Director’s welcome

Welcome to IIAS, a very special research institute located in Accra, but with an international outlook. It brings together scholars based in Ghana and abroad, connects local and international scholarly debates, and facilitates dialogue between researchers and policy makers. Our website and this newsletter provides details of IIAS’s history, vision and mission, research clusters and publications of fellows, so I will use the rest of this brief welcome address to flag key developments in the past two years.

IIAS in August 2011 moved its offices to International House on the University of Ghana campus. This move has enabled it to benefit from both intellectual and administrative synergies. With office space and a seminar room/library that seats 50 people comfortably, our move to Legon has promoted our seminars and colloquia and given us more visibility. Oyarifa continues to function as the residential facility for IIAS. In 2011 we also recruited a dynamic executive administrator, Sabina Akwei Yeboah, to head our administration. Our office personnel are bilingual (English and French), reflecting our engagement with our francophone neighbors.

IIAS has welcomed a number of new fellows since 2010: Joshua Abor in finance, Lloyd Adu-Amoah in international relations (including China-Africa relations), and Olivia Kwapong in gender, adult and continuing education. This year, we will welcome Edward Kissi into fellowship, a diplomatic historian with expertise in human rights, genocide and famine relief. The Institute also affiliates senior scholars in the capacity of “research professors” and younger scholars in the capacity of “visiting researchers.” We welcome opportunities to incubate or house projects led by foreign-based scholars that mesh with IIAS’s research agenda.

In January 2013, I assumed the directorship of the Institute, and would want to express my sincere appreciation for the years of the Institute’s leadership under Irene Odotei.

We have also recently appointed Ama de-Graft Aikins to serve as deputy director, and are presently expanding our board of advisors. In ending, there are two specific research initiatives at the Institute that I would like to flag. The first reviews African cities from multi-disciplinary perspectives with a focus on everyday life and the semiotics of urbanism, built environment and the politics of space, town planning, sanitation and health. The second interrogates women and economic growth and development in Africa, with particular emphasis on female entrepreneurship. Here we are especially interested in examining the synergies between female economic activity in the formal and informal economies; how to scale up small and medium scale enterprises through technology and adult education; and the processes by which female entrepreneurs can be relocated from the informal to the formal economies. These are exciting times for the Institute and we actively encourage collaboration with other scholars and institutions.
ABOUT US

The International Institute for the Advanced Study of Cultures, Institutions and Economic Enterprise (IIAS) has been established in Accra, Ghana, to pursue multi-disciplinary research into African cultures, institutions (legal, social, cultural, political, economic, health), enterprise and everyday life as a platform for institutional reform and the creation of more supple structures to meet new challenges. Its quest is to develop African solutions to African problems, informed by current international scholarship, best policy practices, and emerging out of dialogue between academic researchers, policy makers, and government officials. (Read more on www.interias.org.gh)

RESEARCH CLUSTERS

The institute currently has six research areas which are organised around fellows’ disciplines and areas of expertise: (1) Health (2) Finance and Political Economy (3) Law and Ethics; (4) Gender and Development (5) Cities and Everyday Life (6) Policy and International Relations. Generally each research block begins with an international workshop or roundtable, which generates a set of research questions for fellows to develop projects around. The projects, though framed from the unique perspectives of particular disciplines, are conceptualized as multi-disciplinary drawing on internal expertise and from collaborations with visiting fellows.

1. Health (Prof. Emmanuel Akyeampong and Prof. Ama de-Graft Aikins)
2. Finance and Political Economy (Prof. Joshua Abor and Dr. William Baah-Boateng)
3. Law and Ethics (Dr. Raymond Atuguba)
4. Gender and Development (Prof. Irene K. Odotei and Prof. Olivia Kwapong)
5. Cities and Everyday Life (Prof. Ato Quayson)
6. Human Rights and International Relations (Dr. Lloyd Adu Amoah and Dr. Edward Kissi)

IIAS MAJOR CONFERENCES

1. Understanding African Poverty over the Long Duree - July 2010
2. AFRICA’S NEGLECTED EPIDEMIC: Multidisciplinary research, Intervention and Policy for Chronic Diseases
3. Workshop on Agricultural and Economic Development in Sub-Saharan Africa
4. Africa, Europe and the Americas: 1500 - 1700; A Two Week Workshop
IIAS Projects

Visiting Fellows
African Humanities Program (AHP) Fellowship

Since 2009, IIAS has hosted several Fellows from various African countries on the African Humanities Program (AHP). AHP Fellows from other African countries take up residencies with IIAS for a period of about two to three months to enable them carry out their research and writing. The American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS), in U.S.A provides visiting fellows with residential stipends. The main objective of this programme is to foster scholarly exchange and intellectual community among Fellows of African Humanities.

Some AHP Fellows and Prof. Irene K. Odotei (2nd left) of IIAS in a photograph 12-3-2013

“IInternational Remittances, Poverty and Inequality, the West Africa Case”.

IIAS, in collaboration with Centre Ivoirien de Recherche Economomiques et Sociales (CIRES), and the Centre for Demographic and Allied Research (CDAR) carried out a study on International Remittances, Poverty and Inequality. This three-country study commenced in 2010 and ended in January 2013. The Project was funded by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC).

The Project sought to analyse the impact of international remittances flow on national development in West Africa using Ghana, Ivory Coast and Nigeria as empirical case studies.
Updates from IIAS Fellows’ latest publications

IIAS is organised around nine fellows with established careers in history, finance, economics, cultural and literary studies, law, gender and policy studies, social psychology and health and international relations.

Professor Emmanuel Akyeampong’s publications (2010 – present)

Books


Journals


Professor Irene K. Odotei

Professor Odotei is the author of several publications, including Sea Power, Money Power: Migration of Ghanaian Fishermen and Women to the Republic of Benin (2000); The Artisanal Marine Fishing Industry: A Historical Review (2002); and Royal Rites: Death, Burial and Installation of an Asante King (2001). Her film documentaries have reviewed the funeral of the late Asantehene (King of Asante) Opoku Ware II and the installation of the present Asantehene Osei Tutu II.

Some of her film documentaries include:

- ‘Odupon Kesie Etutu’, (A Mighty tree has Fallen), A Video Documentary on the death and burial of the late Otumfuo Opoku-Ware II, Asantehene. Executive Producer Producer/Coordinator
- ‘Go Mu Brebre’ - AYIKESIE (The Great Funeral), A Video Documentary on the final funeral rites for the late Otumfuo Opoku Ware II.
- Fetu Afahye, A video documentary of the Fetu festival of the Chiefs and people of the Oguaa Traditional Area
- Afro European relations, slave trade, collaboration and trade.
Professor Ato Quayson’s publications (2010 – present)

Books

Selected Essays

Professor Joshua Abor’s publications (2010 – present)

Book

Journal Articles
- Abor, J. and Bokpin, G. (2010), Investment Opportunities, Corporate Finance and Dividend Payout Policy: Evidence from Emerg-
Professor Ama de-Graft Aikins’ publications (2010 – present)

Peer-reviewed journal articles (selected)


Dr. William Baah-Boateng’s publications (2010 – present)

**Baah-Boateng W** (2013) *Employment Creation Challenges, Relevant Policies and Employment Promotion in Ghana in Ghana’s Employment Challenges* Ghana Academy of Arts and Sciences Publication, Accra Ghana, **forthcoming**


Dr. Lloyd G. Adu Amoah’s publications (2010 – present)

Book

Journal Articles

Book Chapters

Professor Olivia Kwapong’s publications (2010 – present)

Book

Chapters in Books

Journal Articles
Dr. Raymond A. Atuguba’s publications (2010 – present)

**Refereed Journal Articles**
- Raymond A. Atuguba, “Women’s Survival in Ghana; What Has Law Got To Do With It?” (2012).
- Raymond A. Atuguba and John Kwabena Effah “The Legal Regulation of Electronic Commercial Transactions in Ghana: Ready or Not Here I come!” (2012).

**Shorter Refereed Journal Articles and Other Journal Articles**

**Refereed Book Chapters**

**Published Papers**

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