

# AFRICAN STUDIES REVIEW

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The official name of the journal of the African Studies Association has been changed from the African Studies Bulletin to the African Studies Review. For the convenience of librarians and others, the periodical will continue to be numbered consecutively from the last issue of the African Studies Bulletin.

## Editor's Note

From all the reports we have received, both oral and written, the reaction to the transfer from the African Studies Bulletin to the Review has been favorable. Several members of ASA have called our attention to typing errors and other more glaring mistakes in the first issue, such as to the proliferation of ciphers on the cover, none of which will be repeated in this issue of the Review. One irate author's comments are printed elsewhere in the journal.

Professor Hooker and I are sorry to report that Mr. Daniel G. Matthews has resigned as one of the Associate Editors and tells us that "the present posture of the ASA/AHSA situation makes it impossible" for him to serve in any official capacity with ASA. We enjoyed very much working with Mr. Matthews and only hope that these unfortunate times will soon pass and that all of us with an interest and concern for Africa will be able to work together.

We welcome as a new Associate Editor Dr. Maxwell Owusu of Sacramento State College, California. Dr. Owusu is Ghanaian by birth and holds degrees from the London School of Economics (B. Sc. Hons.) and the Ph.D. from University of Chicago (Anthropology). We also welcome Professor S. A. Aluko of the University of Ife, and Dr. Taye Gulilat of Haile Sellassie I University to the Editorial Board. As indicated in the mast head, Professor Hooker will be on leave from Michigan State University for two years, serving with the American Field Staff in Malawi and Zambia. He will continue as Associate Editor and will send us many MSS from the field!

In his letter to the Editor, Professor Magid requests that in the future we provide authors with page proofs so that they might check on any editorial changes we have made. Unfortunately the current budget of the Review does not permit such an arrangement. The Review is published through photo offset and the typed masters that are prepared in the African Studies Center at Michigan State University are such that it would be impossible to send them through the mails and have a very high expectation that all would come through. At the present time, the financial resources of neither the African Studies Center at Michigan State University nor the African Studies Association will permit a more sophisticated reproduction method than photo offset, so we can only hope that authors will be satisfied with our editorial efforts. Where time permits, or extensive changes are required, authors will be consulted by correspondence or telephone, but we must reserve the right to edit for consistency of style and clarity, without checking details of punctuation with authors.

There is one last item I believe should be mentioned, and that is the receipt of an anonymous piece of mail which said "sloppy essays are no substitute for careful bibliographical research." Each of us is entitled to his professional opinion, but anonymity is most unprofessional. Criticism, to be constructive, must be precise and its author identified so that dialogue can ensue. The exclusive intent of all members of the

Editorial Board and the production staff is to provide media by which scholars with an interest in African affairs may communicate with one another, despite our diversity and breadth of disciplines. It is an undertaking that requires the good will and assistance of the audience it serves. We hope that despite the limitations of our facilities, the Review will prove to be of value to the scholarly community.