 2:30 Break

2:30 – 3:50 MAAAS Annual Business Meeting (Lib 100)

4:00 – 5:30 Lincoln University Walking Tour and/or Archive Tour

Mid-America Alliance for African Studies (MAAAS)
recognizes and appreciates the support of this year's Host institution and Co-sponsors

Lincoln University of Missouri, Jefferson City, MO

Kansas African Studies Center (KASC), University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS

African & African American Studies Committee, Missouri State University, Springfield, MO

[Lincoln University of Missouri](#) linked map or insert map for location and parking

Mid-America Alliance for African Studies (MAAAS) is a Professional Academic Association dedicated to African and African Diaspora Studies. Thank you for your Participation

Contact Information: MAAASPP@gmail.com

View our Conference Information and Videos at <https://kasc.ku.edu/maaas-2025-conference>

