It has been a true honor and pleasure to helm the Center for African Studies this year. As always, our dynamic faculty, staff and students have infused each week with activities, conversations, and intellectual challenges. It’s a vibrant place—in all senses of the term—to work and simply to be.

CAS is moving forward on some long-standing objectives, including institutionalizing a preparation course for students participating in the Bing Overseas Studies Program in Cape Town (Grant Parker taught the pilot version this winter); providing more support for humanities offerings involving Africa; expanding overseas-study options for students into new parts of the continent; and broadening the reach of our undergraduate minor and graduate programs. A new graduate certificate will enable students in the professional schools to enrich their time at Stanford with a structured, rigorous engagement with African studies.

Thanks to the VPUE, we’ve added more security to the funding that has allowed students to stay on in Cape Town after the BOSP program to deepen their research and connections. Our scholarship and fellowship programs—supported by generous donations—continue to make undergraduate and graduate work in Africa easier and more effective. A “dream team” of CAS faculty—Jim Campbell, Jenna Davis, Joel Samoff, and David Abernethy—pioneered our first foray into the university’s new Thinking Matters program with our flagship undergraduate course, “Thinking through Africa.” Jim and Jenna will be joined by Jim Ferguson in next year’s version as we help a new generation of Stanford students learn to think critically about Africa and introduce them to the intellectual riches of CAS.

I’m particularly proud of the great collaborations we’ve had with Stanford’s Program in African and African American Studies, most spectacularly in the form of the visit by hip hop artist, activist, and educator Emile YX?. We look forward to deepening those connections in the future as we continue to spread awareness of the importance of contemporary Africa within the broader African diaspora.

A series of major academic events—on the Sahel crisis, the growing public role of Islam, and the maelstrom of conflicts in South Sudan, the Central African Republic, and the Democratic Republic of Congo—have highlighted CAS’ ability to respond with academic seriousness to current events in the continent.

In the end, this has been a bittersweet time for me as I’ll be moving on from Stanford next year and CAS will be welcoming a new director. Being more deeply involved with all the wonderful people who pass through CAS has given me new respect for all the amazing accomplishments of the Stanford community and the wide range of ways in which our students, faculty, and visitors engage Africa. The solid rock that is Laura Hubbard will maintain continuity in CAS and we invite everyone to stop by and to share in the vibrant community that is the Center for African Studies at Stanford.

SEAN HANRETTA
Ford Dorsey Director, Center for African Studies

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR
Anyone can walk into the Center for African Studies and feel welcome. CAS, as it is affectionately known to the Stanford community, is a thriving hub that facilitates discussion, collaboration, and fellowship among all those interested in Africa throughout the University and beyond. Our community of distinguished faculty, undergraduate and graduate students, fellows, scholars, staff, and alums connect over this shared interest in Africa and find a sense of camaraderie at CAS like nowhere else on campus.

Last year, CAS moved into a new space, and this year, the center and community have grown to fill the space with a vibrating energy felt in ripples throughout the campus. Through the numerous African languages offered, the fellowships and research opportunities sponsored by the center, and events that range from discussions on hip-hop in South Africa to business and design continent-wide, everyone can find a place at CAS.

Stewarded by our indomitable Associate Director, Dr. Laura Hubbard, the center is a valuable resource to all those interested in engaging with Africa. Regardless of your previous experience with the continent, all are invited to CAS to share ideas, formulate research questions, investigate opportunities to travel to Africa, learn about Africa-focused course offerings, or just say hello. Students and faculty are always present to answer questions and to discuss topics ranging from the proper way to Azonto (a popular Ghanaian style of dance), to energy grid planning in refugee camps, to problematic representations of Africa in Western literature.

This past year, we have witnessed with pride as the strength of CAS and our “CASfam” has fortified and blossomed. We have cheered on members of our community as they have traveled to places like South Africa, Uganda, and Burundi, formed new dance groups, organized conferences, and revived student publications. Stop by when you get a chance, you’re always welcome!
DUANA FULLWILEY  
Associate Professor, Anthropology

Duana Fullwiley is a brilliant resource for students with a keen interest in the anthropology of science and medicine in Africa. Her extraordinary ability to facilitate student engagement with complex theories and foster thought-provoking discussion leads to an engaging classroom experience. In courses such as Race and Power, she leads students in an exploration of how race is constructed, and in Medical Anthropology of Contemporary Africa she teaches how to approach Africa in the context of global health discourses. As a student of science and global health, my courses with Dr. Fullwiley have been absolutely vital to my studies.

Dr. Fullwiley studies how scientific professionals make sense of ethnic and racial identities. In her book, The Enculturated Gene; Sickle Cell Health Politics and Biological Difference in West Africa, she critically engages sickle cell disease, politics, and care in Senegal. She is currently working on a new book based on recent research entitled Tabula Raza: Mapping Race and Human Diversity in American Genome Science. Keep an eye out for this anticipated new publication.

- Angela Reese, MA African Studies, 2014

GRANT PARKER  
Associate Professor, Classics

Hailing from South Africa, Grant Parker is an Associate Professor of Classics.

He obtained his BA and MA degrees from the University of Cape Town and his PhD from Princeton. He teaches Latin, as well as topics linked to the exotic and geographic elements of Roman imperial culture. His book, The Making of Roman India, was published in 2008, while new projects have addressed ancient travel literature and Rome’s Egyptian obelisks.

Dr. Parker also has an interest in South African literature and the politics of heritage in South Africa. Susan Ford Dorsey Fellowship for Field Research in Africa recipient and fellow South African Jess Auerbach noted, “From the perspective of one who knows nothing at all about Classics, Grant has a wonderful ability to weave the histories he studies into his analysis of current events and to cast light on the present that seems to echo back many centuries of intelligent analysis. After every conversation I have with him, I come away thinking something entirely new, and as a young scholar I cannot begin to express how helpful these discussions have been to me.” Dr. Parker is also active in preparing students to go to Cape Town, and taught the pilot course launched in winter 2014 for students participating in the Bing Overseas Studies Program (see p. 21 “South African Encounters”).

As a Resident Fellow in Toyon Hall, Dr. Parker is a beloved mentor to his residents. Hassan Karaouni, a Resident Assistant who has worked with Grant for two years, adds “Grant has helped me and many members of Toyon’s community to navigate professional as well as non-academic pursuits at Stanford. Most impressive, however, is Grant’s capacity for warmth. In our shared work, Grant has been most defined by his ability to connect with students when they most need support. I am truly glad to have met Grant at Stanford. To me, Grant is more than a faculty member. He is an insightful mentor and caring friend.”

FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

SPOTLIGHT ON DR. JEREMY WEINSTEIN

CAS congratulates former Director of the Center for African Studies Dr. Jeremy Weinstein on his appointment to Chief of Staff to Samantha Power, the United States Ambassador to the United Nations. As Power’s top aide, Weinstein is the ambassador’s principal policy adviser, and plays a central role in advancing Power’s strategic priorities and U.S. foreign policy objectives at the U.N.

Weinstein has focused his scholarly research on civil wars and political violence; ethnic politics and the political economy of development; and democracy, accountability, and political change.
KENNEDY JAWOKO
John S. Knight Journalism Fellow, 2013-2014

In 1998, I traveled from Kampala, Uganda’s capital, to Nebbi, a rural district in northwestern Uganda. At the time, the region was rife with armed conflict. The Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA) was massacring civilians, disfiguring victims, kidnapping tens of thousands of children for use as child soldiers, and burning people alive. The LRA terrorized northern Uganda, appearing suddenly out of the dense forest to loot and take captives before vanishing again.

While the rebels were committing heinous crimes, the government of Uganda embarked on a campaign to liberalize the airwaves. That’s when a group of brave young journalists started a new radio station, which was the first private radio station covering northern Uganda, southern Sudan and vast parts of eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo. I became a journalist and became conscious of my responsibility to bear witness. Beginning my career in a conflict zone has shaped my journalism.

My Knight Journalism Fellowship at Stanford has afforded me with the opportunity to conduct extensive research and explore new ways to improve the quality of news and commentary that reaches audiences in conflict and post conflict societies such as South Sudan. In fact, this autumn I will be implementing a pilot project to build the professional capacity of South Sudanese journalists to effectively report on peacebuilding. I have negotiated partnerships with various organizations including universities and media outlets in South Sudan and the United States.

Together with Qian Kejin, a fellow Knight Fellow from China, I co-founded DragonLion, an investigative news and resource platform for African and Chinese journalists to effectively cover China’s economic activities in Africa. We believe that this is one of the most significant international relations issues of our time, which cries out for good investigative coverage by both African and Chinese journalists. DragonLion platform will be active in the next several months.

I want to continue to invest my strength, resources and intellect to enable journalists to amplify people’s voices and enable them to find solutions to their local challenges.

- Kennedy Jawoko, Knight Journalism Fellow, 2013-2014

RICHARD CHIVAKA
CAS/SEED Fellow, 2013-2014

Growing up in Africa, I noticed that many people work really hard and yet earn very little from mostly agriculture commodities. This is largely due to failure to add value to the commodity value chains, which are the processes and channels, from suppliers of suppliers through to distributors, that are needed to create and deliver products to end users. In my PhD studies, it became evident that value is created or lost within the value chain, and global commerce has now largely shifted away from competition between companies to competition between value chains. My interest is to explore value chain innovation opportunities within African small-to-medium scale enterprises as a way to create sustainable enterprises that provide job opportunities and decent incomes.

My research at the Center for African Studies and SEED seeks to understand value chain innovations that are impacting the performance of African organizations, the opportunities that exist to create value through such innovations, and the challenges encountered by organizations in different value chain configurations. My research investigates the specific ways in which value can occur within emerging economies’ value chains, and focuses on the implications for enterprise development and policy. The research seeks to provide clarity on what keeps institutional arrangements, such as cooperatives, intact in order to enable value creation to occur, and what motivates actors to widen the scope of their economic activities in spite of an increase in risk exposure. The research will also try to find ways to alleviate poverty through improved profitability and asset accumulation. Finally, I am interested in highlighting the implications of the above for policy interventions, and for the development community’s efforts in value chain development in poor communities.

My current field studies in Zimbabwe and South Africa will contribute to an understanding of the competitive benefits of cooperative business models in Zimbabwe, and the value chain innovations in the South African wine industry as talk of nationalization of land continues to pose a risk to the industry.

- Richard Chivaka, CAS/SEED Fellow, 2013-2014
Susan Ford Dorsey recipient Jess Auerbach has spent the past academic year in Benguela, Angola, where she has been conducting ethnographic research on the emergent Angolan middle class.

Angola suffered 27 years of brutal conflict, but is one of the world’s richest countries in terms of natural resources. After more than a decade of peace, the country is developing rapidly and both wealth and prosperity are becoming ever more visible despite significant challenges. Jess seeks to understand, through detailed interviews and observations, what the shift into peace, and with it capitalism, has meant for everyday people in everyday life.

She has worked principally with government employees, small business owners, educators, boy scouts, and university students and has gathered data that will bring light to both local and international influences on the emergence of the middle class. Her data includes material on race, citizenship, aspiration, and consumption, and specifically how these aspects of life are influenced by the historical realities of Portuguese colonialism.

JESS AUERBACH
2014 Recipient of the Susan Ford Dorsey Fellowship for Field Research in Africa
PhD Candidate, Anthropology

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CAMPUS RESEARCH PARTNERSHIP
TEAM CAS IN ZAMBIA

Last summer, CAS Associate Director Dr. Laura Hubbard and three CAS student affiliates traveled to Zambia with a team of researchers from the Graduate School of Business. The team’s critical, cross-discipline research investigated the role of transportation in health care worker productivity. “We mentored one another through constant feedback and exchange—an incredible example of the possibilities of collaboration,” said Hubbard. “I believe our most important contribution to the project was to share with the GSB-based researchers the creative and always social practices and networks built by the incredible and dedicated Zambian health care professionals to ensure health care at even the furthest outreach posts of the country.” As this collaboration with the GSB demonstrates, CAS’ partnerships have the added benefit of providing expanded research opportunities for students, and allow CAS students to share their expertise with various departments on campus.

From left to right: Jess Auerbach, Dr. Laura Hubbard, Mark Gardiner, Assistant Director for the Global Supply Chain Management Forum Davis Albohm, Vanessa Watters, and 2013 Susan Ford Dorsey Fellowship for Field Research in Africa Recipient Ken Opalo
KAREEM ALSTON
Senior, BA African & African American Studies | Rising MA, African Studies

My journey started over a year ago when I was a student in the Bing Overseas Studies Program in Cape Town. I had no intention of writing about hip hop or even finding hip hop in Cape Town, but very quickly, hip hop found me. The empowering, artistic, unique, and diverse aspects of hip hop culture were everywhere in Cape Town. You could see it in the style of clothes people wore, in the graffiti on the trains and under bridges, as well as the critical engagement with knowledge of identity and environment.

After constantly finding myself in creative spaces that were using the genre I loved so much to make powerful statements about life in South Africa, I knew I needed to return. The following summer, I was awarded a grant from UAR to do research on hip hop in Cape Town. A University of Cape Town professor told me that I should capture all of my research on a high-definition camera, because “No one’s really taken HD footage of this stuff before.” Thus, I embarked on a seven-week documentary/thesis project to learn about what made hip hop in Cape Town unique.

I learned how there was a deeply rooted history of hip hop practice in Cape Town, founded in a vehement resistance against apartheid. If you want to make it big in South African hip hop, you have to move to Jo’burg. However, since hip hop has been one of the very few widespread art forms with a focus on Black consciousness and identity, the various aspects of hip hop culture have remained an important part of life in Cape Town despite the lack of a formalized music industry.

I argue in my thesis and film that hip hop has been and continues to be a platform for which Black and ‘Coloured’ South Africans challenge the lasting legacy of apartheid. One of the main ways in which it does this is by providing a common space and identity to help bridge the divide between Black and ‘Coloured’ populations. Time and again, people have used hip hop to reimagine race, culture, and society, and I believe that the power of hip hop in Cape Town has yet to reach its full potential.

MORGAN ABBETT
Senior, BS Environmental Engineering | Rising MS, Environmental Engineering and Science

In the summer of 2013, I participated in research on wastewater reuse for agriculture in several Ugandan cities. In most cities in Uganda, wastewater from homes and businesses is treated in waste stabilization ponds, which use natural processes to reduce levels of harmful microbes and other contaminants. The ponds produce wastewater and biosolids, a solid material that collects at the bottom as a result of microbial processes. Some farmers who live near ponds use the low-cost, nutrient-rich wastewater and the biosolids to irrigate and fertilize their crops. This practice may improve the quality and quantity of crops, but may present health risks for farmers who handle the pond materials and for the people who consume the treated crops.

This research project investigated the motivations for farmers to treat or not to treat their crops with wastewater and biosolids. I spent most of my time in Kampala helping to prepare a survey that assessed farmers’ perceptions of the economic, social, and legal risks and benefits of using the pond materials and to train a team of Ugandan enumerators who administered the survey. I also traveled with the team to cities across Uganda to support data collection, entry, and analysis. Some of the biggest highlights of the summer were experiencing and exploring cities all over the country, learning a little Luganda, and getting to know the wonderful members of my research team. I extend sincere gratitude to Rebecca Gilsdorf for teaching and mentoring me and to the Civil and Environmental Engineering department and Undergraduate Advising and Research for funding my research.
FROSH FACES

Every September, CAS students and faculty look forward to meeting the new crop of freshmen. This year, we have benefitted so much from an influx of committed young leaders. From students who hear about the center through their Big Sibs, to those who wander to a CAS sponsored event, our CAS network has grown in numbers, but most importantly in spirit, as these young men and women become a part of our community. Whether tied to the center through an academic interest in Africa, personal connections to Africa and African studies, or just drawn in by our community, we can’t wait to see what these students accomplish in the years to come.

Chisom Oraeddu
Memphis, TN
My favorite memory of CAS was definitely the African Languages Night! It was so much fun to perform a skit with my Igbo class and to watch the presentations of all the other African language classes!

Omar Sow
Dakar, Senegal
Showing up to Africa Table was probably the best choice I’ve made since getting here, as finding CAS has been one of the most rewarding parts of my freshman year.

Chala Futa
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
My favorite thing about CAS is Africa Table. It’s one of the only places I can spend time with great people while also learning new things about the continent I call home.

Charles Mulemi
Bungoma, Kenya
I was lucky enough to meet Laura in my first week here at Stanford and I have been coming to CAS ever since.

Stanford Azonto, a new dance group with freshmen Kemi Lijadu and Muslia Munuvue, performs at the SASA Culture Show.
Musila Munuvue demonstrating his Azonto skills at the SASA Welcome Back party

Lucio Derry
Mwinmaarong
Betaglo-Nandom, Ghana
My favorite thing about CAS is that the people are friendly, welcoming, and host great events. And, the African food served there during events is amazing!

Job Nalianya
Bungoma, Kenya
I absolutely love Africa Table, I get to learn so much about my continent and think critically about the opportunities and problems in Africa.

Kemi Lijadu
Lagos, Nigeria
I came to African Languages night and loved the presentation by the Yoruba class! I was so happy to see that Stanford had a class in my native language!

Johnstone Kipyator
Eldoret, Kenya
My favorite things have to be the effort that CAS puts toward supporting African ideas, working round the clock to host speakers, holding round tables, and just having fun together.

Many of the freshmen have taken classes with older members of CAS, who regularly comment on how impressed they are by their younger counterparts’ contributions. One of the highlights of CAS’ weekly Africa Table is hearing freshmen engage with the speakers, offering nuanced and thoughtful questions that bring new light to the topics of discussion. This past year of accomplishments has left us excited to see the ways they will grow and transform Stanford as they continue in their undergraduate careers.
CAS 2013-2014 MA STUDENTS

**ANGELA REESE** earned a BS in Molecular and Cellular Biology and conducted biomedical research for several years before coming to Stanford. Her interest in African Studies was partially inspired by her public health research in Ethiopia. Angela studies racialized conceptions of genetics and disease in Africa and the United States, as well as Black American genetic ancestry politics. She has been studying Twi this year, and plans to spend time living and researching in Ghana this summer.

**NADEEM ANJARWALLA** is originally from Mombasa, Kenya, and studied in the UK, where he earned a degree in Philosophy, Politics and Economics from the University of Oxford and a Law degree from BPP Law School. The primary focus of his study surrounds the relationship between government policy and business development in Sub-Saharan Africa and how business models have adapted to the growing government intervention in the market economy. Prior to enrolling at Stanford, Nadeem was practicing law at a firm based in Nairobi.

**TAYLOR MAYOL** received her BA in International Relations and a minor in Economics from the University of Southern California. She studies interactions between identity and politics in the Great Lakes Region, with an emphasis on Rwanda’s political and economic future. Before joining CAS, Taylor spent a year as a Princeton in Africa Fellow with Blue Ventures in southwest Madagascar. Prior to that, she spent two years working in Washington, DC, first with the Africa Program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, and later with the International Rescue Committee working directly with resettled asylum-seekers. Taylor will spend the summer studying Kinyarwanda in Kigali, Rwanda.

**MONZURAT ONI** completed her BA at Stanford in International Relations and Middle Eastern Cultures. Prior to participating in the CAS program, she spent time in Morocco researching patterns and problems of Sub-Saharan migration through North Africa into Europe. As a Nigerian-American, Monzi is fascinated by the African "reaspora" and the power that expatriates and their children can have when engaging with communities in their countries of origin. Monzi will be spending the next year in the Nigerian youth-service program, a federal program designed to engage Nigerian youth in national service, and will be working on finding new and more impactful ways to engage the Nigerian Diaspora in shaping the country’s future.

**ALEXANDRA BRONER** has a BA Honors in International Relations from Stanford University. She is consolidating her regional specialization and quantitative/qualitative research training through an MA in African Studies with a concentration in political economy and security. Her primary focus is on public service delivery reform and public-private partnerships in West Africa. Alex has also worked as a Stanford research assistant, RTI research intern, USAID policy intern, SIG International Fellow in Ghana, and Graduate Teaching Assistant for Global Health. Following graduation, Alexandra will be working for the International Rescue Committee in Somalia as a 2014-2015 Princeton in Africa Fellow.
NISRIN ELAMIN is a second year Anthropology PhD student interested in how foreign land acquisitions in Sudan are reshaping social relations between various stakeholders with competing claims to land. She is particularly interested in how public authority and notions of citizenship and belonging are invoked, reconfigured, and contested through land disputes. Thanks to the CAS Summer Fellowship, Nisrin was able to conduct preliminary ethnographic research in the agricultural Gezira region, and begin exploring the role of Sufi religious leaders in mediating land disputes. Before coming to Stanford, Nisrin worked at Grassroots International, an organization dedicated to supporting the promotion of land and water rights, and taught in the U.S. and Tanzania.

STEPHANIE QUINN is a second year History PhD student focusing on the history of development, governance, and politics in Namibia during the late apartheid years. Her work as a Peace Corps English teacher in Namibia piqued her interest in southern Africa, and she is excited to return this summer to do archival research and conduct oral history interviews thanks to a CAS Summer Research Fellowship. Her work this summer will focus on the linked histories of Bantustan development corporations and legislative councils, the South West Africa Water and Electricity Corporation, and the United Nations Institute for Namibia.

REBECCA GILSDORF worked on drinking water and sanitation systems in Uganda and Sudan while completing her BS in Civil Engineering at UW-Madison. Now, as a PhD student in Environmental Engineering & Science, she studies wastewater treatment and reuse in urban and peri-urban settings. With the help of the CAS Research Fellowship she was able to go to Uganda to conduct extensive interviews with farmers using partially treated wastewater for irrigation and visit multiple wastewater treatment plants to assess their current performance. She also works on impact assessment for a microfinance project in Kenya aimed at spurring investment in water and sanitation improvements at the household level.

KELLEN HOXWORTH is a second year PhD student in Theater & Performance Studies. His research focuses on the global traffics of blackface minstrelsy in the nineteenth century, particularly in South Africa and India. In 2013, with the support of the CAS Summer Fellowship, Kellen began his dissertation research by enrolling in the UPenn IsiZulu Summer Language Program in KwaZulu-Natal and by exploring archives throughout South Africa. In 2014, thanks to continued support from CAS, he will return to South Africa to pursue archival research at the National Library in Cape Town and performance research at the National Arts Festival in Grahamstown.

DAVID HAUSMAN is a PhD candidate in Political Science jointly pursuing a JD at Stanford Law School. He has conducted empirical research on courts in South Africa, and is currently working on a project on arbitrariness in decision making by administrative courts in the United States. Before beginning at Stanford, David worked at the International Center for Transitional Justice in Cape Town, South Africa and the Innovations for Successful Societies project at Princeton.
In spring 2014, the Thinking Matters freshmen teaching program was thrilled to offer an introductory course on Africa called “Thinking through Africa: Perspectives on Well Being and Development”. This ambitious class was co-taught by four seasoned Africanists: David Abernethy from Political Science, Jim Campbell from History, Jenna Davis from Civil and Environmental Engineering, and Joel Samoff from the Center for African Studies. Working with the faculty were three Teaching Fellows from anthropology, history, and environmental studies. The teaching team brought over a century of research and teaching experience on Africa to the 60 students in the class.

On the first day of class, students were asked to write down words they associate with ‘Africa’, which were then displayed in a word cloud. The usual suspects dominated students’ incoming perceptions: “poverty”, “underdeveloped”, “desert”, “tribes”, and “development”. Over the next ten weeks, students explored Africa from a diversity of perspectives, including climate and geography, precolonial social structures, impacts of the transatlantic slave trade, colonialism, patterns of infrastructure, and recent trends in development. Lectures were rounded out with twice weekly discussion sections, one-on-one meetings with the teaching fellows, faculty lunches, and films. Connecting the diverse set of topics were the themes of well-being, development, and interrogating the assumptions which underlie our knowledge of a place as big and diverse as Africa. By the end of the quarter, students were able to engage in nuanced debates about complex topics, such as whether development assistance has aided or hurt Africa, the connections between well-being and infrastructure, and how the legacies of slave trade and colonialism continue to shape how both Africans and non-Africans think about the continent. Next year, award winning anthropology professor James Ferguson will be part of the teaching team, introducing a new cohort of students to the study of Africa.

- Andy Lyons, Thinking Matters Fellow

The Center for African Studies partnered with the Program in African & African American Studies in winter of 2014 to launch a pilot course intended to prepare students participating in the Bing Overseas Studies Program in Cape Town. South African Encounters was taught by Classics Professor Grant Parker, with Dr. Laura Hubbard and Kathryn Takabvirwa. The course was designed to help students understand some of the challenges and unique aspects of spending a quarter in South Africa, and will be required for all students studying in Cape Town moving forward.

According to participants of the class, the opportunity to learn basic Xhosa proved to be very useful once in South Africa. In addition, the personal narratives of Dr. Parker, a South African native, provided an authentic perspective through which to understand the country. A favorite experience was a historical guest lecture by Professor Jim Campbell that gave an in depth understanding of the history and cultural significance of the apartheid era. As the program in Cape Town becomes ever more popular, this critical course ensures students will have the necessary foundation to make the most of their experience.
Nigeria’s lingua franca is English, but the everyday talk in its vibrant streets reflects a spectrum of languages. Fortunately for me, as a cultural anthropology graduate student, I have had immensely valuable resources at hand at Stanford to study not one but two energetic Nigerian languages – Igbo and Yoruba.

I can easily say that African language instruction at Stanford goes far beyond rote memorization and dry grammar exercises. Under the instruction of Stanford’s Yoruba teacher, Adeyinka Fashokun, we were pushed to understand how languages embody philosophies about the body (directions refer to body parts), musicality (learning tones through the drum), and calculation (math is easier with the Yoruba number system!). In Gladys Ajaelo’s Igbo class, we moved through Igbo lessons with a strong emphasis on understanding the profound meanings of names and proverbs of Igbo religion and philosophy. We read ethical stories and watched Igbo Nollywood (Nigerian Hollywood) films, and were pushed to understand that the complexity of Igbo language extends beyond literal words to body language (tone, volume, gestures to emphasize importance) and metaphor or descriptive phrases (“I love you” translates to “I see you with my eyes”).

At the end of the year, the Yoruba class celebrated at a Nigerian restaurant field trip in Oakland where we dined on spicy stews. In Igbo class, we attended a Nigerian wedding in San Francisco of two Igbo Stanford alumni! Given that my research focuses primarily on young Igbo-speaking merchants who travel across the Middle East and Asia, knowing basic Igbo has opened up many conversations with people—their eyes light up when they hear a familiar language far from home! Upon arrival in Nigeria for fieldwork, I realized how useful learning basic Yoruba was to navigate the Lagos public transportation system and picking up tidbits of Nigerian pidgin on the street. I’d like to say a big “ẹ sé” and “imeela” to African languages at Stanford.

- Vivian Chenxue Lu, PhD Candidate, Cultural Anthropology
CRITICAL CONVERSATIONS

BEYOND THE ISLAMIC PUBLIC SPHERE IN AFRICA

This year’s Abbasi Program in Islamic Studies conference *Beyond the Islamic Public Sphere in Africa*, with the support of the Center for African Studies, brought professors from across the United States, Germany and South Africa to Stanford to explore crucial questions related to the concept of the “public sphere” in the Muslim World. Transcending a variety of frameworks, but looking specifically within the context of Muslim Africa in the last one-hundred plus years, the conference was divided into three thematic sessions: Communication and Power, Communities of Concerns and Procedures, and Religious Authority and Political Resources. From “Popular Photography, Public Spaces and the ‘Aesthetics of Withdrawal’ along the East African Coast” to “Muslim Women Leaders and Legal Reform Movements in Postcolonial Kenya,” the discussion among conference participants was both fascinating and challenging. Professors and students together sorted through ideas of Salafism, civil society, media, and new publics to determine what other theories and new frameworks might better direct us towards unasked questions and understudied processes of the public/private phenomena of Muslim Africa.

POLITICAL THEORY AND PRACTICE IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN CRISIS

On May 16th, the Center for African Studies brought together academics from across the United States to analyze the political and theoretical implications of the recent eruption of conflict in South Sudan and the Central African Republic, against the backdrop of ongoing fighting in Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo. The symposium, *Political Theory and Practice in the Central African Crises*, examined the driving forces behind the conflicts and how they could be understood or pushed back against, in light of accepted theories of conflict, international relations, and state sovereignty. Presenters included Dr. Georges Nzongola-Ntalaja (University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill), Dr. James Smith (University of California-Davis), Dr. Anne Bartlett (University of San Francisco), and Dr. Louisa Lombard (Yale University).

Experts weighed in on topics including the importance of state capacity in unstable zones, artisanal mining of conflict minerals, historical ties between conservation and armed rebellion, and contested borders in the region.

The audience of Stanford students, faculty, visiting scholars, and Bay Area academics further engaged with the presenters through lively question and answer sessions. All presenters emphasized the need to look beyond the headlines and analyze the historical and political contexts of these ongoing conflicts to better understand why and how conflicts develop.

- Taylor Mayol, MA African Studies, 2014

Left to Right: Dr. James Smith, Dr. Georges Nzongola-Ntalaja, Dr. Anne Bartlett, and Dr. Louisa Lombard
In summer 2013, nearly 200 Stanford students and faculty traveled to Africa. The Stanford community engaged with the continent through business school partnerships, economics research, internships, service, fellowships sponsored by the Center, and more. As a follow-up to the Going to Africa event, hosted the previous spring, CAS held a mini retreat for members of the Stanford community who were returning from the continent. At the retreat, faculty led discussion groups that allowed PhD candidates to discuss findings for their dissertations. Undergraduates were similarly able to discuss their summer work within the framework of their honors theses. As more members of the Stanford community work and study in Africa, it is crucial to maintain these opportunities for introspection and shared reflection for students writing theses and dissertations, as well as those engaging in work and service on the continent.
"You were put on this earth to contribute to your own uniqueness, rhythm and being in the world...not to regurgitate information... ."

Listed above is one of the many inspirational messages relayed during a conversation with Cape Town hip hop heads Emile YX? and Shaheen Areifdein. I had the pleasure of being among the facilitators of one of our best Africa Tables of the quarter: Shaheen and Emile joined us for a discussion of the always complex, contradictory, and beautiful nature of hip hop both in general and specific to Cape Town. Not only are they both talented MCs with a mission to educate, liberate, and fight through their always politically aware and hypercritical lyricism, but they are also involved with youth programs that use hip hop education as a tool for social justice.

Speaking of education, Emile and Shaheen were introduced to a very different type of educational context in April, thousands of miles away from where they work. Given that Shaheen and Emile both identify as anti-imperialists, I was curious how their politics would play out at an elite American educational institution. But the points of connection were many. Shaheen approached his discussion of Hip Hop and activism as a response to global injustices from a point of spirituality and humanism, while Emile spoke about how his years of continuous work with youth influenced his politics and ideas on what we were each put on this earth to do.

From a lunchtime conversation with visiting scholar Henrik Ernstson, to a panel delivered to a packed audience, to lectures in the AAAS department’s 5th Element class, Emile and Shaheen left their mark on our campus. Emile and Shaheen pushed us to engage in new ways when we bring artistic creation to academic discussions of a “post-apartheid” South Africa. Because Hip Hop is the Truth.

- Atheel Elmalik, Junior, BA Anthropology
When Kenyan pop artist David Mathenge, better known as Nameless, came to Stanford in April for the SASA African Culture Show, we were lucky enough to spend time with him off stage through both formal and informal events. We took this opportunity to get to know more about his experience as one of Kenya’s top artists.

With his distinct musical style, Nameless has proven that Kenya has its own musical talent that can be showcased internationally. Since his debut 13 years ago, Nameless has been the epitome of new age Kenyan music. His name is ever present in discussions concerning Kenyan contemporary entertainment at home and within the international sphere.

Stanford African Students’ Association (SASA) collaborated with the CAS to host a Q&A session and a dinner with Nameless, providing a more intimate space where several students got to know Nameless on a personal level. During dinner, he spoke more about his musical career, educational training as an architect, and work-life balance as he seeks to spend time with his family amid a busy travelling schedule. The students were particularly interested in the role of music in politics and the celebrity endorsement politicians often seek during campaigns.

Nameless also immersed himself in the African community at Stanford by relaxing in the CAS lounge and participating in the weekly Africa Table. He was intrigued by the diversity at Stanford, represented by the audience at the Culture Show. He parted with the Stanford community by encouraging us to “represent where you are from” as he performed his hit song, “Coming Home,” to end the show.

- Mark Koskei, Senior, BA Economics
The Stanford African Students’ Association (SASA) is a student organization committed to fostering cultural, political, and social awareness about Africa, promoting dialogue about pertinent issues affecting the continent, creating an intellectual and social space for Africans at Stanford, and fostering fellowship among SASA and members of the Stanford and Bay Area community at large.

Our biggest event this year was the SASA Culture Show, hosted at CEMEX Auditorium with a fully packed audience. The headline performance was home grown Kenyan Artist David Mathenge, also known as “Nameless.” His diverse musical styles that incorporate Afro Hip Hop, rap rhythm and reggae dance hall, has led him to the forefront of East African music. With his charisma and vibrant personality, Nameless captured the hearts of the many Stanford students and affiliates who got the chance to meet with him, and needless to say, he left Stanford University with an entourage of new fans.

Also among those performing at the SASA Culture Show were Kenyan natives Longombas, a multi award winning afro/pop band; Tawanda muChinyakare, a Zimbabwean music and dance ensemble; Zipho Sikhakhane, a published author and poet from South Africa and student at the Stanford Graduate School of Business; Elliot Williams, poet and Stanford undergraduate majoring in African and African American Studies; and the debut of SASA’s own Stanford Azonto, showcasing the most popular African dance moves.

In addition to the SASA Culture Show, SASA collaborated with the CAS and various other student organizations to bring the community together during the most tragic moments of the year. SASA was involved in organizing the candlelight vigil for those affected by the shooting at Westgate Mall in Nairobi, Kenya; putting together an event to show support for the Nigerian people affected by the Boko Haram kidnapping of schoolgirls; and helping to organize the memorial held to honor the passing of Nelson Mandela.

- Saida Ali, Sophomore, BA Anthropology
The informal economy employs 1.8 billion people and is worth 10 trillion dollars a year. A woman selling bread on the side of the road in Myanmar is part of the informal economy. So is the owner of a mobile phone repair kiosk in Nigeria. So is a farmer in Afghanistan who is growing poppy to be turned into opium.

The 2014 SAID conference explored the themes that tie these people together. The conference featured three panels that focused on innovation and technology in the informal economy, achieving stability, and the future of the global informal economy. Speakers from around the world and every sector—from government to NGOs to the business sector—discussed questions such as: What innovations have arisen out of the informal economy? How is the nefarious side of the informal economy related to the rest of the economy? How will new technologies and a changing global order shape the future of the informal economy?

This year’s conference also featured a series of interactive events for the first time. There were two focus groups with Pacific Links and Benetech as well as a design thinking workshop in partnership with Mobile Metrix and Stanford Design Initiative. The lunch-time conference career fair brought organizations involved in international development from around the Bay Area.

- Sarah Johnson, Sophomore, Economics
SOLIDARITY AND REFLECTION

This year, the African community was rocked by several sobering events. As global citizens, the Stanford community reacted in solidarity and with compassion.

REMEMBERING THE VICTIMS OF WESTGATE: A REFLECTION

In September I was asked to speak at the vigil by the organizers Nadeem Anjarwalla and Tamer Shabani. I shared with the Stanford community that, as a Kenyan, I was incredibly saddened to hear of the attacks at the Westgate Mall, and all of the people who had been injured or lost their lives or loved ones. I myself had been at the mall only a week earlier when I was visiting home, so I was truly shaken to hear the news. During the vigil, I shared that the Kenyan people would be resilient as ever, despite the cruel actions of those people trying to make our country a fearful place. Despite the attacks, I do not believe that anyone should be afraid of visiting our beautiful country. The Kenyan community at Stanford is strong, and I asked that we remain united during such a time of grief. I also expressed my gratitude for those who were in attendance because of the moral support that they offered to myself and other members of the Kenyan community.

- Samuel Mukoma, Lecturer, Swahili

IN SOLIDARITY WITH THE NIGERIAN PEOPLE

Over 200 young women were kidnapped in Chibok, Nigeria on April 14, 2014. Sadly, even after four weeks, there was little information on their whereabouts. The Nigerian government and the world awakened to this atrocity only weeks after the abduction, sparking questions of what should and could have been done. For years, Boko Haram has inflicted terror in the hearts of many in the northeast of Nigeria. With this recent abduction, the rest of the world is just now viewing a snapshot of their terror.

A group of Stanford students, departments, and community centers came together on May 15th to provide a safe space where everyone could show their support and inform their conversations and activism. Professor Sean Hanretta, graduate students Nirsin Elamin and Uche Monu, and freshman Musila Munuvue detailed the circumstances surrounding the abduction, and acknowledged the historical depth of the situation and controversy surrounding the #bringbackourgirls social media campaign. Students were encouraged to first and foremost look towards activities on the ground in Nigeria to inform their support and activist voice.

Three Nigerian students: second-year MBA student Ope Aladekomo, Kemi Lijadu ’16, and Muzzammil Shittu ’17, voiced their frustrations, fears, and hope for a positive outcome. A candle-lit vigil and photo campaign closed out the event.

The hope is that these young women are safely returned and begin on the road to recovery as we collectively harness our expertise and energy towards long term solutions.

- Uche Monu, Fifth Year PhD Student, Electrical Engineering
Nelson Mandela’s passing prompted a call across nations to collectively pause and reflect on the strides and sacrifices he made for equality and tolerance. Members of the entire Stanford community responded in a solidarity spirit, gathering to honor Madiba’s legacy by sharing poetic sentiments and anecdotes on his significance to students and faculty in their personal and academic lives. The Center for African Studies, the Stanford African Students Association, and the African and African American Studies Department organized a commemorative event at the Black Community Services Center, providing a space for people to gather and celebrate Mandela’s legacy. Faculty were invited to speak on the ways in which Mandela transcended racial, socioeconomic, national, and spiritual barriers.

Students, faculty, and guests wrote messages and reflections in a variety of languages on a memorial mural dedicated to his legacy. Students and alums filmed and participated in a tribute video encapsulating the global mourning and celebration that followed Mandela’s death, each reciting a line from Maya Angelou’s His Day is Done, written just hours after Mandela’s passing. Shabani wrote, “We wanted to display the diversity of speakers and harmony of the poem and lighting to create a visual message to be shared with all of Stanford and the world beyond.” Attendees at the gathering were moved by the beautiful video which showed that even at Stanford, we were greatly affected by the passing of a world hero. The gratitude expressed on campus during and after the tribute ceremony will, like Nelson Mandela’s contribution to the world, live on and be appreciated for many years to come.

- Laetitia Walendom, Junior, Urban Studies
We all know the famous poem that talks about two roads diverging in the woods. As I look back on my time at Stanford, I can say without a doubt that I am glad I took the road that led me to the CAS family. The truth is, I cannot overstate how integral the Center for African Studies has been to my time at Stanford. CAS has been an area where I have grown intellectually, emotionally, and physically (literally, CAS has food all the time).

My involvement at CAS started as an intern with the Stanford African Students Association my freshman year. This position involved collaborating with people at CAS in organizing Africa-related events for the larger Stanford community. It also meant that I became more aware of the events CAS organized, including the weekly Africa Table. I was fascinated by the varied academic discussions on diverse topics about Africa and the diversity of thoughts represented. As a freshman, these presentations were my first exposure to graduate level research, and played a big role in my own academic growth. While initially shy to ask questions, my curiosity got the better of me and I began to actively engage in the discussions during and after Africa Table. I found the conversations captivating and the company entertaining, and would often hang around long after Africa Table was over to get to know more people.

Above all, people are what make CAS a special place. From the beginning, CAS has been a welcoming community and I have always felt right at home here. Over the four years, I have enjoyed the company of people who are passionately driven in their various areas of interests, from the arts to economics. CAS became a refuge where I could always drop by to unplug and catch my breath in the middle of a busy day. I can only hope that I embodied this spirit both within and outside CAS to help make Stanford a warm place.

It is impossible to go without mentioning the faculty who have been instrumental in making my Stanford education more holistic. Taking classes and engaging in casual conversations with members of the African Studies faculty has broadened my mindset to critical issues not only in Africa, but also affecting the world as a whole. Dr. Laura Hubbard in particular has challenged me over the years to engage with topics in ways I had never imagined before, such as hip hop, science fiction, and short films. Moreover, she has gone out of her way on many occasions to make me and many others feel part of the community.

As I graduate, I take these great memories with me knowing that I will always have a home at CAS.

- Mark Koskei, Senior, BA Economics
1. Annalisa Bolin and Sarah Quesada
2. Students at the SASA Big Sib/Little Sib Dinner
3. Angela Reesse, Charles Mulemi, and Mark Koskei
4. Kathryn Takabvirwa and Rachael Hill
5. Atheel Elmalik, Kareem Alston, and Joshua Wabulo, with Joy and Herb Kaiser, co-founders, MESAB
6. Alvan Ikoku presenting at Africa Table
7. Chad McClymonds, Kennedy Opalo, and Vivian Lu
8. Dr. Chinyere Nwagbugwu and Dr. Laura Hubbard
9. The 2013-14 CAS MA Cohort: Monzurat Oni, Alexandra Broner, Taylor Mayol, Nadeem Anjarwalla, and Angela Reese
10. Ford Dorsey Director Dr. Sean Hanretta
11. Students at the SASA African Culture Show
12. Atheel Elmalik, Wandipa Mualefhe, and Tracy Makuvire
13. Dr. Grant Parker, Jose Carlos Fajardo, and Sarah Mkhonza
14. Dr. Landry Signe and Dr. Joel Samoff
2014 CAS SUMMER LANGUAGE FELLOWS

VIVIAN LU
PhD Candidate, Anthropology, Igbo

ANGELA REESE
MA Student, African Studies, Twi

REBECCA WALL
PhD Student, History, Wolof

2014 CAS CAPE TOWN SUMMER FELLOWS

MIKHAIL GRANT
Junior, Earth Systems

NCHEDOCHUKWU J. EZEOKOLI
Junior, Science, Technology, & Society

NIKA SOON-SHIONG
Junior, International Relations

2014 CAS SUMMER RESEARCH FELLOWS

ANNALISA BOLIN
PhD Student, Anthropology
The Land of a Thousand Hills Remakes Itself: Heritage, Governance, and Modernity After Conflict in the New Rwanda

RACHAEL HILL
PhD Candidate, History
Scientists, Healers and the State: the Politics of Laboratory Research on Traditional Medicine in Ethiopia, 1960-1987

KELLEN HOXWORTH
PhD Student, Theater and Performance Studies
Transoceanic Blackface: Amateur, Imperial, and Mechanical Performances of Colonization and Racialization in Nineteenth Century South Africa

MELISSA LEE
PhD Candidate, Political Science
Mind the Gap? Statebuilding, Sovereignty and Security in Developing Countries (Uganda)

CHAO LONG
MD Student, School of Medicine
Factors Associated with Patient Delay to Surgical Presentation in Cameroon

L. KATRINA OLE-MOIYOI
PhD Candidate, Emmett Interdisciplinary Program in Environment and Resources
Assessing the Food Security Impacts of a Fish Farming Program in Kenya

ELSA ORDWAY
PhD Student, Environmental Earth System Science
Land Use Demand in Southern Cameroon and its Implications for Central Africa

STEPHANIE QUINN
PhD Student, History
Apartheid Development in Northern Namibia

LAUREN STEINBAUM
PhD Student, Civil and Environmental Engineering
Pilot Study of Soil Contamination with Intestinal Parasitic Worms in Kumasi, Ghana

NEEL THAKKAR
MA Student, History
"All the World in My Hut": British Colonial Broadcasting and the Reinvention of the African Listener

KELLY ZHANG
PhD Candidate, Political Science
The Character of Politicians in Kenya