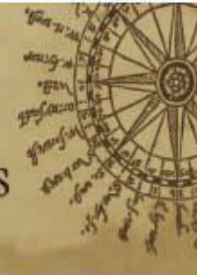




The Harriet Tubman Institute for Research on the Global Migrations of African Peoples



HARRIET TUBMAN NEWSLETTER

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Letter from the Director

Edited by Vanessa S. Oliveira

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Summer 2012 has been an active time at the Tubman Institute, as reported in this Newsletter. It should be noted that the Tubman Institute has been closely associated with the UNESCO Slave Route Project, which has adopted a sub-title to explain the purpose of the initiative, . "Slave Route" identifies the crime that was committed against people of African descent, and the successful result of this initiative is that the countries of the United Nations now recognize slavery and the slave trade as a "Crime against Humanity." Michele Johnson serves on the Executive Committee of the International Scientific Committee of the UNESCO Slave Route Project, and I have been associated with the Slave Route Project in one capacity or another since its inception at Ouidah, Republique du Benin, in 1994. The Tubman Institute is a fulfillment of this initiative in Canada. The recent meetings of the UNESCO Slave Route Project, both in Calabar, Nigeria in March and in Brasilia, Brazil, this August, the Tubman Institute initiatives were highlighted, particularly the programme for the UNESCO Itineraries of African Canadian Memory that is being promoted by the

Tubman Institute and its partners. The Tubman team, now including Naomi Norquay in the Faculty of Education, as well as researchers Hilary Dawson and Adrienne Shadd, Diana Braithwaite, Karolyn Smardz Frost (now at Yale University as Bicentennial Visiting Professor of Canadian Studies) and the technical assistance of Caitlin Fisher, Canada Research Chair in Digital Culture, and the Augmented Reality Laboratory in the Faculty of Fine Arts, which Prof. Fisher directs.

The UGRR, the War of 1812, and the annual Buxton Labour Day weekend commemoration have highlighted the activities of the Tubman Institute in its S.P.A.C.E. initiatives program for "Spotlighting and Promoting African Canadian Experiences." As reported in this Newsletter, the Summer Programme for Students was another success, sustaining the commitment of the Tubman Institute to exploring innovative ways of disseminating the new knowledge on the history of people of African descent and the impact of the global migrations of African peoples on the development of the modern world. It should also be noted that the outreach activities of Michele Johnson and Abubacar Fofana include a vibrant program of seminars, readings, presentations, and discussion that occur on a weekly, sometimes several times per week, basis at Accents on Eglinton Bookstore, and which are regularly announced on the Harriet Tubman website.

Several new books have appeared this summer in the Harriet Tubman Series on the African Diaspora, published by Africa World Press. These include Edmund Abaka, *House of Slaves and "Door of No Return": Gold Coast/Ghana Slave Forts, Castles and Dungeons and the Atlantic Slave Trade*; Audra Diptee and David V. Trotman, eds., *Memory, Public History & Representations of the Past: Africa & Its Diasporas*; Christopher Innes, Annabel Rutherford and Brigitte Bogar, eds., *Carnival - Theory and Practice*; Joel Quirk and Darshan Vigneswaran, eds., *Slavery, Migration and Contemporary Bondage in Africa*; Paul E. Lovejoy and Benjamin Bowser, eds., *New Directions in Teaching Slavery and the Slave Trade*. There are now 17 volumes in the Tubman Series, and several more in press that will appear by the end of the year.

Paul E. Lovejoy

What is new at Tubman

Professor Robin Law Awarded The Harriet Tubman Institute Award for Research Excellence 2012



This award is presented by The Harriet Tubman Institute to a deserving scholar in recognition of his or her significant research contribution to the study of African History, and to the global context of the African Diaspora. Robin Law is Emeritus Professor of African History, University of Stirling, & Visiting Professor, University of Liverpool. He has degrees from the Universities of Oxford and Birmingham. He joined the Department in 1972 having held posts at the universities of Lagos and Birmingham. He was a Visiting Fellow at the Rijksuniversiteit Leiden

1993-94, and a Visiting Professor at York University, Canada, 1996-97 and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem 2000-01. He was promoted to a Personal Chair in 1993, and recently retired in 2009. He also holds honorary posts at the Centre for the Study of International Slavery, University of Liverpool, and the Harriet Tubman Institute for Research on the Global Migrations of African Peoples at York University, Toronto. His distinctions include election as a Fellow of the British Academy (2000) and of the Royal Society of Edinburgh (2002), and the Distinguished Africanist Award of the African Studies Association of the UK (2010).

Tubman's Alia Paroo won a tenure-track position at Texas A & M



We are delighted to announce that GHP student Alia Paroo has won a tenure-track position in the History Department at Texas A&M International University (Laredo, Texas) in African and Islamic History. Last spring she defended her doctoral dissertation "Aga Khan III and the British Empire: The Ismalis in Tanganyika, 1920-1957," supervised by Professor Paul Lovejoy. Her innovative and important study uncovers the little known history of an Ismaili community in East African, focussing specifically on how the colonial policies negotiated with Britain shaped the lives of women and children. Professor Paroo started teaching at Texas A&M in September 2012, and her position converted to tenure-track upon her successful doctoral defense.

She is teaching courses on African History, Islamic History, World Civilizations, and a graduate class on Women in the Developing World.

What is new at Tubman

Tubman Institute's own Karolyn Smardz Frost invited to be a Yale visiting scholar



Award winning author, historian and archaeologist, Dr. Karolyn Smardz Frost, will be a visiting scholar in Canadian Studies at Yale University next semester. The annual fellowship is offered to scholars who specialize in Canadian Studies in a comparative or international context. Smardz Frost authored *I've Got a Home in Glory Land* – which won the Governor General Award for non-fiction – that recounts the extraordinary lives of Thornton and Lucie Blackburn who came to Canada via the Underground Railroad and arrived in Toronto in 1834, becoming prominent and prosperous citizens. The holder of a Bachelor's degree in Archaeology, a Master's in Classical Studies and a PhD in Canadian History, Smardz Frost has won many research fellowships in both Canada and

the U.S. The 2010 TVO Best Lecturer finalist recently received funding to continue research on a new book about the connections between New England and Canada's Maritime provinces in African-Canadian History. While at Yale, she will offer courses in Canada and the Underground Railroad and African-Canadian History.

Tubman's Yacine Daddi Addoun was appointed Assistant Professor at Kansas University



We are pleased to announce that Yacine Daddi Addoun was appointed as Assistant Professor of African & African-American Studies at the University of Kansas, Lawrence. He received his Ph. D. degree from York University, Toronto, Canada, his M.A. from I'INALCO in Paris and his B.A. from the University of Algiers in Algeria. His research focuses on issues of slavery and its abolition in Algeria. He is teaching courses on African history from 1800 to the present, slavery in the Middle East and North Africa, and Islam in Africa. He is the co-editor

of SHADD (Studies in the History of the African Diaspora Documents) of the Harriet Tubman Institute for Research on the Global Migrations of African Peoples.

Tubman Research & Archive Initiatives

Tubman Institute M.A. and Ph.D. students undertake the preservation of endangered documents in Sierra Leone spring 2012

From April 21 to May 5 2012, a contingent of six graduate students from the Department of History at York University undertook archival research at the Sierra Leone Public Archives. They also presented papers at the “Sierra Leone Past and Present 2012 Conference”. The student delegation consisted of M.A. candidates Myles Ali, Chantelle Flowers and Shoshawnah Ross Lautenschlager, and Ph.D. candidates Katrina Keefer, Jeffrey Gunn and Augustin D’Almeida all of whom are associated to the Harriet Tubman Institute.

This archival research initiative, under the direction of Paul Lovejoy, Director of The Harriet Tubman Institute, and Professor Suzanne Schwarz, University of Worcester, focuses on the preservation of documents in the Sierra Leone Public Archives and the repatriation of historical materials to Sierra Leone, in collaboration with Professor Joe Alie, Chair, Department of History, Fourah Bay College, and Albert Moore, Director, Sierra Leone Public Archives. The digitization project is supported by the British Library Endangered Archives Program.



From left to right: Jeffrey Gunn, Chantelle Flowers, Katrina Keefer, David Trotman, Paul E. Lovejoy, Augustin D’Almeida, Suzanne Schwarz, and Jean Augustine.
Front: Shoshawnah Ross Lautenschlager, Annie Bunting and Myles Ali.

Tubman Profile



Moacir Rodrigo de Castro Maia is a PhD Candidate in History at Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. His doctoral research focuses on enslaved Africans shipped from the Gulf of Benin to Brazil during the eighteenth century. His research interests are the recreation of kinship, ethnic identity and the emancipation of Africans who lived in the former mining region of Portuguese America. During the Summer/Fall 2012 he will be working on his doctoral research at the Harriet Tubman Institute under the supervision of Prof. Paul Lovejoy. His exchange program at York University is funded by the Brazilian agency Coordenação de Aperfeiçoamento de Pessoal de Nível Superior (CAPES).

Events

CAAS Conference 2012

"Africa in Transformation: Africa of Individuals, Africa of Generations"



The Canadian Association of African Studies (CAAS) annual conference was held on May 2-4, 2012, at Université Laval in Québec City. Universities from all continents were represented at the conference. The conference attracted an international group of specialists across disciplines at all stages in their careers for discussion of their research.

The Harriet Tubman Institute was represented by three of its members. Prof. Paul E. Lovejoy was the discussant for the round-table on the influence of Michel Coquery's work on the research on the urban phenomena in Africa. Two of Tubman's associate students presented papers based on their ongoing doctoral research: Rafaela Jobbit, "'Mischief' and 'Magic': African Midwives and the Portuguese Health Service of São Tomé and Príncipe, 1850-1926"; and Vanessa S. Oliveira, "The Forgotten Slave-owners: Women and Slavery in 19c. Luanda, Angola".

Vanessa S. Oliveira
PhD Candidate, York University

Events

Workshop "We Stand on Guard for Thee: African Canadians in the War of 1812"



The African Canadian experience in the War of 1812 is a topic lamentably underrepresented in scholarly and popular literature. The Workshop "We Stand on Guard for Thee: African Canadians in the War of 1812" provided a forum for scholars, students, educators, community historians and the general public to explore the important role played by African Canadians in the last war fought on Canadian soil. Participants discussed the wartime experience of Black women and children, as well as the post-war migration of the so-called "Black Refugees," some 2,000 African Americans who fought for the British, to the eastern seaboard of Canada.

An important component of the Workshop was to outline directions for future research. Workshop members provided suggestions for the development of educational materials to be made available to teachers and students. A highlight will be launched by the Harriet Tubman Institute, the Augmented Reality Lab of York University, of a highly innovative research and education project. *Breaking the Chains: Presenting a New Narrative for Canada's Role in the Underground Railroad* includes narratives, primary documents and images, and on-line lesson plans enhanced by Augmented Reality, all based on substantial new research into Canada's UGRR-era heritage. It will serve as a model for a new project, entitled *We Stand On Guard for Thee: Teaching and Learning the African Canadian Experience in the War of 1812*.



The workshop was sponsored by the Harriet Tubman Institute, York University, in cooperation with the History Department, Brock University; Central Ontario Network for Black History; and St. Catharines Museum.

Events

Summer Workshop 2012 “Africans and their Connections in the Americas”



The annual Tubman workshop took place this summer on the 21st and 22nd of July. Over the course of two days a variety of speakers presented their research on “Africans in the Americas,” “African Voices from Sierra Leone,” and “Slaves, Slave owners and Crime in Africa.”

Many institutions were represented at the workshop including the Universidad Nacional de Columbia, University of Worcester, Universidade Federal Fluminense, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, University of California Los Angeles, and the National Institute for the Study of Dutch Slavery and its Legacy.

Guest speakers included Dr. Suzanne Schwarz, Dr. Mariza de Carvalho Soares, Dr.

Martha Luz Machado, and Dr. Jaime Arocha, as well as Ph.D. candidates Henry Lovejoy and Moacir Rodrigo de Castro Maia. York was well represented and included distinguished research professor Dr. Paul E. Lovejoy, Ph. D. candidates Vanessa S. Oliveira, Jeff Gunn, Katrina Keefer and Tracy Lopes, as well as M.A. students Myles Ali, Angela Castillo and Daniel Varela.

The workshop was an excellent opportunity for students and professors to discuss their ongoing research and share their fieldwork experiences. Many thanks go out to Vanessa S. Oliveira, Angela Castillo and Daniel Varela for their hard work in organizing the workshop.

Tracy Lopes
PhD Candidate
York University

Events

Student Summer Programme 2012

On July 2nd, 2012 “Spotlighting and Promoting African Canadian Institute for Research on the Global Migrations of African Peoples,” launched the Harriet Tubman Student Summer Programme, a two-week curriculum that culminated on July 13th 2012.



Now in its third year, the programme introduced a group of thirty secondary school students from across the Greater Toronto Area to the history and culture of the African Diaspora, as well as the contributions of African peoples and cultures to the development of the Americas. This year, the programme also focussed on two main themes. The first, “African Canadian Experiences in the War of 1812,” hon-

oured the involvement of persons of African descent on the 200th anniversary of that conflict; an important moment in the creation of the Canadian nation. The second major theme, “Independence: Jamaica and Trinidad,” marked the 50th Anniversary of independence for these Experiences” (S.P.A.C.E.), an initiative of the Harriet Tubman two Caribbean island-nations which have had a significant impact on the Americas and whose migrants have made important contributions to Canadian nation-building.



Co-ordinated by Dr. Michele A. Johnson (Director of S.P.A.C.E.), Abubacar Fofana León (Harriet Tubman Student Summer Programme Director) and members of the S.P.A.C.E executive committee, the programme combined academic content delivered by professors and graduate students from York University, along with afternoon cultural activities guided by graduate students, trained facilitators, educators, volunteers, and performers from the wider community.



The first week of the programme focussed on the migrations of African Peoples, particularly forced migrations, an attempt to re-map Africa as a continent and diaspora, and a focus on North America, particularly the countries of Canada and the United States. The highlight of the first week was a visit to the Archives of Ontario where students learned about African Canadian contributions to the War of 1812 and were privy to a tour of the facility. The following week, the students continued their academic and cul-

tural journey throughout the Americas with a focus on Brazil, the Spanish Caribbean, with a particular eye to Cuba, the history of the British Caribbean, and finally Afro-Latino literature with particular attention paid to Equatorial Guinea. Students were treated to two highlights in the second week. The first was a visit to the Art Gallery of Ontario and a session on African ceramic making. The second was the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of Jamaica's independence. On this day, students learned about the history of the British Caribbean, the development of Jamaican Creole, and were later instructed by Dr. Lola Ramocan from the University of the West Indies (UWI) on the cultural history of Jamaica.

Given the programme's major focus on Jamaica and Trinidad's 50th Anniversary of independence, we are indebted to the Jamaican Consul General to Toronto, who brought greetings on the morning of the programme's launch on July 2nd.

The programme is also grateful to a number of York professors, graduate and undergraduate students for volunteering their time and expertise to the programme during this two week span. This year, the programme is grateful for the support of SSHRC Major Collaborative Research Initiative (Slavery, Memory, Citizenship), SSHRC Public Outreach (War of 1812), the Faculty of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies, the Department of History, York University Bookstores, Toronto radio station G 98.7, Delford Blythe (CGA), and Blu-mont Bistro for their kind sponsorship of the programme's costs, including meals, transportation, materials and trip expenses.

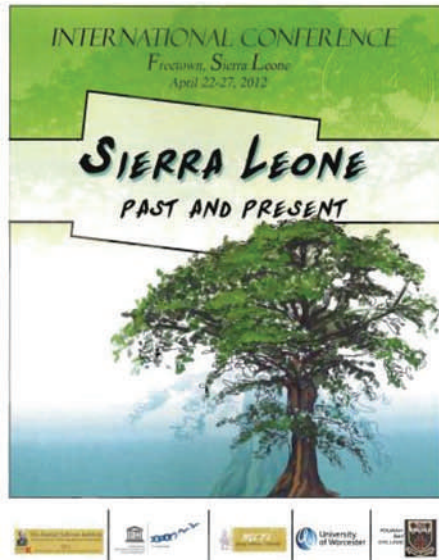
The Harriet Tubman Student Summer Programme, whose continuation is highly anticipated in the communities where we continue to have contacts, looks forward to continuing on with this initiative in order to answer concerns about development of educational initiatives, community outreach, and advocacy work. As an important youth/community initiative, the programme continues to be a significant bridge across various barriers including issues of access to phenomenally enriching academic and cultural experiences.

Francesca D'Amico

PhD Candidate, York University

Events

Sierra Leone Past and Present International Conference 2012



On April 22, 2012, an International Conference began in Freetown, Sierra Leone, bringing together scholars from such disparate areas of the world as Sweden, Israel, Brazil and of course, Canada, along with the United States, Britain, and regions in Europe and in Africa. The Harriet Tubman Institute helped to organize and sponsor this conference, which allowed not only international academics to contribute to shedding light on the importance and role of Sierra Leone in studies of the slave trade, but also sought to incorporate local scholars and citizens of Freetown within this historical discussion.

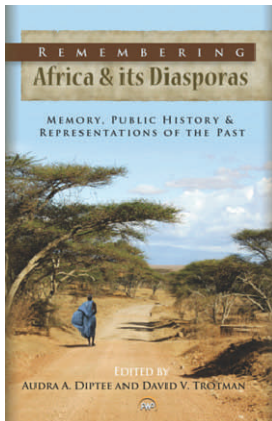
Over the week of the conference, which ended on the 27th of April, the papers presented were excellent and interesting, and Tubman graduate students and affiliate professors were well represented, with inroads and connections made steadily, strengthening the collaborative network which continues to further research into African history as a whole. Local organizing members shared the beauty of Freetown with conference participants, and a trip to Bunce Island's ruined slave fortress was educational indeed, while the journey to the Banana Islands proved somewhat more exciting for some when the first rains of the season struck on the drive back to Freetown! As the conference wrapped up, graduate students from Tubman readied themselves for the remaining days in Freetown, which they would spend under the guidance and direction of Suzanne Schwarz of the University of Worcester, who along with Paul Lovejoy are working on the British Library Endangered Archives effort in Freetown. With her expert suggestions and support, Tubman students diligently digitized important archival materials at the Public Archives of Sierra Leone, held at Fourah Bay College.

The trip came to its end as the students from York flew home on the evening of the 4th of May, 2012. From the first moment when Chantelle Flowers stepped from our plane and realized with tears in her eyes that she was breathing the tropical air of Africa, to the evenings during which Jeff Gunn befriended local musicians and played at reggae bars in Freetown, to Shoshawnah Lautenschlager Ross's burgeoning friendship with Victoria, a maid at the Hotel Barmoi, and onward, it was a delightful and productive expedition, with many wonderful experiences and lessons brought home.

Katrina Keefer

PhD Candidate, York University

Publications

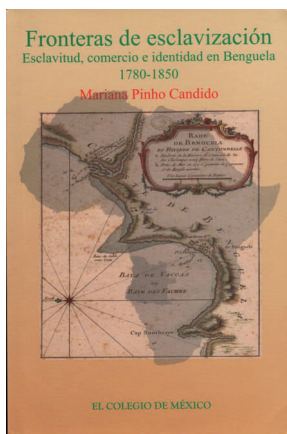


Remembering Africa & its Diasporas: Memory, Public History & Representations of the Past. eds. Audra A. Diptee and David V. Trotman

The essays in this collection are concerned with the construction of memories and public histories. They explore the processes and dynamics that shape the ways in which Africa and its Diasporas have been historicized outside of the academy. The chapters focus on the public presentation of the imagined past of Africa, and of the uses of that past both with Africa and in the numerous African Diasporas created by the historical and contemporary movement of Africans outside of Africa under a variety of circumstances. The articles cover a broad geographic span and address issues in Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean, the United States of America, and Canada.

Audra A. Diptee is Associate Professor in the History Department at Carleton University.

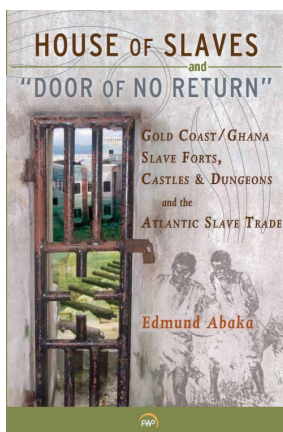
David V. Trotman is Associate Professor of History at York University.



Fronteras de esclavización: Esclavitud, comercio e identidad en Benguela, 1780-1850. Mariana Pinho Candido.

Despite have been one of the major slaving ports for the Transatlantic Slave Trade, Benguela has been neglected compared with other slaving ports in Western Africa. With this book Mariana P. Candido examines the links between the slave trade, the movement of the enslaving frontier, and shifts in identity in Benguela and its hinterland from 1780 to 1850. Based on her doctoral dissertation defended at York University in 2006, Mariana P. Candido's work provides Spanish speakers with an important contribution to studies in the history of Central and West Africa.

Mariana P. Candido is Assistant Professor in the History Department at Princeton University.

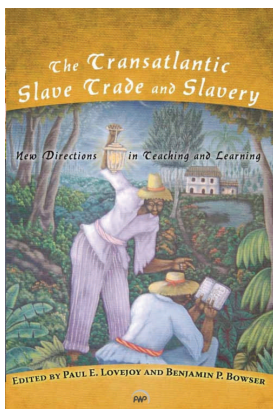


House of Slaves and "Door of No Return": Gold Coast/Ghana Slave Forts, Castles and Dungeons and the Atlantic Slave Trade. Edmund Abaka.

The book presents the history, significance, and legacy of the forts and castles of Ghana. The author analyses the architecture and the economic and cultural exchanges that took place in the slave forts and castles of the Gold Coast as well as their importance as sites of memory today.

Edmund Abaka is Associate Professor of History and Director of the African Studies Program at the University of Miami.

Publications



The Transatlantic Slave Trade and Slavery: New Directions in Teaching and Learning. eds. Paul E. Lovejoy and Benjamin P. Bowser.

This volume organized by Paul E. Lovejoy and Benjamin P. Bowser reflects on what we teach and the way we teach in breaking the silence on the subject of slavery, the slave trade and its consequences. The book intends to be an enabling tool for teachers and students interested on Africa and African diaspora history.

Paul E. Lovejoy is Distinguished Research Professor in the History Department at York University and Director of the Harriet Tubman Institute

Benjamin P. Bowser is Professor Emeritus in the Department of Sociology and Social Services at California State University East Bay



Carnival: Theory and Practice. eds. Christopher Innes, Annabel Rutherford & Brigitte Bogar.

The essays in this volume are drawn from papers presented at the International Conference on Carnival, held in Toronto in August 2008. The studies in question focus on the Caribbean diaspora, with specific developments in London, New Orleans and Toronto.

Christopher Innes is Distinguished Research Professor at York University and the Canada Research Chair in Performance and Culture.

Annabel Rutherford holds a Ph.D. in Theatre Studies from York University

Briditte Bogar has degrees in Music, Theatre, and Dramaturgy from the University of Copenhagen.

Award



Prof. Mariza de Carvalho Soares was one of the recipients of the 2012 Roberto Reis BRASA Book Prizes for her book *People of Faith: Slavery and African Catholics in Eighteenth-Century Rio de Janeiro*.

The Roberto Reis BRASA Book Award recognizes the two best books in Brazilian Studies published in English that contribute significantly to promoting an understanding of Brazil. This award honors Roberto Reis, one of the founders of BRASA, who was committed to developing Brazilian Studies in the United States.



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The Harriet Tubman Institute for Research on the Global Migrations of African Peoples at York University is proud to be part of an international network of research centres committed to overcoming injustice and inequity as a result of slavery. Our leading-edge research focuses on the forced and voluntary movement of African peoples around the world. As a social innovator, the Institute's mandate is to promote a greater understanding of the history of slavery and its legacy. The Institute fosters debate, informs public policy and strives to resolve current social injustices. Digital archiving technology enables the preservation of documents and other materials for easy access to historical records. The Institute is named for the spirit of Harriet Tubman, liberator of her people, feminist, and humanist (c.1820-1913).

www.yorku.ca/tubman