



# Ghana Studies Council Newsletter

## CHAIR'S REMARKS

By Roger Gocking, Mercy College

This will be my last year as chair of the Ghana Studies Council. Dennis Laumann of the University of Memphis will be taking over in 2007 as the next Ghana Studies Council chair. He has already begun to take over as he organized this year's two sponsored panels for the upcoming ASA meeting in New York in October (15-18). One will be chaired by Trevor Getz of San Francisco State University and is entitled: *Imagining the Nation, Imagining the World*. The other will be chaired by Ama de-Graft Atkins of Cambridge University and is entitled: *National Responses to Health and Security*. This year, 2007, is the fiftieth anniversary of Ghana's independence and these panels will be an opportunity to be retrospective. Undoubtedly the ASA will also host events commemorating Ghana's fiftieth, but so far there is no word on what these will be.

This issue of the newsletter, my last,

contains an up-to-date list of members and their recent publications. Compiling the latter has proven to be one of the most useful things that the GSC does. This year I requested information on forthcoming works as well as recent publications. In the past I have attempted to organize this bibliography according to the CMS format, but I got so much information, in many different stages of completion, that I gave up this intent and have entered these works with only limited editing.

Membership is slightly up from last year. There are 89 members listed in the directory as opposed to 77 for last year, but we are still a long way from the high of over 250 in 2001. It has taken several requests to get this many members to send in their annual questionnaires. Nearly everyone who attended the annual meeting in San Francisco did so which is significantly better than was the case for the Washington D.C.

meeting in 2005. Like so many other organizations, the Internet seems to have undercut the need for networking through organizations like ours, and Ghana Studies Council membership has probably suffered from this. However, we obviously benefit from the Internet as all official correspondence is now done through e-mail and this newsletter has also gone digital, aside from a few xeroxed copies to send to our institutional subscribers.

Issue number seven of *Ghana Studies* is finally out and our thanks are due to the editors, Takywaa Manuh of the University of Ghana at Legon and Lynne Brydon of the University of Birmingham as well as Ray Silverman from Michigan University, who was the guest editor. The journal has been well-worth waiting for and promises to be yet another stellar issue with eight excellent articles most were presented as papers at the 47<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the African Studies Association. The editors are currently at work on issue number 8. They then intend to do an issue on Ghana at fifty and hand over to new editorship.

Last year the Council awarded a grant to Peter Kwabena Obeng-Asamoah, a Ph.D. student at the Institute of African Studies at the University of Ghana. This year, with the help of Ray Silverman of the University of Michigan, we have awarded two grants of \$200 each. One has gone to Nana Emmanuel Asare, the Techiman Adontenhene, who is currently in South Africa pursuing a diploma in museum and heritage studies at the University of Cape Town. He is a graduate of UGL and a community development officer. He is very much involved in the Nkwantanano community-based cultural center project in Techiman. There is an article on this project in the newsletter. The grant will enable him to supplement his small stipend and buy books to bring back to Techiman. The other

grant has been given to William Gblerkpor, who is a young archaeologist on the UGL faculty. He is currently working on the Krobo Mountain Archaeological Project. He has already published material on this investigation and reports that the "\$200 award [will] enable me to defray part of the labor cost of the on-going field research."

It seemed appropriate that the Council should fund both these excellent candidates as, even after paying for Ghana Studies # 7, there is \$ 3,141 in our account. However, one of the issues we should discuss at the next annual meeting is how to regularize our procedure for making this grant.

In this issue there are no long articles as has sometimes been the case in the past. There are only two full obituaries (down from five last year). One is for René Baesjou, who is best known to many of us for his work on the Gold Coast Dutch records. It was supplied by Adam Jones of the University of Leipzig. The other obituary is for Timothy Garrard who is best known to us for his work on Akan goldweights. It is by Tom Phillips of the Royal Academy of Arts and appeared in the *Guardian*. Belatedly I would also like to remember Sue Benson a member of the Cambridge University Faculty of Archaeology and Anthropology who passed away in 2005. Unfortunately, I was not able to get an obituary for her. One of her articles, jointly authored with Tom McCaskie, is included in *Ghana Studies 7*. Just as the final work on the newsletter was being done Baffour Takyi of the University of Akron informed me of the passing of GSC member Kwadwo Konadu-Agyemang, also of the University of Akron. Hopefully in the next newsletter there will be an obituary for him. As a new feature I have also included a Notes and Queries section as well as short notices about awards and

recognition for members, both from what they have sent me and from other sources.

Once again I have to thank GSC members Trevor Getz and David Groff for playing an invaluable role in proof reading this edition of the newsletter. Their sharp eyes have spotted mistakes that would have embarrassed me if they had slipped through. I would also like to thank Jean Allman for her work as our North American treasurer for at least part of the year. She eventually surrendered this position and currently I am acting as the Council's treasurer. Anne Hugon in France remains our European treasurer and thanks are due to her also.

**Minutes for the Ghana Studies Council Annual Meeting at the 49 Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association at the Westin Saint Francis Hotel in San Francisco, California, Saturday, November 18, 2006**

by Jonathan Roberts, Hartwick College

Chair, Roger Gocking, called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. There were about 35 members in attendance. Jean Allman, the North American treasurer, reported on the organizations's finances. There was \$4,282 in the treasury, but she noted that there were expenses for the printing of *Ghana Studies* Journal that had not been met and she anticipated that this could drain the treasury. One journal issue costs approximately \$1,000. The chair mentioned how difficult it had been to collect dues. He had been promised help by Michel Doortmont of the University of Groningen in the Netherlands in rebuilding the European membership. Unfortunately, this had not been achieved and Doortmont was no longer in contact with the chair. He was not present at the meeting. There remained considerable difficulty collecting dues from European members. The different currencies involved contributed to this problem.

Thanks are also due to Jonathan Roberts of Hartwick College for taking the minutes at the last GSC annual meeting. In the past we have depended on a volunteer at the meeting, as Jonathan was, to do this task. I intend to make this less unplanned by getting someone lined up to do this before the next meeting.

I hope to see as many of you as possible at the ASA annual meeting in the Big Apple for yet another lively GSC annual meeting. I will send out an agenda and also information on when and where the meeting will take place.

**GSC Sponsored Panels:**

There was then discussion about the GSC sponsored panels for the 2007 ASA meeting in New York City. The chair said that the GSC was allowed two but that there should be one as a back up. 2007 will be Ghana's 50 anniversary and panels were suggested to reflect this. Trevor Getz and Kwaku Larbi Korang suggested a panel on intellectual history entitled: "Imagining the World, Imagining the Nation." Carina Ray and Yaw Oheneba-Sakyi suggested a panel on "Enduring Ghanaian Families and Households." Ama de-Graft Aikins suggested "National Responses to Health and Security." Dennis Laumann suggested a "Roundtable on Ghana-Fifty Years On." The chair felt that this should be a general ASA panel given the importance of Ghana's anniversary. It was mentioned that the ASA organizing committee was intending to invite Ghanaian diplomats and politicians.

**GSC Newsletter:**

The chair mentioned that GSC newsletter #19 had been mailed to the North American membership. He gave copies of the newsletter to Dimitri Van den Berselaar and Ama de-Graft Aikins to mail them in Europe. There was then debate over whether to make the newsletter a .pdf file. The chair felt that e-mail did not receive good responses, and that over 40% of members did not respond to his e-mails. Membership had peaked at well over 200 in 2000, but the council was now down to 77 members. The feeling was that the newsletter was still very useful as a directory and list of publications. Emmanuel Akyeamong suggested members state if they wanted the newsletter by e-mail or hard copy.

Emmanuel Akyeamong eventually presented this as a motion that the GSC maintain its newsletter in paper and e-mail format, while at the same time consider going to an "economy package" in basically the same format, but photocopied and not printed, and with content to remain the same. The motion passed.

**GSC Journal:**

There was discussion about the

Ghana Studies Council Journal and issue # 7 which was still not ready. It was mentioned that some people have paid twice for it. Trevor Getz offered to help and a motion to this effect was proposed in which he agreed to thank the editors for their work and help them with editorial and production work in consultation with the current editors and the chair to see the work to its end. This will include exploring publishing options to publish the journal in a cost effective manner. This motion was passed.

**Election of new president:**

Abena Osseo-Asare nominated Dennis Laumann to be the next president. He will serve with Roger Gocking in transition until November of 2007, when he will become the sole president. Emmanuel Akyeamong nominated Benjamin Lawrence. A vote was taken and Dennis Laumann was elected the next president.

There was then considerable discussion about the state of the organization. The meeting adjourned around 9:30 PM.

**Paul Jenkins Honored by the University of Basel**

by Veit Arlt, Centre for African Studies Basel

On 24 November 2006 the Faculty of Theology of the University of Basel conferred an honorary doctorate on Paul Jenkins, a former member of the Ghana Studies Council. From 1962 to 1972 Paul taught at the University of Ghana, Legon, first as a tutor at the External Degree Centre and then as a lecturer at the Department of History. It was during this time that he first came across the legacy of the Basel Mission

in South-Eastern Ghana, and together with his colleagues at the Department sensed that the records left by the missionaries were an important source for the history of the region and the country as a whole. During a six-months' sabbatical spent at Basel in 1970 he compiled translations and excerpts of key documents in the archives. This collection soon became a major resource for historians of Ghana.

By 1972 Paul had convinced the Basel Mission that its records should be looked after and be made more accessible by a proper archivist. For more than two decades Paul Jenkins held this position and provided researchers of all disciplines with access to the rich holdings of the archives. In the 1980s boxes with thousands of photographs as well as albums that complimented the official pictorial collection of the Basel Mission were discovered in the attic of the mission house. Together with Barbara Frey-Naef and others, Paul took up the challenge and pioneered in making this huge collection accessible resulting in the online database <http://bmpix.org>.

As a lecturer in the Department of

History of the University of Basel and through his relentless lobbying for the cause of African History, Paul played a major role in the establishing African Studies in Basel. With contributions to both scholarly and popular publications he has contributed to our understanding of the photographs in the Basel Mission Archives, and to the recognition of missionary documents as a source for historians of Africa and historical research in general. Since handing over his post at the Basel Mission to his successor Guy Thomas in 2003, Paul Jenkins has ventured into a new field promoting joint research on the history of the states of Karnataka and Kerala in Southern India making use of Basel Mission documents.

## **Soyinka Visits Ghana to Launch Presidential Biography**

by Ivor Agyeman-Duah, Centre for Intellectual Renewal, Ghana

After almost two decades, Nobel Laureate in Literature, Professor Wole Soyinka, visited Accra, Ghana to participate in one of the biggest literary events in recent times. He was invited by the Centre for Intellectual Renewal in collaboration with publisher, Ayebia Clark of Oxfordshire, England, and with the endorsement of the Arts Council of England to be guest speaker and to launch the second edition of *Between Faith and History-A Biography of J. A. Kufuor* written by the Ghanaian author, Ivor Agyeman-Duah.

At once a big literary event but also a political assembly, Soyinka shared the platform with Ghana's Vice President, Aliu Mahama, international businessman, Sir Sam Jonah, CEO of Cocoboad, Isaac Osei and Professor Abena Busia. Ghana's National Symphony Orchestra provided entertainment which Soyinka described as

“marvelous.” Ayebia Clarke, publisher of the 400-page work and well-known in the literary world as a former editor of the Heinemann African Writers Series, set the tone for the evening. In her remarks she said “we need to do more to celebrate our successes. Ivor Agyeman-Duah has made an important contribution in celebrating one of our modern day Ghanaian heroes.”

The author, who also runs the public policy institute, the Centre for Intellectual Renewal in Ghana, said: “the motivation to write was precipitated by an obvious missing link in our political discourse where biographies of our leaders are scarce. For me, there is the need for people to know those who want to lead them, for modern geopolitics is more interested in the ‘what of now’ than the verdict of history.”

Attended by cabinet ministers, members of the diplomatic corps, academics

and journalists from South Africa and Nigeria, the audience was not so sure on what the guest speaker's lecture would center. It was the beginning of January 2007 and the historic remembrances were multiple: It was Ghana's independence year and also the bicentenary of the abolition of slavery. Nigeria's imminent elections and uncertain political direction was also a likely choice for his address.

Soyinka finally spoke on "The Slave Factor in the Conditioning of History." He recounted slavery's heinous damage to Africa, Europe and the United States and the difficulty of forgetting its grim memories. Specifically he presented evidence of slavery in the Volta Region of Ghana under the infamous "Brides of the Gods" institution where teenage girls are given to "fetish" priests to marry. The explanation for the status of those "brides" was easily summed up in the simple fact of their being victims of some quite unremarkable, indeed, "trite history." He mentioned similar circumstances in Igboland in Nigeria with the Osu "who are permanently reserved the meanest, and most despised jobs in the community. To marry an Osu, man or woman, is to lower your own status and condemn your children to the status of Osu." However, it was Darfur that came out strongest for condemnation. Soyinka observed that "it was totally predictable that the favorite battle-cry, as abundantly testified by the survivors of the Janjaweed marauders in their mission of ethnic cleansing, has been none other than that historic cry of disdain: 'kill the slaves.'" He pointed out that there has been abundant testimony to this before numerous tribunals including that held recently in New York City.

He also explained that in the advanced economies of Europe and the United States, as has been the case in Africa, culture has been used to defend some human rights abuses. He cited the case of "Napoleon who traduced the Age of Enlightenment in order to re-enslave the nation of Haiti, and the thrill-killers of the USA who dragged a man's living body tied to the back of their truck and, literally, flayed him alive." Not surprisingly, he concluded, that "the Sudanese government says to the United Nations, and indeed to its African peer governments, mind your own business."

Professor Soyinka, before his lecture, took part in a TV documentary—*Wole Soyinka: Muses of His Writing and Yoruba Mythology*—with author Ivor Agyeman-Duah. He also paid a courtesy call on President J. A. Kufuor at the Castle Osu and presented him with a copy of his latest biographical offering, *You Must Set Forth at Dawn*. He stayed in Ghana for a few more days to participate in The Partnership with Africa Initiative which was attended by German Head of State, President Horst Kohler, Presidents Olusegun Obasanjo of Nigeria, Festus Mogae of Botswana and Ellen Sirleaf Johnson of Liberia.

*(Between Faith and History: A Biography of J. A. Kufuor* by Ivor Agyeman-Duah (hardcover); pp 400 Publishers-Ayebia Clarke Publishing ([www.ayebia.co.uk](http://www.ayebia.co.uk)) Distributors: Turnaround ([www.turnaround-uk.com](http://www.turnaround-uk.com)) Price: £25.00)

# Nkwantananso

## Building a Cultural Center in Techiman

by Raymond Silverman, University of Michigan

Nkwantananso, or “place at the crossroads,” is the current iteration of a project begun ten years ago to build a community-based cultural center in Techiman, Brong Ahafo. In addition to creating a place dedicated to the performance and preservation of Techiman’s cultures, the process of building the center is providing a number of opportunities for collaboration between community leaders and the citizens of Techiman, between a community and the academy, and among students and faculty at Ghanaian and American universities.

“Nkwantananso” references Techiman’s position as a crossroads of culture and commerce. It is the capital of the traditional state of Techiman Bono, the successor to Bono Manso, held to be the first centralized Akan state. Situated in the center of the country, it is the site of Ghana’s largest agricultural market. Today it is one of Ghana’s fastest growing communities with a population of roughly 200,000. The market has attracted people from all parts of the country, as well as from neighboring countries. Like most market communities it has a strong cosmopolitan character.

The idea for building a cultural center arose roughly ten years ago, when Martin Verlet, a French anthropologist working in Techiman, and the Techiman Traditional Council of Chiefs, developed a plan for what was then called the “Techiman Bono Culture Village.” The proposal for the Village called for the creation of an institution dedicated to “reconstituting and regenerating the traditional forest

environment,” and for reviving and preserving Techiman Bono history and culture, by “promoting scientific research and knowledge of the past.” It also was envisioned as a major tourist attraction for Techiman and Brong Ahafo.

The original plan called for a ten-year phased development of a nine acre (3.6 hectare) site. Verlet, working closely with the Techimanhene and the Traditional Council, secured a contribution from the Embassy of France to begin construction. The site was cleared of its trees and graded. Soon thereafter construction on the museum began and several courses of cement block were laid, but then the project stalled due to a number of economic and social factors.

When I visited Techiman towards the end of 2001—the first time I had been to Techiman in twelve years—I was asked by members of the Traditional Council, if I might assist. At that time, I was committed to other projects, but indicated that as soon as I was able to devote some thought and time to the Bono Culture Village, I would do so. In 2005, I began working with the community to build an institution that will play a key role in preserving Techiman’s diverse heritage. What I find most compelling about the Nkwantananso initiative is its formative process which involves engaging the community in creating a public space that is politically and socially neutral—a safe, inviting space where people can meet to exchange ideas. As such, this process will strengthen civil society in Techiman. The project also offers an ideal venue for practicing public scholarship—partnerships between scholars

and the public in the pursuit of socially relevant goals and the production of knowledge.

The current plans for Nkwantananso include a visitor orientation center that will present an introduction to the natural and cultural attractions of Techiman and surrounding districts, a museum and gallery, conference center, library and archives, open-air auditorium, a durbar ground, artisan workshops, a restaurant, and Internet café: an ambitious project for sure, but one that can be realized in phases.

The Nkwantananso Planning Committee has been building a collaborative environment that is engaging members of the Techiman community as well as outsiders who are bringing needed expertise to the project, for instance, in the areas of architectural design and heritage management. The ultimate goal for Nkwantananso is to create an institution, fundamentally for the community that serves as a meeting place for the people of Techiman, but also for national and international visitors.

To date, a good deal of preliminary planning and infrastructure building has taken place.

1. In February 2006, Dr. Kodzo Gavua and Mr. James Boachie Ansah, members of the Archaeology Faculty at University of Ghana (Legon), accompanied by fifty undergraduate students, conducted an archaeological survey of the site on which Nkwantananso is being built.
2. In May 2006, architecture students from Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) and the University of Michigan (UM) presented concepts for Nkwantananso to the Planning Committee. A plan was selected and

detailed architectural drawings were presented to the Committee in May 2007.

3. In May 2006 and May 2007, several teams of students from KNUST, UM and Michigan State University, working with people from Techiman, conducted over one hundred interviews with a cross-section of Techiman society—representatives of various occupational, ethnic and religious communities, including junior and senior secondary school students.
4. In February 2007, a memorandum of understanding was signed that articulates a formal partnership between Techiman (the Municipality and the Traditional Council) and KNUST to pursue a variety of urban development schemes, including Nkwantananso.
5. In February 2007, one of the members of the Nkwantananso Planning Committee, Nana Emmanuel Asare, enrolled in the African Programme in Museum and Heritage Studies in Cape Town, South Africa, to obtain the requisite knowledge for directing the development of Nkwantananso.
6. By the end of this year, proposals seeking funding for building Nkwantananso will be submitted to the Ghanaian government, various national embassies and international foundations. The Nkwantananso Planning Committee is organizing a symposium for Spring 2008 that will explore Techiman's past, present and future. Local, national and international students of Techiman history and culture are being invited to participate. The symposium is scheduled to coincide with the Techiman Apo festival.



If you would like additional information about Nkwantanaso, wish to lend your expertise or make a financial contribution to the project, or are interested in participating in next year's symposium,

please contact the Techiman Adontenhene, Nana Emmanuel Asare ([asaretwi@yahoo.com](mailto:asaretwi@yahoo.com)), or Ray Silverman ([silveray@umich.edu](mailto:silveray@umich.edu)).

### René Baesjou (1931-2006)

by Adam Jones, University of Leipzig



René Baesjou, who died unexpectedly at his home in Voorschoten on 16 August 2006, was a self-trained but erudite connoisseur of Gold Coast history. René originally studied Art History, and in the second half of the 1950s he worked as a journalist for the Amsterdam newspaper *Het Parool*. In the 1960s he started to study Arabic, which eventually led him to the theme of Islamic influence on African societies, culminating in an article in the journal *Kroniek van Afrika* on Arabic literature in Africa (1972). He also wrote articles on the coverage of Africa in *Le Monde* and on African newspapers (1974).

Eventually his interest shifted to the Dutch records on nineteenth-century southern Ghana, and in 1979 he published his book, *An Asante Embassy on the Gold Coast: The Mission of Akyempon Yaw to Elmina 1869-1872*. This consisted of 151 unpublished documents, translated from the Dutch and accompanied by an impressive editorial apparatus. By this time René had become fascinated by Ghana, which he subsequently visited a number of times, forming close friendships with several Ghanaian academics. In the same year he published a lengthy paper on “Dutch Irregular Jurisdiction on the Nineteenth Century Gold Coast” in a collective volume edited by himself, entitled *Palaver: European Interference in African Dispute Settlement*.

When I first met him in 1981, he was a lecturer at Leiden's African Studies Centre, but soon afterwards he joined the University of Leiden's Centre for the History of European Expansion. Making use of the extensive map collections available in Leiden and The Hague, he completed a “Provisional Bibliography of African Historical Cartography” in 1984, following this up with a methodological article on “The historical evidence in old maps and charts of Africa, with special reference to West Africa,” which appeared in the journal *History in Africa* in 1987 and remains a key text in this field. His main examples were drawn from the Nzema area, to which he

also devoted considerable attention in his unpublished work. Shortly before his death a further piece on the cartography of the Nzema area appeared in digital form in a special Ghana issue of the *Journal des Africanistes* (2006).

He also published articles on the role of gifts in exchanges between Africans and Europeans on the Gold Coast (1987, in French), a Dutch slaving voyage (1993, in Dutch), on the Dutch in West Africa in the nineteenth century (with P. C. Emmer, 1996) and on the formation of the Nzema state (1998, in English). A notable achievement was the preparation for publication in book form of an unfinished manuscript by Klaas Ratelband on the Dutch in West Central Africa in the first half of the seventeenth century (2000).

Compared to the amount of archival

and other material that he collected, René's published output was relatively small. I recall stimulating discussions, for example, about his research on the books owned by Dutchmen in Elmina castle in the eighteenth century. In his highly legible handwriting he transcribed several voluminous seventeenth-century archival documents, hoping to edit and publish them eventually. Although he never published his note on the nineteenth-century Asante prince Kwasi Boakye (1987), he deposited it at the African Studies Centre library for scholars to consult.

Many scholars received encouragement and assistance from René Baesjou. Those who knew him will remember his charm and generosity, his good taste (notably with regard to food, drink and the fine arts) and his affection for Ghana.

### **Timothy Garrard (1943-2007)**

by Tom Phillips, Royal Academy of Arts  
From the *Guardian*, 28 May 2007

Timothy Garrard, who has died aged 64 of dementia, was a character such as one might meet in a Conrad novel, not, of course, a sinister Kurtz figure but one of those engaging eccentrics born in Europe but, so to speak, made in Africa. The fluidities of sub-Saharan life were more to his taste than the narrow ramps of Anglo-Saxon ambition.

In 1967 as he sat down to a family Boxing Day lunch in Malvern, he had seemed all set for a steady future in the law: educated at Worcester grammar school and at Worcester College, Oxford, he trained as a barrister at Lincoln's Inn and in 1966 had been appointed clerk of courts at the Old Bailey. He had, however, unbeknown to all at the table that day, successfully applied for an attachment to the supreme court of Ghana

and had his passport and travel documents in his pocket. Within 12 hours he was on a plane to Lagos where he stayed until taking up the position as the only European working for the attorney general in Accra, on drafting of the constitution and law reforms, until 1976, by which time he had become the senior state attorney.

Tim was born in Northamptonshire but brought up in Malvern where his mother ran an antiques shop and would bring fascinating objects home to show the family. His father, a military officer and artist, had travelled throughout the Middle East, sending back postcards to his son of the treasures of Egypt, and so stimulating the boy's interest in archaeology. In Ghana, he was soon fascinated by the traditional artistic and artisan cultures, of which he saw

examples in museums and living evidence in the local markets. Without neglecting his legal duties he studied and attained an MA in archaeology at Legon University. Throughout the 1970s he assisted in a number of digs at historic sites in West Africa and built up a commanding knowledge of the ancient gold trade that gave Ghana its colonial name.

By 1980 he was known by Africanists worldwide as the leading expert in the study of goldweights, the often exquisite bronze castings which were used for weighing gold-dust, the original currency of the region. These abstract and figurative miniatures, each a unique casting, also preserved and illustrated proverbs that embodied Akan wisdom and ethical prescription. In terms of primary research, this encouraged him to become an apprentice learning the art of lost-wax casting among the Asante village craftsmen, at which he became proficient.

As a scholar, his meticulous passion for typology and taxonomy led him to weigh every goldweight in the British Museum, the museum of Accra and major private collections, including my own which was burgeoning under his guidance. These researches were brought together in his seminal work, *Akan Weights and the Gold Trade* (1980). It is still, though challenged in some of its speculative detail, the defining work on the topic.

A wider view of the gold trade and its trans-nationally mutating vocabulary was the subject of his doctorate at University of California, Los Angeles, for which he traveled throughout northern Africa to trace the old gold-trade routes. On his return from California in 1986, he chose to live in the Ivory Coast writing *Gold of Africa* (1989). Here his acceptance by the Senufo people took the form of a six-year long initiation into the Poro, a secret society. He took pride

in what he called his ““country cottage,” a mud hut with pointed thatch built by the villagers so that he could come at any time to visit them. He was a contributor to the book *Art of Côte d'Ivoire* (1993).

He was at his happiest when travelling to interview chiefs, elders and craftspeople, and his love of barter gave him the popular title of “great lawyer,” who would give legal advice in exchange for information on traditional lore. I accompanied him on several such forays at which he was greeted with ululation. On one such expedition we talked to the last living person who, at the end of the 19th century, had been trained to use goldweights and who demonstrated for us the ritual procedures. Tim was an inveterate browser in markets where he often identified objects of rich history, in acquiring which he demonstrated a witty style of haggling that brought him great respect and many bargains.

Throughout his life he returned twice a year to his house in Malvern where he loved the tranquillity of his English garden. From his base there he would set out for visits, nomadically moving among friends from spare bed to spare bed. He became a valued consultant to Hermione Waterfield of Christies ethnographic department with whom he formed an enduring friendship.

As well as contributing to the scholarship of the Barbier-Mueller museum in Geneva, he provided much of the expertise in the Ghanaian and Ivoirian sections of the exhibition *Africa, the Art of a Continent*, which I curated at the Royal Academy in 1995. His later researches led to a book in which, with the help of his assistant, Idrissa Soro, for six years he gathered and translated into French 2,000 Senufo proverbs under the title *La Sagesse d'un Peuple*.

This and other projects were upset

by the civil war in Ivory Coast, which effectively brought an end to his African odyssey. Abandoning the copies of his newly published book, in 2002 he had to flee from Bouaké to the coast and thence to England where he fell ill the following year. He was tended principally by his sister, the distinguished sculptor and performance artist, Rose Garrard.

In assessing his contribution, I recall

one of his favorite goldweight proverbs regarding the elephant: “One who follows in the tracks of an elephant does not need to get wet from the dew on surrounding bushes.” His work has beaten paths through virtually unexplored terrain leaving many grateful scholars with information that would otherwise have been lost. He is survived by Rose, and his twin brother Jeremy.

## SHORT NOTICES AND QUERIES

**The International Institute for the Advanced Study of Cultures, Institutions and Economic Enterprise (IIAS)** has been established in Accra, Ghana. The purpose is to pursue a “multi-disciplinary focus to research into African cultures and institutions” (legal, social, cultural, political, economic and health). The quest is “to develop African solutions to African problems.” Its founding members are: Professors Irene Odotei, Ernest Aryeetey, William Baah Boateng, Raymond Atuguba—all of the University of Ghana; Emmanuel Akeampong of Harvard University, Ama de-Graft Aikins of the University of Cambridge and Ato Quayson of the University of Toronto. [see: [www.interias](http://www.interias)]

**Jon Kirby** has recently been promoted to the rank of professor by the Tamale Institute of Cross Cultural Studies in affiliation with the Akrofi-Christaller Institute.

**Changing of the Guard at TICCS.** Fathers Kofi Ron Lange and Jon Kirby will be leaving the Tamale Institute of Cross Cultural Studies (TICCS) this year. Father Kofi, after eleven years of service to the institution, will be “looking for a new appointment, possibly in the Yendi Diocese, where he can combine limited pastoral work with his continued research and writing in the areas of Ghanaian proverbs, oral literature and the gospel.” Unfortunately, Father Kirby’s leaving has been far more unplanned. He has been forced to resign due to health reasons. He recently learned that his skin has been severely sun-damaged by years of exposure to the tropical sun and develops pre-cancerous spots that will require regular laser removal. He is currently looking for an academic position either in Boston or Maryland. For those of us who have benefited from the warm hospitality and collegiality of both of these remarkable men this changing of the guard will come as the sad end of an era.

**Dennis Lauman** was tenured and promoted to associate professor in the fall 2006.

**Takyiwaa Manuh** was elected a fellow of the Ghana Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2005. She was promoted to full professor at the University of Ghana in April, 2006. In the 18 April 2007 issue of the *Daily Graphic* she was the subject of a short biography entitled “Professor Takyiwaa Manuh - A Role Model for Girls.”

**Paul Nugent** recently did a stint in South Africa in Cape Town (April 2007). He has a busy schedule. Apart from being the Director of the Centre of African Studies at the University of Edinburgh, he helped organize a Fundraising dinner for African Scholarships to match DfID/Commonwealth Shared Scholarship awards on 5 June 2007 with Midge Ure as the invited speaker. He organized a conferences on “African Borderlands Research: Emerging Agendas and Critical Reflections,” 13-14 June 2007 and on “Eating and Drinking in Culture and Politics,” 20-21 June 2007. Nevertheless, no doubt inspired by his recent South Africa experience, he is convinced that: “life is a beach and then you *braai*.”

**Harlan Smith II** was one of two recipients of the Lewis College of Business’ Outstanding Service Award for 2005/06.

**Roger Gocking** spent the first three months of the year travelling around the world looking at hydro-electic dams and reservoirs, his new research interest. The African component of this journey took him to Mozambique (Cahora Bassa) and to Lesotho to look at the dams of the Lesotho Highlands Water Project.

## QUERY

Omissions are intriguing. In my work with primary sources there is one that recurs constantly: it is the lack of mention of Asante figurative gold weights when describing trade on the Gold Coast. Why, when the authors concern themselves in describing all manner of things, customs, rules, etc., is there never a mention of the clever little figures used as weights in trade?

Brun in Jones (1983) p.83: writing in 1611-20: speaks of small pieces (*kakrá*) but not figures.

Müller in Jones *op.cit.* writing in 1662-9: p. 244: again, *kakrá*, details of scales, etc. no mention of figures.

Barbot (1678.1712) in Hair 1992: p. 528 *kakra* as “small money,” otherwise only as ornaments.

Tillemann (1697/1994) p. 32 describes scales, etc. but no figures.

Bosman (1705) p. 85-6 gives detailed description of weights used, “cast of copper or tin;” no mention of figures.

Rask (1708-13): beans, cowries, no mention of figures as weights.

Rømer (1760/2000) p. 228 on weights—no figures.

Isert (1788/1992) p. 86—notes that each has his own weights—no further description.

Garrard (1980) no mention of figurative weights in use in the coastal trade.

Can we safely conclude that Asante figurative weights were not used in the coastal trade?  
Precisely where were they actually in use?

Selena Axelrod Winsnes

## PUBLICATIONS

### **Edmund Abaka**

“The Hausa Diaspora in Asante and the Gold Coast in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries.” in Toyin Falola (editor), *Migrations and Displacements in Africa*.

Forthcoming:

“The Driving Forces Behind French Colonial Policy in Africa.”

### **Gariba B. Abdul-Korah**

“‘Where is not Home:’ Dagaaba Migrants in the Brong Ahafo Region of Ghana, 1980 to the Present.” *African Affairs* 106 422 (2007): 71-94.

Review of *Overcoming Intolerance in South Africa: Experiments in Democratic Persuasion*, by Gibson James and Amanda Gouws. *Journal of Third World Studies* 23 1 (2006): 256-260.

Forthcoming:

“Ghana: Economy and Geography.” In *New Encyclopedia of Africa*.

### **Osei-Mensah Aborampah**

“Encyclopedia of the Dead: Transgenerational Memories and Cultural Transmission Among the Akan of Ghana,” *Ghana Studies*: 7: 115-135, 2006.

“Out of the Same Bowl: Religious Beliefs and Practices in the Akan Communities in Ghana and Jamaica.” In *Fragments of Bone: Neo-African Religions in a New World*, edited by Patrick Bellegarde-Smith, 124-142. Urbana-Champaign: University of Illinois Press, 2005.

### **Akosua Adomako Ampofo**

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Adomako Ampofo, Akosua. “‘My Cocoa Is Between My Legs;’ Globalization, Social Change and Sex as Work: Ghanaian Women In Accra, Kumasi and Abidjan.” In Harley, Sharon, editors. *Work in the Lives of Women of Color*. New York: Rutgers University Press.

**Jean Allman**

*TONGNAAB: The History of a West African God.* Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 2005. (with John Parker)

**Veit Arlt**

“Christianity, Imperialism and Culture. The Expansion of the two Krobo States, c.1830-1930.” (Doctoral dissertation, Department of History, University of Basel) 2005. Online at [http://www.unibas.ch/diss\(/2005/DissB\\_7185.htm](http://www.unibas.ch/diss(/2005/DissB_7185.htm)

**Gareth Austin**

“The Political Economy of the Natural Environment in West African History: Asante and its Savanna Neighbors in the Nineteenth and Twentieth centuries.” In, *Land and the Politics of Belonging in West Africa*, edited by Richard Kuba and Carola Lentz, 187-212. Leiden: Brill Academic Publishers 2006.

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(Much delayed in press): “The Advances System in Ghanaian Cocoa Buying, 1915-1938: Competition, Conflict and the Question of Rent.” In Endre Stiansen (ed.) *More Than Money Matters: Financial Institutions in Africa's Political Economy* (Nordic African Institute, Uppsala, Sweden).

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**Anna Bohman**

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**Esperanza Brizuela-Garcia**

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**Esther de Brujin**

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**Gracia Clark**

“A Trader Caught in Ethnic Violence,’ Life Narrative by Ms. Afua Kobi.” Pp. 393-402, *Women Writing Africa: West Africa and the Sahel*, Feminist Press, 2005.

“The Permanent Transition in Africa,” *Voices*, 7 1 (Spring) 2005.

**Ama de-Graft Aikins**

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**Erika Eichholzer**

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### **Trevor Getz**

Getz, Trevor and Esperanza Bizuela-Garcia. “Going Global: A Reconnaissance into the Role of Africanists in World History,” *World History Bulletin* 22 (2006): 4-9.

### **Roger Gocking**

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### **Jeff Grischow**

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### **Ann Hugon**

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“Sante: Quel bilan?” Numero special de la revue *L’Histoire*, Octobre.

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“Mémoires de (sages)- femmes à l’époque coloniale (Ghana, 1920-1960): sources orales, émergence d’un nouveau groupe scio-professionnel et histoire de la maternité.” In Thebauld, Françoise (éd), *Femmes, sources orales, mémoire*, actes du colloque d’Avignon mars 2001, ENS éditions, Lyon.

“Mary Kingsley et l’identité de genre.” In *Mélanges en l’honneur de Jean-Pierre Chrétien*, publié sous la direction de Christine Deslauriers et Dominique Juhé-Beaulaton, Paris, Karthala.

### **Timothy Insoll**

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### **Adam Jones**

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and hence published only on the CD.]

### **Ray Kea**

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### **Jon Kirby**

Forthcoming:

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### **Tetteh Kofi**

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*Saga of African Underdevelopment.*

Obituaries: See Website for obituaries of CPP leaders: Agbli Gbedema, Kojo Botsio, Ako Adjei.

### **Kwasi Konadu**

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### **Jon Kraus**

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**Karen Lauterbach**

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**Carola Lentz**

*Ethnicity and the Making of History in Northern Ghana*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, International African Library 33, 2006.

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### **Christian Lund**

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### **Takyiwaa Manuh**

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**Denise Nepveux**

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**Paul Nugent**

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**Francis K. E. Nunoo**

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**Brempong Osei-Tutu**

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### **Kwamina Panford**

Panford, Kwamina and Kwadwo Konadu-Agyemang, editors. *Africa’s Development in the 21st Century: Opportunities and Challenges*, Aldershot, UK and Burlington VT.: Ashgate, 2006. Wrote/Co-Wrote Chapter on the African Union, Introduction and Conclusion.

Ongoing Research:

Ghana’s Industrial Relations and Labor Laws. A 200-page monograph on Ghana’s labor policies, laws and practices from colonial times to the present. Under contract for completion in December 2004 for publication by *The International Encyclopedia of Laws: Labor Law and Industrial Relations Series*. Deventer, The Netherlands: Kluwer Law and Taxation Publishers,

2007. Manuscript in preparation for 2008 publication: Post-Independence Trade Unions and Trade Unionism in Africa with Special Emphasis on the Ghanaian Experience (1950’s-2007).

### **Mansah Prah**

Forthcoming:

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### **Carina Ray**

“Tales from the Archives.” Monthly column for *New African*.

### **Enid Schildkrout**

“Beauty of Science and the Truth of Art: Museum of Anthropology at the Crossroads.” In *Exhibiting the Other: Museums of Mankind and the Politics of Cultural Representation. Transatlantische Historische Studies Vol X*, edited by Cordula Grewe. Stuttgart: Franz Steiner Verlag, 2006.

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### **Raymond Silverman**

Guest Editor's Introduction. Thematic Issue: "Sites/Sights of Memory in Ghana's Cultural Landscapes." *Ghana Studies* 7 (2006): 2-9.

"An Aesthetic of Accumulation and Display in Akan Tano Shrines." *Art for Archaeology's Sake: Material Culture and Style across the Disciplines. Proceedings of the Thirty-Third Annual Conference of the Archaeological Association of the University of Calgary*. Editors. A. Waters-Rist, C. Cluney, C. McNamee and L. Steinbrenner, pp. 24-31. Calgary: The Archaeological Association of the University of Calgary, 2005.

### **Harlan Smith II**

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### **Ann B. Stahl**

"Entangled Lives: The Archaeology of Daily Life in the Gold Coast Hinterlands, AD 1400-1900." In *Archaeology of Atlantic Africa and the African Diaspora*, edited by Akin Ogundiran, 49-76. Bloomington:

Indiana University Press, 2007.

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Forthcoming:

"The Slave Trade as Practice and Memory. What are the Issues for Archaeologists?" In *Invisible Citizens: Captives and their Consequences*, edited by Catherine Cameroon. Salt Lake City: University of Utah Press.

"Dogs, Pythons. Pots and Beads: The Dynamics of Shrines and Sacrificial Practices in Banda, Ghana, AD 1400-1900." In *Memory Work: The Materiality of Depositional Practice*, edited by Barbara Mills and William Walker. Sante Fe, NM: School of American Research Press.

### **Pierluigi Valsecchi**

G. Calchi Novati and P. Valsecchi. *Africa: la storia ritrovata. Dalle prime formazioni politiche alle indipendenze nazionali*. Roma: Carocci, 2005.

"Formation des états et alliances intercommunautaires dans la Côte de l'Or (XVIIe-XVIIIe siècles)." *Journal des africanistes* 75 1 (2005).

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Forthcoming:

"He who sets the boundary. Chieftaincy as a 'Necessary' Institution in Modern Ghana. In *Beside the State. Emerging Powers in Contemporary Africa*, edited by A. Bellagamba and G. Kluthe. Leiden: Brill.



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**Ineke van Kessel**

*Zwarte Hollanders: Afrikaanse soldaten in Nederlands-Indië*. Amsterdam: KIT Publishers, 2005.

“Goa conference on the African Diaspora in Asia: Conference Report.” *African Affairs* 105 420: 461-464.

“West African Soldiers in the Dutch East Indies: from Donkos to Black Dutchmen.” *Transactions of the Historical Society of Ghana*, New Series no. 9: 41-60.

“Zwarte Blanken: Afrikaanse soldaten in Nederlands Oost-Indië.” *Geschiedenis Magazine/Spiegel Historiae*, 41 1 : 8-13.

“A Step above Untouchables, but Climbing: Siddis are Beginning to Explore their Roots.” *Sunday Independent* (South Africa), 16 April 2006.

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**Selena Axelrod Winsnes**

Forthcoming:

“Rules, Rituals and Recreation in Early Accra, as Seen by Johannes Rask 1708-1713’ in Early Accra c. 1300-1800,” IAS.

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*Two Views from Christiansborg: Johannes Rask 1708-13 and H.C.Monrad 1805-09*. A translation work in progress.

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Discipline: Anthropology



Research interests: Neoliberalism, bureaucracy, urban form, northern Ghana.

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Discipline: Anthropology  
Research Interests: Traders, life histories, gender, development, Kumasi.

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Research interests: Children, schooling, pawning, child circulation, migration.

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Research interests: Akan - Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire.

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Research interests: Africa and world history, nationalism, slavery and abolition, Fante confederation.

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Research interests: Colonial and postcolonial history with an emphasis on law and political and social institutions, religious imagery, hydroelectric dams.

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Research interests: African, Ghana media policies, broadcasting.

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Research interests: Danish period, south east Ghana.

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Discipline: History  
Research interests: Islam and modernity, Islamic education, gender and colonialism, and social history of Ghana.

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Research interests: Musicians' unions, cultural history, popular music, diaspora studies.

**(55) Alice Jones-Nelson**

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Research interests: Aging in Ghana,  
perceptions/memories of national identity.

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Research interests: Precolonial West Africa  
with a focus on precolonial Ghana; the  
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focus on the Danish West Indies.

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Research interests: Economic development.

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Research Interests: Cultural history,

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Discipline: Political Science  
Research interests: Business associations  
and power of capital, influence upon public  
policy, political economy of trade unions in  
Africa, impact of structural adjustment upon  
development policies and growth.

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Discipline: History  
Research interests: Colonialism/  
independence, Volta Region/Ewe history,  
Marxist theory and history.

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Research interests: Togo, Ghana, Benin, Ewe, slavery.

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Discipline: Modern Dance  
Research interests: Dance, choreography.

**(65) Stephan F. Miescher**

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Research interests: Gender, masculinities, colonialism, modernity, nationhood, oral history, social and cultural history of Ghana and West Africa during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

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Discipline: Anthropology  
Research interests: Public policy archaeology, cultural commodification, representations and the African Diaspora.

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Discipline: History  
Research interests: The modernization of Islamic schools in Ghana.

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Research interests: Youth, nationalism, governmentality, Nkrumah, late-colonial period, national modernization/development projects, new urban centers.

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Research interests: Social/cultural, cultural identity, class formation, Ghana comparative postcolonial development-Ireland.

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Research Interests: Urban history, youth and popular culture, nationalism, Atlantic world

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Research interests: Peacekeepers, West African Pentacostalism, democratization.

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Research interests: During 2007, comparison of A.B. Quartey-Papafio and M. J. Field's ethnographic writing on the Ga: biographical information, or location of archival materials, about either of them is welcomed.

**(80) Enid Schildkrout**

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Research interests: Visual culture of Akan religion, specifically Tano shrines; accumulation and display in Akan society; history of museums in Ghana.

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(85) **Baffour K. Takyi**

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Research interests: Northern Ghana, Konkomba, ethnicity.

(87) **Brian P. Thompson**

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Research Interests: Historical studies regarding the management of faunal resources (wildlife and domesticated animals), colonial era, comparative history (Ghana-Cote d'Ivoire), gender studies (childcare), urban poverty alleviation.

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**GHANA STUDIES COUNCIL**

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E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Web site: \_\_\_\_\_

Discipline: \_\_\_\_\_

Research interests:

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