First Annual Conference of ATWS Kenya Chapter Held

On November 15-17, 2000, the Association of Third World Studies, Kenya Chapter held its First Annual Conference at the Hotel Sirikwa in Eldoret, Kenya. The Conference was hosted by Moi University and was officially opened by Moi University Vice-Chancellor Professor R. M. Munavu. The conference theme was “The World in the 21st Century: Lessons From the Past, Perspectives on the Future,” and the meeting attracted over 103 participants.

As part of the opening day’s ceremonies, Mr. Rautta Athiambo from the Attorney General’s Chambers delivered a Keynote Address, “The Role of the Advocate in Public Legal Education and Protection of Human Rights.” This emphasis on human rights was continued by the next morning’s keynote speaker Dr. Oki Ooko Ombaka, director of the Public Law Institute, whose talk was “Public Legal Education as a Prerequisite to Effective Protection of Human Rights.” Meanwhile, an environmental note was struck by Mr. Philip Diro, deputy director of the Pan African Paper Mills in Webuye, who spoke on forest conservation and the paper industry in Kenya.

Other Keynote speakers included Professor Mutuku Mutinda, vice chancellor University of Eastern Africa, Baraton, whose address was “Private Universities and Public Universities: Partners or Adversaries in a National Development” and Ambassador Francis Muthaura, a career diplomat and the executive secretary East African

(Continued on page 7.)

South Asia Conference Update

By K. K. Kusuman

The fifth annual conference was held on May 6 and 7, 2000, at Jubilee Memorial Animation Center, Trivandrum. The inaugural session was called to order by Chapter President Professor Isaiah Azariah. Dr. K. K. Kusuman, chair of the Program Committee welcomed the gathering, and Professor Azariah then gave some presidential remarks. The formal inaugural address was given by Dr. V. P. Kulkarni, U.G.C. professor, Department of Future Studies, University of Kerala.

Professor Azariah was presented with a momento for being named the “Paul Harris Fellow by the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International.” Also, three books, recently authored by chapter members, were presented.

The first session was called to order by panel chair Dr. M. Kuttappan. This panel’s participants, Dr. R. Sooryamurthy, Dr. Anand Inbanathan, Dr. Padmaja Patil, and Dr. D. Sivakumar, presented papers on various social-economic problems of contemporary India. The first afternoon session under chair Professor Hira Lal Gupta concentrated on human rights and human rights violations. Presenting papers were Professor Susan Chandy, Professor S. Geethakumari, and Dr. K. Sivadasan.

The final afternoon session was chaired by Dr. K. Jyothikamalam, and two scholars, Dr. A. Suryakumari and Dr. D. Janaki, presented papers on women’s problems in Third World countries. This session was followed by a magic show by chapter member Mr. Premanand (Coimbatore).

The next morning, a special session, “Science, Technology and Medicine,” was chaired by Dr. C. G. Bahuleyan, professor and head of the Department of

(Continued on page 7.)
Greetings From the President’s Desk . . .

It is my pleasure to serve as president of the Association of Third World Studies for the academic year 2000-2001.

The Association of Third World Studies successfully held its 18th Annual Conference in Denver, Colorado. I convey my special expression of appreciation to the Conference Coordinator Dr. Norman Proviser, director of the Golda Meir Center for Political Leadership, Metropolitan State College of Denver (MSCD), for hosting our conference at such a historic landmark building—the Tivoli Student Union. Additional appreciation is extended to Dr. Robert Hazan of the Political Science Department for his unfailing dependability as the local arrangement committee member in making sure that our conference ran smoothly. Mr. John Pennington, conference facility director, was always pleasant to talk to and accommodating during the conference panel room assignment/reassignment changes at the last minute. Ms. Dian Schwindt, administrative assistant of Political Science Department, has proven her organizational efficiency during our preparation stage e-mail communication. From our side of Armstrong Atlantic University, I extend my genuine sense of appreciation to Ms. Linda Hansen, senior secretary, Department of Criminal Justice, Social and Political Science, who came to assist me during several technical emergencies of e-mail “glitches.” Her invaluable advice during the conference planning stage was always appreciated.

On average, four concurrent panels were held, averaging three or four paper presentations each, with eight different sessions spread in two days, comprising 95 to 96 paper presentations. Typical paper presentations involved the coverage of a wider scope of geographic ranges—Africa, Asia (minus Japan), the Middle East, and Latin America. Also the contending issues of Third World nations, covering a wider spectrum of topics such as historical conflicts, regional security, economic regionalism, politics, the role of the military, modernization theory, and social and environmental issues of the future, were duly covered during the Denver conference. Total turnout by the academic colleagues was approximately 105 to 110. Reflecting the global scope of the nature of the organization, some participants came from countries such as Malaysia, Kenya, Nigeria, Mexico, Costa Rica, Canada, and Great Britain.

All who attended the 18th Annual Denver Conference benefitted from the Friday evening keynote speech, “Democracy and Market Economy,” given by the Korean Consul General Yoo Tae-hyun from the San Francisco Consulate of the Republic of Korea. His speech will be included in the Spring 2001 issue of the Journal of Third World Studies. Further congratulations are extended to Dr. Paul Rodell, executive director of the ATWS (Georgia Southern University), recipient of the ATWS Presidential Award, Dr. Paul Magnarella (University of Florida), recipient of Cecil B. Curry Book Award, and Professor Victor Julius Ngoh, interim head of the Department of History/acting vice-dean, Faculty of Arts, University of Buea, Cameroon.

Now that we have entered the new millennium, the ATWS continues to grow, and we are recognized as the world’s largest professional organization with a membership of 438 (348 life and regular members in the United States; 90 “special” members from the Third World Nations). As our organization grows, we need to streamline the operational procedures of the ATWS Conferences, standing committee works, and, particularly, fundraising activities for encouraging wider-based participation by budding graduate students (for paper presentations). As we discussed during the Executive Council session in Denver, we also need to encourage participation in our future conferences by social science teachers of secondary schools for better understanding of Third World nation issues. Thanks to my predecessors’ hard work, ATWS is still recognized as the official consultative organ, duly accepted by the UN Economic and Social Council, and we provide a liaison officer as our ATWS permanent NGO-level representative there.

Our remaining task now is to recruit a qualified candidate to serve as a new editor of the Journal of Third World Studies, which has developed a solid academic reputation as a refereed journal, entering its 17th volume with the Fall 2000 issue. Its present editor—Dr. Harold Isaacs of Georgia Southwestern State University—single-handedly initially started the Herculean task of publishing the first issue in 1984. Now with four associate editors of geographic regional representation, we have made a quantum leap to what we are today. Having had the privilege of knowing Dr. Isaacs from the inception of the journal, my deep gratitude is expressed to Harold for his contribution to the area of Third World nation studies. We genuinely hope to be able to find a new editor with an equally lofty vision and commitment not only to the journal’s publication, but also to maintain a close “tandem” working relationships with the ATWS executive officers. For our ATWS members, we are always soliciting your candid “suggestions” as to how to improve our organizational operations.

With the upcoming 19th Annual ATWS Conference being held in Savannah, Georgia, in October 2001, once again, we look forward to your active participation.

Dr. Steve Y. Rhee, President, ATWS Department of Criminal Justice, Social and Political Science Armstrong Atlantic State University, Savannah, GA 30419 Phone: (912) 921-5675, FAX (912) 921-5876 e-mail: rheestev@mail.armstrong.edu or srhee 44949@aol.com
If there is any truth to what we have been hearing and reading from the news media that most Third World countries are not on the radar screen of the incoming administration, then we must be prepared to play a more significant role in pushing some of these nations’ agendas. Thus, the ATWS 2001 conference is going to be as vital as any other in the past, if not more so.

This year’s conference is also very important for two other reasons. First, the theme for the meeting, “Globalization and the Third World,” is quite timely in light of the current world order, in which the rich nations continue to get richer and the poor ones continue to get poorer. Second, being held during the first year of the new millennium, the meeting will give us an opportunity to lay the foundation of our organization’s destiny for the remainder of this century.

I am quite confident and enthusiastic that we can meet these upcoming challenges. Three major developments account for my belief. First, our sisters in the organization are poised to play more significant roles in the coming years. As a matter of fact, of the eight panel proposals I received even before the call for papers and panels was sent, six were from our sisters, dealing with gender and globalization. Second, most of our colleagues are being promoted and/or appointed to major positions in both governments and NGOs. These positions give them needed opportunities to promote our organization’s causes. Finally, ATWS members are among the most published. Their works are being used in courses in the United States and overseas, and are being referenced in many other sources, putting them in an excellent position to serve as speakers at various fora and as public policy advisers. Thus, the following are two favors I humbly ask of you.

1. Timely Submission of Paper and Panel Proposals: Since the two major complaints I often hear about ATWS meetings are topic schedule overlaps and papers assigned to inappropriate panel themes, we can eliminate these problems by sending our proposals early. Besides, the conference theme and the conference site (historic and beautiful Savannah, Georgia) are enticing many non-members to send proposals and become members.

2. Contacting former members to renew their memberships. If you know how to contact former members, please do so and ask them to renew their memberships. Now more than ever, we need their experience and their critical insights to help guide the organization. Indeed, we can expect many new members to join this year because of our efforts to increase our size. Thus, more former and current members are needed to insure that our new colleagues see our organization as a place they can call home.

ATWS and the Popular Culture Association

By Tom Leonard, immediate past president

At its meeting in Denver, the Executive Council approved an affiliation agreement with the Popular Culture Association (PCA). The affiliation provides the opportunity for members of each association to present papers at the other’s conferences and submit manuscripts to their journals for publication consideration. In fact, the last two ATWS conferences benefited from contributions by PCA members.

The affiliation provides a wider scholarly audience for professional papers and interactions with faculty in disciplines not necessarily found among our membership. All ATWS members now have the opportunity to visit new conference locations.

The ATWS-PCA affiliation is a new venture and set the guidelines for

(continued on page 7)
Costa Rica Conference Proceedings Update . . .

By Dan Skidmore-Hess, editor, ATWS Proceedings

The Costa Rica edition of the ATWS conference “Proceedings” is, in fact, now close to completion. I expect to send the manuscript to the publisher within the week. Based on past experience, the publisher should be good for “quick turnaround.” My apologies to all contributors who have been affected by the lengthy delay and appreciative thanks to the many colleagues who have shown patience and supportiveness.

This first year as sole editor of the “Proceedings” has proven to be far more difficult than I had imagined. In hopes of receiving some submissions from our Costa Rican colleagues, I procrastinated too long by beginning last summer and then tried to produce the volume myself (sans technical assistance) on my own desktop computer. This proved to be a huge mistake. At one point, half of the file simply disappeared while I was working on it. Later the computer crashed, and I could not access the files at all. I believe that more than one virus was contained on the submissions disks (or so my virus “protection” software indicated) and this was a likely cause of some of the problems that were encountered.

As soon as we mail off the Costa Rica edition of the “Proceedings,” work will begin on the Denver edition. (Two submissions have already been received!) There are a couple of things contributors can do that would be very helpful to quicken the process. One is to check your disks for viruses and also to mail the disks in appropriate protective disk mailers. But most helpfully, please do not create separate files for endnotes and/or footnotes. This practice creates a very time consuming need for reformatting that has proved difficult for myself as well as my new graduate assistant to get around. Submitters, please format your paper as one whole file, including notes, title page, charts, and graphs. The less extra formatting submitters add to their files, the less “reformatting” has to be done on this end. As a basic motto, “keep it simple and straightforward where possible.”

If anyone has any questions, advice, or helpful suggestions concerning publication of the “Proceedings,” please send them along to me at dansh22@hotmail.com.

Harold Isaacs Award, New Program for Graduate Students

By Robert Curry, Chair, Teaching Committee

The Association of Third World Studies (ATWS) has instituted a graduate student program, The Harold Isaacs Award. The program is named in honor of the Association’s founder and is in the Association’s pursuit of humane and serious study of the problems facing Third World peoples. The Award will be made to the graduate student who presents the best paper at the annual meeting of the Association while authors of other high quality papers will be awarded Certificates of Excellence. The program’s purpose is to encourage high quality research and writing among graduate students who have an interest in Third World studies.

All candidates must have their papers accepted for presentation at the meeting. In order to be eligible for the award, graduate students must be present and deliver their papers at the meeting where the winner will receive a $400 check. Two ATWS members have agreed to sustain the financial part of the award. The award will be presented at the annual meeting’s banquet where the winner and runners-up graduate students will receive Certificates of Excellence. The ATWS president will send letters of congratulations to the students’ academic advisors and school deans.

The selection procedure is a serious and disciplined one, and it will proceed as follows: students will submit abstracts of their papers according to established procedures of the Association. Upon acceptance for presentation at the meeting, students will send three copies of the paper, the names of their advisors and deans, as well as personal contact information, to Education Committee Chair, Dr. Robert Curry, Professor Emeritus, Department of Economics, California State University, Sacramento, 6000 “J” Street, Sacramento, CA 95819-6082, two months prior to the meeting. Curry and two other ATWS members (Karim Bangura and Lily Mendoza) will compose a Graduate Student Award Selection Subcommittee.

Interested graduate students should submit papers that demonstrate originality in areas such as research and/or interpretation, and papers should contribute to the intellectual debate or subject within which they are framed. It is very important for graduate students to know that their submittals should be near ready for publication because the winning paper will be published in the Journal of Third World Studies after revisions suggested by the Subcommittee.

Join the Electronic Society Today!

By Manfredi La Manna, University of St. Andrews

You are invited to join the Electronic Society for Social Scientists (ELSSS), under the direction of Dr. Manfredi M. A. La Manna, reader in economics, Department of Economics, University of St. Andrews. Help shape the direction and organization of forthcoming ELSSS journals. Please register your interest at www.elss.org.uk.
International Conference Survey Results

By Paul Rodell, executive director

Last fall ATWS members in the United States were mailed a survey about the Association’s next international meeting. Eighty-one of 320 members responded, which was very encouraging since the return rate for surveys is usually much lower. Of those responding thirty-five had participated in the Costa Rica meeting while seventy-five indicated their desire to participate in future international conferences. The most popular frequency rate for future international meeting sites was once every two or three years (47 respondents total).

There was one very interesting finding that, unfortunately, is quite problematic. A strong plurality of 34 respondents suggested that an international meeting be held during the summer. There are advantages to a summer meeting, but there are also big problems. One problem is scheduling since not all schools complete their academic year at the same time and many members depend on teaching summer classes and must return home soon. An even bigger problem is financing. Taking the current year as an example, if we held a conference in the Summer of 2002, our members would be required to seek departmental financing for two ATWS meetings in the same academic budget year—one for the meeting in Savannah and the second for the international meeting. How many departments would consider two funding proposals in the same budgetary year? Many members would have to make difficult choices that would severely impact meeting participation.

We should, therefore, stick to holding international meetings either during Thanksgiving break or, and this is an interesting idea, right after Christmas. A post Christmas meeting would allow members to celebrate the holidays at home and then leave for the conference. Since spring semester often begins mid-January, there would be time to attend the conference, explore the country, and return home for the spring term. This idea is being considered especially for international meetings in venues across either the Pacific or the Atlantic Oceans.

When asked “where?” respondents wished to go for an international meeting, most checked all the suggested meeting sites!

The final portion of the survey asked respondents to estimate their

(continued on page 7)

Seminar Series Celebrates 20th Anniversary

The Third World in Perspective Program Seminar Series at Georgia Southwestern State University, founded by ATWS executive Dr. Harold Isaacs to “discuss and analyze from different perspectives, or viewpoints, major political, economic and social problems and issues in the Third World,” is now celebrating its 20th anniversary.

Since the first seminar on February 18, 1981, 89 additional fora have been held featuring nationally and internationally known experts. The series was the seedbed for Dr. Isaacs’ founding of ATWS in 1983, and the JTWS in 1984.

Past themes include “Third World Problems and Issues,” “Third World Revolutions,” “Third World Nationalism,” “Third World Development,” “Third World-Superpower Relations,” “Religious and Cultural Influences in the Third World,” “Third World Crises,” and “Western Influences in the Third World.”

The format of the 90-minute programs has varied over the years, however, usually consist of a featured speaker and two respondents with a question and answer period involving panelists and the audience. An encouraging trend is the participation of students as speakers and respondents.

The themes are used as the title of the JTWS Fall issue, which includes papers from the seminars. The 2000-2001 series focuses on the theme, “Major Third World Developments.” Seminars entitled “U.S.-Africa Policy in the 21st Century,” “Trends of Globalization and Contemporary Politics in Latin America,” “The Vietnam War: Lessons and Legacies,” and “Human Rights, Problems, and Issues in the Third World” have been included.

Host An ATWS Conference

By Paul A. Rodell, executive director

Although plans are set for our 2002 meeting, the ATWS Executive Council would gladly entertain proposals to host future annual meetings.

Access to convenient transportation and the availability of conference rooms and hotel accommodations are necessary for any meeting site. Also, ATWS requests the host institution to provide a welcome reception. Hosts frequently have student volunteers available to help with registration and work with the local chamber of commerce. They also provide break time snacks.

We would love to visit your campus. Keep in mind that campus administrators are often willing to host academic meetings because they enhance the reputation of their institution, so support might not be difficult to obtain if plans are made in advance.

If you are interested in exploring the possibility of hosting a future ATWS meeting, please contact the executive director for the guidelines detailing the required specifications, procedures, and timelines.

Spring 2001
Contributors Wanted


The book is planned as a two-volume, A-Z encyclopedia, approximately 2,000 pages long, with some 600 essay entries on individual countries; their relations with major world powers; regional groupings; important theoretical and social models; the history of the “third world” as a social, political, economic, and cultural construct; significant historical events; the Cold War; key concepts such as non-alignment and North-South; the changing conceptualization of the “developing” world; important organizations; military events; aid organizations and development efforts; and important historical figures. Entries will consist of an essay on the topic and a bibliographic portion listing works for further reading. Contributors will receive a copy of the book for the first essay and additional monetary compensation for subsequent entries.

Assignments will be made starting in February 2001. If you think you may be interested in contributing to this important reference work, please send your name, affiliation, postal and electronic mail addresses, and telephone and fax numbers to Fitzroy Dearborn Publishers, Lorraine Murray, Commissioning Editor, 919 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 760, Chicago, IL 60611, e-mail: (continued on page 7)

New Books

Development Economics: Inframarginal Versus Marginal Analysis, Jeffrey D. Sachs and Xiaokai Yang, Blackwell Publishers. Complimentary examination copies may be ordered by fax (781-388-8210) by telephone (800-216-2522) or by e-mail(exam@blackwellpub.com).

Growth Management for a Sustainable Future: Ecological Sustainability as the New Growth Management Focus for the 21st Century, Gabor Zovanyi, Praeger Publishers. Complimentary examination copies may be ordered by fax (203-226-4712), by telephone (203-226-3571), or by e-mail (text@greenwood.com).

Economics of Development, Fifth Edition, Dwight H. Perkins, Steven Radelet, Donald R. Snodgrass, Malcolm Gillis, Michael Roemer, W. W. Norton & Company. Complimentary examination copies may be ordered by fax (203-226-4712), by telephone (203-226-3571), or by e-mail (text@greenwood.com).

Opportunities

The Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, a residential fellowship program, awards 20-25 fellowships annually based on submitted proposals in a broad range of social sciences and humanities on national and/or international issues. Deadline for receipt of applications is October 1, 2001. Decisions will be made by early April 2002.

Application forms may be downloaded from www.wilsoncenter.org or may be obtained from Scholar Selection and Services Office, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, One Woodrow Wilson Plaza, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC, 20004-3027.
First Annual Conference, Kenya Chapter (continued from cover)

Community whose address was “Regional Blocs as the Only Viable Units in the Globalized Environment of the 21st Century: Experience from East Africa.”

Faculty from Kenyan Public and Private universities, civil servants, distinguished diplomats, and individuals from the private sector were present along with ten undergraduate and graduate students. Eighty-eight papers were presented during the three days. A dominant theme was education, but the impact of “globalization” also received a great deal of attention. Other areas addressed included public health issues, gender, the environment, communication, technology, culture and the arts, economics and management, politics, and human rights.

Due to the success of the meeting, a decision was made to hold a second annual conference on September 17-19, 2001, hosted by Egerton University. Its theme will be “Africa Beyond Hunger, War, and HIV AIDS.” It is hoped that all ATWS members will participate. Interested individuals should contact either Dr. Kembo Sure kembos@irmoi.com or Ms. Joyce Nyairo nyairoad@net2000ke.com or jnyairo@hotmail.com. Publication of the conference proceedings from this First Annual Conference will be completed by September 2001.

Leadership for the ATWS Kenya Chapter is provided by Dr. Kembo Sure, chair, Dr. Nafukho Muyio, secretary, and Ms. Joyce Nyairo, treasurer. The Moi University conference planning committee was chaired by Ms. Eunice Kamaara; Ms. Mary W. Ngare was secretary, and other members included Dr. P. Barasa, Dr. P. Chepkuto, Mr. Kefa Simwa, Dr. Adam Chepkwony, Ms. Pamela Abuya, and Dan Owino. A warm THANK YOU is extended to Moi University for its generosity.

South Asia Conference Update (continued from cover)

Cardiology of the Medical College of Trivandrum. Those presenting papers on this panel were Dr. V. Mohan Nair, Dr. Raj Mohan, Dr. K. Narayanan Nair, and Dr. V. L. Sheela Devi.

The valedictory session was chaired by Professor Azariah. Ideas, as well as constructive criticisms of the papers presented, were exchanged.

Conference Survey Results (continued from p. 3)

travel costs for sites they wished to visit. Many people stated that they had no idea what the costs might be or gave estimates that were far too low. This response indicates that the Executive Council must work to keep costs as low as possible. Members should prepare themselves for “sticker shock” while keeping in mind that costs beyond department reimbursement should be tax deductible.

We should have a definite announcement about the next ATWS international meeting when we meet in Savannah.

Additional affiliations. If you are a member of another professional association that might be interested in a linkage with ATWS, I urge you to draw that organization and ATWS together into an affiliation. Please email me, tmurray@fitzroyearborn.com, or fax: 312-587-0149.


Contributors Wanted
(continued from p. 6)

lmurray@fitzroyearborn.com, or fax: 312-587-0149.

Globalization in the Muslim World

The Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations, Malaysia, is organizing an international conference in May 2001, themed, “Impact of Globalization on the Muslim World.” The seminar will be held in downtown Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Muslim countries constitute a sizable segment of developing and underdeveloped countries. Even though some oil-producing nations are considered among the richest in the world, none has attained the state of self-sustaining economic growth nor the necessary institutional set-up. Many attempts have been made to account for this phenomenon, including simplistic explanations that Islam, itself, is the cause of underdevelopment.

This seminar is aimed to familiarize participants with the problems associated with globalization and how it is affecting Muslims and hopes to clarify misconceptions about development in Muslim nations. Questions we need to address include, “Are the positive influences of globalization reaching Muslim nations?”, “What is being done to dispel the negative influences of globalization in Muslim nations?”, and “What is the state of networking between Muslim nations, to address these issues?”

These are some of many questions the seminar hopes to raise in order to highlight critical areas that Muslims must focus on to avoid being left behind in economic, socio-political, technological and environmental spheres.

A concept paper is presently being written, and sessions for a three-day seminar are being detailed. We hope to have presenters predominantly from the Muslim world (OIC member countries), and/or presenters who are themselves of Muslim background, but who might be living and working in the North. Airfare and accommodations will be provided.

Contact Dr. Sharifah Munirah Alatas at smalatas@idhl.gov.my or dr.alatas@hotmail.com; phone: (603) 7957-6221, ext. 238; fax: (603) 7955-3201 for more information.
Association of Third World Studies, Inc.

ATWS Membership Application Form

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General Fields of Interest _________________________________________________

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*This is the address to which you will be sent, twice per year, the Journal of Third World Studies. Please make checks payable to the “Association of Third World Studies, Inc.” Please send your check and completed membership form to

Dr. Gary Kline, Treasurer
Association of Third World Studies, Inc.
Georgia Southwestern State University
800 Wheatley St., Americus, GA 31709

You may register on the Internet.
Our Web address is:
http://www.wiu.edu/users/mfmbk/atws/apply.htm

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