



SACRAMENTO
STATE

»» Making Peace ««

Newsletter

VOL. 3 NO. 4



CENTER FOR AFRICAN PEACE AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION



*WHAT IS
CAPCR?*

In 1996, California State University, Sacramento, founded the Center for African Peace and Conflict Resolution (CAPCR) with the primary objective of offering conflict resolution and reconciliation services. The center extends its expertise to agencies, governments, institutions, businesses, civil society, community organizations, and various other groups. CAPCR achieves its mission through a comprehensive approach involving training, education, research, and intervention.

MESSAGE FROM CAPCR DIRECTOR



The Director's Report

From the 32nd Africa & Diaspora International Conference in April to the final trips abroad landing in Nigeria this December, CAPCR concludes 2024 on sturdy feet. In reiterating our commitment toward a culture of peace, notable CAPCR events this year were- February Black History Month panel on reparations, the April Conference & Peace Awards, July Nigeria Restorative Justice training, August Restorative Justice Training, Distinguished Guest Lecture in November by Prof. Pat Utomi, a memorable December trip to Nigeria with the California State University, Sacramento President Dr. Luke Wood. We remain grateful to our donors, especially Drs. Anvar and Pari Velji whose generosity has enabled us to provide about 5 student scholarships, each year. In support of the Black History, we held a panel (February 29) on Black Reparations movement, focusing on the California Reparations Taskforce Study and its national and global implications or lessons. The panel included several Sac State faculty members: Drs. Clarence George, Boston Martin, and Mark Brown, plus a renowned community reparations activist Chris Lodgson. The February panel was a precursor to the 2024 Conference themed "Restorative Justice & Equitable Peacebuilding," April 11th - 13th. Our Keynote speaker Dr. Fania Davis, a leading national voice on the intersection of racial and restorative justice, in chronicling her journey from a young person growing up in the racially segregated south to her work as a restorative justice practitioner, delivered her rich lecture on "Journey to Racial and Restorative Justice". The conference continued with panels and discussions, a notable one being the 'peace circle experience'- a non videorecorded discussion session, where about 15 participants shared their various experiences about US race relations, violence, and global power imbalance. Another, was the deeply moving panel discussion on Victim Offender Dialogue which featured the healing power of restorative justice through the story of two friends, Joshua Gunner Johnson and Christian Branscombe; the latter was incarcerated for shooting the former who testified of ending up working to release his friend after his inspiration from attending a Restorative Justice class I taught at CSU Sacramento/Sacramento State.

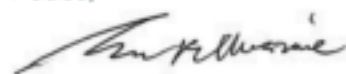
As we continue our yearly celebration of champions of peace and catalysts of change, we honor our distinguished recipients of the 2024 Peace Awards Dinner Banquet; Dr. Kristee Haggins, Dr. Nathaniel Oyinloye, Ms. Elena Bennett, Restorative Justice for Oakland Youth (RJOY) and The Judicial Service of Ghana who exemplify unwavering commitment and tireless dedication to fostering harmony, justice, and reconciliation within our local and global communities. The Peace Awards Presentation which concluded the conference was done by our close partner, Chief Justice Gertrude Torkornoo (3rd female Chief Justice of Ghana) who titled her presentation "The critical role of women in peace and justice building in Africa - The Ghana Experience," and commended the partnership between the CAPCR and Ghana judiciary, especially in Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) and looks forward to continuing the collaboration in "justice and peace building."

Following through this with the summer trip to Nigeria in July, staff from Abuja area correctional Centers and select inmates(convicted of various offenses) at the federal Medium Security Correctional Center -Kuje, near Abuja, received our training program for development in Restorative Justice through 4 day training workshops, of 2 days for each group at the Kuje location. We are looking forward to breaking more grounds in developing restorative justice in Nigeria with a future collaboration with PRAWA (Prisoners Rehabilitation and Welfare Action- a non profit organisation) as discussed. Moving on, in our rich lecture by world-renowned political economist Prof. Pat Utomi, many of the Black Honors Scholars and fellow Sac state students, gathered to listen to Prof Utomi speak on Leadership Development For Social Change in Africa. Returning to Nigeria this fall with President Dr. Luke Wood as the keynote speaker at the PRAWA's 30th Anniversary international conference in Abuja, meeting with the popular 2023 Nigerian Presidential nominee, Mr. Peter Obi, and signing of Memorandum of Understanding(MoU) with our long term partner - Nigeria Institute for Peace & Conflict Resolution- we have spectacularly concluded the events of the year. In addition to Dr. Wood's stellar keynote presentation with 2 standing ovations at the PRAWA conference, several other colleagues joined me in presenting at the conference: Drs. Alexa Sardina, Nicole Fox, and Krishna Guadalupe, plus Dr. Idara Essien Wood as part of the Sac State delegation. The 3 colleagues joined me in visiting our other partners outside Abuja, including interactive session on post-war memory and reconciliation at the Centre of Excellence Sustainable Procurement, Environmental and Social Standards-CE-sPESS- Federal University of Technology, Owerri, and witnessed the construction kick off for a secondary school peace park in Ehime-Mbano(Imo State) being led by another CAPCR mentee organization—Afripeace Sustainable Development Foundation-Nigeria; the school visit along with interactions with the students in the school's peace club as the community traditional leaders were quite impactful.

Remarkably, we continued the 3rd successful implementation of a grant from the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) with the weekly restorative justice dialogues with inmates at the California State Prison-Sacramento and facilitation of victim-offender dialogues that were both impactful and redeeming. We've received the CDCR grant for another 2-year cycle through November 2025, plus another 5 year grant with the US Dept. of Justice Office of Violence Against Women in collaboration with the REACH(a rape crisis Center in Orange County-southern California). We look forward to other opportunities for restorative justice program collaborations in Sacramento and Africa through the CAPCR's Afrocentric curriculum and practice, including the CAPCR's representation on the Restorative Justice Working Group for Domestic Violence and Sexual Violence being convened by the California District Attorneys' Association—to develop RJ tool kit for the legal professionals.

As we conclude this chapter, we carry forward the invaluable insights, connections, and aspirations nurtured throughout this impactful journey. The Africa Peace Fellows endowment fund remains our long-term goal for CAPCR sustainable programming and greater achievements. With gratitude and anticipation, we look ahead to the promise of a fruitful conference in 2025, where we will continue to explore, advance, and propose cutting-edge research and practice in peace and conflict resolution through reparative justice.

Peace,



Professor Ernest Uwazie, Ph.D.

Director, Center for African Peace and Conflict Resolution

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE PROJECTS



This 50-hour training is held annually and includes virtual and face-to-face sessions on the campus of the California State University, Sacramento [CSUS], and it is presented by a diverse team of Restorative Justice Scholars and Practitioners. Training covers theoretical views and practical applications or practices of restorative justice, e.g. victim-offender dialogues, victim impact panels, circles, and conferencing. Topics related to victim-centered and offender-sensitive practices, trauma/harm, empathy, accountability, apology, restitution, peacemaking and nonviolence, victimology, prison education/rehabilitation, school/college disciplinary procedures, justice system and criminal sentencing, and forgiveness



STORIES FROM CRIMINAL JUSTICE STUDY ABROAD IN NIGERIA

Summer 2024 | Kuje Prison Abuja



In July 2024, we conducted Restorative Justice Training for Nigeria correctional officers and some inmates at Kuje Correctional Center—Abuja, in collaboration with the CAPCR Nigeria partner PRAWA and in support of the implementation of salient aspects of the Nigeria Correctional Service Act 2019



➤➤➤ *Photos of Study Abroad in Abuja*

Board Members, Dr. Nicole Fox and Dr. Alexa Sardina

A BLACK HISTORY MONTH FORUM ON REPARATIONS



Welcome and Moderator:

Dr. Ernest Uwazie
CAPCR Director

Opening Remarks:

Dr. Boatamo Mosupyo,
Dean, Black Honors College,
Sac State.

Panelists:

Dr. Clarence George,
Professor of Ethnic Studies,
Sac State

Dr. Martin Boston,
Professor of Ethnic Studies,
Sac State

Dr. Mark Brown,
Professor of Political
Science,
Sac State

&

Mr. Chris Lodgson,
Lead Organizer,
Coalition for a Just and
Equitable California (CJEC).



THE 32ND ANNUAL AFRICA & DIASPORA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE: RESTORATIVE JUSTICE & EQUITABLE PEACEBUILDING



The 32nd anniversary theme — Restorative Justice & Equitable Peacebuilding: Best Practices, Key Lessons & Opportunities - aims to examine, analyze and/or evaluate the development and status of the various restorative justice practices and programs, both formal and informal institutions, across cultures, communities, countries and continents via the justice system, community, education, civil society, vulnerable populations, and post-conflict societies.



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

DR. FANIA DAVIS

Fania E. Davis is a leading international voice on the intersections of racial and restorative justice. She is a long-time social justice activist, civil rights trial attorney, author, and educator with a PhD in Indigenous Knowledge. Davis came of age in Birmingham, Alabama during the social ferment of the civil rights era. These formative years, particularly the murder of two close childhood friends in the 1963 Sunday School bombing, crystallized within Fania an enduring commitment to social transformation. For the ext decades, she was active in the Civil Rights, Black liberation, women's, prisoners', peace, anti-racial violence, economic justice and anti-apartheid movements.



Apprenticing with African indigenous healers catalyzed Fania's search for a healing justice, ultimately leading her to serve as Founding Director of Restorative Justice for Oakland Youth and Co-Founding Board Member of the National Association of Community and Restorative Justice. Her numerous honors include the Lifetime Achievement award for excellence in Restorative Justice, the Black Feminist Shapeshifters and Waymakers' award, the Tikkun (Repair the World) award, the Ella Jo Baker Human Rights award, and the Ebony POWER 100 award. The Los Angeles Times named her a New Civil Rights Leader of the 21st Century. She recently received the Open Society Foundations Justice Rising Award recognizing 16 Black movement leaders working towards racial justice in the United States. Among Davis' publications is the Little Book of Race and Restorative Justice: Black Lives, Justice, and U.S. Social Transformation

Davis, who resides in Oakland, CA., writes and speaks internationally on restorative justice, racial justice, truth processes and indigeneity. She is a mother, grandmother, dancer, meditator and a yoga, qigong and African spirituality practitioner.

**TAKING PLACE FROM APRIL 11TH TO 13TH 2024,
THE CONFERENCE ADDRESSED RACIAL AND RESTORATIVE JUSTICE :
EXPLORING THE CHALLENGES AND PROSPECTS OF RESTORATIVE JUSTICE
OPTIONS IN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN THE BLACK COMMUNITY/ FAMILY.**

32ND ANNUAL AFRICA PEACE AWARDS DINNER, APRIL 13 2024



MEET OUR PEACE AWARDEES:

Dr. Kristee Haggins
Peace Health Award



Dr. Nathaniel Oyinloye
Peace & Justice Award



Ms. Elena Bennett
Peace Builder Award



RJOY
Peacemaker Award



**JUDICIAL SERVICE
OF GHANA**

Judicial Service of Ghana
Peace Service Award

The Africa Peace Fellows Endowment Fund

To support a Conflict & Resolution Training program for the Next Generation of Peace Leaders.

The Africa Peace Fellows is intended as a certificate training program designed to meet existing key gaps in creating internal capacity for transformative conflict resolution systems in Africa, especially in the development of consistent, sustainable conflict resolution and prevention training programs at advanced and specialized skills levels, including retraining or continuing education, with emphasis on intractable and emerging public policy, governance, and commercial disputes. The Africa Peace Fellows curriculum will go beyond the traditional transactional individual conflict resolution and peacebuilding processes to transformational conflict resolution systems design, institutional capacity building, human capacity development, and professional network creation.

The program also proposes to address long-term funding constraints, particularly in peace and conflict resolution training. The majority of the conflict resolution training programs in Africa are driven by donor support. Arguably, donor funding for such training programs fluctuates in its frequency and level of support. As observed by Dr. Monde Muyangwa of the Africa Program at the Woodrow Wilson Center in Washington, DC, "we cannot wage peace on other people's wallet." To maintain Africa's continued progress or gains in the global peace index, there is a need for the development of a training infrastructure that is sustainable and supportive of both continental and national peace and security agenda, with a long-term vision and strategic plan.

This unique training program is envisioned to ultimately create a robust cadre or network of the next generation of African peace leaders, or Peace Corps leadership that is ultimately, deliberately dedicated to promoting the societal goal of a culture of peace. The program will serve as a medium for increasing the number and level of skilled conflict resolution personnel or expertise and institutions in Africa, who will meet international best standards in knowledge acquisition and skill application. Further, the curricular will integrate critical issues of social justice, good governance, human rights, peace leadership and development, human security, violent extremism, diversity, environmental justice, restorative justice, and public corruption.



We invite you to consider contributing to the Africa Peace Fellows program. Your generosity helps us the success of this program a reality. if you prefer to make a gift by check, please make it payable to "The University Foundation at Sacramento State" and indicate in the memo the Africa Peace Fellows fund—for your support. Mailing address is: Development Office, Sacramento State, 6000 J St. MS 6030, Sacramento, CA 95819. Or you could donate online:

www.csus.edu/center/african-peace-conflict-resolution/

Please note that the minimum online donation amount per designation is \$5.

Thank you for your support.

THE VELJI FAMILY CAPCR STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS



AWARDEES

Maxwell Abah

Frank Oppong Kyekyeku

Daniel Adedeji

Joaquim Langa Maqueto

Grace Ballou

THANK YOU VELJI FAMILY!

FALL DISTINGUISHED GUEST LECTURE

Prof Pat Utomi



LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT FOR SOCIAL CHANGE IN AFRICA/NIGERIA: THE NEW TRIBE PROJECT

NOV 20 2024

CAPCR, in collaboration with the Black Honors College, Department of Political Science, the Cooper Woodson College Visiting Scholars Program and Ayad Al-Qazzaz Endowment; Professor of Sociology, CSUS, hosted its rich Fall Distinguished Guest Lecture in the Black Honors College Seminar room with special guest speaker, Prof Pat Utomi.



About Prof Pat Utomi:

Prof. Utomi is a world renowned political economist, professor of entrepreneurship, business angel, Co-founder of the noted Lagos Business School-Nigeria, founder of the Center for Value in Leadership(CVL)-Nigeria, and current Chairman of the PAFTRAC-the Pan African Sector Trade and Investment Committee-of the African Union and Afrexim Bank. A former Nigerian presidential candidate and scholar- activist, he has served at different levels of government, private sector and academia. Prof. Utomi is currently the inaugural Brown Capital Management- Africa Public Policy Fellow at the Woodrow Wilson Center, Washington, DC, and working on a new leadership project- The New Tribe .



THE JOHN C. LIVINGSTON AWARD

“The Livingston lecture has long been considered one of the most prestigious awards given to a member of the Sacramento State faculty.

Recipients of this award are recognized for having transcended their disciplines and in doing so, having positively affected the life of the University.”

DR. UWAZIE DELIVERED HIS LECTURE TITLED “DO NO [FURTHER] HARM: THINKING AND DOING RESTORATIVE JUSTICE.” AT THE LIVINGSTON AWARD LECTURE, WHICH HE WAS THE RECIPIENT OF

HIGHLIGHTS

THE JOHN C. LIVINGSTON

Annual Faculty Lecture 2023–2024



Dr. Ernest E. Uwazie

Division of Criminal Justice
College of Health and Human Services

Do No [further] Harm: Thinking and Doing Restorative Justice

Dr. Ernest E. Uwazie is the recipient of the 2023-2024 John C. Livingston Annual Faculty Lecture Award.

Crime or violence as well as conflict in any human environment is inevitable. However, when it does, we have the moral and legal obligation to respond in a manner that reduces the likelihood of the occurrence of further harm or violation of the social or communal relationships. With nearly 2 million US prison population and more than 30% of the prisoners diagnosed with mental health illness, and over 60% rate of recidivism, the promise of a just society under democracy is in jeopardy. The search for the right balance of justice response when norms are violated remains a major challenge in all legal systems, at both local and global levels. In his lecture, Professor Uwazie shares some insights from his more than 30 years of US-Africa experience in restorative justice and alternative

Thursday, March 14, 2024

In-Person Event, 3:00 PM

Madrigal Suite, 3rd Floor, University Union

Reception to follow

For more information, call (916) 278-6847



THE JOHN C. LIVINGSTON AWARD CEREMONY

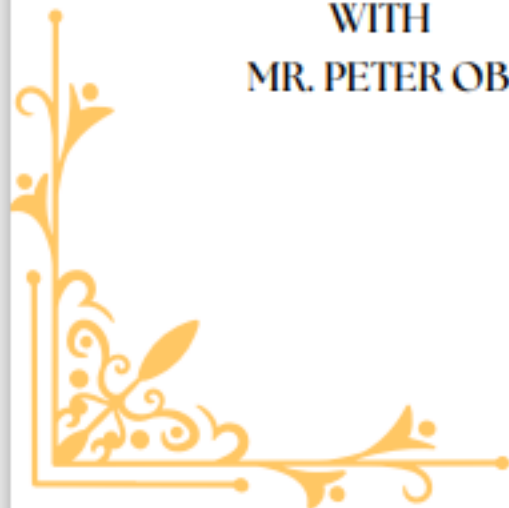


**CAPCR &
California State University Sacramento President,
Dr. Jonathan Luke Wood in Abuja, Nigeria
December 2024**



**DR. IDARA ESSIEN-WOOD,
PRESIDENT LUKE WOOD
&
DR. UWAZIE
WITH NIGERIAN
PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE
MR. PETER OBI**

**DR. UWAZIE
WITH
MR. PETER OBI**



CAPCR &
California State University Sacramento President,
Dr. Jonathan Luke Wood in Abuja, Nigeria
December 2024



PRAWA'S International
Conference on
Corrections, Justice
Peace, Security, &
Development

Dr. Nicole Fox
Dr. Krishna Guadalupe
President Wood
Dr. Alexa Sardina
Dr. Ernest Uwazie

President Wood
delivering the keynote
at the PRAWA
conference

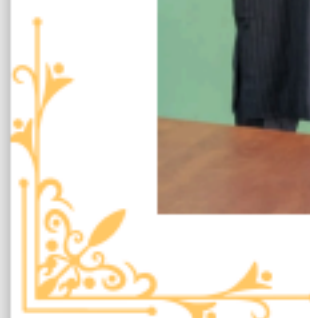


CAPCR &
California State University Sacramento President,
Dr. Jonathan Luke Wood in Abuja, Nigeria
December 2024



Signing of the MoU
Sac State and
Institute for Peace and
Conflict Resolution,
Abuja, Nigeria Dec 3,
2024.

President Wood and
IPCR Director General
Dr. Joseph Ochogwu





»» (L-R): Dr. Krishna Guadalupe,
Dr. Alexa Sardina, Dr. Nicole Fox,
Dr. Ernest Uwazie



NIGERIA TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

PRAWA'S International Conference on Corrections, Justice Peace, Security, & Development





(L-R) : HRH Eze Emmanuel Ekwunno (Eze Opara Aro II) of Umuezeala Ogwara Autonomous Community, Lolo Uwa, Prof Alexa Sardina, Prof Ernest Uwazie, Prof Nicole Fox, and Prof Khrishna Guadalupe in a group photograph at the flag off of the Games Arena and Peace Park, at the Comprehensive Secondary School Umuezeala Ogwara, CSSUO, Ehime Mbano LGA, Imo State, on Saturday, December 7, 2024

Photo: Edison Okereke

NIGERIA TRIP HIGHLIGHTS





NIGERIA TRIP HIGHLIGHTS





**MEETING AT THE CE-SPESS,
FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY,
OWERRI, DEC 6. 2024.**



AFRICAN INTERNATIONAL
STUDENTS MIXER WITH
PROF PAT UTOMI

HIGHLIGHTS

CENTRE FOR AFRICAN PEACE AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION



Tuesday 29th Oct 2024

@ International Programs and Global Engagement Lounge

4:30PM - 6:00PM



916 278 6282

capcr@csus.edu





WEEKLY CSP SAC
VISITS
(RESTORATIVE JUSTICE)

HIGHLIGHTS






UPCOMING EVENTS 2025

33RD AFRICAN AND DIASPORA
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

APRIL 24th -25TH 2025

PEACE CONFERENCE:

APRIL 26TH 2025



OUR STAFF

CAPCR OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

Dr. Ernest Uwazie, Director & Board Ex-officio

Dr. Data Barata, Chair

Dr. Davies Sasere, Secretary

Dr. Sylvester Bowie

Dr. Elizabeth Mukiibi

Dr. Maria da Luz Alexandrino

Dr. Nicole Fox

Dr. Tina Jordan

Dr. Jaime Jackson

Dr. Alexa Sardina

Dr. Martin Boston

Brianna Grant J.D

Dr. Theresa Abah

Dr. Jessie Gaston

Student Assistants

Ima-Abasi Etokudo

(Undergraduate Student, B.Sc Electrical and Electronic Engineering)

Sarah Dominic-Cluck

(Graduate Student | M.S. in Rehabilitation Counseling)

Redefine the Possible

*Grateful for the Memories we
shared. Thank You, and See
You Next Year!*

CAPCR

CENTER FOR AFRICAN PEACE
AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION
SACRAMENTO STATE

Designed By

Ima-Abasi Etokudo

Undergraduate Student Assistant

&

Sarah Ruth Dominic-Cluck

Graduate Student Assistant