



SCHOLARS AT RISK
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Academic Freedom & University Autonomy in West African Universities
Symposium & Workshop
University of Ghana, Legon, 15-16 April 2009

Wednesday, April 15: Symposium on Academic Freedom in West African Universities

8:30 – 9:00: Registration

9:00 – 9:45: Welcome

- Professor Clifford Nii Boi Tagoe, Vice-Chancellor, University of Ghana, Legon
- Professor Goolam T.G. Mohamedbhai, Secretary General, Association of African Universities (AAU)
- Dr. Ousmane Sène, Director, West African Research Centre (WARC)
- Mr. Robert J. Quinn, Scholars at Risk/Network for Education and Academic Rights
- Mr. Alex Tetteh Enyoh, Minister of Education, Ghana

9:45 – 10:45: Session 1: Overview of Current Work to Promote Academic Freedom in Africa

Chair & Opening Remarks: K.B. Asante

- Topic 1: Overview of the goals of the NEAR/SAR workshops project: Robert Quinn, Scholars at Risk
- Topic 2: Overview of CODESRIA's Academic Freedom and Human Rights Programme, including brief examination of the Dar Es Salaam & Kampala Recommendations: Dr. Carlos Cardoso, CODESRIA
- Topic 3: Report on the Regional Conference on Higher Education in Africa organised by Regional Bureau for Education in Africa (BREDA) ahead of the 2009 UNESCO World Conference on Higher Education: Alice Lamptey

10:45 – 11:15: Coffee Break

11:15 – 12:15: Session 2: Perspectives on Academic Freedom in Different Regions

Chair & Opening Remarks: Akilagpa Sawyerr

- Speaker 1: Elizabeth Ayalew, Africa Network for Academic Freedom
- Speaker 2: Azmi Sharom, University of Malaya, Malaysia:
- Speaker 3: Jonathan Travis, NEAR

12:15 – 13:15: Lunch

13:15 – 15:15: Session 3: Case Studies on Efforts to Promote Academic Freedom in West Africa

Chair & Opening Remarks: Kwame Karikari, Media Foundation for West Africa

- Cote d'Ivoire: Francis Akindes, Université de Bouaké
- Ghana: Esi Sutherland, University of Ghana
- Mali: Moussa Sissoko, Point Sud Mali
- Nigeria : Victor Dugga, University of Jos, Nigeria

15:15 – 15:45: Coffee Break

15:45 – 17:45: Session 4: Case Studies on Efforts to Promote Academic Freedom in West Africa

Chair & Opening Remarks: Nana Apt, Ashesi University College, Ghana

- Niger: Hamidou Seydou Hanafiou, Université Abdou Moumouni
- Nigeria: Y.K. Salami, Obafemi Awolowo University
- Senegal: Babacar Diop Buuba, Université Cheikh Anta Diop



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- Sierra Leone: James Tamba Lebbie, University of Sierra Leone

20:00: Dinner

Thursday, April 16: Workshop on Academic Freedom – Developing a Global Framework for Research and Response

9:00 – 9:30: Session 5: Presenting a Draft Common Framework for Analysis and Response

Chair: Kwadwo Appiagyei-Atua

- Speaker: Sinead O’Gorman, Scholars at Risk: Presenting a Draft Common Framework for Analysis
- Questions & Discussion

9:30 – 10:15: Session 6: Working Groups on SAR/NEAR Case Studies: Institutional

- Participants break into working groups (2-4 groups of 5-10 persons)
- Discussion built around case study circulated in advance

10:15-10:45: Coffee

10:45–11:30 Session 7: Working Groups on SAR/NEAR Case Studies: Individual

- Participants break into working groups (2-4 groups of 5-10 persons)
- Discussion built around case study circulated in advance

11:30–12:30 Session 8: Discussion & Reports from Working groups

Chair: Kwadwo Appiagyei-Atua

- Reports from working groups about case studies
- Working discussion of draft common framework & recommendations for improvement

12:30 – 13:30: Lunch

13:30 – 15:00: Session 9: Proposed Follow-up Activities

Chair: Raymond Atuguba, University of Ghana

- Topic 1: Elizabeth Ayalew: Africa Academic Freedom Network
- Topic 2: Ousmane Sène: Academic Freedom Day
- Topic 3: Jonathan Travis: Newsletter and Alerts
- Topic 4: Robert Quinn: SAR Academic Freedom Survey

15:00-15:30: Coffee

15:30-17:00 Session 10: Develop Plan of Action

Chair: Esi Sutherland, University of Ghana

- Discussion of any new proposals
- Final discussion of proposed follow-up activities
- Develop plan of action

17:00 Workshop Closes

19:00: Dinner
