

Africanist Network, EASA

Short Report 2014

The Africanist network has existed since 2002, and has organized panels at all EASA conferences since then. The last panels were convened by board members Tilo Grätz, Dmitri Bondarenko and Petr Skalnik.

1. At the 2014 EASA conference in Tallinn, the Africanist panel focused on the concept of the cultural entrepreneur in Africa. Based on theoretical considerations and case studies from Benin, Mali, Sierra Leone and Senegal, and dealing with both successful and unsuccessful cases of cultural entrepreneurship, the panel debated the meaning and significance of entrepreneurship in contemporary Africa. In doing so, panel participants covered the relationship between cultural entrepreneurship and societal spheres such as culture, higher education, media, music and religion. The panel also discussed the usefulness of a wider, interculturally relevant understanding of entrepreneurship. For further information, please see the panel abstracts, which are available at the following link:

<http://www.nomadit.co.uk/easa/easa2014/panels.php5?PanelID=2767>

2. At the last network meeting in Tallinn, David O’Kane (Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Halle /Saale, Germany) was elected as the new convener. We thank David for taking over the tasks from Tilo and ask network members to give him their full support.
3. Future activities:
 - The network will organize a panel at the next EASA conference in Milan, Italy, in 2016. Proposals are needed with regard to the topic of this panel, and we look forward to hearing the ideas of network members where this issue is concerned.
 - We are also planning a grant application to organize an inter-conference meeting.

The Africanist network is organized via a mailing list, through which members communicate and share ideas. In order to subscribe to the list and receive messages, interested scholars only need to join the network.

Joining our network is easy: you simply address a demand of subscription using this Web-Site:

http://lists.easaonline.org/listinfo.cgi/africanists_new-easaonline.org

When subscribing, please ensure that your email address is correct.