

PROGRAMME

2ND AFRICA IN TRANSITION CONFERENCE & TRADE SHOW

“CENTRING THOUGHT AND ACTION OF GLOBAL AFRICA AND BEYOND”

UNIVERSITY OF GHANA, ACCRA, GHANA

OCTOBER 8-11, 2025

DAY 1: October 8

7:30 a.m. Buses depart hotels for conference centre

8:00 am – 9:00 am: Registration

9:00 am – 10:00 am Opening Session

SESSION 1

10:00—11:30 Main Conference Room

Panel 1: Decolonising Culture, Teaching and the Arts

1. **Black Mexico in Transition: The Clarion Call of Literary Production**, Dr Paulette A. Ramsay, Research Fellow, The PJ Patterson Institute for Africa Caribbean Advocacy; Professor of Afro-Hispanic Studies, The University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica.
2. **Re-imagining Rupture: Towards a New Understanding of African Complicity in the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade**, Kaezia Aletheia Mills, Foreign Language Instructor, Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, The University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica.
3. **EU Studies versus Global South Studies**, Professor Johannes Maerk, University of Applied Sciences, Vienna, Austria.

10:00—11.30 Seminar Room 1

Panel 2: Decolonising and Re-imagining Education

1. **Decolonizing Perspectives in African Curriculum**, Dr Stephen D Hancock, Shirley T. Frye Distinguished Professor of Urban Teacher Education Fulbright Scholar, France & Senegal.
2. **Taak Laka Blak / Kasa te se Obibini Afro-Caribbean Language(s) & Linguistic Pan-Africanism** Dr. Talawa Yawo Adodo, Independent Researcher.
3. **Reclaiming Narrative Power: Vodou, Bio mythography and the Art of Storytelling in the Digital Age**, Régine Romain, PhD student in Cultural Studies at George Mason University; Founder/Director of the WaWaWa Diaspora Centre, USA.

10:00—11.30 Seminar Room 2

Panel 3: Identity and Culture in Higher Education

1. **The African Diaspora and its Impact on Higher Education (HE) in Africa: A Discussion of the Role of People of African Descent in helping to shape HE in Contemporary Africa**, Dr Roger Nesbeth, Director of Human Resources (Ag.) Global Campus, The University of the West Indies, Mona Campus.
2. **Engendering a Culturally Affirming and Responsive Approach to Social Work Education: Reflections from a Jamaican University**, Arna Elliott-Rattray, Sandra Latibeaudiere & Kimberly Hinds-Heron, The Department of Sociology, Psychology and Social Work, The University of the West Indies Mona, Jamaica.
3. **Implications of the Confluence of 'Pro-Language and Identity' Factors in Tertiary-Level Academic Literacies Instruction in the 'English-official' Caribbean**, Dr Caroline Dyche, The University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, Kingston, Jamaica caroline.dyche@uwimona.edu.jm, carolinedyche@gmail.com.
4. **Teaching on a Bruised Spine: Grief, Refusal, and the Politics of Holding Space**, Dr Tracie Rogers, Department of Sociology Psychology and Social Work, The University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica.

11:30-11:45: Coffee Break

SESSION 2

11:45-1:15 Main Conference Room

Panel 4: Pan-Africanism and Social Change

1. **Exploring the Impact of the UNIAs Transnational Social Entrepreneurship Model, A Theory of Change Approach**, Dr Kadamawe Knife, Dr Edward Dixon, Kethania Griffiths, and Allan Bernard, The University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica.
2. **Beyond Borders: Reimagining Pan-Africanism in the Jamaican Diaspora in Britain**, Dr Aieka Yasheva Smith, The University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, Jamaica.
3. **Planting Seeds of African Reparations through new Ethiopianism**, Dr Jahlani Niaah, Institute of Caribbean and the Reggae Studies Unit, The University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica.
4. **Food Freedom and Futures: Plate2Plate's Vision for Pan-African and Diasporan Food Sovereignty**, Dr. Wanida Lewis, Crescendo Foods, Accra, Ghana.

11.45–1:15 Seminar Room 1

Panel 5: Sustainable and Inclusive Management and Development Approaches of African and Diaspora Countries

1. **The whys and wherefores of place-based approaches to sustainable development: A critical examination**, Professor Eris D. Schoburgh, Department of Government, Faculty of Social Sciences University of the West Indies, Mona Campus
2. **Financial management capacities of school committees in handling school funds in selected Eswatini schools**, Professor Solomon Makola Central University of Technology and Dr Tshabalala Goodness, University of Eswatini.
3. **Trans African Partnerships and Solidarity Economies: A People-Centred Framework for Inclusive Development**, Dr Edward Dixon, Lecturer in Entrepreneurship and Social Entrepreneurship at The University of the West Indies, Five Islands Campus, Antigua and Barbuda; Alistair Scott, Development generalist and Pan African ecosystems builder and coach and lecturer, Jamaica.
4. **Divergent Visions on Pan-African Accord: The Crucial Link between Governance and Sustainable Development**, Dr Carol Ntara, Lecturer, School of Business, KCA University, Nairobi, Kenya.

11:45-1:15 Seminar Room 2

Panel 6: Transformational Leadership for Progress and Prosperity

1. **Ubuntu Leadership: A Transformative Framework for Organizational Renewal and Change in African and Caribbean Public Sectors**, Dr Suzette Henry-Campbell, The University of the West Indies, Mona Ms. Tenneil Rashford, The University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica.
2. **From Exploitation to Stewardship: Challenging Leadership and Governance Paradigms in Africa's Sustainability Agenda**, Dr Romeo Effs, CEO Lumorus (www.lumorus.com), USA.
3. **Leadership and Governance in Africa: Burkina Faso under the Microscope**, Dr Michael Barnett, Department of Sociology, Psychology and Social Work, The University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica and Dr. Mario Nisbett from the Centre of African and International Studies, University of the Cape Coast, Ghana.

1:15-2:15: LUNCH

SESSION 3

2:15—3:45 Main Conference Room

Panel 7: Decolonising Organisational Structures, Leadership and Governance

1. **Rethinking Organizational Structures and Leadership: Breaking Free from Colonial Patterns**, Dr Omowale Elson, Professor of Management at University of Maryland Global Campus, and Human Communications at Montgomery College, Maryland, USA. Vice President Elson Consulting Group, a management consulting firm; Nyzinga Onifa, MS in International Management, Barbados.
2. **Leadership in Upskilling -- Short Courses as a Pathway to Community Development and Economic Mobility**, Dr Olivene Burke, Director, Short-Term Advancement and Resource Centre, The University of the West Indies, Jamaica.
3. **Institutional Layering and Inclusive Anti-Corruption Governance in Ghana, Kenya, and South Africa**, Dr Philip Duku Osei, Adjunct Professor of Public Policy and Management. UniMAC, Ghana.
4. **Leading Alone: Examining School Principal Leadership in Unfilled Deputy Positions In Selected Eswatini Schools**, Dr Goodness Tshabalala, University of Eswatini, Faculty of Education, Eswatini.

2:15—3:45 Seminar Room 1

Panel 9: Sustainable Development, Risk Reduction and Balanced Growth in African and Caribbean Countries

1. **Analysis of the Impacts of Land Use Land Cover Change on Streamflow and Surface Water Availability in Awash Basin, Ethiopia**, Dr Husen Maru, Amare Haile Selassie, Centre for Environment and Development Studies, Addis Ababa University, Addis Ababa; Dr Tesfaye Zeleke, International Water Management Institute; Dr Ermias Teferi, Centre for Environment and Development Studies, Addis Ababa University, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
2. **"Reframing Disaster Preparedness as a Development Imperative: Insights from Hurricane Beryl for Africa and Small Island Developing States"**, Dr Rose-Ann Smith, Lecturer and Disaster Risk Management Consultant, Department of Geography and Geology, The University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica.
3. **Improved Food System through Circularity in African Cities: Lessons Learnt and Policy Needs**. Dr Oyebola Oyediran Olusegun¹, Dr Adebola O. Ajiboye¹, Dr Emmanuel Benjamin Olatubosun², Professor Dr Gertrud Buchenrieder². ¹Department of Aquaculture and Fisheries Management, University of Ibadan, Nigeria, ²Universitat der Bundeswehr, Munchen, Germany.

SESSION 4

3.45-4.00 Wrap-up and announcements

4.15 Buses depart for hotels

END OF DAY 1

DAY 2: October 9

8:00 a.m. Buses depart hotels for conference centre

SESSION 5

9:00-10:30: Main Conference Room

Panel 10: Centring Psychosocial Factors, Sexual Behaviour and Food for Improved Health and Wellness Outcomes in Africa and the Diaspora

1. Prevalence of Risky Sexual Behaviours and Alcohol Use among Jamaican, Ghanaian and Nigerian Adolescents: A Comparative Analysis, Dr Samantha John-Aloye, Dr Ayesha Facey, The University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica.
2. Migration, Marginalization, and Health: Exploring Psychosocial & Structural Determinants among African and Caribbean Migrants, Dr Tracy A. McFarlane, The University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica, and Dr Franklin N. Glozah, University of Ghana.
3. Asian noodles on the streets of Lagos and Accra: The success of Indomie in Nigeria and Ghana, Michael-Edward James, Africa Caribbean Centre for Development, Ghana.

9:00-10:30: Seminar Room 1

Panel 11: Reconnecting, Reclaiming and Mediating the Return: Travel, Tourism and Migration

1. Mediating the return: Influencer marketing, diaspora self-representation, and the reimagination of Africa-Caribbean tourism flows, Beienetch Watson and Duane McIntosh, Mona School of Business & Management, The University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica.
2. Reclaiming Belonging: The African Diaspora's Return and the Transformative Power of Heritage Tourism in West Africa, Régine Romain, PhD student in Cultural Studies at George Mason University, Founder | Director WaWaWa Diaspora Centre, USA and Magalie Laliberté, Founder | CEO Back to my Roots, Cotonou, Benin.
3. Social Media and the Legacy of Colonial Slavery: African Perspectives on Diasporic Perceptions of Africa, Dominique Winters, USA.

9:00-10:30: Seminar Room 2

Panel 12: Building Bridges and African-Centred Worldviews for Better Health and Wellness

1. Rooted Resilience, Diasporic Bridges: A Transnational Response to Black Maternal Health from New Orleans to Ghana, Brandy Galmon, Tender-heart.org, USA.
2. An Afro-Futuristic view on Cultural Mobility and Mobility Justice as a frontier for an Afro-Cosmological frame for alternative world-building imaginaries as Restorative and Healing Justice, Ukhona Ntsali Mlandu, makwande. republic, South Africa.
3. Building North-South-South Partnerships to Bridge Capacity Building Research and Sustainable Development, Professor John L Lindo, Dr Charles C Maponga, Dr Admire Dube, Dr Waheed Adedeeji, Dr Fatai Fehintola, Dr Dorothy Siaw-Asamoah, Dr Robin DiFrancesco, Sandra Maynard, Professor Hilary Beckles, Dr Jack DeHovitz, Dr Gene D. Morse, The University of the West Indies, University of Zimbabwe, University of the Western Cape, University of Ibadan, University at Buffalo; Downstate Health Sciences University; State University of New York, USA.
4. Correlates of HIV Testing Among Men in Ghana, Guyana, Suriname and Malawi, Dr Beverly Andrews and Dr Ayesha Facey, The University of the West Indies, Jamaica and the National AIDS Coordination Committee Secretariat, Office of the Prime Minister, Trinidad and Tobago.

10:30-10:45: Coffee Break

SESSION 6

10:45-12:15: Main Conference Room

Panel 13: Resisting and Reclaiming Identity and Agency through Culture, Music and the Media

1. Resistance as Culture: 'Block roading' as a Cultural Feature of Jamaican Society, Melissa Beckford-Simpson, Institute of Caribbean Studies, The University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, Kingston.
2. Tracing connections and collaborations between Jamaica's dancehall/reggae and West Africa's Afrobeats through the creative echo chamber, Dr Dennis Howard, Institute of Caribbean Studies, The University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica; Beienetch Watson, Mona School of Business and Management, The University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica.
3. Identity. Memory. Resistance. Grassroots Radio and Digital Media as Sites of Cultural Preservation: The Rastafari Mediascape, Coleen A. Douglas, University of Technology, Jamaica.

10:45-12:15: Seminar Room 1

Panel 14: Economic Development and Entrepreneurship: Lessons and Policy Recommendations from Africa and the Caribbean

1. **Economic Development and Sustainability – A Sequential Mixed Methodological Approach - The Now Applicability of Traditional Economic Theories to Caribbean and African Countries**, Sharon Nelson, Senior Lecturer in the College of Business and Management, University of Technology (UTECH), Jamaica.
2. **Models, Policies and Practices for Sustainable Development that Strengthen the Nexus between African and Caribbean Economies**, Tracy-Ann Hyman, SKOLASTIK OASIS CARIBBEAN (SOC), Jamaica; Gordon Michael Swaby, SKOLASTIK OASIS CARIBBEAN (SOC), Jamaica; Sharon Nelson, The University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica; Lekeesha Duncan, HWERTT Educational Training Agency, Trinidad and Tobago; Charles K. Koomson, HEART Trust, National Tools and Engineering Institute and Northern Caribbean University, Jamaica.
3. **Navigating the perfect storm: how soaring transaction costs and tax burdens threaten micro-entrepreneurship in Nigeria**, Dr Ejike Sunday Okoroigwe, Department of Accounting, Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida University, Lapai, Nigeria.
4. **Entrepreneurship, Academia and Industry: A formula that works**, Dr Kim R Quimby, Dr Eden Augustus, Professor R Clive Landis, Professor Winston Moore, Professor Dion Greenidge, The University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus, Barbados.
5. **Driving Innovation and Resilience in Banking: An Exploration of Sustainability Initiatives in Ghana and Jamaica**, Dr Augustina Akonnor, Associate Professor of Public Administration, Ag. Dean of Students, Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration (GIMPA); Dr Indianna Minto-Coy, Deputy Executive Director & Senior Lecturer, Mona School of Business & Management, The University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica; Dr Redeemer Krah, Snr Lecturer, Department of Accounting, University of Professional Studies, Accra, Ghana.

10:45-12:15: Seminar Room 2

Panel 15: Using AI for Innovation and Development

1. **Artificial intelligence in higher education South Africa: The role of ChatGPT in students learning**, Lerato Hlengiwe Sokhulu, Mzwandile Wiseman Zulu and Dailene Lott, School of Education, University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban, South Africa.
2. **Artificial Intelligence, Quantum Computing, and Africa's Role in the Future of Technology**, Dr Paul Aiken, Dept. of Physics and Engineering, Washington and Lee University, Virginia, USA.
3. **A Framework for Enhancing AI Literacy in Africa and the Caribbean**, Dr Lyn R. Keith, Programme Officer, Graduate Studies and Research, The University of the West Indies, St Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago; Professor Winston R. Moore, Deputy Principal and Professor of Economics, The University of the West Indies, Cave Hill, Barbados.
4. **Generative AI-enabled eHealth System: The Future of Healthcare**, Dr Katlego Tefo Mabote and Dr Da-Vaugh Sanderson, The University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica.

12:15 – 1:15 LUNCH

SESSION 7

1:15-2:45: Seminar Room 1

Panel 16: Coloniality and the Struggles and Contradictions of Education, Curricula and Identity

1. **Examining the Responsibilities of Academic Mid-level Leadership in Five Research Intensive Universities in Western Canada**: Academic Deans, Dr Vanessa Ellis Colley, Research Coordinator University of Saskatchewan, Canada.
2. **Reflections by pre-service student teachers on teaching practice: A Case Study of a university in Zimbabwe**, Tshuma Doreen T, National University of Lesotho; W. Sengai, National University of Lesotho and Research Fellow, University of the Free State; Clement Simuja, Rhodes University, Republic of South Africa.
3. **Mapping the Integration of Sustainability into Accounting Curricula: A Comparative Study of Master's Programmes in Jamaica and Ghana**, Dr Mavis Opoku Boadu, School of Graduate Studies, University of Cape Coast, Ghana; Kristina Hosin, Mona School of Business & Management, The University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica; Robert Ipiin Gnankob, School of Business, University of Cape Coast, Ghana.
4. **A Higher Education Entrepreneurship Model (H.E.E.M) for Socio-Economic Advancement in the Caribbean and Sub-Saharan African regions**, Tracy-Ann Hyman, Education and Finance Specialist, SKOLASTIK OASIS CARIBBEAN (SOC), Jamaica.

1:15-2:45: Seminar Room 2

Panel 17: Technological Support and Innovation for Education and Development

1. **Strengthening Technical Training to Support Technology Growth in Africa**, Dr Paul Aiken, Physics and Engineering Department, Washington and Lee University, Virginia, USA.
2. **Bridging Narratives: Harnessing Digital Storytelling and Learning Experience Design for Transformative Education in Global Africa**, Dr David Martin.
3. **Reclaiming Innovation: Afro-Caribbean Futures Through African Technological Wisdom**, Gordon Michael Swaby, Business Advisor, SKOLASTIK OASIS CARIBBEAN (SOC).
4. **Reimagining Geography Education: Practical Curriculum Models for Resource Constrained Classrooms**, Lance D. Scott, The University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica.
5. **Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Policy: An imperative for Developing States for the Caribbean and linking to other Developing States**, Dr Andrea Barrett, University of Technology, Jamaica.

1:15–2:45: Main Conference Room

- **Opening of the Trade Show**

Round Table: *“Transforming Africa and its Diaspora: Lessons and Future Directions”* (Marvin Walker, Kevoy Burton, Franz Wiggan, Kofi Okyere Darko TBC)

SESSION 8

2:45–4:15: Seminar Room 1

Panel 18: Leadership, Local Government and Media

1. **The Role of Aid Financing in Promoting Community Resilience and Empowerment in Africa and Jamaica**, Dr Shinique Walters, Department of Government, The University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica.

2. **Repositioning Africa on the Global Stage of Leadership: A Rhetorical Analysis of Speeches of Selected African Leaders at the 79th United Nations’ General Assembly Of Heads Of State**, Dr Paul Herzuah, University of Media, Arts and Communication, Accra-Ghana.

3. **Balancing Press Freedom and Privacy: Analysing Jamaica’s Journalistic Work Exemption under the Data Protection Act 2020: Striking a balance between reporting of matters of public interest with an individual’s right to privacy**, Dr Coleen B. Lewis, Faculty of Law, UWI, Mona, Jamaica.

4. **Political Economy of SABC’s Political News Reporting in the 2021 Local Government Elections**, Todani Nodoba, Department of English, Media Studies & Linguistics, Faculty of Humanities, Social Sciences and Education, University of Venda, South Africa.

2:45–4:15: Seminar Room 2

Panel 19: Culture, Arts, Media and Communication

SESSION 9

4:20–5:00: Book Launch (Dr Paul Aiken *“From Vision to Venture: My Journey to Build Engineering Capacity in a Developing Country”*)

5:00–5:20: Wrap up Session and announcements (Main Conference Room)

5:30: Buses depart for hotels

End of Day 2

DAY 3: October 10

8:30a.m. Buses depart hotels for conference centre

SESSION 10

9:00 –10:15: Main Conference Room

- **Networking session for trade show**

9:00–10:15 Seminar Room 1

Round table: “Bridging Continents: Innovative Capacity Building through Africa-Diaspora Collaboration - The Global Leadership Programme Experience”

1. Dr Indianna Minto-Coy, Mona School of Business and Management, The University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica;
2. Prof Dorothy Siaw-Asamoah, University at Buffalo, School of Management, USA;
3. Prof & Vice Chancellor Kwaku Boakye, Cape-Coast Technical University, Ghana;
4. Prof Augustina Akonnor, Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration, Ghana;
5. Prof Hannah Vivian Osei, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science & Technology; Yvonne Barnieh (GLP Alumnus UGBS), Ghana.

10:15—10:30: Coffee Break

SESSION 11

10:30-11.30 Seminar Room 2

Plenary: *Burkina Faso and the transformation of Africa*: Eya Kwento, founder of BondEya Ilc and Director of Communications, Partnerships, and Collaborations of The 400 Fund; Markita Williams, VP of The 400 Fund and author of The 400 Fund e-book, "*Building in the Land of the Upright People: Prophecy Fulfilled, Legacy Restored*".

SESSION 12

11:30 – 12:30 Seminar Room 1

Plenary and Closing Session: “What have we learnt, and where do we go from here?” (Speakers to be announced)

12.30-1:30 LUNCH

2.00: Buses leave for hotels

End of Day 3

Day 4: October 11

- **Tours organised by AfriCaricom.com and others**
- **You may register for a tour by AfriCaricom.com during the conference.**