

### Saturday, November 4

*Program of African Studies, Northwestern University*

#### 8:30 a.m. Continental breakfast

#### 9 a.m. "Political and Economic Transitions: Priorities for Collaborative Action"

Richard Joseph, Northwestern University (chair)  
Tim Shaw, Royal Roads University, Canada  
Emmanuel Nnadozie, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa

#### 11 a.m. "Strengthening Higher Education: The Next Steps"

Alexandra Gillies, Northwestern University and University of Cambridge (chair)  
Abiola Odejide, University of Ibadan  
Uche Isiugo-Abanihe, University of Ibadan  
Layi Erinosh, Ogun State University  
Haruna Wakili, Bayero University

#### 12:30 p.m. Lunch

## Acknowledgments

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PAS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

# Nigeria 2007

*Political, Social, and Economic Transitions*

2-4 November 2006

Program of African Studies, Northwestern University  
620 Library Place, Evanston, Illinois U.S.A.

"Nothing I have ever written will match the ongoing saga of Nigeria,  
absolutely nothing." — *Wole Soyinka*

The Program of African Studies at Northwestern University is pleased to present an international conference titled, "Nigeria 2007: Political, Social, and Economic Transitions," on November 2–4, 2006. Elections will be held in Nigeria in April 2007, when President Olusegun Obasanjo completes his second and final term in office. In view of the political vicissitudes of Nigeria throughout its postcolonial history, this is an important moment to reflect collectively on the major challenges and prospects.

In addition to drawing on a wide range of perspectives through the participation of scholars, activists, and policy makers from Nigerian, European, and North American institutions, the conference also addresses issues such as politics and literature, HIV/AIDS, Islam and the public sphere, the Niger Delta, poverty reduction, democratic institution building, and electoral politics. The Program of African Studies currently collaborates with Nigerian universities and research centers on several projects, such as the Research Alliance to Combat HIV/AIDS (REACH), the Institute for the Study of Islamic Thought in Africa (ISITA), and the Consortium for Development Partnerships (CDP).

Nigerian Nobel laureate Wole Soyinka is scheduled to deliver a public lecture, "Othello's Dominion, Immigrant Domain," at 5 p.m. on November 1 as part of Northwestern University's campus-wide Othello Project, organized by the Department of English.



Michael Frazier

## Conference program

### Wednesday, November 1

*Harris Hall 107, Northwestern University*

**5 p.m. Othello Project public lecture by Wole Soyinka:**  
"Othello's Dominion, Immigrant Domain"

**7 p.m. Reception**

### Thursday, November 2

*Michigan Room, Norris University Center, Northwestern University*

**8:30 a.m. Continental breakfast**

**9 a.m. "Politics and Literature in Nigeria"**  
Wendy Griswold, Northwestern University (chair)  
Wole Soyinka  
Biodun Jeyifo, Harvard University  
Abdul-Rasheed Na'Allah, Western Illinois University

**10:30 a.m. Coffee break**

**11 a.m. "Nigerian Humanities: Responding to Conflict and Uncertainty"**  
Heidi Nast, DePaul University (chair)  
Wendy Griswold, Northwestern University  
Emmanuel Eze, DePaul University  
Chika Okeke-Agulu, Pennsylvania State University

**12:30 p.m. Lunch**

**1:30 pm "The Niger Delta Crisis"**  
William Reno, Northwestern University (chair)  
Stephen Morrison, Center for Strategic and International Studies  
Clement Adibe, DePaul University  
Kathryn Nwajiaku, Oxford University

**3:30 p.m. Coffee break**

**4 p.m. "Private-Sector Growth and Poverty Reduction"**  
Anthony Ikpi, University of Ibadan (chair)  
Jide Nzelibe, Northwestern University School of Law  
William Masters, Purdue University  
Christian Ukaegbu, University of Wyoming  
Timothy Williams, Commonwealth Secretariat

### Friday, November 3

*Hardin Hall, Rebecca Crown Center, Northwestern University*

**8:30 a.m. Continental breakfast**

**9 a.m. "HIV/AIDS in Nigeria: The Challenge of Prevention"**  
Adam Ashforth, Northwestern University (chair)  
Layi Erinosh, Ogun State University  
Uche Isiugo-Abanihe, University of Ibadan  
Robert Murphy, Northwestern University  
Phillip Nieburg, visiting scholar, REACH

**10:30 a.m. Coffee break**

**11 a.m. "Islam and the Political Arena"**  
Souleymane Bachir Diagne, Northwestern University (chair)  
Muhammad Sani Umar, director-designate, ISTIA  
John Paden, George Mason University  
Haruna Wakili, Bayero University

**12:30 p.m. Lunch**

**1:30 p.m. "Democracy Building and the 2007 Elections"**  
Ndubisi Obiorah, Centre for Law and Social Action, (chair)  
Darren Kew, University of Massachusetts Boston  
Jibrin Ibrahim, Centre for Democracy and Development, Nigeria  
Peter Lewis, Johns Hopkins University  
Adaora Ikenze, Commonwealth Secretariat

**3:30 p.m. Coffee break**

**4 p.m. Keynote address by Wole Soyinka:**  
"Democracy and the Nigerian Ambiguity"

**5 p.m. Roundtable discussion**  
Henry Bienen, Northwestern University (moderator)  
Ebere Ovwu diwe, Central State University  
Layi Erinosh, Ogun State University  
John Paden, George Mason University  
M. Crawford Young, University of Wisconsin-Madison