

ual:

📅 16 JUNE 2022

🕒 9.30- 16.15 (BST)

📍 ONLINE EVENT

THE AFRICA
REGIONAL GROUP
INVITES YOU
TO OUR FIRST AFRICA

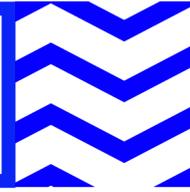
30th ANNUAL AFRICA DISCUSSION

LISTENING AND LEARNING FROM AFRICA: REIMAGINED PAN-AFRICAN SCHOLARLY PARTNERSHIP

ABOUT

Listening to Black African voices to recalibrate, rethink and adopt a strategic approach to developing partnerships with African scholars and universities.

AFRICAN CONTEXT



“By 2050, a quarter of the world’s people will be African – this will shape our future ... Africa’s unprecedented population growth will impact geopolitics, global trade, migration and almost every aspect of life. It’s time for a reimagining of the continent”.

Edward Paice, The Guardian, 20 January 2022

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Africa is forecast to have the largest workforce in the world by 2050 with one billion people under 25 years old, embracing the world of new digital technologies and innovation. Africa has a rich abundance of creativity, and is acting more strategically as a continent in its socio-economic development, despite a scarcity of financial capital. Africa’s cultural creative knowledge economy is growing, with Nigeria’s creative economy alone contributing US \$18 billion. Clearly there is a need to prioritise research and investment to achieve sustainable development and growth.

Africa still faces many socio-economic challenges routed in the structural consequences of colonialism. The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted

the consequences of the imbalance of power between African scholars and institutions globally, in research collaboration and knowledge exchange. It has put the spotlights on the impact of inequality in scholarly research outputs and knowledge exchange and has enabled space for a dialogue around possibilities for new ethical, equitable collaborative opportunities.

Despite the increased proliferation of African scholars, research revealed in 2018 that the quantity and quality of research to the knowledge space from Africa was only 3.5%, with 50% of this coming from South Africa. This research disclosed that the inequality and disparity in scholarly outputs and share of global knowledge are due to structural consequences of colonialism; imbalance

of power in the pattern of collaboration; funding and decision making; absence of ethical and equitable collaborative networks and partnerships; lack of capacity of researchers and supervisors to prepare scholars for the needs of Africa and wider global society; lack of research ecosystem and infrastructures.

ABSTRACT



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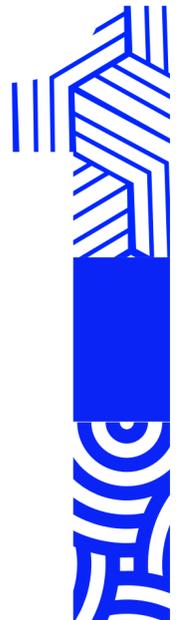
This Symposium is a repositioning in our engagement with Africa in line with UAL's new social purpose agenda. The Symposium is the start of a process to rethink, recalibrate, and adopt a strategic approach to developing ethical, equitable mutually beneficial longitudinal partnerships with African scholars and African universities.

African scholars on the ground and developed in consultation with colleagues across UAL, with a focus on voices of those of African heritage and scholars from the African continent. This requires being open to un-learning and re-learning from the philosophies and perspectives of African scholars from the African continent as well as from within UAL to address racial/social/climate justice and decolonisation.

The symposium will be a 'space' for listening, learning and taking action to effect significant culture change in research and knowledge exchange practices in a Pan-African diaspora context while seeking to establish transnational and interdisciplinary collaborations for critical enquiry and the co-production of knowledge exchange.

KEY QUESTIONS

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How do we develop collaboration that shifts the balance of power towards the empowerment of the African scholars; seeking African perspectives in finding local solutions for Africa and increase Africa's contribution to outputs and knowledge space globally?

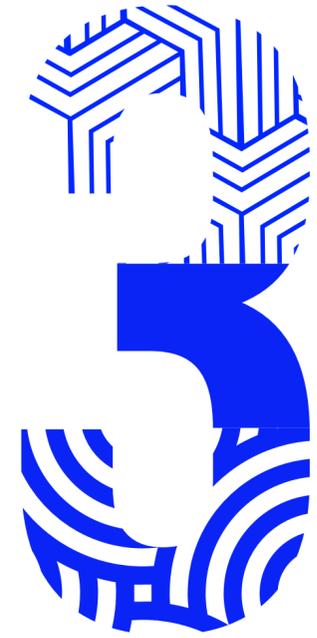
How do we support and collaborate on locally generated research and knowledge exchange projects led by African scholars with an understanding of local contexts?

How can partnerships with African scholars enable us to address the challenges of:

- Social Justice and Decolonisation
- Living with Environmental Change/ Climate Emergency
- Placemaking / Inclusive economies
- Community resilience
- Identities and Equity
- Sustainability & Resilience



How can we support the development and capacity of UAL/African Universities, to undertake collaborative PhD researchers and supervision; to ensure the next generation of researchers are connected to the wider global society in a way that is relevant to Africa and the UK?

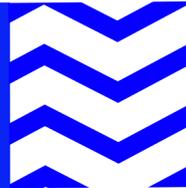


How can we further embrace/embed African thinking, perspectives, realities of African Scholars and African diaspora communities into our creative practices?



How can digital technologies enable us to develop more ethical and equitable learning opportunities, knowledge exchange and research collaboration with the African scholars and African universities?

SYMPOSIUM PROGRAMME



9.30 - 9.40

Co-Chairs, Africa Regional Group:

Maureen Salmon and Sophia Phoca

Welcome & Opening Remarks: A New Strategy for Africa

Introduction to the Symposium Programme

How can we influence culture change through cultivating dynamic relationships / partnerships with African scholars in UK and Africa?

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9.40 - 11.10

Chair: Professor Carol Tulloch - UAL

Speakers:

Professor David Mba - Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Research, Knowledge Exchange and Enterprise, UAL

Dr. James Otieno Jowi - Principal Education Officer, East African Community, Mori University; Founding Executive Director, African Network for Internationalization of Education (ANIE)

Dr. Emmanuel Abbey - UKRI Project Coordinator for ARUA's 13 Centres of Excellence, The African Research Universities Alliance (ARUA)

Speakers:

Professor Muyiwa Falaiye - Director of the Institute of African and Diaspora Studies, University of Lagos

Dr. Divine Fuh - Director, Institute for Humanities in Africa (HUMA), University of Cape Town

Session 1:

Social Purpose - 'Learning from Africa'

This session sets the scene from UAL and Africa perspectives.

The panel will explore the strategic opportunities for partnerships and collaboration with African universities and scholars.

How can we cultivate sustainable and equitable mutually beneficial learning partnerships, relevant to African and UK needs?

11.10 – 11.30

BREAK

Chair: Professor Paul Goodwin, UAL

11.30 – 13.00

Speakers:

Professor Toussaint Kafarhire Murhula President,
African Studies Association of Africa (ASAA)

Dr. René Alicia Smith - Head of School of Arts,
University of the Witwatersrand

Speakers:

Professor Taibat Lawanson - Professor of
Urban Planning, University of Lagos

Ojoma Ochai - Managing Partner, Creative
Economy Practice at Co-Creation Hub Nigeria
(CcHUB)

Oba Nsugbe - Chair, The Africa Centre

Session 2:

**Research, Enterprise and Knowledge
Exchange Partnerships and Collaboration**

*This session explore strategic development of
the African research, enterprise and knowledge
exchange ecosystem and infrastructure.*

The panel will address the challenges,
opportunities and solutions: inequality and
disparity in scholarly outputs and share global
knowledge; the ethical and equitable sustainable
transnational transdisciplinary collaborative
research partnerships; the value of the research
originated in Africa.

13.00 – 14.00

LUNCH

14.00 - 15.30

Co-Chairs:

Maureen Salmon and Professor Mark Sealy - UAL

Speakers:

• **The Politics of Scholarly Publishing in Africa: Emerging Challenges and Prospects**

Dr. Job Mwaura - Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Institute for Humanities in Africa (HUMA), University of Cape Town

• **Projecting an African-specific Voice in Law and Development Discourse**

Professor Mashood Baderin - Professor of Laws, SOAS, University of London

• **R0g_agency Project**

Dr. John Fass - Course Leader, MA User Experience Design, UAL

• **Countering online incitement to violence in South Sudan and Cameroon**

Tosin Animashawun - Chief Executive Officer, LGK Foundation LCF and LGK Foundation Collaboration

Speakers:

• **Global Photographies Project**

Professor Svea Josephy - Professor at the Michaelis School of Fine Art, University of Cape Town, South Africa

Duncan Wooldridge - Course Leader, BA Photography, UAL

Ranji Mangcu - Student, MA Fashion Communication: Fashion Critical Studies, UAL

• **Decolonised Academic Curriculum in Fashion Design Pedagogy in Africa**

Yvonne Ntiamoah - PhD Student, UAL

• **Responding to the Archive: Painting and Drawing Black Resistance Histories from the English-Speaking Caribbean, (1967-1976)**

Rudy Loewe - PhD Student, UAL

• **Conjunctural Encounters and Legacy in the Archive: The Life, Works, Mobilities and Philosophy of Ronald Moody (1900 – 1984)**

Ego Ahaiwe Sowinski - PhD Student, UAL

Q&A/Discussion

Session 3:

Showcase of transnational interdisciplinary Collaborative Research and Practice-based Projects from UK and Africa

This session brings together staff and students from UAL and Africa to share their transnational interdisciplinary research, projects and practices.

The session will take form of live and prerecorded 5-7 minutes PechaKucha-style presentations.

The recorded presentation will be played by video and the speakers who will all be present for discussion and Q&A

The themes of presentations will include:

- Social Justice and Decolonisation
- Living with Environmental Change / Climate Emergency
- Placemaking/Inclusive economies
- Community resilience
- Identities and Equity
- Sustainability & Resilience

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15.30 - 16.00

Maureen Salmon, Co-Chair, Africa Regional Group, UAL

Professor David Mba, Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Research, Knowledge Exchange and Enterprise, UAL

Closing Remarks: Actions/Next Steps

Contact:

Maureen Salmon

University of the Arts London

Design School, London College of Communication

E:m.salmon@lcc.arts.ac.uk