

I N T H I S I S S U E

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
FOR AFRICAN STUDIES
ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

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ASA NEWS

New Members	3
Business Meetings at the ASA Conference	3
Serving the ASA	3
1998 Annual Meeting Papers	3
1999 International Visitors Program	3
Distinguished Africanist Nominations	4
Herskovits Prize Nominations	4
1999 Text Prize Nominations	4
1998 Conover-Porter Winners	4
Africana Librarians' Council 1998 Report	5
1998 Herskovits Award Winner and Finalists	6
1999 ASA Annual Meeting	8
Panel/Roundtable or Individual Paper Proposal Form	13
1999 ASA Membership/Pre-registration Form	18
Announcements	20
Awards & Fellowships	20
Paper Calendar	21
Meeting Calendar	21
Employment Opportunities	21
Recent Doctoral Dissertations	22



ASA OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS 1998**OFFICERS**

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 Past President: **Sandra Greene** (Cornell University)
 Treasurer: **Mark Delancey** (Univ. of South Carolina)
 Acting Executive Director: **Allen Green** (Rutgers Univ.)

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 Julius Nyang'oro (Univ of North Carolina-Chapel Hill)
 Claire Robertson (Ohio State University)

RETIRING IN 1999

Judith Byfield (Dartmouth University)
 Frank Holmquist (Hampshire College)
 Omofolabo Soyinka (University of Kansas)

RETIRING IN 2000

Kenneth Harrow (Michigan State University)
 Dorothy Hodgson (Rutgers University)
 Eileen Julien (Indiana University)

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FROM THE ASSOCIATION'S PRESIDENT...**Changes for the African Studies Association in 1998-99**

The end of 1998 and the beginning of 1999 brings with it several transitions in the Association. We saw the departure of four members who have served on the Association Board for three years - Past President Gwendolyn Mikell and Board Members Professors Keletso E. Atkins, Julius E. Nyang'oro, and Claire Robertson. We owe a special word of thanks to them for the many hours of professional time and energy they gave us in the governance and direction of the ASA. We also have welcomed three new Board members to our table for the next three years, Professors Stephen Ndegwa, Richard Roberts, and Beverly Hawk with Vice President Lansine Kaba.

Christopher Koch, who has been Executive Director of the ASA since 1995, currently is on administrative leave. As a result, we have sought interim leadership for the Association's secretariat at its new locus in New Brunswick.

We are very pleased to report that we have obtained the assistance of Dr. Allen Green as Acting Executive Director of the Association beginning in December 1998 and continuing into the first half of 1999. Dr. Green brings us a great deal of experience and focus on Africa and excellent administrative experience. He completed his M.A. at the University of Dar es Salaam and his Ph.D. in African History at UCLA. His dissertation research concerned urban history in Tanzania with a focus on Moshi. He has served as a senior administrator at both the University of Pennsylvania and Wesleyan University. At Pennsylvania, he was Director of the African American Resource Center, and he taught in the History Department at Pennsylvania. At Wesleyan University, he was the Dean of the College. We are very pleased to welcome Dr. Green to this leadership role in the Association.

We owe a great deal to our staff in New Brunswick, especially Karen Bryant and Kelli Pereira, who provided the Association with competent operations in recent months and who gave us the administration needed to see us through the Chicago annual meeting. We have heard from most people that the Chicago meeting was a success with some excellent panels, and no major glitches were experienced excepting coping with a very large and sprawling hotel. Now, Dr. Green brings additional supervision and manpower to the office so that we launch the 1999 year's activities with new energy and good management.

Elsewhere in this News, please note the call for applications for the Executive Directorship, which will be accepted beginning February 15 and closing March 31, 1999. We are eager to find a person with excellent managerial and administrative skills as well as with significant Africa experience. This is an opportune moment for the African Studies Association. Our growth in the past two decades needs to continue, and it demands that we organize member services and annual meetings that are efficient, interesting, and engaging. Simultaneously, the growth of interest in Africa across the U.S. and abroad provides new leadership with an excellent opportunity to build our linkages with Africa. It also can bring additional support for broadened and deepened scholarship about Africa. And, concurrently, the Association can facili-

Continued on page 24