

**Call for Conference Papers
THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA
AFRICAN STUDIES INSTITUTE**

**SIXTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON AFRICA AND ITS DIASPORA
(2019 BICAID)
November 13 – 15, 2019**

The African Studies Institute, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia is accepting proposals for its three-day international conference on Africa and Its Diaspora from November 13 - 15, 2019. This year's theme is "*The African Diaspora: Afrocentrism, Africanity, and Emergence of the Global Africa Agenda*"

The theme of this year's conference builds upon the previous engagement with issues related to voluntary and/or forced migration of Africans across the world. The focus hitherto had been on the journey and the complicated issues of African identity negotiation in the berthing nations. These issues have been further complicated with the African Union, through its constitutive act, delineating the African Diaspora (with its miscellany of milieu and experiences) as Africa's sixth region. Our goal is therefore to bring scholars together to explore aspects of *Afrocentrism* (the emphasizing of African culture and contributions of Africans to the development of Western civilization) and *Africanity* (the certain learned way in which African peoples relate to one another, to the environment and to the universe) on the continent and within Africa's near and distant Diasporas.

These aspects fit into what has been qualified as '*Africanity*' by many African and African Diasporic intellectuals. This '*Africanity*' is a notion that is not necessarily beyond the capacity of other people, but one that Africans have historically embraced in all their localities in Africa and the Diaspora. More significantly, this '*Africanity*' is now emergent as a global phenomenon linking all Afro-descendants within an Africa-centered worldview that is shaping their conceptions and assumptions about their place or the place of humanity in the Universe and in nature as well as the limits to and workings of the natural and spiritual world. The task for scholars becomes the consideration of several issues related to this '*Africanity*.' These include, but not limited to: the emergence of a global '*Africanity*;' the impact of engaging this '*Africanity*' on Africans on the continent and in the Diaspora; the recognition of a pan-African identity dependent on this '*Africanity*' in the era of increased nationalism and xenophobia; and the need for increased research focus on the intellectual and cultural heritage of Africans. A heritage that includes surviving human viciousness and immoralities such as slavery, legalized segregation, racial discrimination, colonialism and neocolonialism.

We are conveying the conference cognizant of the commemoration of 400 years of African Americans in America (1619 – 2019). It was in the Fall of 1619, that 'twenty and odd Negroes' captured in West-Central Africa arrived in the English colonies, at Point Comfort, modern-day Jamestown, Virginia. We are therefore expectant that this

academic forum will provide the opportunity for participants to consider not only the historical and contemporary effects of slavery and segregation laws on African-Americans in the United States but also the resilience and contributions of these African descendants to the development of the United States, Europe and most of the Western world. Optimistically, the deliberations at the conference will also cogitate the complex ties between African Americans and other African descendants in the Diaspora with the continent of Africa.

We are ultimately optimistic that the deliberations about this rather capaciously conceived theme will allow for the contemplation of diverse issues of intellectual importance to Africans and members of the African Diaspora. Within the broad theme of the conference, potential topics for papers include, but are not limited to, the following areas:

- Language, Literature & Film
- Peace and Conflict Resolution Studies
- Art
- Performance Arts
- Sustainable Agricultural and Environmental Development
- Diasporic Studies
- Education and Knowledge Transmission
- Anthropology/Sociology
- Religion/Philosophy
- Gender & Cultural Studies
- Latino Studies
- Diasporic Studies
- Medicine & Healthcare Systems
- Business Administration & Planning
- Family, Household & Community
- Consumer Sciences
- Political Systems
- Engineering
- Art History
- Theatre Arts
- Applied Economics
- Women Studies
- History
- Public Health
- Nutrition
- Ethnomusicology
- Caribbean Studies
- Film Studies
- Africana Studies
- Sports and recreation
- Science and Technology
- Legal and Judicial Systems

TYPES OF PRESENTATION:

Abstracts that extend beyond the theme of the conference **WILL NOT** be considered.

- Oral Presentation Session

Full Paper-Completed research work

- Panel / Roundtable Session

Position papers/literature reviews that call for large audience participation.

Authors give a brief presentation on the topic or a synopsis. This session is normally about 40 minutes to allow audience interaction.

ABSTRACTS / PROPOSALS

Each prospective presenter should submit electronically an abstract of 250 - 300 words, with at least five key words placed immediately below the abstract.

Submissions should be submitted to Tola Akindipe at asiconfe@uga.edu by **Friday, June 28, 2019**. Abstracts should include the presenter's name, title of paper, institutional affiliation, contact information (mailing address, phone number, and email address) and type of presentation (Full paper or Panel/round table). The language of presentation and abstract shall be English. Please, note that submission of abstract automatically grants conference organizers the right to publish it in the conference program and website.

CONFERENCE DEADLINES:

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| June 28, 2019 | Deadline for submission of abstracts |
| July 26, 2019 | Notification of abstract acceptance |
| September 18, 2019 | Deadline for early registration and payment |
| October 16, 2019 | Deadline for submission of all presentation
- Presenters that do not submit their presentations (PowerPoint and/or word document) by this date will not be scheduled to present nor be included in the conference program. |

All presentations not made by their authors will not be considered for any publication that emerges from the conference.

- Conference Conveners:** Dr. Akinloye Ojo (akinloye@uga.edu)
Dr. Ibigbolade Aderibigbe (iaderibi@uga.edu)
- Conference Coordinator:** Mrs. Tola Akindipe (aolutola@uga.edu)
Olumide Ajayi (Olumide.Ajayi@uga.edu)

REGISTRATION

Early Registration Fees (On or before September 18, 2019):

Professional:	\$130	Student:	\$65
---------------	-------	----------	------

Late Registration fees (After September 18, 2019):

Professional:	\$150	Student:	\$75
---------------	-------	----------	------

Student registrants will be expected to show a valid student identification card at the conference.

The conference registration fee can be paid by any major credit card (via UGA Marketplace) or a check (drawn in US dollars) payable to *African Studies Institute, University of Georgia.*