



WEST AFRICAN RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

1414 Van Hise Hall, 1220 Linden Drive, Madison, WI 53706

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email: emakward@macc.wisc.edu

August 9, 1999

Dr. Wendy Wilson Fall
Villa # 209
Cite SIPRES 2
Dakar
Republic of Senegal

Dear Wendy:

Following our recent telephone conference and my subsequent conversation with you, I am happy to offer you, on behalf of the WARA Executive Board, the position of Director of WARC/AROA in Dakar, Senegal. Please note that your candidacy also had the strong support of the Dakar based AROA Board.

The appointment is to start October 1, 1999, but as indicated in our recent conversations, we find your suggestion to have you start September 1, 1999 on a part time basis while you are in the process of phasing out from your previous position very helpful and appropriate. Your compensation during this transitional period will be negotiated with me after your formal acceptance of our offer. This is an important detail to us, as I have already indicated in my previous communications with you, that no interim director has been, or will be appointed this time, after the departure of your immediate predecessor, Dr. Fiona McLaughlin at the end of July.

The annual salary is \$28,000. The appointment is for one year initially, but it is renewable on a longer term basis, contingent on overall favorable evaluation of your performance, and on continued adequate funding. Regarding health benefits, we will urge you to pursue diligently with Astou Touré, the WARC Administrative Assistant, the search for a suitable insurance company for your coverage. We would also like to see a similar search pursued for all the Center staff.

I am faxing you this formal letter of offer following my email of earlier today. A hard copy will also be mailed to you by air mail.

Please accept our sincere congratulations and feel free to contact me, Fiona McLaughlin, Astou Touré or any WARA and AROA associates for further clarification regarding the Center, its management, its goals, etc.

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Wendy Wilson Fall

August 9, 1999

We are naturally looking forward to hearing from you very soon and we are definitely also looking forward to working with you in the coming weeks and months.

Sincerely,



Edris Makward
WARA President

cw

xc WARA Board Members ✓
Fiona McLaughlin
Astou Touré



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Tel. 608-262-2487/263-3891 Fax 608-265-4151
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October 13, 1999

To: WARA Board Members and Officers
Dr. Wendy Wilson-Fall, WARC Director
Dr. Fiona McLaughlin, 1999 WARC Director
Mrs. Astou Touré, WARC Administrative Assistant
Mrs. Heidi Massaro, CAORC

From: Edris Makward, WARA President *EM*

Please find attached a copy of the proposed working budgets for WARA and WARC/CROA for FY99/00.

I will appreciate any comments or suggestions and will get back to you regarding any changes or modifications that you may suggest. I am definitely looking forward to seeing most of you in Philadelphia in November.

Please remember to send me the following at your earliest convenience:

- Any items for inclusion on the November meetings agendas (Board and Membership)
- Any items, announcements, short articles, letters, etc. for inclusion in the Fall WARA Newsletter which I am still planning to put out in November!
- Your WARA membership check(s) (individual and institutional where applicable) to bring your membership current (to 09/00)
- Your suggestions for new Board members to replace those who are retiring after the November meetings: Cham, Hale, Joseph.
- Very Important. Your suggestions for innovative programs with budget estimates for inclusion in the USED 2000-2003 Renewal Application due NOVEMBER 4, 1999!

Merci infiniment.

WARA/WARC 1999-00 Estimated Additional Income

Sylvan Prometric	\$19,500*
Educational Advising & Translation Services	5,000
RED Income	8,000***
Exchange Programs such as the Old Dominion University, the Fulbright Morocco/Senegal, the Texas, the Kansas City program, the UPenn, WARA Dual Citizenship Project and other programs.	
Summer 1999 and past CIPE sub-contracted training projects	10,000**
- ENDA/U of Minnesota Exchange Program	1,500
- WARA Membership (Institutional & Individual)	10,000
- AROA Membership	<u>1,200</u>
TOTAL ESTIMATE	\$55,200****

*This figure is based on information provided by Oumar Ndongo in response to Fiona McLaughlin's June 29, 1999 tentative Financial Report on the Sylvan Operation. In view of the list of miscellaneous expenses incurred by WARA/CROA on account of this operation, Fiona suggests an increase of \$12,000 to be paid annually to WARC by Sylvan. Taking into consideration Oumar's call for cordial restraint in our dealings with Sylvan, I would settle for an initial adjustment of a \$6,000 increase which would bring the current total Sylvan income (before any deduction of contingency expenses on our part) to about \$25,000.

Please note that I am using above the current figure provided by O. Ndongo (11,700.000cfa = \$19,500).

**This is just an estimate. It goes without saying that with the Center's good reputation we can expect a continued flow of such income generating programs. While we now have on record a number of excellently run programs, there is room for improvement in the preparation of operating budgets that would generate actual overhead income for the Center.

*** This is a conservative estimate, but there is definitely a great potential here.

Note: **** I must insist that this is only an **estimate** amount which is based however on past experience and future prospects. The Center staff should be sensitized to the importance of using

this service part of Center activities towards improving Center infrastructure and work conditions for all. For instance, Oumar's suggestion for a total amount of \$7,800 for fringe benefits - medical coverage, retirement plan (IPRES), etc. - is probably realistic but too high at this point. We could, however, begin with the coverage of some key staff members in a first instance, followed by more colleagues as Center finances develop along the figures projected above.

- *Lunch for the personnel*: Oumar makes a strong case for this in his budgetary recommendations to me. He says it is a minor cost (only 11000cfa per month per employee) but worthy of serious consideration with an eye on effective productivity. I figured a rough total of \$3,084 on an annual basis. Rather than include this amount under the **Fringe Benefit** line, I would opt for a special line to be covered from excess Center income.

- We must not lose sight of the research component of the Center's mission. I am therefore counting on comments and suggestions from all of you regarding innovative research activities that I would gladly include in our USED renewal application which is due on November 4. Please let me hear from you all, promptly.

- Please note that USIA is allowing us \$7,700 to improve our computer facilities for researchers. Note also the high percentage of the USED grant used for salaries and administrative costs. They are definitely going to react disapprovingly of that in Washington, but I am hoping to be able to argue that we do plan to use some of the projected WARC income towards fulfilling some of our research and scholarly endeavors.

The WARA Newsletter (Fall 98/Spring 99) is now in the mail to members and associates with announcements of all the Fellowship and Internship Programs (USED, USIA, CAORC). Please send me relevant information promptly for inclusion in the Fall 99 WARA Newsletter which I plan to put out before the Philadelphia meetings in November.

WARA/WARC Budget 1999/2000
October 1, 1999-September 30, 2000

1. <u>Personnel</u>	Actual Amounts	Amount Charged USED	USIA	Other (WARA/ WARC generated income)
1. Center Director, Dr. W. Wilson-Fall	\$28,000	\$14,500	\$11,500	\$2,000
2. Sylvan STC Manager, Dr. Oumar Ndongo	7,000	600	---	6,400
3. Assistant Director	3,000	---	---	3,000
4. Administrative Assistant (Astou Touré)	3,600	3,600	---	---
5. Librarian (Abdoulaye Niang)	3,120	2,720	---	400
6. Program Assistant (RED), Madiama Mbaye	3,400	2,320	---	1,080
7. Program Assistant (Sylvan) (TBH)	3,000	---	---	3,000
8. Receptionist (Nenée Ndiaye)	2,000	1,000	---	1,000
9. Library Assistant (Cheikh Thiam)	2,000	1,000	---	1,000
10. Caretaker/Messenger (Iba F. Thiam)	1,600	1,200	---	400
11. Security (Mamadou Ba)	1,200	1,000	---	200
12. Security (Ibrahima Diedhiou)	1,200	1,000	---	200
13. Caretaker/Messenger (El-hadj B. Ndiaye)	1,000	800	---	200
14. Cleaning Person	900	600	---	300
Subtotal:	\$61,020	\$30,340	\$11,500	\$19,180

	Actual Amounts	Amount Charged USED	USIA	Other (WARA/ WARC generated income)
2. <u>Fringe Benefits</u>	3,800	1,000	---	2,800
Subtotal:	\$3,800	\$1,000	---	2,800
3. <u>Travel</u>				
Project Director Airfare, U.S./West African region + per diem	2,010	2,010	---	---
Overseas Center Director	1,800	1,300	---	500
Summer Interns (3) Foreign airfare, U.S./West Africa (3 x \$1,800)	5,400	5,400	---	---
Research Fellows (2) Airfare round trip U.S./West Africa (2 x \$1,800)	3,600	3,600	---	---
Center Researchers-in-Residence (4) International travel	5,000	---	5,000	---
In-country travel	1,000	---	1,000	---
USIA Program Participant per diem costs	21,000	---	21,000	---
Subtotal:	\$39,810	\$12,310	\$27,000	\$500

3

	Actual Amounts	Amount Charged USED	USIA	Other WARA/ (WARC generated income)
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4. Supplies

Overseas Center Operations

Office machines/maintenance	800	300	---	500
Printing and photocopying (WARC Newsletter)	1200	200	250	750
Office supplies	950	750	---	200
Postage	750	500	---	250
Cleaning supplies	500	---	---	500
Subtotal:	\$4,200	\$1,750	\$ 250	\$2,200

5. Other

Orientation Materials	1,200	---	1,200	---
<i>Overseas Center Operations:</i>				
Telecommunications	5,600	3,000	100	2,500
Electricity	4,000	2,500	---	1,500
Overseas consultants	---	---	---	---
Summer Interns Stipends (3) 3 x 1,500	4,500	4,500	---	---
Research Fellows Stipends (2) 2 x 5,000	10,000	10,000	---	---

	Actual Amounts	Amount Charged USED	USIA	Other WARA/ (WARC generated income)
<i>U.S. Office Operating Costs</i>				
Telecommunications	1,150	1,000	150	---
Postage	1,000	1,000	---	---
Printing (Newsletters - WARA & WARC)	1,000	---	---	1,000
Room/Equipment Rental	1,600	---	1,600	---
Update of Computer Facilities for Researchers (with printers)	7,700	---	7,700	---
Additional computer & printer	3,700	---	---	3,700
Subtotal:	\$41,450	\$22,000	\$10,750	\$8,700
6. <u>Library improvement & Preparation for RED equipment</u>	6,000	2,000	---	4,000
Subtotal:	\$6,000	\$2,000	---	\$4,000
7. <u>Cost of Audit/Accounting</u>	1,100	600	500	---
Subtotal:	\$1,100	\$600	\$500	---
8. <u>Center Courtyard Tiling</u>	2,500	---	---	2,500
Subtotal:	2,500	---	---	\$2,500
9. <u>Total Direct Costs</u>	\$159,880	\$70,000	\$50,000	\$39,880
10. <u>Indirect Costs</u>	\$5,600	\$5,600	---	---
11. <u>Total Costs</u>	\$165,480	\$75,600	\$50,000	\$39,880*

*See attached 1999/2000 WARA/WARC Estimated Additional Income

WARC/CROA Budget 1999/2000
October 1, 1999-September 30, 2000

Center salaries are paid in cfa (except Overseas Director's)
***indicates amounts transferred to WARC Account from WARA**

1. <u>Personnel</u>	Actual Amounts		Amount Charged USED	USIA	Other (WARA/ WARC generated income)
		<u>Monthly cfa</u>			
1. Center Director, Dr. W. Wilson-Fall	\$28,000	(\$2,333)	\$14,500	\$11,500	\$2,000
2. Sylvan STC Manager, Dr. Oumar Ndongo	7,000	(350.000)	600	---	6,400
3. Assistant Director	3,000	(150.000)	---	---	3,000
4. Administrative Assistant (Astou Touré)	3,600	(180.000)	3,600	---	---
5. Librarian (Abdoulaye Niang)	3,120	(160.000)	2,720	---	400
6. Program Assistant (RED), Madiama Mbaye	3,400	(170.000)	2,320	---	1,080
7. Program Assistant (Sylvan) (TBH)	3,000	(150.000)	---	---	3,000
8. Receptionist (Nenée Ndiaye)	2,000	(100.000)	1,000	---	1,000
9. Library Assistant (Cheikh Thiam)	2,000	(100.000)	1,000	---	1,000
10. Caretaker/Messenger (Iba F. Thiam)	1,600	(80.000)	1,200	---	400
11. Security (Mamadou Ba)	1,200	(60.000)	1,000	---	200
12. Security (Ibrahima Diedhiou)	1,200	(60.000)	1,000	---	200

<u>Personnel cont.</u>	Actual Amounts		Amount Charged USED	USIA	Other (WARA/ WARC generated income)
		<u>Monthly cfa</u>			
13. Caretaker/Messenger (El-hadj B. Ndiaye)	1,000	(50.000)	800	---	200
14. Cleaning Person	900	(45.000)	600	---	300
Subtotal:	\$61,020		\$30,340 (\$15,840* (9,504,000cfa)	\$11,500	\$19,180 (11,508,000cfa)
2. <u>Fringe Benefits</u>	3,800		1,000	---	2,800
Subtotal:	\$3,800		\$1,000*	---	2,800
3. <u>Travel</u>					
Overseas Center Director	1,800		1,300	---	500
Center Researchers-in-Residence (4)					
International travel	2,000		---	2,000*	---
In-country travel	1,000		---	1,000*	---
USIA Program Participants per diem costs	21,000		---	21,000*	---
Subtotal:	\$25,800		\$1,300*	\$24,000	\$500
4. <u>Supplies</u>					
<i>Overseas Center Operations</i>					
Office machines/maintenance	800		300	---	500
Printing and photocopying (WARC Newsletter)	1200		200	250	750
Office supplies	950		750	---	200

<u>Supplies cont.</u>	Actual Amounts	Amount Charged USED	USIA	Other (WARA/ WARC generated income)
Postage	750	500	---	250
Cleaning supplies	500	---	---	500
Subtotal:	\$4,200	\$1,750*	\$ 250*	\$2,200*
5. <u>Other</u>				
Orientation Materials	1,200	---	1,200	---
<i>Overseas Center Operations:</i>				
Telecommunications	5,600	3,000*	100*	2,500
Electricity	4,000	2,500*	---	1,500
Room/Equipment Rental	1,600	---	1,600	---
Update of Computer Facilities for Researchers (with printers)	7,700	---	7,700	---
Additional computer & printer	3,700	---	---	3,700
Subtotal:	\$23,800	\$5,500*	\$ 10,600*	\$7,700
6. <u>Library improvement & Preparation for RED equipment</u>	6,000	2,000	---	4,000
Subtotal:	\$6,000	\$2,000*	---	\$4,000
7. <u>Center Courtyard Tiling</u>	2,500	---	---	2,500
Subtotal:	2,500	---	---	\$2,500
8. <u>Total Direct Costs</u>	\$127,120	\$41,890	\$46,350	\$38,880

**See attached 1999/2000 WARA/WARC Estimated Additional Income

WARC/CROA Expenditures	Total Amounts Budgeted	Amounts Transferred to WARC Account & Source
Salaries	\$61,020 (36,612.000cfa)	\$15,840 (USED)
Fringe Benefits	\$ 3,800 (2,280.000cfa)	\$ 1,000 (USED)
*Travel Overseas Director	\$ 1,800 (1.080.000cfa)	\$ 250 (USIA (Paid for in U.S.))
*Travel Researchers in Residence (International & in country)	\$ 3,000 (1,800.000cfa)	\$ 3,000 (USIA)
USIA Pogram Participant per diem	\$21,000 (12,600.000cfa)	\$ 21,000 (USIA)
Supplies	\$ 4,200 (2,520.000cfa)	\$ 1,750 (USED)
Telecommunications	\$ 5,600 (3,360.000cfa)	\$ 250 (USIA)
Electricity	\$ 4,000 (2,400.000cfa)	\$ 3,000 (USED)
Update of Researcher Computer Facilities	\$ 7,700 (4,620.000cfa)	\$ 100 (USIA)
Additional Center Computer Printers	\$ 3,700 (2,220.000cfa)	\$ 2,500 (USED)
Library Improvement & Preparation for RED Equipment	\$ 6,000 (3,600.000cfa)	---
Center Courtyard Tiling	\$ 2,500 (1,500.000cfa)	\$ 2,000 (USED)
Room/Equipment Rental	\$ 1,600 (9,600.000cfa)	---
Orientation Materials	\$ 1,200 (720.000cfa)	\$ 1,600 (USIA)
Grand Totals:	\$127.120 (76,272.000cfa)	\$61,190 (\$26,090 USED) (\$35,100 USIA)

*Please note that if international travel is paid for from the U.S. totally or partially, those amounts will not be transferred to Dakar.

Note: In view of the time it takes to clear expenditure authorization through the UW-Madison system, Leigh and I have agreed to have funds forwarded to WARC for 2 quarters at a time. The first request to start NOW. But please keep the books straight - N'est-ce pas, Astou? And send precise, clear quarterly financial reports promptly. Merci, Edris.

Delivered-To: b.lindfors@mail.utexas.edu
X-Sender: senekans@pop.telecomplus.sn
Mime-Version: 1.0
Date: Thu, 6 May 1999 18:03:43 +0000
To: robindav@hsl.hst.msu.edu, ejulien@indiana.edu,
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joseph@hws.edu, mcham@fac.howard.edu
From: senekans@telecomplus.sn (Leonardo A. VILLALON)
Subject: Follow up on WARC
Status:

Dear colleagues and board members,

You may or may not get this message in time for the WARA teleconference today, but it will still be relevant afterwards. This follows on my report which I hope you were all able to read. Many thanks to those individuals who gave me feedback.

I have two drafts of proposals that I have attached for the board's consideration for inclusion in the USIA grant. The first is a proposal and tentative budget to fund a collaborative fellowship which, I think, is self explanatory. The second is the draft of a proposal for the Dak'Art Biennale which was put together hurriedly this morning by Joanna Grabski. It's a rough proposal, but at least it should serve as the basis for discussion of the project. We'll be working together to finesse the proposal in the next week or two.

I hope you all have a productive teleconference. I wish I could be part of it!

All the best,

Fiona Mc Laughlin

I'm pasting these in rather than sending them as attachments because some of you reported difficulty in opening the attachments last time.

DRAFT PROPOSAL

WARC Scholars-in-residence Collaborative Research Fellowship

The West African Research Center in Dakar, Senegal, will offer an annual month long fellowship to facilitate the completion of a joint research project between a West African scholar and a North American scholar engaged in collaborative research. The fellows will spend a month at the Center as scholars-in-residence in order to complete their project. Priority will be given to scholars who have already initiated a collaborative project and who require work time together in order to finish a manuscript such as a book, book chapter, or journal article.

Eligibility: Scholars must have a doctorate and hold a permanent faculty or research position at a West African and North American educational institution respectively and have a scholarly record in their field of collaborative research. Scholars must be current members of WARA or AROA.

Terms and conditions: The fellowship will cover round trip air fare from the scholars' home institution to Dakar, a maintenance stipend for a month's residency in Dakar, and a supplementary stipend for materials

(books, software, photocopies, etc.) for the West African fellow. Fellows are required to be in residence at WARC where they will be given an office for the duration of the fellowship, to conduct a scholarly seminar on their research project at the Center, and to be available for consultation with other scholars associated with the Center. The Center and the fellowship must be acknowledged in any publication resulting from the collaborative project.

Applications: Joint proposals of no more than ten pages in length will be solicited by WARA with a deadline designed to give reviewers enough time to make a decision and inform the grantees by March 1. Proposals should outline the nature of the project at hand, present the goals of residency in Dakar in concrete terms, describe the history of the collaboration between the two scholars on the project at hand, summarize the significance of the research and the resulting publications. A curriculum vitae and letters of reference should also be submitted.

ESTIMATED BUDGET

Airfare for both fellows	\$2500.00
Maintenance stipend in Dakar 2 @ \$2500 (adjustments to be made if W African scholar lives in Dakar)	\$5000.00
Stipend for materials \$500.00	
TOTAL	\$8000.00

Question: can WARC overhead be written into this for office space?

ROUGH DRAFT PROPOSAL

For:

WARC sponsored series of events dealing with the visual arts in Dakar planned to coincide with the Dak'Art Biennale in April/May 2000. (Exact date unconfirmed).

The Dak'Art Biennale is one of two art biennales that occur on the African continent, the other being in Johannesburg. In addition to a large scale art exhibit, it is an international meeting of artists, critics, art historians, collectors and gallery owners. WARC has already mounted a series of solo exhibitions of contemporary Senegalese art based on the doctoral research of Joanna Grabski, a PhD candidate from Indiana University. This series has met with enormous success in Dakar among artists, critics, and others involved in the art world, and has stimulated a reformulation of the relationship of contemporary art to the sphere of

research. Continuing this initiative, WARC would serve as a "pôle d'extension" of the Biennale events. WARC would be the only research center to host Biennale events outside the usual gallery and museum venues.

There are two components to the events:

- 1) An exhibition of six contemporary Senegalese artists [and possibly South African artists involved in a collaborative endeavor with Senegalese artists]* Curated by Joanna Grabski.
- 2) A series of "conversations" or public group discussions on contemporary African art by a panel of artists, curators, art historians, art critics, collectors and gallery owners. The topic will include "Universal issues of contemporary artistic practice" and "Towards a global market: Art in Dakar in the year 2000."

BUDGET DRAFT (This budget is a very rough one. We might be able to cut corners somewhere, but would probably need \$5000 to do it right.)

1. Exhibition

Preparation of art works, framing, hanging, labels 24 pieces @ \$75 each	\$1800
Production and printing of accompanying narrative pamphlets 200 copies	\$2500
Curator honorarium	\$500
Opening reception	\$250

2. Conversations

Participant honorarium 12 x \$40	\$480
Refreshments	\$150
TOTAL	\$5680

Leonardo A. Villalon
Fiona Mc Laughlin
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Department of State
Washington DC 20521-2130
Home phone in Dakar: (221) 824-21-30

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joseph@hws.edu, mcham@fac.howard.edu
From: senekans@telecomplus.sn (Leonardo A. VILLALON)
Subject: WARC report
Status:

Dear Colleagues and WARA board members,

As I promised last week, here are my report, evaluation, and recommendations for the West African Research Center in Dakar. I apologize for spending so much time on administrative details in the report, but they are crucial to the functioning of the center. I hope that you will have a chance to read this report before the teleconference so that you have the center's issues in mind. I would especially like to have some feedback from the teleconference on my two proposals under the rubric "the larger picture."

Please respond to me at the following address director@mail.ucad.sn
I had to use a different account to send you the document. If you do not receive the attachment, can't open it, or when it's opened it's unreadable, let me know and I'll try to rectify it.

Cheers,

Fiona Mc Laughlin
WARC Director

 WARC report

Leonardo A. Villalon
Fiona Mc Laughlin
c/o USIS Dakar
Department of State
Washington DC 20521-2130
Home phone in Dakar: (221) 824-21-30

West African Research Center
Report on center activities and suggestions for future planning
April 23, 1999
Prepared by Fiona Mc Laughlin, Director

The first section of this report describes the activities of the West African Research Center from January, 1999, when I assumed the directorship, up to the present, and gives a description of programming that has been planned for the summer months. The second section contains my evaluation of the current situation at WARC and suggestions for future planning.

TALKS AND CONFERENCES

Continuing the WARC tradition of hosting academic talks, several scholars, both local and visiting, presented their research findings to interested audiences. These included:

Robert Hemenway. Chancellor of the University of Kansas. January 22. "Zora Neale Hurston: A Literary Biography." (80 people in attendance). Co-hosted by USIS-Dakar.

Hamady Bocoum. Head of the Department of Protohistory and Archeology, IFAN. February 24. "La métallurgie du fer et la question de la stratification sociale dans l'espace sénégalais."

Jennifer Keane. Fulbright Scholar - Paris. February. "Colin Powell: A Child of the Bronx." Co-hosted by USIS-Dakar.

Peter Mark. Department of History. Wesleyan University. March 17. On early Luso-African identity in Senegambia

Barbara Frank. Department of Art History. SUNY-Stonybrook. April 15. "African Ceramic Traditions: Old World and New."

I am planning a two and a half day conference for the month of June on the topic "The State of Research on Senegalese Languages" which will include talks by researchers from IFAN, CLAD, the Department of Linguistics and related departments at UCAD and the University of Saint-Louis.

CONTEMPORARY ART PROJECT

In conjunction with Joanna Grabski, a PhD student and Fulbright researcher from Indiana University, WARC is currently hosting a series of four exhibits by contemporary Senegalese artists. The first exhibit in the series was entitled "L'œil vif: une exposition individuelle de Chérif Thiam" and included twenty oil and acrylic canvases by an artist who studied at the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Dakar in the 1970s and who works on somewhat surreal figurative paintings inspired by his early life in a small Senegalese village. The second exhibit is entitled "La peinture sans peinture: Une sélection d'œuvres récentes de Abdoulaye Ndoye." Ndoye's work is an exploration into the use of natural materials such as henna and bissap alongside more traditional materials and techniques such as acrylic and blockprints. Two more exhibits will follow in May and June.

This series of exhibitions is important in several ways. First, the linking of a research center with the contemporary art scene in Dakar has given WARC a reputation as

being somewhat avant-garde and willing to experiment with new research paradigms. There are currently plans to scan works from the exhibit to be put on the WARC website, along with a text by Grabski, and to link the site to the Smithsonian's National Museum of African Art. This step would both increase visibility for WARC and make the website a valuable research tool. Second, the exhibiting and viewing of contemporary art at a research center has also had a positive effect on many artists, who appreciate the fact that their work is being taken seriously as an intellectual commodity worthy of scholarly investigation. As a result of these activities the Center has already been approached as a host site for the Dakar Biennale in the year 2000.

JUNIOR RESEARCHER'S DISCUSSION GROUP

In January I initiated a discussion group for junior researchers (PhD students) undertaking fieldwork and archival research in Senegal. The group meets informally but on a regular basis (every one to two weeks) to discuss practical and ethical problems related to research, to allow individuals to seek advice on particular problems they may be having in the field, to present and discuss research findings, and to discuss relevant readings chosen by participants. (This week, for example, we are discussing Jean-Loup Amselle's *Logiques mélangées*; next week we will be discussing strategies for dissertation writing.) Participants have included graduate students from MSU, U of Texas-Austin, Indiana University, SOAS, and U of Chicago. I think this is an extremely valuable activity which has given the students some additional structure in their fieldwork and has allowed me to be in touch with what junior researchers are doing.

SUMMER PROGRAMS

As has been the case in the past, WARC continues to serve as an infrastructure for various programs that come to Senegal in the summer. This year we are involved with at least six such programs. These include:

Fulbright-Hays Seminar: "Morocco and Senegal: Faces of Islam in Africa" which is being run by the Moroccan-American Commission for Educational and Cultural Exchange. (Director, Jane Fatima Casewit). This group of US high school and college teachers will spend 10 days in Senegal after a three week stay in Morocco. The focus in Senegal will be on local Islam and the Sufi brotherhoods. I am the coordinator for this group. There is a likelihood that this program will be funded again in the future, so I anticipate further collaboration and cooperation with the Moroccan-American Commission.

University of Pennsylvania/CODESRIA/WARC program: "Dual Intellectual Citizenship." This program is a series of 8 seminars over the course of 8 weeks for a small group of American and West African Africanist graduate students, whose goal is to establish a pattern of rapprochement between African and Western scholarship on Africa, and between African and Western scholars and students. This is the first of three funded years for this program. Coordinators are Oumar Ndongo (WARC) and Koumakh Ndour (ESEA).

Fulbright Hays Group Project Abroad. (Director, Valdenia Winn, Kansas City Community College, KC, Mo.) This five week program is for community college and high school teachers who will spend their time studying the history and culture of West Africa and collect materials for a web page on the same theme. The coordinator is Oumar Ndongo.

NEH Summer Seminar run through Old Dominion College and directed by Chris Drake (project director) and Irene d'Almeida (academic director). High school teachers will spend time in the states studying the work of African writers. They will then come to Senegal and

Gambia for three weeks each in order to meet writers and learn about the societies from which they emerge. Coordinator is Oumar Ndongo.

University of Texas - Arlington. The Africa Program (Senegal and Gambia), directed by Alusine Diallo. This project is for students interested in the history of Senegambia. They will spend 3 weeks in Senegal and 2 in Gambia. Coordinator is Oumar Ndongo.

FACILITIES

WARC continues to operate on a very low budget with little room for expansion. We have, however, been able to support the following developments:

Outfitting of researcher's offices.

WARC currently has two private offices for faculty researchers. These offices are equipped with new locally made desks with a locking cabinet, and small bookshelves and file holders. One of the offices has an e-mail line and we are going to install an e-mail line in the other. The offices are currently being used by Leonardo Villalón, Fulbright professor at the Université Cheikh Anta Diop, and Rokhaya Fall, country coordinator for the Women Writing Africa Project for which WARC also provides an infrastructure.

We also have a researcher's room for junior (non-faculty) researchers, outfitted with three desks (also with locking cabinets, bookshelves and file holders), two computers, and e-mail lines. Unfortunately, the computers are of such a vintage model that almost no-one uses them. We have also decided to disable the e-mail outlets in the researchers' room to prevent expensive net-surfing which we have no way of regulating at present. There is a computer in the reception area which researchers can use for e-mail.

Library

We bought a small collection of approximately thirty volumes of anglophone African literature from an independent bookseller in Dakar who specializes in anglophone works.

Generator

We now have an electrical power generator, bought by Sylvan Prometrics and shipped to us. We are currently building a small brick shed in which to house the generator and other miscellaneous items. Sylvan will reimburse us for expenses associated with the generator.

Grounds

The grounds are improving as the shrubs and grass grow. Of course, the grass demands lots of water and I think that it might have been more prudent to have planted a garden more adapted to the climate. If the lawn ends up being too much trouble or is not viable, we might want to consider another option.

Chairs

I bought forty patio style plastic chairs to accommodate audiences for our programs without having to request chairs from the USIS warehouse which requires 72 hour advanced notice.

STANDARDIZATION

I have been working on standardizing our fees for services and coordination of programs, and am hopeful that once the new system is in place we should be able to generate substantial WARC income for running our own programs.

PART TWO

EVALUATION OF WARC'S CURRENT STATUS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

As we all know, WARC has been underfunded in the past and has suffered from the lack of a long term director in recent years. Consequently, the Center has grown in a somewhat haphazard way. Hopefully, with the new financing possibilities, both of these related problems can be solved. I think that WARC personnel have managed to do a good job considering the lack of resources that have been available up to now, and these comments are written in the spirit of fairly assessing the current situation and giving the next director something to work with.

IMMEDIATE PROBLEMS

1) For various reasons, WARC does not yet have the status of an NGO, and it will most likely be at least another year until this is achieved. In the meantime, WARC personnel have no contracts, and thus no job security nor access to state social services or medical subsidies, nor are they accruing retirement benefits. There are other ways to regularize the personnel, but which I simply cannot do right now because it would take all my time from now until I leave and necessitate considerable legal expertise. Questions to be asked include: what kind of contracts can we provide personnel with if our funding is on a year to year basis? What kind of salary structure can we provide? Thankfully we have had no major health crises on our hands, but one of the gardiens recently required several tests, an x-ray, and medicine, all of which we paid for. Two of the personnel recently got married and are worried about access to family health benefits.

2) Our computer equipment is inadequate for the Center's needs. We urgently need a computer and printer for the administrative assistant, Astou Touré; a computer with CD-ROM capacity, printer, and cataloguing software for our librarian; and a printer for the computer room. At the next level of needs is a photocopier for the library and a scanner for the computer room so that Madiama Mbaye can work effectively on the web page, produce our brochures, etc.

3) Perhaps the biggest task is to centralize the finances of WARC (yes, I know decentralization is in, but not for a Center!). I have been able to do a little bit of this by setting appropriate fee schedules for scholarly programs and in house services such as e-mail, fax, etc.), but I think it will take more than a year to get everything streamlined piece by piece. Part of this is due to unexpired contracts with various parties such as Sylvan Prometrics (who, in my opinion, should be paying us a lot more than they are, but we have to wait until the current contract is up to correct that), ENDA - U of Minnesota, the buvette, etc. Before any contracts are renewed or new agreements made, the terms should clearly studied to make sure that WARC's best interests are covered. My hardest task this year has been to get a clear understanding of the center's finances, but it seems that we are getting almost no overhead from anything we do. Money for different services, such as translation and program coordination, goes to individuals in an ad hoc fashion, rather than being centralized in a single WARC account. I am hoping that this will change and have used the summer program with the Moroccan-American Commission as an example of how we can generate important income from all the services we provide. The model for such programs up to now has been that a fee goes to the individual coordinator with some extra benefits for personnel directly involved in the program, and almost nothing goes to WARC. This also seems to be true of other services. These issues, and others like them, raise the question of equitable salaries for personnel. For example, Oumar Ndongo, who is coordinating many of the summer programs, is not paid directly by WARC when there is a director here. Consequently, and quite logically, he charges his own coordination fee to the programs for remuneration.

4) The WARC library is extremely underfunded. There is no budget for acquisitions and no appropriate software for cataloguing the collection. The librarian, Abdoulaye Niang, has no assistant and no photocopier machine in his office. When he goes to the main office to make photocopies for library users, there is no security in the library. New furniture is also needed for the reading room. It seems to me that this is one area where we should invest any money that we can. A research center can only hope to attract good researchers if it has good research resources. The bulk of the collection was inherited from the USIA-library when it closed its doors to the public a couple of years ago; thus, although we have a sizeable collection in terms of numbers of volumes, most of the collection does not serve the goals of the center and its focus on West Africa. As a result, it is frequented most by English students from the Université Cheikh Anta Diop who are working on American themes. I have requested copies of books and articles from West Africanist scholars to be donated to the library. Some are happy to give their works while others decline, citing cost as the main impediment; nevertheless, I think that we need to make a concerted effort to fund the library and steer the collection towards a West African focus. In this spirit I recently allocated some funds to acquire volumes in anglophone African literature for the library while rejecting British classics, although all were on the required reading list for the maîtrise program in the English department at UCAD.

RECOMMENDATIONS

There are several immediate management and administrative-type problems that need to be taken care of, such as working on personnel contracts, evaluating salaries, and reviewing and centralizing the finances of the center. Although the following recommendations could only be taken after careful consideration, I hope they might serve as a guideline for future directors.

FINANCES

All payment from outside parties for WARC's services and services of its employees should be paid directly into a central WARC account. WARC employees should then be paid a monthly salary commensurate with their job description, qualifications, and experience. This also entails that all work done on WARC premises by personnel must be WARC related.

PERSONNEL

WARC personnel should receive salaries commensurate with their job description, qualifications and experience. In addition to the gardiens, our key personnel are:

Administrative Assistant	Astou Touré
Computer	Madiama Mbaye
Computer assistant	Sarrany Bodian
Librarian	Abdoulaye Niang

I recommend that Oumar Ndongo be given a regular position at the Center, along the lines of Special Programs Director. I also recommend that we hire a receptionist and a library assistant, and that Sarrany Bodian be hired full time by WARC. The computer personnel split their time between Sylvan and WARC, and when the RED project finally gets installed we will need fulltime staff there to monitor its use. We need some advanced notice of the RED project's arrival so that we can prepare an administrative and security infrastructure. This may even entail hiring another person for either Sylvan or the RED room.

LIBRARY

I recommend that we concentrate our efforts on building a good collection of materials on West Africa at the center. This will require some investment, but will be well worth it. One valuable resource would be to have copies of theses and dissertations written in the sub-region and in the US. I suggest that we make the initial investment for the infrastructure: computer, printer, software, and furniture, and set aside an acquisitions budget for monthly purchases.

THE LARGER PICTURE

Although it sometimes seems as if all my time and energy is spent on the basic questions of administration and management, I am confident that our increased funding and the prospects of a long term director who can standardize systems of charging for our services in a reasonable way will go a long way in solving these immediate problems. More interesting, perhaps, is what I see as long range goals and focus of the Center. Here are just two of my suggestions on how we might best enhance our profile, which I put forth for eventual discussion at the fall ASA meeting in Philadelphia.

I think we should consider the possibility of picking a research theme to be the Center's focus or research priority during, say, a three year period. The theme should be quite broad so as to encompass a wide array of approaches and disciplines, but it would also give the Center a more defined profile. Without actually suggesting these specific topics, I am thinking of something along the lines of 'Islam in West Africa' or 'Urban West Africa' or 'The West African Environment' - topics vast enough to cover an array of disciplines. In selecting such a theme for a three year period we could give priority to purchasing research materials in that area, awarding fellowships in that area, organizing a triennial symposium on the theme, request funding from other sources for larger multi-country projects on the theme, and maybe even producing a volume on the theme. Although we would obviously not exclude other kinds of projects, in distributing our resources for fellowships and the like we would give priority to research in that area. I leave this open for everyone to think about, but personally, I think that if it were carried out well, it could do much to elevate the status of WARC as a serious research center with specific research goals.

My second proposal concerns the establishment of a WARC collaborative fellowship which would entail the funding of a collaborative research project between a West African and an American research, preferably at the final stage of putting together a joint article. We would accept collaborative proposals from scholars and the fellowship would fund the West African researcher's transportation and stipend or per diem in Dakar, the American's air fare and a small stipend, and some money for materials and photocopying, etc. We could give them an office here at the center and ask that they present their research in a public forum here at WARC. I propose that we have one of these fellowships per year, and that priority be given to those who are at the final stage of their collaborative project, and, all other things being equal, those whose project best fits our chosen research agenda for the three year period at hand.

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN—MADISON

**DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES
AND LITERATURE**

1414 Van Hise Hall
1220 Linden Drive
Madison, Wisconsin 53706-1557
Telephone: 608/262-2487
FAX: 608/265-4151

May 6, 1999

Fax to: Prof. Bernth Lindfors

From: Edris Makward, WARA President



WEST AFRICAN RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

1414 Van Hise Hall, 1220 Linden Drive, Madison, WI 53706

Tel. 608-262-2487/263-3891 Fax 608-265-4151
email: cmakward@mac.wisc.edu

WARA - collaborative Research Fellowship
annual meeting - comp report
1-3 no. prepared already
with a new collaboration
5/5/99
1-10

Mary Ellen
fax from FIONA
WARC - biennial
"Virtual Africa"
Dallas
Ante's notice
Exhibition of 6 languages
1999
5 Africa

April 30, 1999

SPRING 1999 TELECONFERENCE

THURSDAY, MAY 6, 1999 1:30 - 3:00 P.M. central

IMPORTANT NOTE:

Members must call the Conference number just a few minutes before the agreed upon meeting time: **Dial In Number: (888) 232-0365 Participant Code: 594916**

AGENDA

1. Announcements: - USDE Annual Performance Report.
- USIA/CAORC Grant starting 09/01/99 - ending 08/31/00. (\$50,000 and subsequently \$80,000). **Application due May 14, 1999,**
2. Center Director: Job description and hiring strategy.
3. USDE 1999 Summer Fellowships and Internships awardees. (Attached list)
Internship Orientation, Madison, WI May 14-15, 1999.
4. Center Activities and finances: (see Fiona McLaughlin's report).
 - Current activities
 - Future plans - Second WARA International Symposium 2001 (?)
 - Suggestions
5. Other Business.

Trans. Ed. & Mon. list

Rockefeller - USIS + Rockefeller -

Wor's Data

Dual detail integrity
Good student from other
AF Universities



WEST AFRICAN RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

1414 Van Hise Hall, 1220 Linden Drive, Madison, WI 53706

Tel. 608-262-2487/263-3891 Fax 608-265-4151
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Job Announcement

Director of the West African Research Center Dakar, Senegal

Proposed job description based on input from Rob Mortimer, Leigh Swigart, Fiona McLaughlin.

The West African Research Association (WARA), a scholarly association whose headquarters are at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, seeks a director for its center in Dakar, Senegal. The mandate of WARA is to promote scholarly exchange and research collaboration between the United States and West Africa. It receives its principal funding from the U.S. Department of Education and the United States Information Agency. Efforts will be pursued vigorously from both sides of the Atlantic to secure additional funding from other sources.

The director manages a facility of some 15 rooms located near the Université Cheikh Anta Diop in the Fann-Résidence neighborhood. The Center includes a library and reading rooms, a seminar or lecture room, the Regional Electronic Database and computer lab, several offices for visiting scholars, and administrative offices. The director manages a staff of nine professional and service personnel. The director works very closely with and reports periodically to the WARA President and the WARA Board and its officers. It is also important that s/he periodically work closely in collaboration with the officers and members of the Association de Recherche Ouest-Africaine (AROA), the regional counterpart of WARA to generate collectively stimulating scholarly and cultural activities. More information on WARA and the Center can be found on the WARA website: <http://polyglot.lss.wisc.eduj/afirst/wara/html>. The regional nature of WARA/WARC cannot be overemphasized, or through the Madison, Wisconsin WARA office.

The director will be expected, among other activities, to:

- participate in the elaboration of the Center's annual budget;
- oversee and report on the Center's budget according to strict guidelines (quarterly financial reports);
- facilitate the West African study and research activities of WARA members;
- expand the network of AROA members in the West African sub-region and set up study and research programs for this membership;
- organize a program of lectures, round tables, and seminars by local and visiting scholars designed to share the fruits of their research and reflection in all disciplines on West Africa;
- edit and disseminate a biannual newsletter;
- actively engage in fund-raising and grant writing;



Winston-Salem State University

601 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive
WINSTON-SALEM, NORTH CAROLINA 27110

April 24, 1999

Professor Edris Makward
Dept. of African Languages and Literatures
University of Wisconsin-Madison
1414 Van Hise Hall
1220 Linden Drive
Madison, WI 53706

Professor Makward:

I would like to submit my candidacy for the directorship of the West African Research Center in Dakar, Senegal.

A profound belief and commitment to the preservation of African history and culture through research endeavors and other forms of educational exchange and dialogue has brought me to this place in my career. I have had Fulbright assignments. The first one, to Senegal (1983-1984), led to the completion of a dissertation on the Senegalese novel. Later I served as Fulbright lecturer at the Université Abdou Moumouni Dioffo in Niamey, Niger (1991-1993). My own research focuses on the Sahel region of West Africa and has resulted in several publications and a volume of essays soon to be released by Africa World Press. At the present time I am a representative to the executive council of the African Literature Association (member since 1982) and served as chair of the Women's Caucus. I am also on the executive committee for the "Women Writing Africa Project" of the Feminist Press. I have formed working relationships with writers, filmmakers and artists from and within several African countries.

From 1972-1976 I served as the Associate Director of the Office of Veteran Student Services at the University of the District of Columbia. While in that position I assisted the director with grant and proposal writing. I have also attended grant and proposal writing seminars. Other administrative positions that I have held include: Coordinator of Academic Advising and Counseling for Developmental Education at Bowling Green State University; Graduate Administrative Associate for Developmental Education at the Ohio State University; Chair of the Department of Foreign Languages at North Carolina Wesleyan College and most recently interim chairperson of the Department of English and Foreign Languages at Winston-Salem State University. While holding chairperson positions I was responsible for budget management,

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Collegially,

Debra S. Boyd
Debra S. Boyd, Ph.D.

Delivered-To: b.lindfors@mail.utexas.edu
X-Sender: crwillar@facstaff.wisc.edu
Mime-Version: 1.0
Date: Mon, 03 May 1999 13:01:27 -0500
To: b.lindfors@mail.utexas.edu
From: Chris Willard-Waldo <crwillar@facstaff.wisc.edu>
Subject: WARA Teleconference Agenda
Status:

If at all possible, could you please give me a fax number so I could fax you the attachments for the teleconference.

April 30, 1999

SPRING 1999 TELECONFERENCE

THURSDAY, MAY 6, 1999 1:30 - 3:00 P.M. central

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 - Current activities
 - Future plans - Second WARA International Symposium 2001 (?)
 - Suggestions
5. Other Business.

*See 5 days ago
Richard Lerville
- change
5/12/99
Fiona McLaughlin*



WEST AFRICAN RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

1414 Van Hise Hall, 1220 Linden Drive, Madison, WI 53706

Tel. 608-262-2487/263-3891 Fax 608-265-4151
email: emakward@mscc.wisc.edu

000000000000

August 2, 1999

Fax to: David Robinson, Leigh Swigart, Eileen Julien, Joseph Harris, Mary Ellen Lane, Fiona McLaughlin, Robert Baum, James Delehanty, John W. Franklin, Thomas Hale, Bernth Lindors, I. William Zartman, Oumar Ndongo, George Joseph, Mbaye Cham

From: Edris Makward, WARA President

Re: Additional recommendation letters for WARA Directorship applicants and ranking of Applications

Rankings of Applications for WARC Director

	Boyd	Dakubu	Ibrahim	Lumbly	Moseley	Thiaw	Wilson
Baum	4	7	2	7	2	7	1
Cham							
Delehanty							
Franklin							
Hale							
Harris							
Joseph							
Julien	3	1	4	7	7	7	2
Lane	1	7	7	7	7	7	1
Lindfors							
Makward	2	3	4	7	5	7	1
McLaughlin							
Ndongo							
Robinson							
Swigart	3	4	2	7	5	6	1
Zartman	1	3	5	6	3	7	2
Totals:	14	25	24	41	29	41	8

UNIVERSITY OF GHANA

Telephone: Accra, 775381, 501790 (Direct)
Telegrams & Cables: UNIVERSITY, LEGON
Telex 2556 UGL GH
In case of reply
please quote



ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
REGISTRAR'S OFFICES
P. O. BOX 25
LEGON

My Ref. No.AF.10.....

June 29, 1999

Your Ref. No.

Dear Sir/Madam,

PROF. M.E. KROPP DAKUBU
APPLICATION FOR DIRECTORSHIP
WEST AFRICAN RESEARCH CENTRE

I am glad to write in support of Professor Dakubu's application. She is an exceptionally strong candidate, and your gain will be our loss.

Though not a Ghanaian, Professor Dakubu holds the enviable distinction of being the foremost linguistic authority on one of our Ghanaian languages (Dagaare).

And although primarily a researcher, with an extensive publication record, Prof. Dakubu has also distinguished herself as an administrator. During her one year as Deputy Director (an elected position) of our Institute of African Studies, she rationalized its academic administration. During her nine years as Director of our Language Centre, which is a position appointed by the Vice-Chancellor of the University, the Centre saw a notable improvement in academic output. Her relations with staff and students were very good, so that she was able to recruit several new staff of excellent calibre, something that is not easy to do in our current economic situation. She also attracted a number of international programmes to the Centre, to the financial benefit of both the Centre and the University at large.

I know Prof. Dakubu to be an experienced and conscientious teacher and administrator, who has got along well with colleagues from all Faculties on University Boards and Committees, several of which she had chaired. I am sure she will make an excellent Director for your Research Institute.

I might add that Professor Dakubu is one of the truly outstanding scholars it has been my privilege to know. She is simply - brilliant!

Sincerely,

(A.T. Konu)

Deputy Registrar (Academic Affairs)



Department of History

July 25, 1999

WARA
Department of Languages and Literature
Room 1414 Van Hise Hall
1220 Linden Drive
University of Wisconsin
Madison, WI 53706

To whom it may concern:

It is with great pleasure that I write in support of Dr. Katharine Moseley's application for the position of director of the West African Research Center in Dakar. I met Dr. Moseley two years ago at the African Studies Association Conference in Columbus, Ohio. Since then I have had the opportunity get to know very as the editor of my book manuscript on traditional power in modern Nigerian politics, and several scholarly articles on the contemporary African state and society. Dr. Moseley is a meticulous, generous and conscientious editor with outstanding intellectual ability and interpersonal skills.

Dr. Moseley became the editor of my book manuscript at a time when it needed the refinement that is required in the competitive environment of university press publications. In a substantive editorial work, she labored tirelessly to clarify numerous social science concepts and assisted in integrating them into over twenty extensive case studies. What became immediately apparent was her dedication to the highest standard of scholarship, engaging personality, and unique organizational skills. Drawing on a unique interdisciplinary perspective, and lucid style of presentation, she helped mold disjointed case studies into a cohesive analysis of chieftaincy politics and state formation in twentieth-century Nigeria. The manuscript which has received much praise from the University of Rochester Press could not have achieved this recognition without Dr. Moseley's signal contribution.

Along with an impressive teaching and research experience, Dr. Moseley's contribution is a clear indication that she possesses exceptional teaching and administrative skills. A reflective humanist with vast professional experience in several universities in Africa and the United States, she is uniquely qualified to coordinate the activities of the West African Research Center. In fact, I credit much of my perspective on subjects as diverse as conceptualizing an innovative international studies curriculum, to advising students on international programs to her insight. Despite her busy schedule, she is patient, caring, good humored, and always available.

These qualities have attracted the admiration of many Africanists who rely on Dr. Moseley for wise counsel, intellectual insight, and effective editorial expertise. Colleagues describe her as efficient, reliable, and mild-mannered. In my ten years as a university teacher, I know of no other colleague who handles their responsibilities with such diligence, enthusiasm and discretion. She is a gifted, modest and conscientious scholar who embodies the highest standard in scholarship, teaching and administration. In my humble view, a person with these remarkable qualities is imminently qualified for your position. I enthusiastically support Dr. Moseley's application for the directorship of West African Research Center.

Sincerely,



Olufemi Vaughan
Assoc. Prof,
African studies & History



1700 E. Cold Spring Lane Baltimore, MD 21251-0001

TO: Search Committee

**Recommendation
for
Debra Boyd, Ph.D.**

I am pleased to write in recommendation of Debra Boyd as Director of the West African Research Center in Dakar, Senegal. I first met Debra in late summer 1986 when we were Carolina Minority Postdoctoral Scholars in Chapel Hill. During the past decade, I have seen her represent the profession well as teacher, scholar, and humanist. In addition to her knowledge of West African literature, she has a solid grasp of African American literature that enhances her value as she continues to establish linkages and make connections between Africa and the Americas.

Her colleagues at Winston-Salem (NC) State University recognized her leadership ability and tapped her to serve as Acting Head, English and Foreign Languages. Previously she had served as Chair, Department of Foreign Languages, North Carolina Wesleyan College in 1988-89; Coordinator of Academic Advising and Counseling at Bowling Green (OH) State University in 1978-79; and as the Associate Coordinator/Veterans Affairs Specialist at the University of the District of Columbia from 1972-76. She directed training sessions, implemented procedures for advising and recruiting veterans to the college, supervised the Veterans Tutorial Program and the Veterans Benefits Program for incarcerated veterans enrolled in the Prison Project, and directed training sessions for and supervised subordinate personnel.

Debra is one of the foremost scholars on francophone literature of West Africa and the African Diaspora. She has been twice selected to participate in the Fulbright Program: Fulbright Scholar to Senegal (1983-84) and Fulbright Lecturer to Niger (1991-93). She has deeply immersed herself in the trail of civilization that extends across the belt buckle of Africa up to Egypt. From her enhanced pan-Africanist perspective, she is able to lead informed discussions on our comparative black identities. As a result of her immense human resources network, she is uniquely qualified to take an institution of higher learning to a new level in its interpretation of the humanities.

She has developed a close working relationship with the administration at the University of Abdou Mournouni Dioffo in Niamey, Niger. One of her strengths as an administrator and as a teacher is that she enables her students to see the ritual context of their lives and the structural affinity they share with people in Africa and the Diaspora. To this end, she is constantly building bridges between the United States and Africa with the Sahel Encounter, program that should be replicated several times over in our Global Village.

One of her future projects includes a short documentary on well-known filmmakers of the Sahel, the forerunners in African film. She is already working closely with Bassori Timité, independent filmmaker from Côte d'Ivoire and Oué Draogo, University of Bordeaux, who teaches a course on the anthropology of Cinema. The projected

Department of English and Language Arts □ Holmes Hall, Room 202 □ (410) 319-3165
Fax 319-3166

completion of this documentary is late 1999/early 2000. I have been duly impressed with Debra's work as a developing literary critic and chronicler. In addition to her book length manuscript, *Messengers from the Sahel: Francophone Nigerien Literature from 1954 to the Present* (the first critical history of this literature), she has published critical articles in some of the foremost journals in her field, chapters in books, book reviews, and presented at various conferences in America and abroad.

Her book promises to be a literary sirocco, blowing the dust off an area that has historically been overlooked. It will show how a Sahelian aesthetic overlay the modern West African nation states. As such, it will read by scholars as well as by politicians for its public policy implications.

Debra's definition of a "good life" includes a considerable segment on service. In support of this concept, she has devoted much of her time to service to prestigious national academic associations. She has been very active with the African Studies Association and the African Literature Association, groups who promote the development of African literature and languages. She is currently vice-chair, Women's Caucus, a position that has produced three of the last four presidents of the ALA. She is also an active member of the Modern Language Association and the College Language Association (founded 1937), the nation's preeminent organization of African American scholars of languages and literature.

During my tenure as CLA President (1994-96), I appointed Debra to serve as a member of an ad-hoc committee to develop guidelines for a foreign language study abroad program (inaugurated at our Fifty-seventh Annual Convention in Atlanta on 16-20 April 1997). The objective is to encourage promising undergraduates to spend a summer abroad in hopes that they will pursue the doctorate in a foreign language. CLA will provide them with a modest stipend. Debra is committed both to opening up new worlds for all of her students and to the training of those who historically have been denied access and equity in the corridors of higher education and the corporate world.

By now, it is obvious that I think highly of this scholar-humanist whose abiding love and respect for West African life enable her to thrive in an environment where she can both teach and learn. The energy and creativity that Debra Boyd exhibits in scholarship and discharging her responsibilities will undoubtedly set a new pace for those with whom she works. Undoubtedly a leader, Dr. Boyd possesses those qualities without which formal education means little. She is compassionate, honest, reliable, sensitive, and friendly. She is open-minded, but God-fearing and, above all, a humane woman of integrity.

It is my pleasure to recommend with confidence Dr. Debra Boyd as the Director of the West African Research Center.



Dolan Hubbard, Ph.D.
Professor and Chair
23 June 1999



1700 E. Cold Spring Lane Baltimore, MD 21251-0001

BIOSTATEMENT

DOLAN HUBBARD, a past president of the College Language Association (1994-96), is professor and chair of the Department of English and Language Arts at Morgan State University, Baltimore, Maryland. He previously served as an associate professor of at the University of Georgia (1994-98) where he held a joint appointment in English and African American Studies. A graduate of Catawba College in Salisbury, North Carolina, he earned his M.A. degree at the University of Denver and his Ph.D. degree at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He is a member of the Catawba College Board of Trustees. He is the author *The Sermon and the African American Literary Imagination* (University of Missouri Press, 1994), selected by *Choice* as an Outstanding Academic Book for 1995, and is Editor of *The Langston Hughes Review*. He is a member of the MLA Convention Committee (1999-2002) and he has served as Chair, Executive Committee, MLA Division on Black American Literature and Culture, 1996. He is editor of *Recovered Writers/Recovered Texts: Race, Class, and Gender in Black Women's Literature* (University of Tennessee Press, 1997) and "Critical Essays on W.E.B. Du Bois' *The Souls of Black Folk*" (University of Missouri Press, forthcoming). He is also at work on another book entitled "Negotiating Modernism: Wallace Thurman and the Harlem Renaissance."

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6/22/99



Florida International University

Edris Makward
West African Research Association
1414 Van Hise Hall
1220 Linden Drive
Madison, WI 53706

July 23, 1999

Dear Mr. Makward,

I am happy to recommend Joy Lumbly for employment with the West African Research Association. Her seriousness of purpose, enthusiasm, and deep commitment would make her an asset to WARA.

I first met Ms. Lumbly at an African Women's conference five years ago. She expressed then her desire to work on the continent; preferably Senegal where she had traveled and enjoyed immensely.

Her interest in education has been demonstrated by her employ as a tutor, counselor and English high school teacher. My personal experience with working with Ms. Lumbly was through the numerous times she extended her service as a volunteer, assisting with the Diaspora World Cinema African film series screenings. As always, Ms. Lumbly takes great interest in supporting things African that can provide an upliftment of African Peoples, and I highly recommend her.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Monica Freeman".

Monica Freeman
(305) 571-9754

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Institut für Afrikanistik, Universität Leipzig
 Burgstraße 21, D-04109 Leipzig

June 30, 1999

WARA/ Department of African Languages and Literature
 1414 Van Hise Hall,
 1220 Van Linden Drive,
 University of Wisconsin,
 Madison, WI 53706

Dear Madam

Directorship, West African Research Center in Dakar;
 Professor Mary Esther Dakubu

I have just received an urgent message from Professor Mary Esther Dakubu requesting me to write and fix a reference to you in connection with her application for the position of Director of the proposed West African Research Center in Dakar.

Professor Dakubu is a distinguished scholar of African linguistics, who is well known for her research on Ga-Dangme and other Ghanaian languages. In the field of language she has published in different areas including descriptive, comparative/ historical, dialect, and sociolinguistic studies. Her interests outside language also cover a wide area, including literature, history and anthropology. Professor Dakubu is not only a first-rate scholar, she is extremely effective at coordinating and publishing joint research projects. From the *West African Data Sheets Vol. 1&2* to the more recent publication on *English in Ghana*, you will find that she has edited quite a number of volumes. I have had occasion to complement her on this, knowing how difficult it is to get contributors to honor deadlines. As Director of the University of Ghana Language Center for many years, she has had good experience of administration and coordination of staff, as well as budgeting and management of resources. Professor Dakubu is a most efficient conference organizer. On the three occasions that the West African Linguistic Society has held its Congresses in Ghana, Professor Dakubu has been one of the main organizers and she is very good with designing conference programs. In fact, at the last WALC Congress in Abidjan, she and another colleague had to take over and produce a program, when the local organizing committee was unable to produce one.

It should be clear from the little I have said so far that I consider Professor Dakubu highly qualified for this appointment. She is well-respected in academic circles in West Africa and I am sure that if she is appointed, her colleagues (including myself) will consider that it is a well-deserved appointment.

I regret that I have had to write this reference in a hurry since I am just about to start on my trip to Urbana for the 30th Annual Conference on African Linguistics. It is because I have confidence in the candidate's ability that I am even writing at all.

Yours truly,


 AYO BAMGBOSE

This range of interests would certainly be an advantage to the director of an organization dedicated to promoting collaborative research in many fields. Furthermore, Dr. Thiaw's research experience has been entirely within the framework of collaboration between Rice University and IFAN, Dakar, funded by NSF grants. I know that he has emerged from this with very deep convictions regarding the benefits of US/African collaboration. With regard to archaeology in Senegal specifically, collaboration with American researchers exposed him to a much wider range of methods, techniques, theories, and funding possibilities than he could have possibly had access to under the French-dominated system that is often the only option for young Senegalese archaeologists. In the course of his training in the US, he has learned to write fundable grant proposals, administer them with rigorous oversight and keep proper books on expenditures. While it is true that his grant-writing experience concerns archaeology, I have confidence in Dr. Thiaw's ability to expand his grant-writing skills into other areas. As I have already indicated, he is a very quick study and very dedicated.

As for his other qualifications for the post, Dr. Thiaw has excellent written and spoken English as well as French, of course, and has the additional benefit of being a native Senegalese, which gives him from the outset an inside knowledge of the complexities of personal and professional relationships in Senegal, which must be mastered for any organization in Dakar to succeed. Although he lacks experience in a directorial or administrative position, his personal qualities -- calm, well-spoken demeanor, good sense of humor, great personal integrity -- suggest to me that he will do well in such a post. As you will have noted, I think extremely highly of Dr. Thiaw and believe that he brings to his candidacy for the post a well-developed vision of the benefits of collaborative research, great energy and dedication, high intellectual standards, and an expectation that much can be accomplished even with limited means. I urge you to give his candidacy serious consideration, and recommend him to you highly.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require further information. I return to Houston on August 3rd, but can be reached by email (skmci@rice.edu) before then.

Sincerely,



Susan Keech McIntosh
Professor of Anthropology



Department of Anthropology

WARA

Department of African Languages and Literature,
Room 1414 Van Hise Hall,
1220 Linden Drive,
University of Wisconsin,
Madison, WI 53706

Fax: 608-265-4151

24 July 1999

I write to recommend Dr. Ibrahima Thiaw for the position of Director of WARA. I have been on vacation away from Rice since the beginning of July, and I understand from Dr. Thiaw that you may have been trying to contact me to request this letter. If so, I will find your communications when I return to Houston. In the meantime, I am sending this in support of Dr. Thiaw's application for the post, with apologies for any delay that my absence from Houston may have occasioned.

I have known Ibrahima Thiaw for almost a decade, when he first worked with my husband and myself on an NSF-funded archaeological project in the Middle Senegal Valley that we undertook in collaboration with IFAN. At the time, he was a master's degree candidate in the History Department at Université de Dakar-Ch. Anta Diop. He quickly proved himself to be a first-rate field researcher in all aspects of archaeology: excavation, survey, ceramic analysis. Not only was he a very quick study in method, he was extremely intellectually engaged with the theoretical aspects of our approach and methodologies. One great endowment, clearly evident even then, that makes Dr. Thiaw a particularly fine archaeologist is his high level of procedural and methodological rigor. To excavate properly requires great patience, attention to fine detail, and an ability to take copious notes and photos of everything one observes. Dr. Thiaw is naturally gifted in all these areas, and these gifts are combined with a keen intellect and deep curiosity, all hallmarks of a true researcher. In recognition of his intellectual promise in archaeology, we offered him a place in our graduate program in archaeology and secured funding for his graduate work from the prestigious Louis Leakey Foundation.

He has more than repaid our confidence in his abilities. In addition to his pioneering work on a dating technique called archaeomagnetism that he has applied to sites in the Senegal Valley, he has completed a most impressive dissertation on the historical archaeology of the upper Senegal/Lower Falemme region, funded by a National Science Foundation Dissertation Improvement Grant. This work is a true testimonial to Dr. Thiaw's incredible energy, perseverance, and dedication to research. Not only did he conduct excavation at three sites (already sufficient work for most dissertations in archaeology) under extremely difficult circumstances, but he also conducted foot survey along a 50-km stretch of the Falemme River, discovering and mapping 154 previously unknown archaeological sites in the process. I have never known so much work to be done on the \$12,000 budget that the NSF provides for dissertation grants. It attests not only Dr. Thiaw's drive, but also his ability to accomplish much with little. Both of these attributes would serve him well as director of WARA.

As an archaeologist working in the historical period, Dr. Thiaw's interests are extremely broad, and include history, economics, politics, and geography, among others.



Department of Anthropology

July 25, 1999

West African Research Association
Department of African Languages and Literature,
Room 1414, Van Hise Hall,
1220 Linden Drive, University of Wisconsin
Madison, WI 53706
FAX: 608-265-4151

Members of the Search Committee:

It is with great enthusiasm that I recommend to you Dr. Ibrahima THIAW for the position of director of the West African Research Center in Dakar. I have known Dr. Thiaw, and have worked intimately with him, for ten years. Beginning in 1989-1990, he was one of the top five students in his class in the Faculty of History at the Université Cheikh Anta Diop (Dakar), whom I took out to the Middle Senegal River Valley for an eight-month intensive research and training program. At the end of that year, he successfully defended his Maitrise thesis on the application of archaeomagnetic dating methods, training in which he received during the MSV project. He then went on to the Université de Paris X for a D.E.A. year, before he joined my wife and myself at Rice University as a Ph.D. candidate. While at Rice, and in addition to his dissertation research, he joined me in research at the urban site of Jenne-jeno in Mali and he supervised my Rice undergraduate field methods course excavations at an historic site in Houston. I also accompanied him (purely as an observer) during his research season in the Kolimbiné Valley in western Mali.

Dr. Thiaw's principal activities during the last several years have been the successful completion of three field seasons in the lower Falamé Valley in Senegal. This work formed the basis of his masterful Ph.D. dissertation. I predict that Dr. Thiaw's dissertation will be recognized as a turning point in West African historical and archaeological research. Many have lamented the gap in research between the Colonial and "European-penetration" periods in West Africa (assessed principally through documents) and traditional archaeological research that concentrates on the stones ages or, at most recent, on the iron age and West African empire periods before the middle of the present millennium. Dr. Thiaw's research was pathbreaking in that it focused specifically upon the recursive interactions and influences between local African populations and the Europeans during the early French penetration into the upper Senegal and lower Falamé. And with this research, Dr. Thiaw demonstrates brilliantly his facility in bridging two research traditions -- the principal strength he can bring to the directorship of the WARC.

Dr. Thiaw's Falamé Valley research project, like the earlier Middle Senegal River project, was conducted through the auspices of the Institut Fondamental de l'Afrique Noire (IFAN) located on the Université Cheikh Anta Diop campus, although funded through American sources. He thus became intimately familiar with the research politics and

Director of WARA/CROA Please feel free to contact me if you need additional information on this candidate.

Sincerely,


Sulayman S. Nyang, Ph.D.

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