



Annual Report







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THE INSTITUTE OF AFRICAN AND DIASPORA STUDIES University of Lagos, Nigeria

6 Annual Report

Our Vision

The vision of the Institute of African and Diaspora Studies is to be a foremost "Institute for the exchange of cultural and social ideas and research excellence in pursuit of knowledge for the development of Africans at home and the diaspora as well as humankind".

Our Mission

To provide a platform for profound and ground-breaking research, which will help to propel national development and encourage global discourse, especially between Africans at home and the Diaspora.

The IADS





The signboard tells the story of a Tripartite collaboration among three strong Institutions. The University of Lagos where the Institute of African and Diaspora Studies (IADS) is domiciled, the University of the West Indies who cofounded the IADS and the African Cluster Centre of the Africa Multiple Centre of Excellence, University of Bayreuth. The Institute combines the functions of teaching, research and advocacy, while providing a platform for researchers and making research materials available to the general public through resource persons, conferences and seminars.

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Composition of the Advisory Board

The Advisory Board shall be established for a period of three years to oversee the management of the Institute and shall compose as below:

Vice Chancellor (UNILAG) Chairman
Vice Chancellor (UWI) - Alternate Chairman
DVC Development Services (UNILAG) Member
Principal, Mona Campus (UWI) Member
Dean, Faculty of Arts (UNILAG) Member
Dean, Faculty of Humanities

and Education (UWI) Member
Registrar (UNILAG) Member
Registrar (UWI) Member
Bursar (UNILAG) Member

Bursar (UWI) - Member

Director, Research and Innovation (UNILAG) - Member

Pro Chancellor with responsibility

for Research and Innovation (UWI) Member
Director of the Institute (UNILAG) Member
Director of the Institute (UWI) Member
Three External Members (MOU Arts 9.2-9.3.2)



Preface

n 2019, the IADS took some bold steps that are now defining the course of research in African Studies on the continent of Africa and in the Diasporas. As the IADS grew in functionality and relevance, she expanded her capacity by hiring new researchers in the persons of Dr. Abisoye Eleshin, a Linguist and Dr. Moses Yakubu, a Historian. These duo complement the already engaged research team, comprising Prof. Muyiwa Falaiye, a Sage-Philosopher, Dr. Ayo Yusuff, a language Engineer, Dr. Kayode Eesuola, a Political Scientist and Dr. Akinmayowa Akin-Otiko, who specializes in the Religion, Culture and the Medicine of the Africans. The year 2019 also saw the renewal of the Prof. Muyiwa Falaiye's tenure as the Director of the IADS, and the appointment of Dr. Feyi Ademola-Adeoye as the Deputy Director to replace the former Deputy Director, Dr. Obi Iwuagwu who had completed his tenure. The IADS also successfully completed the programme for the first set of MA students and has since admitted the second set.

To achieve the vision of the Institute, the researchers in IADS along with research associates at the University of Lagos applied for and won grants. The most defining of the grants is



the one from the Africa Multiple Cluster of Excellence, University of Bayreuth. This is an administrative grant that enables the IADS to host an African Cluster Centre (ACC) that will enable researchers to carryout research and collaborate with other Cluster Centres as well as the Cluster in Bayreuth. It is tasked with a mission to reconfigure African Studies by generating and storing knowledge in what is called 'the knowledge lab'.

The seven Research Clusters of IADS were strengthened by choosing new Research-Heads and Team-Leaders in order to stay abreast of research

and reflect the kind of dynamism that is required for African Studies. These Research Clusters enable both full time and associate researchers of IADS to engage in relevant and contemporary issues in African Studies.

The IADS is excited at the multidisciplinary nature of African Studies, and this has led to different partnerships that both the Institute and her researchers are involved in. The IADS looks forward to many more research collaborations in 2020. Going through this report will show that the year 2019 was busy in the IADS. In the following pages the activities covered, frequent roundtables, visits of scholars and execution of different projects are presented. There is no doubt that the IADS is the right place to be, when it comes to African Studies. This is reflected in the number of requests from scholars and students who want to visit and/or collaborate with researchers in the IADS.

The IADS is grateful to the Principal Officers of the University of Lagos for all the support that she enjoyed in 2019. In particular, the V.C. Prof. Oluwatoyin Ogundipe is acknowledged for his leadership and support in grant applications. The IADS' team also

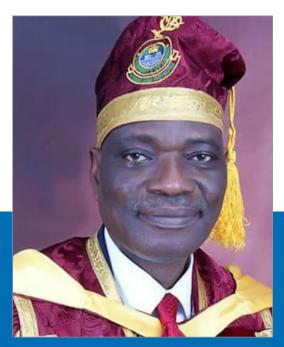
recognises the effort and support of the past Director of the Office of Research and Innovation Prof. Wellington Oyibo as well as the current Director Prof. Bola Oboh and Staff of the Office of Research and Innovation, University of Lagos. All research associates and all our partners and sponsors who donated books to the Library and those who were available to engage in research are greatly appreciated. We look forward to greater heights in the coming year

Prof. Muyiwa Falaiye



Historic Figures





Professor Oluwatoyin Ogundipe Vice Chancellor, University of Lagos



Professor Hilary BecklesVice Chancellor, The University of the West Indies

IADS Staff

The IADS comprises both research and administrative staff. Across board, all are committed to scholarship as the IADS is poised to ensuring cutting-edge research in African and Diaspora Studies.







Professor Muyiwa Falaiye Director

Dr. Feyi Ademola-Adeoye Deputy Director

Dr. Ayo Yusuff Head of Research

He is the Head of Research (IADS) & Research Associate Professor of Linguistics and African Languages. He specializes on Morpho-Syntax Interface and Language Engineering.









Dr. O. S. Eesuola Senior Research Fellow

He is a Senior Research Fellow. He His research activities are in is a Political Scientist whose research interests include Ifa philosophy, divination and quasi-religion as practiced amongst Africans both in Africa and in the Diasporas.

Dr. Akinmayowa Akin-Otiko Senior Research Fellow

African Traditional Medicine. Religions, and Cultures with special interest in Yoruba Culture and Practices.

Dr. Abisoye Eleshin Research Fellow

His area of research includes African languages in general (Yoruba language specifically), culture and translation studies. He is also a playwright and his second play, Matiiku has just been staged on January 19, 2020









Mrs. Gloryesther Chime Admin. Assistant



Mr. Samuel Sanni Admin. Assistant

The IADS

2019 marked two years of successful engagement of the IADS, after the formal launch on August 9, 2017.

he Vision of the IADS "to become an Institute for exchange of cultural and social ideas and research excellence in pursuit of knowledge for the development of Africa, the African Diaspora and the world" and the Mission "to provide a platform for profound and innovative research, which shall help to propel national development and encourage global discourse, especially in relation to Africans and African Diaspora." (MOU, 2017: Art 3.0, 1& 2) have been maintained. The physical address of the Institute remains J P Clark Building, beside the Senate building, close to the Faculty of Arts.

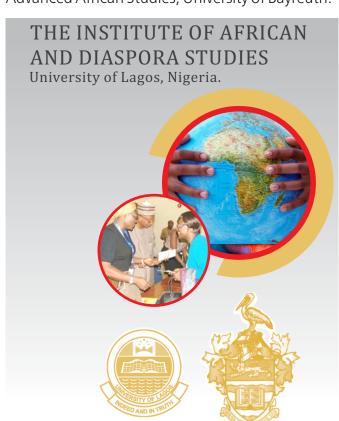
Africa Multiple, University of Lagos ACC The IADS is host to the University of Lagos African Cluster Centre, a centre of the African Multiple Cluster of Excellence.

The 'Africa Multiple' Cluster of Excellence at the University of Bayreuth (Germany) is set up to reconfigure African Studies at the conceptual and the structural levels. The project is funded through the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft e.V. (DFG



German Research Foundation) through, Clusters of Excellence within the framework of the Excellence Strategy of Germany's Federal and State Governments. The journey began in January 2019 when the African Multiple Cluster advertised for Cluster Centres across Africa 52 Institutions applied and after a competitive process, the IADS along with three other African Institutions won an Administrative grant of 840.000 Euros, that will be spread over seven years (2019 - 2026).

The grant is to establish a global strategic African Cluster Centre (ACC) in four Universities across Africa. The IADS, represents University of Lagos, and therefor the University of Lagos -ACC. The purpose of the ACCs is to support high-level research in partnership with the Cluster in Bayreuth. As part of its contribution to African Studies, the IADS actively engages in reflections on African realities with the aim of changing the monologue of African Studies to a dialogue between scholars in Africa and those in the Diaspora, and allowing the African perspectives as well as the African reality to have voices in the Discourses. Having won the grant, the IADS now hosts the University of Lagos African Cluster Centre of the Academy of Advanced African Studies, University of Bayreuth.



Management of Lagos ACC



Professor Muyiwa Falaiye Director



Dr. Ayo Yusuff Head of Research & Academic Coordinator



Mrs. Ndidi Zedomi Head of Admin



Mr. Saheed Owosho Head of Finance



Mrs. Bilqis Alayaki Head of IT



Miss Oluwatobi Akinpelade Admin. Assistant

The Researchers in IADS along with some researchers from the Faculty of Arts, University of Lagos applied for a TETFund grant, with a proposal titled: ENGAGING SOCIAL MEDIA IN REMODELING CHARACTER THROUGH ART AND CULTURE. The proposal made it through the first round of the keenly contested selection process. This proposal is unique because of the focus on character formation of the millennial using the social media to impact cultural values.

Lagos African Cluster Centre (ACC): As an ACC hosted in the IADS, there is a focus on promoting the reconfiguration of Africa Studies as an inter-and trans-disciplinary field for the production of knowledge in and about Africa and its diaspora.

Fellow of the Academy of Africa Multiple. Dr. Akinmayowa Akin-Otiko of the IADS, won a Fellowship to spend two months in the University of Bayreuth, as part of the programme of the Africa Multiple. He will be in Bayreuth from February 1 – March 30, 2020. He will be working on a project entitled: "Reconfiguring Bio-Ethical Theories Of Relationship In The Practice Of African Traditional Medicine Among The Yoruba Of West Africa".

Unilag - Central Research Committee grant: Three researchers from the IADS are currently involved in two research projects funded by the University of Lagos Central Research Committee. The first grant involves, Dr Kayode Eesuola and Dr. Ayo Yusuff; the project is entitled: "Ifá and Popular Culture in Benin and Nigeria: An Interventional Research into the Use of African Knowledge for African Governance".

This grant speaks to the heart of the research agenda of the IADS, as it investigates the traditional understanding and learning process of Ifá divination in its various forms. The researchers are experienced hands and they will be publishing their findings in one of IADS publications for 2020.

The second research involves Prof. Oladiipo Ajiboye (Department of Linguistics African and Asian Studies) and Dr. Abisove Eleshin of the IADS. This research examines the indigenous advertising processes in various Yoruba speech communities. It brings to the fore the various ways by which trades and trading activities are promoted and carried out in Yoruba land across ethos and times to the present time.

Collaborations

The IADS ensures the interdisciplinary method of research by collaborating with other Research Institutions, first among others is the Africa Multiple Centre of Excellence, University of Bayreuth, the major partner in the business of Reconfiguring African Studies.

By virtue of hosting University of Lagos ACC, the IADS is in collaboration with: Moi University,

Kenya; Rhodes University, South Africa and University of Joseph Ki-Zerbo, Burkina Faso.

Within the University of Lagos: The IADS researchers collaborate with researchers in the ARUA Centre of Excellence for Urbanization and Habitable Cities in Africa: the ARUA Centre of Excellence for Unemployment and Skill Development in Africa, and the ACE-For Drug Research, Herbal Medicine Development and Regulatory Science.

IADS Researchers and Principal Investigators of the University of Lagos ACC: There are two groups of researchers that are affiliated to the Institute; (I) The IADS research affiliates, are interested members of the University of Lagos and beyond who regularly associate and engage in collaborative research with researchers in IADS or who belong to one of the seven Research-Clusters in IADS. (II) The second group of researchers are the Principal Investigators (PI) in the Lagos ACC. This group of researchers are members of the Cluster in Bayreuth and they enjoy the privilege of leading research projects as well as accessing research grants from the Cluster.



2020 MA Admissions

The IADS is pleased to announce that twenty (20) full time and three (3) part time students have been admitted for the MA African and Diaspora Studies programme. This is the second set. The first set had a smooth sail and will be graduating during the convocation ceremony of the University of Lagos scheduled for March 9 – 13, 2020.

IADS Research Clusters

The IADS appointed Heads of Research Clusters (HRC) and Team Leaders (TL) for the Research Clusters. The IADS draws her intellectual dynamism from the seven research clusters.









S/N	Research Cluster	HRC	TL.
1	Culture, Gender and Identity	Dr. Akinmayowa Akin-Otiko Email:pakin-otiko@unilag.edu.ng	Dr. Eshiet Idongesit Email:doshiet2@yahoo.com
2	Diaspora and Global Africa	Prof. Muyiwa Falaiye Email: <u>ofalaiye@unilag.edu.ng</u>	Dr. Pearce Adetokunbo Email: <u>tokspearsengf@yahoo.com</u>
 3	Environment, Urbanization and Population Studies	Dr. Abisoye Eleshin Email: <u>aeleshin@unilag.edu.ng</u>	Dr. Taibat Lawanson Email: <u>tolawanson@gmail.com</u>
4	Governance and Financial Integrity	Dr. Kayode Eesuola Email: <u>foomoterribly@yahoo.com</u>	Prof. S.O. Akinboye Email:sakinboye@unilag.edu.ng
5	Migration and Cross-Border Relations	Dr. Kayode Eesuola Email: <u>foomoterribly@yahoo.com</u>	D. Franca Attoh Email: <u>franca.attoh92@gmail.com</u>
6	Peace and Conflict	Dr. Feyi Ademola-Adeoye Email: <u>fademola-adeoye@unilag.edu.ng</u>	Dr. Peter Oni Email:poni@unilag.edu.ng
7	Reparations	Dr. Ayo Yusuff Email: ayusuff@unilag.edu.ng	Dr. Ademola Fayemi Email: karistotle@gmail.com



Journal

As part of the allied functions of the IADS, a platform for researchers to publish and share their research findings was created through the first edition of the African and Diaspora Discourse (A-DD). This is an interdisciplinary Journal that is published annually. Articles are received all year round through the following email: iads@unilag.edu.ng, but publication is done, annually. Dr. Kayode Eesuola, the editor of the journal is available for submission of research findings all year round.



Roundtables, Conferences and Workshops

The Institute played host to scholars from within and outside Africa by giving them a platform to share their research findings and other activities through Roundtables, Seminars, Book/Poetry Reading.



World Health Day, 2019

Between April 8 and 9, 2019, a Workshop tagged "Universal Coverage Everywhere, Everyone" held to highlight the role of African Traditional Medicine. The Workshop was to commemorate the 2019 World Health Day.



Prof. Kemi Odukova Department of Phamacognosis, University of Lagos.



Traditional Herbal Exhibition at the Workshop

The Keynote address was given by Prof. Kemi Odukoya of the Department of Pharmacognosis, Idi Araba, University of Lagos. The programme included a two-day Traditional Herbal exhibition.

IADS Reseach



Middle East Crisis

May 9, 2019: Dr. Asher Orkaby of the Havard Extention School, Tufts University & Havard Centre for Middle Fast Studies delivered a paper at the IADS Roundtable, entitled: "Middle East Crisis: Yemen, Somalia and The Rest of Africa"

Rethinking African History

July 5-7, 2019: IADS Hosted the 2019 Fela Kuti International Conference on African Homelands and Social Theory. The theme of the conference was 'Rethinking African History: Knowledge Production and Political Sustenance in Post-Colonial Africa'.

Domestic Violence or Gender Violence

On July 18 2019, Prof. Chinyere G. Okafor of the Department of Women's studies and Religion, Wichita State University, Kansas USA delivered the IADS Roundtable talk entitled 'Domestic Violence or Gender Violence: Spousal Homicide among Nigerians in the United States'.

Automation and Artificial Intelligence

August 22nd, 2019: Researchers from IADS took part in a Panel Discussion at the 14th Unilag Annual Research Conference and Fair with the theme: Automation and Artificial Intelligence: Opportunities for 21st Century Research and Development. This took place at the University of Lagos.



Inter-religious Dialogue

29th August, 2019: The IADS in collaboration Studies department, Faculty of Arts, University of Lagos organized an Inter-

Religious Dialogue featuring four speakers: Dr F. O. Falako (Christian); Mr. Olawole Olakunle (African Traditional Religion); Dr Harry Benjamin and Dr. Abdulraheed Bashir (Islam) who discussed the Idea of one God from different religious perspective. This initiative was meant to with the Religious promote inter-religious dialogue and peaceful cohabitation in Africa. The first edition was a success and over 150 participants were in attendance.

IADS Research

Better Never than Late...

October 28, 2019: Seated are Dr. Anne Khol (University of Bayreuth), Prof. Funke Adeboye (Dean Faculty of Arts), Chika Unigwe (a renowned playwright and winner, 2012 Nigerian prize for literature among many others) read from her book titled: Better Never than Late and Prof. Bola Oboh (Director Research and Innovation Office, University of Lagos).



Reaching Sideways As We Cast Shadows



November 06, 2019: Prof. Ruth Simbao is from Rhodes University, South Africa; She is the National Research

Foundation Chair in Geopolitics and the Arts of Africa and the Global South, Rhodes University. She was the IADS guest for the November Roundtable and she delivered a paper entitled: "Reaching Sideways As We Cast Shadows: Counter-Narratives and Geopolitics of Proximity in the Remaking of African Studies"

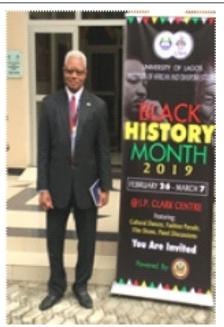
The IADS jointly organised a conference with Havila Glo, South Africa in December 2019 The theme of the Conference was 'Elections and Electoral Violence in Africa'. The Conference was hosted in the IADS as part of ways of promoting intellectual responses to African issues. .



Black History Month, 2019.

The IADS and US Consulate in Lagos collaborated to mark the Black History Month. and the Director of IADS, Prof Muyiwa Falaiye leads the Public Affairs Officer, Mr. Russell Brooks to the venue where he took a picture in front of the IADS building.





Visit from Bayreuth



In February 2019: IADS hosted a three person-team from Bayreuth led by Prof. Dr. Ute Fendler, to inspect facilities and personnel.

University of Lagos International week

The maiden edition of the University of Lagos International week held between October 14 and 18. 2019. The IADS anchored one of the plenary sessions entitled

Open Borders, Open Markets, Higher Education and the Challenge of Mobility and Integration in Africa. The discussants at the session were Dr. Kavode Eesuola (Institute

of African and Diaspora Studies, University of Lagos); Prof. Akin Iwilade (Centre for African Studies, Edinburgh University); Ms Jennifer Kushell (Exploring your Potentials, USA) and Dr. Nicole Elema



From left: Dr. Adeoye, Prof. Falaiye, Prof. Samimi and Dr. Yusuff

(Centre for Collaboration in Africa, University of Stellenbosch, South Africa). Present at the session were the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Management Services, Prof. Folasade Ogunsola and the Provost of the College of Medicine, University of Lagos, Prof. Afolabi Lesi. The event was moderated by the Director of the Institute of African and Diaspora Studies, Prof. Muyiwa Falaiye; and the rapporteur was Dr. Abisoye Eleshin (Institute of African and Diaspora Studies). The session held at the Tayo Aderinokun Hall, University of Lagos.

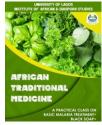
Unilag Africaribbean Carnival

The IADS, in collaboration with the Department of Creative Arts, University of Lagos organised the 2019 Unilag Africaribbean Carnival, which has become a voice for African beauty and values in the University of Lagos. The event, which took place on October 10, 2019, was tagged "One Nation, One People".

Lessons in Traditional Medicine

Practical Lessons in African Traditional Medicine. One of the Flective courses for the MA programme in African and Diaspora Studies is AFS 822: African Traditional Medicine: Theory and Practice. On October 21-22, 2019, the students had a session where they were taught

basic treatment for malaria and how to prepare 'Black soap' for skin care. It turned out to be very successful as over 100 people visited the stand and shared experiences.



Black History Month

February 26 - March 07 2019, was dedicated to marking the Black History Month, 2019 at the IADS. This was done in conjunction with the USA Consulate, Lagos. The Consulate co-sponsored the event to the tune of \$5,000. The week-long event was colourfully celebrated with different events; there were Roundtables with themes around Black History. There were also movie shows and different schools were







invited to debate the motion: 'Can Racism Ever Be Fliminated?' Igbobi College emerged as the winner of the debate.

March 20, 2019: The United States Navy brass band thrilled students of the Department of Creative Arts and Institute of African & Diaspora Studies in the University of Lagos.

The band, which is based in Italy, is involved in efforts to strengthen ties with partner nations throughout Europe and Africa

The performance was part of the troupe's week-long public diplomacy outreach in Lagos. The band performed alongside that of the university.



Jelili Atiku Performed in IADS

After Prof. Ruth Simbao lecture on November 6, 2019, Jelili Atiku, a Multimedia Artist, had a Teni n Teni (what is mine is mine) performance in IADS, this was nostalgic for him as the same spot was where he began his career in Arts at the University of Lagos.









2019 at the Arthur Mbanefo Digital Centre. The workshop was aimed at developing and equipping early career researchers and graduate students.

Workshop on Research Methods

The researchers in IADS who are also Principal Investigators and members of the Cluster of the African Multiples organised a Workshop on Research Methodology on December 10 and 11,



Some Visitors and Visiting Research Fellows



Prof Tunde Bewaji is a Professor of Philosophy at the University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, Jamaica. He is a specialist in Aestethetics, Epistemology, Philosophy of Culture, Philosophy of Leadership, African and African Diaspora. He visited as a keynote speaker during Fela Kuti International Conference in July 2019.

Gustavo Capela: Ph.D. Student from the University of Califonia Beckeley, visited IADS for a short Pilot visit with a hope to return for a longer field trip. (18/06/19 -05/07/19



Chima Rickards from the University of Kent, UK during the presentation of her Research Proposal entitled: "Social Interactions and Decision Making" on September 16, 2019. She was with the Institute for a month (August 15 -September 17, 2019).



Dr. Marie-Anne Kohl of the Music theatre Department of Bayreuth University, Germany, during her visit to the IADS on October 28. 2019. She held meetings with an expanded Research Cluster: Culture, Gender and Identity in the IADS gallery.

Nochole Prokoph an MA student from Bayreuth University. She visited the IADS and Lagos ACC on October 15, 2019 as part of her pilot study for her project.



Picture Gallery 2019



Visitors to one of the November roundtables. At the centre is Prof. Duro Oni, the former DVC Management Services, University of Lagos



Prof Ayo Atsenuwa (Dean of the Faculty of Law) visiting IADS researchers: Prof Muyiwa Falaiye (Director), Dr Ayo Yusuff, Dr Kayode Eesuola and Dr Akinmayowa Akin-Otiko.



The team from the University of Bayreuth, led by Prof. Dr. Ute Fendler, Vice-Dean of the Cluster of Excellence in African Studies.



Traditional Health class and advocacy with some of the MA African and Diaspora Studies.



Some of the first set students of the MA African and Diaspora Studies Programme, 2019

The IADS Facilities



The Multimedia Facility allows for Video Conferencing and makes virtual conferencing and lectures possible.



The Institute archives research materials in her library and has a global outreach through her websites, as indicated on the address page.



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THE INSTITUTE OF AFRICAN AND DIASPORA STUDIES UNIVERSITY OF LAGOS, NIGERIA