

EASA Africanists' Network

Annual Report 2016

David O'Kane, Convenor.

Since our last report (2015), activity within the Africanists' Network has been quietly growing. The network's panel at the Milan conference of EASA, last summer, brought together an exciting array of young (and older) scholars, who presented a wide variety of papers on the theme of African futures. Under the title 'Knowledge(s) of the past, present and future in a changing Africa', we brought together papers on that theme from Madagascar, South Africa, Angola, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria and the African diaspora in the United States, as well as on the theme of the conjunction between historical systems of thought (both pre-Christian and pre-Islamic) and present and future efforts to renew African societies.

A publishing project, including some of these papers, is currently underway: please contact the network convenor for more details, if you are interested in participating in this project.

It was also decided at the Milan conference that the EASA Facebook group will be opened to admit (on request) all interested scholars and others working on African issues. We ask all network members who are not yet members of the Facebook group to join it, and we appeal to all network members to promote it among their Facebook followers. The older email list will be retained for internal network business.

We are planning a panel under the EASA Africanists' Network banner – the first of its kind outside the EASA conferences themselves – to be held at next year's Africanists' conference in Moscow, Russian Federation. Organized by the Research Council for Problems of African Countries and the Institute for African Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences, this conference will be titled "Africa and Africans in National, Regional and Global Dimensions".

Our network's panel at this conference will be announced in the near future. Please refer to our Facebook page or email list for more details!