

THE ARTS COUNCIL OF THE AFRICAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION (ACASA)
17th TRIENNIAL SYMPOSIUM
UNIVERSITY OF GHANA, LEGON
AUGUST 8 – 13, 2017

WELCOME LOGISTICS INFORMATION

REGISTRATION:

(General including Day Registration and sign-ups for Museum Day, Studio visits, Tours and other activities)

MONDAY, 7TH AUGUST, 2017 – Saturday 12th August, 2017

9.00AM - 5.00PM

Venue: Institute of African Studies, University of Ghana, Legon

TUESDAY, 8TH AUGUST, 2017

9.00AM – 5.00PM

Museum Day

Venue: Ghana Museums and Monuments Board, Barnes Road, Accra.

WEDNESDAY, 9TH AUGUST, 2017

8.30AM – 11.15AM

Opening Ceremony and Keynote

Venue: Great Hall, University of Ghana, Legon

Followed by Panel Sessions

11.45AM – 5.30PM

Venue:

Legon Centre for International Affairs and Diplomacy (LECIAD)

THURSDAY 10TH - SATURDAY 12TH AUGUST, 2017

PANEL SESSIONS

9.00AM – 5.30PM

Venue:

Legon Centre for International Affairs and Diplomacy (LECIAD)

PRESENTATIONS AND IT

All the panel session rooms are equipped with LCDs, (Projectors) screens and will have laptops with the required software for presentations. The laptops run window operating systems. Presentation files will therefore have to be converted to windows compatible format.

ARRIVALS

The arrival terminal at Kotoka International Airport is small/cozy. Before completing Immigration formalities, you will need to complete a Ghana Immigration Service card. These cards are on counters on the right-hand side just before the Immigration officer's booths. For the section requesting your address in Ghana, you can write the name of your Hotel/Guest House.

AIRPORT MEET AND TRANSFER

The recommended ACASA Hotels provide airport transfer service from and to the Airport. Many of them do so as courtesy while one or two of them do so at a fee. Contact your respective hotels with your arrival flight details and request for the service. As advised previously, also email the Conference Manager with the name of your hotel, period of stay and arrival and departure details. Email address: akunudake@yahoo.com

If you have to go to your Hotel by yourself, we will recommend that you use an airport official taxi to the hotel. They can be found parked at the street next to the passenger meeting area. They could cost you about GHS30 – GHS40 (about US\$8 - US\$10)

Please note that the University of Ghana is approximately 15 minutes drive from the Kotoka International Airport though it could take longer during rush hours.

WEATHER

Ghana's low latitude and proximity to the equator gives it a typically tropical climate. Temperatures approach or exceed 30 degrees (80 Fahrenheit) most days of the year, with virtually no seasonal variation. The month of August is classified as the "coldest" month. Accra tends to receive less rain than other areas.

At this time of the year, the temperature is comfortable, around 25 degrees Celsius or 77 degrees Fahrenheit.

It may turn cooler occasionally at night. It is good to have a jacket or a shawl just in case. For the occasional shower, especially if you intend to do some walking, an umbrella would be useful. If you don't bring one and later feel you need it, one can readily be bought for a relatively low price.

Hotel rooms are air-conditioned. Taxis are not.

COMMUNICATION

English is the lingua franca and you will find that most people speak it.

Five reliable telecommunications networks are available in Ghana. Ghana country code is +233. You may want get a local sim card for your cell phone when you arrive for very little (GHS5 or less). Your handset

must be decoded for use internationally to enable you use the local sim card. Recharge cards sell between GHS1 and GHS20. Sim and rechargeable cards are easily available. They can be purchased on arrival at the airport. Your hotel/guest house will also know where to get the cards, or may even have them for sale at the hotel desk.

There will be a free wireless Internet connectivity at the Conference venue. The recommended hotels have internet facility. Outside of conference hours, it is generally possible to use an Internet cafe on the University of Ghana campus or in the communities around the hotels.

CURRENCY

The official currency is the Ghana Cedi (GHS) (Cedi pronounced See Dee).

Currency rates vary accordingly to time. You can use an international exchange rate portal as a guide. An example is <https://www.oanda.com/currency/converter/>

It is recommended that you change currency at an established Foreign Exchange Bureau. Foreign Exchange Bureaus are located at the various points throughout the city of Accra. There is one such bureau at the Accra Mall about 12 minutes drive from the University of Ghana.

You may also exchange money at any of the four banks on the University of Ghana campus or at the GCB Bank just outside the campus Main Gate. Note that banks are closed on Saturdays and Sundays; Exchange Bureaus are opened on Saturdays.

Kindly note that it is advisable to bring US Dollars, British Pounds or Euro. You may find it difficult if not impossible to change other currencies.

Note that Credit Cards are not widely used in Ghana, although some of the recommended conference hotels accept credit card payments with a surcharge. Plan on bringing much of your budget in the form of cash particularly if you plan to spend time outside the capital city, Accra. Travelers cheques are not welcome in many places of business. You can however use your Visa, Master Card and some of the major cards at ATMs at many of the banks and get Cedis.

TRANSPORTATION

The conference venue is within 20 minutes' drive from the recommended accommodation units. Shuttle buses will be provided to convey registered participants from the recommended hotels to the Conference venue and back. The buses will also convey participants to and from the various conference special events.

TRANSPORTATION SCHEDULE

TUESDAY 8TH AUGUST, 2017

REGISTRATION & MUSEUM DAY

Time	ACTIVITY	REMARKS
8.00AM	Buses depart Hotels for the National Museum for Museum Day programme	Yiri Lodge (Bus 1) Erata Hotel (Bus 3) Mensvic Hotel (Bus 5) University Guest Centre (Bus 7) Fiesta Royale Hotel (Bus 9)
8.00AM	Buses depart Hotels for Institute of African Studies, University of Ghana for Registration (For those not attending Museum Day programme)	Yiri Lodge (Bus 2) Erata Hotel (Bus 4) Mensvic Hotel (Bus 6) University Guest Centre (Bus 8) Fiesta Royale Hotel (Bus 10)
10.00AM	Buses depart Institute of African Studies, University of Ghana for Studio Visits	Yiri Lodge (Bus 2) Erata Hotel (Bus 4) Mensvic Hotel (Bus 6) University Guest Centre (Bus 8) Fiesta Royale Hotel (Bus 10)
12.30PM	Buses depart Studio Visit venues to Institute of African Studies, University of Ghana	Yiri Lodge (Bus 2) Erata Hotel (Bus 4) Mensvic Hotel (Bus 6) University Guest Centre (Bus 8) Fiesta Royale Hotel (Bus 10)
2.00PM	Buses depart Institute of African Studies, University of Ghana for Studio Visits	Yiri Lodge (Bus 2) Erata Hotel (Bus 4) Mensvic Hotel (Bus 6) University Guest Centre (Bus 8) Fiesta Royale Hotel (Bus 10)
6.00PM	Buses depart Studio Visit venues to Institute of African Studies, University of Ghana	Yiri Lodge (Bus 2) Erata Hotel (Bus 4) Mensvic Hotel (Bus 6) University Guest Centre (Bus 8) Fiesta Royale Hotel (Bus 10)

6.30PM	Buses depart Institute of African Studies, University of Ghana for Hotels	Yiri Lodge (Bus 2) Erata Hotel (Bus 4) Mensvic Hotel (Bus 6) University Guest Centre (Bus 8) Fiesta Royale Hotel (Bus 10)
6.30PM	Buses depart National Museum after Museum Day programme for Hotels	Yiri Lodge (Bus 1) Erata Hotel (Bus 3) Mensvic Hotel (Bus 5) University Guest Centre (Bus 7) Fiesta Royale Hotel (Bus 9)

WEDNESDAY, 9TH AUGUST, 2017

Time	ACTIVITY	REMARKS
7.30AM	Buses depart Hotels for the Great Hall, University of Ghana for Official Opening Ceremony of ACASA 2017	Yiri Lodge (Buses 1, 2 & 11) Erata Hotel (Buses 3 & 4) Mensvic Hotel (Buses 5 & 6) University Guest Centre (Buses 7 & 8) Fiesta Royale Hotel (Bus 9)
11.45AM	Buses depart Great Hall, University of Ghana for Hotels for Legon Centre for International Affairs and Diplomacy (LECIAD) for Panel Sessions	Yiri Lodge (Buses 1, 2 & 11) Erata Hotel (Buses 3 & 4) Mensvic Hotel (Buses 5 & 6) University Guest Centre (Buses 7 & 8) Fiesta Royale Hotel (Buses 9 & 10)
2.30PM	Buses depart LECIAD for Studio Visits	Yiri Lodge (Bus 1) Erata Hotel (Bus 3) Mensvic Hotel (Bus 5) University Guest Centre (Bus 7) Fiesta Royale Hotel (Bus 9)
6.00PM	Buses depart LECIAD for the Opening of Exhibition at ANO Gallery, ANO Institute of Contemporary Arts	Yiri Lodge (Buses 1, 2 & 11) Erata Hotel (Buses 3 & 4) Mensvic Hotel (Buses 5 & 6) University Guest Centre (Buses 7 & 8) Fiesta Royale Hotel (Buses 9 & 10)

9.00PM	Buses depart Exhibition at ANO Gallery, ANO Institute of Contemporary Arts for Hotels	Yiri Lodge (Buses 1, 2 & 11) Erata Hotel (Buses 3 & 4) Mensvic Hotel (Buses 5 & 6) University Guest Centre (Buses 7 & 8) Fiesta Royale Hotel (Buses 9 & 10)
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THURSDAY, 10TH AUGUST, 2017

Time	ACTIVITY	REMARKS
7.30AM	Buses depart Hotels for LECIAD for Panel Sessions	Yiri Lodge (Buses 1, 2 & 11) Erata Hotel (Buses 3 & 4) Mensvic Hotel (Buses 5 & 6) University Guest Centre (Buses 7 & 8) Fiesta Royale Hotel (Bus 9)
6.00PM	Buses depart LECIAD for Godfried Donkor Studio Visit and Opening of Fancy Dress Exhibition and Cocktail reception hosted by the Gallery 1957 at Kempinski Hotel	Yiri Lodge (Buses 1, 2 & 11) Erata Hotel (Buses 3 & 4) Mensvic Hotel (Buses 5 & 6) University Guest Centre (Buses 7 & 8) Fiesta Royale Hotel (Buses 9 & 10)
10.00PM	Buses depart Kempinski Hotel for Hotels	Yiri Lodge (Buses 1, 2 & 11) Erata Hotel (Buses 3 & 4) Mensvic Hotel (Buses 5 & 6) University Guest Centre (Buses 7 & 8) Fiesta Royale Hotel (Buses 9 & 10)

FRIDAY 11TH AUGUST, 2017

Time	ACTIVITY	REMARKS
7.30AM	Buses depart Hotels for LECIAD for Panel Sessions	Yiri Lodge (Buses 1, 2 & 11) Erata Hotel (Buses 3 & 4) Mensvic Hotel (Buses 5 & 6) University Guest Centre (Buses 7 & 8) Fiesta Royale Hotel (Bus 9)

2.30PM	Buses depart LECIAD for Studio Visits	Yiri Lodge (Bus 1) Erata Hotel (Bus 3) Mensvic Hotel (Bus 5) University Guest Centre (Bus 7) Fiesta Royale Hotel (Bus 9)
5.30PM	Buses depart from Studio Visit venues to LECIAD	Yiri Lodge (Bus 1) Erata Hotel (Bus 3) Mensvic Hotel (Bus 5) University Guest Centre (Bus 7) Fiesta Royale Hotel (Bus 9)
6.30PM	Buses depart LECIAD for Great Hall, University of Ghana for 2017 ACASA Triennial Banquet and Awards Ceremony	Yiri Lodge (Buses 1, 2 & 11) Erata Hotel (Buses 3 & 4) Mensvic Hotel (Buses 5 & 6) University Guest Centre (Buses 7 & 8) Fiesta Royale Hotel (Buses 9 & 10)
9.30PM	Buses depart Great Hall for Hotels	Yiri Lodge (Buses 1, 2 & 11) Erata Hotel (Buses 3 & 4) Mensvic Hotel (Buses 5 & 6) University Guest Centre (Buses 7 & 8) Fiesta Royale Hotel (Buses 9 & 10)

SATURDAY, 12TH AUGUST, 2017

Time	ACTIVITY	REMARKS
8.00AM	Buses depart Hotels for LECIAD for Panel Sessions	Yiri Lodge (Buses 1, 2 & 11) Erata Hotel (Buses 3 & 4) Mensvic Hotel (Buses 5 & 6) University Guest Centre (Buses 7 & 8) Fiesta Royale Hotel (Bus 9)
2.30PM	Buses depart LECIAD for Studio Visits	Yiri Lodge (Bus 1) Erata Hotel (Bus 3) Mensvic Hotel (Bus 5) University Guest Centre (Bus 7) Fiesta Royale Hotel (Bus 9)

5.30PM	Buses depart Studio Visit venues to Museum of Science and Technology, Barnes Road for the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) End of Year Exhibition <i>ORDERLY DISORDERLY</i> . Followed by: Reception to celebrate the 50 th Anniversary of <i>African Arts</i> Hosted by UCLA's James S. Coleman African Studies Center and the Fowler Museum at UCLA	Yiri Lodge (Bus 1) Erata Hotel (Bus 3) Mensvic Hotel (Bus 5) University Guest Centre (Bus 7) Fiesta Royale Hotel (Bus 9)
5.30PM	Buses depart LECIAD for Museum of Science and Technology, Barnes Road for KNUST Exhibition & African Arts Celebration and Reception	Yiri Lodge (Buses 2 & 11) Erata Hotel (Bus 4) Mensvic Hotel (Bus 6) University Guest Centre (Bus 8) Fiesta Royale Hotel (Bus 10)
9.30PM	Buses depart Museum of Science and Technology for Hotels	Yiri Lodge (Buses 1, 2 & 11) Erata Hotel (Buses 3 & 4) Mensvic Hotel (Buses 5 & 6) University Guest Centre (Buses 7 & 8) Fiesta Royale Hotel (Buses 9 & 10)

Should you miss any shuttle, note that taxis can be hailed from the street, or you may ask your hotel/guesthouse / staff of the venue where you are to assist in getting one. They could cost you anything between GHS20 – GH¢40 (about US\$5 - US\$10). Taxis are not metered and the fare is subject to bargaining. The fare is determined for the distance, regardless of the number of passengers. Taxis take a maximum of 4 people. Taxis in Accra may operate like mini buses, picking up unrelated passengers as they ply their route. When you hail an empty taxi state from the beginning, that you want "dropping"; that is, you want the taxi to take you directly to your destination. You must negotiate your fare before getting into the taxi.

University of Ghana is a mini-town in itself. From your hotel, you can simply walk to a street and flag a taxi, which can take you anywhere within the campus. You may elect to use this option to arrive daily at the conference venue. Also note that, some 150 meters from the conference venue is the university main gate, where taxis are parked most of the day looking for passengers. You can readily take any of these to your hotel or to town at any time. (Only campus registered taxis are allowed into the University of Ghana campus)

The district of Accra where the university is located is called Legon, also synonymous with the university's name. Thus, going to 'Legon' can mean going to the university or to that general district.

To go downtown from Legon, intra-city buses called “tro-tro” or local mini-buses as well as taxis are widely available both within the campus and at the main gate of the university. Also note that UBER services are available in Ghana.

SAFETY

Ghanaians pride themselves on being some of the friendliest people in the world, and the level of crime against visitors/tourists is remarkably low. However, like any other country or metropolis, normal precautions are still advisable. The University of Ghana has a 24 hour Campus Security service and there is a Police Station right across the main road outside the main university campus.

Warning

Like any big city there are bad nuts. Participants are advised to be extra careful with precious items and money and keep an eye on them at all times either in the hotel, at the conference venue or at any other place.

DINING

All the recommended conference accommodation units have their own restaurants. They provide breakfast inclusive in the room rate.

Lunch will be provided at the Museum Day programme at the National Museum in Accra on 8th August, 2017. Lunches will be served at the conference venue (LECIAD) on the conference days 9th to 12th August, 2017 and the cost is included in the conference registration fee. Participants will be given coupons for lunch. There is a Banquet and Awards Ceremony on 11th August, 2017 and it is also covered in the conference registration fee. Additional banquet tickets can also be purchased at the Registration Desk.

There are also a variety of restaurants and other eating places at the University of Ghana and its environs. You can make an allowance for any amount above \$8 or \$10 (GHS30.00 or GHS45.00) for your dinners.

There are several eateries on the University of Ghana campus.

They include: Yiri Lodge, University Guest Centre, Basement at the Central Caferia building, Tasty Treat and also in the Halls of residence - Akuafu Hall (Tacobell), Mensah Sarbah Hall (Sarmaxx, Loggia), Legon Hall (A&J), Commonwealth Hall (Campus Hub). There is also the famous University Night market and Bush Canteen.

Dining outside the University of Ghana Campus

Apart from the recommended eateries at University of Ghana Campus, there are the following in and around the East Legon area: Chez Afrique, DNR Turkish Restaurant, Relish Foods and Restaurants and Noble House Chinese Restaurant.

In the centre of Accra, there are also a variety of eating places at Osu, a commercial hub about 40 minutes' drive from the University of Ghana. Many of the more popular ones are located on the main OSU-R.E. street, popularly referred to as "Oxford Street". For "Fast" food (eat-in or take-away): "Monsoon Food Court" and "Papaye" (chicken and rice or chips/French fries); "Frankies"; "KFC", Indian - "Haveli", Salads "Sunshine Salads". Others in the general Osu area are Chinese – 'Regal', "Noble"; Indian - "Kohinoor"; Chinese & Indian - "Noble House", Italian (incl. pizza) "Mama Mia's".

Do try Ghanaian foods too - you will enjoy it, even if it may be too spicy for some. There is "Country Kitchen" in the Osu-Ringway residential area, Trafix Restaurant at the National Theatre which serve a buffet lunch delight and "Bukka" (Ghanaian, Ivorian, Nigerian dishes). The more adventurous may also try a "chop bar" - a popular one around the Osu area is "Asanka Local".

Some of the most popular Ghanaian dishes are: "red-red" (fried ripe plantain with beans stew - either plain/vegetarian or with meat/chicken/fish); "banku" (something like a large, slightly sour dumpling made of ground fermented maize/corn) with grilled tilapia and pepper; "fufu" (like sticky mashed potato, but made from cassava, plantain or yam) and a thick soup (try especially the groundnut/peanut butter and palm-nut soups; these soups may also sometimes be served with "omo tuo" or rice balls); "Jollof" rice (rice cooked in tomato sauce and spices very similar to paella); and "waakye" (rice with black-eyed peas - a preferred choice of vegetarians).

SHOPPING

The places on campus where participants can shop include the All Needs Supermarket, the Night market, and Bush Canteen

The Accra Shopping Mall (3 miles from the University of Ghana campus) near the Tetteh Quarshie interchange is the easiest and most accessible shopping venue. You can get local souvenirs and clothing at "Oxford Street" at Osu (Woodin, a specialty African print fabric shop). "Oxford Street" is noted for grocery shops, fast-food joints and brisk night life. There are also a number of shops around the East Legon area.

For those who have the time, a visit to the Makola market (a bustle-hustle must-see) in the central business district would be of interest. This is the best place to get "Java print" fabric. The Arts Centre nearby (a conglomerate of shops – local clothing, jewelry, arts & crafts) is also a popular stop for souvenirs. Friendly bargaining is a must!

A FEW PLACES OF INTEREST

University of Ghana:

Great Hall and its surroundings (there is a beautiful view of Accra at night)

The Legon Botanical Gardens

Outside the University, there are:

W.E.B. Du Bois Centre for Pan African Culture in Cantonments, M-F 9:00-4:30 (0302 -776-502)
George Padmore Library, Ridge Circle, M-F, 8:30-5:00; Sat 10:00-4:00 (0302 - 247-768, 228-402)
Kwame Nkrumah Memorial Park
Independence Square
Makola Market (downtown)
Beaches, e.g. Labadi Beach, Coco Beach
Aburi Botanical Gardens (a 30 minute taxi drive from the University of Ghana, Legon)

HEALTH CONCERNS

Take the usual precautions when travelling.

Hotel rooms are usually sprayed against mosquitoes;

Some of the nearby pharmacies are: Pfago Pharmacy (Legon Hall Annex B), Commonwealth Hall Pharmacy, and Pills & Tabs (next to the Gas Station near the Main Gate) and Ernest Chemist

Participants are advised to obtain supplementary medical/travel insurance. However, excellent public and private medical facilities in Ghana provide for essential medical needs. First aid services will be available at the conference venue and in most of the hotels.

It is advisable that conference participants avoid eating food purchased from street vendors; if you must, ensure the food is warm. Secondly do not drink tap water, nor water from sachets. Drink bottled water.

If you need a doctor, the University Hospital is located right across from the main gate to the campus. Also recommended are two private clinics in Accra:

A) Lister Hospital, a modern facility on Spintex Road, about 5 miles from the University of Ghana, Legon;

B) Nyaho Medical Centre, located in the Airport Residential Area, also about 5 miles from Legon.

Also recommended is a public, military hospital called '37', located in Accra about 8 miles from University of Ghana, Legon.

Time Zone: GMT

Electricity

Voltage in Ghana is 220 Volts at 50 Hertz (cycles). The plug has three rectangular prongs that form a triangle. Stabilizers are required for sensitive devices, and adapters are required for appliances using 110V.

