

outlined above;

2) How you would structure the editorship (single or joint editors, single editor plus 1 or 2 associate editors, book review editor or editors, and an editorial board);

3) The kind of support your home institution might be willing to provide (including possibly, release time for the editor, general office support, secretarial support, and research assistants).

Anyone interested in pursuing this possibility, please contact Edna Bay, Executive Secretary, African Studies Association, Credit Union Building, Emory University, Atlanta, GA 30322, (404) 329-6410. Final proposals should be submitted before April 1, 1988.

## LETTERS

### ACADEMIC FREEDOM IN SOUTH AFRICA

*(In October, 1987, the Political Science Association of South Africa invited Prof. Richard Sklar (UCLA), a member of the ASA and one of its past-presidents, to participate in its biannual congress as a keynote speaker. To their dismay the South African Government refused a visa to Prof. Sklar and also prevented a South African black trade union leader from addressing the congress. The following letter was sent to the South African Minister of Home Affairs by PSASA president G.K.H. Töttemeyer on behalf of the PSASA Council which also requested that the matter be brought to the attention of the wider Africanist community in the U.S.)*

2 October 1987

The Honourable Mnr JCG Botha  
Minister of Home Affairs  
P/Bag X9102  
8000 Cape Town

Dear Sir,

The Council of the Political Science Association of South Africa herewith expresses profound disquiet concerning the manner with which your department dealt with the visa application of Prof. RL Sklar of the University of California, an invited guest to our conference.

In the first place we deplore the fact that he was refused a visa. Furthermore, we consider it unfair that a decision on this matter was postponed until the last possible moment. The result was embarrassing both to Prof Sklar and the Political Science Association.

Given South Africa's increasing isolation, this kind of action is extremely short-sighted in that it simply increases our academic pariah status. On the one hand it will become increasingly difficult to get foreign academics of standing to accept invitations to come to South Africa. On the other hand, it exacerbates the existing problems which South African academics experience in gaining access to foreign institutions and colleagues.

You no doubt appreciate that ongoing exchanges with international academics are essential for the development of South African science in general. It is important for

the practice of science in South Africa and is of prime importance for the country as a whole.

Yours faithfully,  
G. Töttemeyer (signed)  
President, PSASA

## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ASA DISSERTATION BIBLIOGRAPHY

The National Endowment for the Humanities has awarded a grant to the African Studies Association to prepare an indexed list of the more than 6500 American and Canadian dissertations and Master's theses about Africa that have appeared since 1974. This will extend the coverage provided by the Sims/Kagan *American and Canadian Doctoral Dissertations and Master's Theses on Africa, 1886-1974* (ASA, 1976), which reported 6070 titles.

The compilers, Joe Lauer of UCLA and Al Kagan of the University of Connecticut, are asking for your help in identifying titles for this new reference work in order to make it as comprehensive as possible. They are especially interested in details about Master's theses, dissertations which do not contain the name of an African country in the title, and theses that were overlooked in the first volume. If you can help, please send the details concerning author, title, degree, school, year, pages, discipline, country covered and (optional) keywords concerning your own or your students' theses to: Joseph Lauer, African Studies Bibliographer, UCLA University Research Library, Los Angeles, CA 90025-1575.

### TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF ACAS

On the occasion of its tenth anniversary, the Association of Concerned Africa Scholars (ACAS) invites ASA members to join ACAS and support its activities in 1988.

ACAS was founded in 1977 to facilitate scholarly analysis and formulate alternatives to impact the Africa policy of the U.S. government. Its guiding premise is the belief that scholars can play an important and distinct role in U.S. debate and action about Africa.

Over the past decade ACAS has developed as a network of more than 250 Africa scholars mobilizing support on important current issues, stimulating research on policy-oriented questions, informing and updating members in international policy development.

There is an ACAS presence at the annual meetings of the ASA. One of its first activities at the 1977 meeting was the circulation of a petition against U.S. intervention in Angola. Again, at the 1987 meeting Denver, an ACAS initiated petition against U.S. aid to UNITA received wide support from scholars present and was forwarded to Congress and the President. ACAS also organizes numerous panels at the ASA meeting, such as those in 1987 which ranged in theme from the liberation movement in Western Sahara to research on the current conjuncture in South Africa.

ACAS plans for legislative action and policy alternatives for 1988 were developed at its general membership meeting held during the ASA meeting in Denver. They