Dr. Houston Attends State Dinner at the White House
In Honor of President Kufuor of Ghana, Sept. 15, 2008

USAID's Africa Bureau (Dr. Sarah Moten, Chief) and President George W. and First Lady Laura Bush invited Dr. Johnny L. Houston, ECSU-Senegal TLM Program Director and Dr. Adama Conteh, Director and Mr. Imara Dawson, Coordinator, Chicago St. U. TLM Program (that works with the West African country of Ghana) to a Black-Tie State Dinner in honor of Ghana's President, His Excellency John Kufuor and Madame Theresa Kufuor on the evening of September 15, 2008. The dinner was held in the “State Dining Room” at the White House. The evening began with a gathering of guests at 7:00 p.m. in a reception room of the White House; music, beverages, and h’orderves were provided. Here the invited guests mingled and exchanged pleasantries. There were approximately 150 guests, including Vice President Cheney, the President's cabinet members including Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, Mrs. Henrietta Fore, head administrator of USAID, Dr. Jendayi Frazer, Assistant Secretary of State for Africa, US Ambassadors to Africa, Ambassadors from Africa to the US, and many other distinguished US citizens and international guests. Many guests brought spouses or significant others. This privilege was not extended to Houston and the two persons from the Chicago State University TLM Program. Secretary Rice, radiant in blue, was accompanied by Mr. George A. Washington, an NFL executive. Baseball Hall-of-Famer Dave Winfield appeared to be the closest guest to a superstar.
State Dinner at the White House - continued

At approximately 7:30 p.m., a receiving line was formed, headed by President George W. Bush, followed by First Lady Laura Bush, President John Kufuor, and Madame Theresa Kufuor. As guests passed by the “receiving line,” they were greeted personally by hosts and guests of honor, each entering person receiving a personal handshake from the Presidents and First Ladies. Mrs. Bush wore a long-sleeved collared dress in shimmering purplish-blue. Mrs. Kufuor wore a multicolored impressive African formal dress. As persons passed through the receiving line, a picture was taken with the Presidents and First Ladies, usually two persons per photograph. Dr. Moten, who co-invited Houston, was included in his photograph. From the receiving lines, persons were escorted into the State Dining Room for seating. Every person had an assigned seat. Dr. Houston was at table 10, in the back right-hand corner. The only person at the table that Dr. Houston knew was Mrs. Henrietta Fore, head of USAID. Only after everyone was seated did Dr. Houston learn that table 10 was next to President Bush and Mrs. Kufuor’s table.

In toasts before dinner (Maine lobster gratin, ginger-scented lamb, and banana-coconut pudding) Presidents Bush and Kufuor were brief but ebullient, cheerfully mentioning their soon-to-end terms. “John and I will be in the ex-President’s club in the next few months,” Bush said. “I’m confident we’ve left behind an enduring relationship between our two countries.” He called the guests “compassionate people” who care about Africa’s future, and thanked Kufuor for helping Ghana “build a thriving democracy.” Kufuor called Bush “a great man … a strong man” and “the most supportive of American presidents toward Africa.” He drew laughs by pointing out that he and Bush took office the same year and will leave in the same year, “so perhaps we are two of a kind.” During the dinner, each table and each person was served individually for each course. While eating, persons at each table got to know better the persons at that table. Some had cameras and took pictures at the dinner. Dr. Houston took the photos of the two presidents and the first ladies that were used in this article. One photo was taken of Dr. Houston at the Dinner with President Bush in the background. Another was taken with Dr. Houston and the persons to his right and left. After dinner, the guests moved to the Rose Garden for a performance by the cast of “The Lion King.” This event was followed by dancing for those who chose. Dr. Houston did not attend the dancing room activities.

This was the second such fete for an African leader during the current Bush administration (the first being the dinner for Kenyan President Mwai Kibaki and his wife, Lucy, in October 2003). Ghana’s last leader, Jerry Rawlings, was President Bill Clinton’s guest at a state dinner in February 1999. Bush and Kufuor see eye to eye on many issues, including Kufuor’s commitment to improving education and combating malaria and HIV-AIDS. Kufuor said that as a part of the Millennium Challenge Compact, Ghana will soon begin spending $547 million to renovate schools, increase agricultural productivity, expand infrastructure and support rural development. And Bush’s trip to Ghana in February solidified a partnership built on respect for ballot-box democracy: Kufuor’s election in December 2000 was considered a triumph for Ghanaian voters, who had been under Rawlings’s rule since he seized power in 1979. Earlier in the day, during joint remarks on the South Lawn and in the Rose Garden, Kufuor engaged Bush on climate change, saying the United States “must be in the vanguard” of addressing global warming. But he was quick to add, “You have been good and I hope history will judge you well.
State Dinner at the White House - continued

“Laura and I are looking forward to having you to dinner tonight,” Bush said. “I promise not to un-leash the dance moves that I first displayed in Ghana, in what was one of the most memorable trips of my presidency.” (As well as one of the most memorable YouTube records of that presidency.)

It’s quite possible that Kufuor’s first state dinner will be Bush’s last. The mammoth events take a few months to plan … and, truth is, the president doesn’t really like these kinds of things. Unlike his father, whose first year in the White House saw three formal “working” dinners for Mideast leaders, a state dinner for Pakistan, four more Black-Tie White House dinners for leaders of Australia, Mexico, Panama, and the Philippines, and dozens of smaller functions, Bush has generally opted for smaller, more informal fetes. When he has chosen the state dinner route, political points have been made. Then-President of Mexico Vicente Fox, whose dinner was held September 5, 2001, was lauded as a good neighbor and important ally. Poland and the Philippines, honored in separate dinners after the September 11th terrorist attacks, were both members of the “coalition of the willing.” The dinner for Kibaki amounted to a diplomatic apology after Bush skipped a planned trip to Kenya, citing security concerns, and the last dinner, for Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Phillip in May 2007 -- celebrated old alliances with glitz and glamour. The state dinner held for President Kufuor seemed likely to be the last state dinner to be hosted by President George W. Bush. It was only the sixth held during his presidency of nearly eight years. The dinner has usual lavish proceedings and an elegant air of distinction.

This was not Dr. Houston’s first visit to the White House. In December 2007, Dr. Houston was invited to the White House for Holiday Reception by USAID’s Africa Education Bureau and President and Mrs. Bush. Dr. Houston’s relationship with First Lady Laura Bush is more extensive than his relationship with President Bush. In January 2006, USAID’s Africa Bureau and First Lady Laura Bush invited Dr. Houston to the Accra Teacher Training College in Accra, Ghana. This is when Dr. Houston first met Mrs. Bush in person, spoke to her, and shook her hand. It was also the first time Dr. Houston had met President Kufuor. In April 2007, Dr. Houston was invited to Washington, D.C. by USAID’s Africa Education Bureau and First Lady Laura Bush for the opening presentation for the AEI Video. In May 2007, Mrs. Bush wrote the foreword on four of the textbooks written by the ECSU-Senegal TLM Program, of which Dr. Houston is the Program Director. Dr. Houston is Editor-in-Chief and co-Author of the four books written. In June 2007, First Lady Laura Bush traveled to Dakar, Senegal where she was the keynote speaker when 400,000 copies of these books were presented to Senegal by Dr. Houston and the ECSU-Senegal TLM Program.
First Lady Laura Bush Wrote the Foreword in Four (4) ECSU-Senegal TLM Program Textbooks

From Left to Right: Dr. Johnny L. Houston, First Lady Laura Bush, President George W. Bush, Dr. Sarah Moten, USAID

Dr. Johnny Houston is Editor-in-Chief and Co-author of all of the ECSU-Senegal TLMP Textbooks.

White House Visit - December 2007
From Left to Right: Dr. Johnny L. Houston, First Lady Laura Bush, President George W. Bush, Dr. Sarah Moten, USAID
Some Audiences Shared by
Dr. Johnny L. Houston and First Lady Laura Bush

First Lady Laura Bush
Officially Launched the
2005-2008 Textbooks and
Learning Materials
Program (TLMP) in
Accra, Ghana-West Africa,
January 17, 2006.

Dr. Houston (to the right of the military guard) is on the stage with Mrs. Bush, President Kufuor, and others.

First Lady Laura Bush
Spoke at the
Launch of the Africa
Education Initiative (AEI)
Video at The Academy for
Educational Development in
Washington, D.C.,
April 24, 2007.

The Video features Mrs. Bush, Dr. Houston, Dr. Gilchrist and others.

First Lady Laura Bush
Spoke at Grand Medine Primary School in
Dakar, Senegal;

ECSU-Senegal TLM Program
Presented 300,000
Elementary School Books to the country of Senegal. Drs. Houston and Gilchrist were there participating in the Ceremony.
USAID’s Africa Education Bureau Holds TLM Program Textbook Symposium; September 16-18, 2008

On the dates of September 16-18, 2008, the Africa Education Bureau of USAID held a TLMP Textbook Symposium in the Ronald Regan Building – Meridian C and Meridian D and E in Washington, D.C. Six TLM Programs were requested to bring displays, five (5) copies of each book printed to date and come prepared to collectively participate in the developments of the description of a generic TLM Program Model for developing textbooks in Africa. Just as important, the TLM Program leaders were requested to participate on a panel where this generic model would be discussed and questions would be entertained from the audience. From ECSU, the participants were Drs. Johnny L. Houston, Abdou Maty Sene, and Chérif Seck. The symposium began with a brainstorming and formulation session. It lasted for the entire first day (Tuesday). That evening, each individual TLM Program set up a display for its individual program.

In the session on Tuesday, all participants were engaged a number of activities that were designed to help to define collectively a generic TLM Program Model for developing and printing Textbooks and Learning Materials for sub-Saharan countries in Africa. Emphasis was placed on clarifying and clearly defining the following items:

A. How and by whom were assessments made to decide on what Textbooks and Learning Materials should be produced during a given year?
B. What approaches were used to collaboratively design, develop, and write the Textbooks and Learning Materials to insure cultural relevance, consistent with the National Curricula and/or current reform efforts, grade and age appropriateness, gender equity and exhibition of high academic standards and quality?
C. What efforts were employed or implemented such as field-testing, that would permit students, teachers and principals (the primary clients) to give feedback before a proposed book was written in final version and printed?
D. What was done to assist and assure in the printing of quality books in the participating African country?
D. What was done in-country to help develop capacity building and to help insure sustainability for future TLM development of textbooks and learning materials and/or teacher training?
USAID’s Africa Education Bureau Holds TLM Program Textbook Symposium; September 16-18, 2008 - continued

Several approaches were used to clarify or clearly identify what each TLM Program had done or was doing to concretely address the items involved in A–E. At the end of the day, many common elements were identified that could be used in the description of a generic TLM Program Model for collaboratively producing textbooks for sub-Saharan Africa.

At the end of the sessions on Tuesday, a panel of six persons (one from each TLM Program) had been selected to present the TLM Program generic model to the invited individuals. Each member of the panel was assigned to address a specific aspect of the generic TLM Model for collaboratively developing and printing quality Textbooks and Learning materials for the partnering African country.

On Wednesday morning, September 17, all displays were neatly exhibited, individual TLM Program participants were in attendance at their displays by 9:00 a.m. to greet and relate to invited stakeholders and shortly after 10:30 a.m. the panel was assembled to present the Symposium for the invited guests. For about an hour and a half, the Symposium Panel was engaged. Each presenter did well on his/her subtopic as requested. Guests included a member of Mrs. Laura Bush’s staff, persons from Embassies, USAID persons and various other stakeholders and interested observers. The displays were in Meridian C and the Symposium Panel discussion occurred in Meridian D and E. Indicators revealed that the Symposium Presentation was a success.

Lunch was served. The guests departed and the TLM Program met with Evaluators in Meridian C. The meeting with the evaluators ended by 3:00 p.m. and all displays were removed by 4:00 p.m. On Thursday, September 18, the TLMP participants met at 9:00 a.m. with Mr. Freeman Daniels, Mrs. Lisa Ross and others to discuss next steps. It was decided that each TLM Program will work further on refining the TLMP generic model. Moreover, each TLM Program was requested to write and submit three (3) anecdotal reports in writing by October 3, regarding their TLM Program experience. It was also decided that a generic TLM Program Video would be made. Dr. Misty Sailors agreed to coordinate the development of the video. Houston showed the group ECSU’s video and gave copies to Mr. Daniels, Mrs. Ross, and other TLMP Directors. The meeting adjourned.
White House Global Literacy Symposium
“Building a Foundation for Freedom”
“Celebrating “The Fifth Year of the United Nation-UNESCO Decade of Literacy”

Literacy provides people the chance to enjoy individual freedoms and realize their full potential. Men and women who can read and write can participate more fully in their communities and can develop the skills they need to support themselves.

While progress has been made, global literacy remains a critical challenge that threatens the ability of countries and their citizens to take advantage of increasing globalization and its opportunities. Addressing this challenge requires a collective commitment from every country, at all levels of government to invest in the literacy and education for all citizens.

The White House Symposium on Advancing Global Literacy underscored how literacy is linked to gainful employment, good health, and civic participation. The Symposium provided a forum to discuss the outcomes of the six UNESCO Regional Literacy Conferences; highlights programs that can be replicated around the world with the support of local and national governments, civil society, and the private sector; and renew international commitments to promoting and sustaining global literacy efforts.

The White House Symposium on Advancing Global Literacy: Building a Foundation for Freedom was held at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, New York on Monday, September 22, 2008. It began with welcome and opening remarks by Mrs. Laura Bush, First Lady of the United States. Her remarks were followed by Session I which consisted of reports from UNESCO Regional Literacy Conferences with The Honorable Louise Oliver, Ambassador of the United States-United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization as Moderator.
White House Global Literacy Symposium
- continued

The presented panelists consisted of:
Regional Literacy Conference – Doha, Qatar
Mohammed Bougroum, Ph.D.
Professor, University of Marrakech and National Project Manager for LAMP/Morocco

Regional Literacy Conference – Beijing, China
Her Excellency Madame Chen Zhili
Vice Chairman, 11th National People’s Congress Standing Committee, People’s Republic of China

Regional Literacy Conference – Bamako, Mali
Her Excellency Madame Touré Lobbo Traoré
Spouse of the President of the Republic of Mali and President of La Fondation pour l’Enfance

Regional Literacy Conference – New Delhi, India
The Honorable Daggubati Purandeswari
Minister of State for Human Resource Development, India

Regional Literacy Conference – Baku, Azerbaijan
Her Royal Highness Princess Laurentien of the Netherlands
Chair, The Reading and Writing Foundation, the Netherlands

Regional Literacy Conference – Mexico City, Mexico
Mrs. Margarita Zavala
First Lady of Mexico

Session II addressed U.S. Commitment of Advancing Global Literacy with a presentation by the Honorable Henrietta Fore, Administrator, United States Agency for International Development and Director of United States Foreign Assistance. Session III addressed UNESCO Commitment to Advancing Global Literacy with presentations by Adama Ouane, Ph.D., Director of the Institute for Lifetime Learning (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization), Mr. César Guadalupe, Director of the Monitoring Programme – Institute for Statistics (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization), and Special Address by His Excellency Koichiro Matsuura, Director-General of United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. Closing Remarks were given by First Lady Bush. The final event was a luncheon adjacent to the Egyptian Room.

In 2003, the United Nations General Assembly launched the United Nations Literacy Decade (UNLD), establishing a dynamic international initiative to increase literacy rates worldwide by 2012. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) was named coordinator of the Decade’s activities, and Mrs. Laura Bush, First Lady of the United States, was asked to lead the effort as Honorary Ambassador. Together they outlined an ambitious agenda to highlight the role of literacy in improving the lives of millions, many of whom are marginalized and live in extreme poverty.

In September 2006, Mrs. Bush hosted the White House Conference on Global Literacy (WHCGL) to emphasize the need for sustained global and country-level leadership to address the issue of illiteracy. First ladies, ministers of education, and literacy practitioners from around the world attended the Conference, which underscored the Decade’s mission to focus attention on the 35 countries with the greatest literacy problems.
White House Global Literacy Symposium  
- continued

This year 2008, represents both the mid-term of the UN Literacy Decade (UNLD) and the halfway point towards the 2015 target date for achieving Education for All and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). While much progress has been made since the launch of the UNLD, considerable challenges remain. More than 770 million adults in the world – one in five – cannot read or write. Of these, two-thirds are women. In addition, around 72 million children do not attend primary school and have little chance of acquiring basic literacy skills. This is utterly unacceptable in this day and age.

Inspired by the WHCGL, UNESCO hosted six regional literacy conferences over two years, resulting in important and innovative policies and initiatives. With support from Mrs. Bush, UNESCO launched the Literacy Initiative for Empowerment (LIFE) as a way to energize and coordinate literacy activities in the 35 targeted countries.

LIFE was launched in 2006 as part of the UNLD and is overseen by UNESCO’s Institute for Lifelong Learning. LIFE offers resources, technical support and guidance to countries with literacy rates of less than 50 percent or those with more than 10 million people lacking literacy skills. These countries are encouraged to make literacy a priority in their national political agendas, mobilize resources, strengthen capacity to respond to those most in need, and promote collaboration.

Eleven countries targeted in the first phase of LIFE have reported progress in developing and coordinating literacy activities. In Mali, under the leadership of President Amadou Toumani Touré and Madame Touré Lobbo Touré, the government is developing a national literacy policy using LIFE as a guide. In Bangladesh, Egypt, Pakistan and Senegal, hundreds of experienced literacy educator have been trained to adapt and integrate best practices. Officials and experts in Senegal and Pakistan have developed or improved national curriculum frameworks; and Bangladesh, Haiti, Mali, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan and Senegal have either proposed or developed national action plans. In addition, Afghanistan, Niger, Mauritania and Papua New Guinea are expected to mount major literacy programs within the LIFE framework. All 35 countries are now eligible for LIFE assistance.

Although much work remains to be done, the UNLD activities have laid the groundwork for achieving the ultimate goal of literacy for all. Although President Bush will leave office in January 2009, Mrs. Laura Bush has been requested to remain in the capacity of Honorary Ambassador of the next five (5) years.

Johnny L. Houston, Ph.D. received a personal written invitation from First Lady Laura Bush’s Office to attend this symposium, as did the other five (5) TLM Program Directors. Dr. Mary Spor - Alabama A&M University, Dr. Adama J. Conteh – Chicago State University, Dr. Misty Sailors – University of Texas-San Antonio, and Dr. Houston attended the symposium. After the closing of the symposium, these persons were invited on stage and they took a picture with Mrs. Bush, Ms. Henrietta Fore (USAID) and Dr. Sarah Moten. At the luncheon, Dr. Houston was placed at a table with First Lady Vivian Wade of Senegal. They sat next to each other and were able to have several conversations in French.
The Foundation for Democracy in Africa (FDA) presented its 2008 Medal of Glory Award to Dr. Sarah E. Moten during its 11th Annual AfriCANDO Trade and Investment Symposium Gala Awards Dinner on September 19th at Miami, Florida. The Awards Dinner and Symposium were held on the campus of Miami Dade College - North Campus. The Medals of Glory is the Foundation for Democracy in Africa’s highest honor and is presented to select leaders that have dedicated their professional lives to the promotion of the enduring democratic principles of liberty, freedom and development in Africa.

Dr. Moten is the Education Division Chief of the Africa Bureau, Office of Sustainable Development for the US Agency for International Development (USAID.) In her present capacity, Dr. Moten leads a team of education professionals in implementing President George W. Bush's Africa Education Initiative (AEI). AEI is a $600 million, nine-year commitment designed to raise the quality of basic education in 40 African countries.

"Dr. Moten's tireless efforts to grant scholarships and educational opportunities to millions of African children, particularly young girls; and to provide technical assistance and resources to Africa Ministries of Education has resulted in improved opportunities, and will greatly assist African nations in producing a better educated labor force. She has displayed diplomacy, and remarkable leadership in not only promoting initiatives to substantially improve basic education in African countries, but also in her support of partnerships between minority serving institutions in America and African education institutions in these efforts. The Foundation for Democracy in Africa has been honored to work with Dr. Moten over the years, and is happy with the choice of the MOG selection committee to honor Dr Sarah E. Moten with the Medal of Glory "said Fred Oladeinde, President, of The Foundation for Democracy in Africa.
Nobel Prize Winner, Mohan Munasinghe, Speaks at ECSU; July 21

When it comes to global warming, Nobel Peace Prize-winning scientist Mohan Munasinghe is sure of three things. First, that it’s happening; second, that humans are greatly contributing to its severity; and finally, its effects will be the worst on the poor. Munasinghe, a Sri Lankan-born intellectual who is vice president of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, spoke Monday at ECSU about the dangers of global warming, its causes and the possible solutions for reversing its effects. Munasinghe is a world-recognized authority on the subject of global warming. In 2007, he had the distinction of sharing the Nobel Peace Prize on behalf of the IPCC with former US Vice Pres. Al Gore for their joint efforts disseminating information about global warming and ways to counteract it. During his speech at the K.E. White Center on Monday, Munasinghe said human activity, specifically the burning of fossil fuels like coal and oil, are responsible for the carbon dioxide emissions that have led to the gradual increase in the Earth’s mean temperature over the last century. That increase, he said, is indicated by changes in our environment.

Foundation for Democracy in Africa (FDA) 2008 Medal of Glory Award - continued

The Medal of Glory Award is presented annually during the AfrICANDO Trade and Investment Symposium. Past recipients have included former Nigerian President, His Excellency Shehu Shagari, Dr. Dorothy Height, Chair and President Emeriti, National Council of Negro Women and His Excellency Abdou Diouf, former President of the Republic of Senegal, former Miami Dade County Mayor, Alex Penelas and former UNESCO Chief, Dr. Amadou Mahtar M’Bow among others.

The AfrICANDO Trade and Investment Symposium is The Foundation for Democracy in Africa’s annual meeting which supports the objectives of the U.S. African Trade and Investment Act of 2000. Participants at the symposium discuss and develop strategies to increase bilateral trade programs between Africa and the United States. The purpose of AfrICANDO 2008 is to provide a forum to discuss and showcase appropriate technologies and inventions in the sectors of agriculture, energy, health, education, transportation, communication, water and irrigation as well as thrift and banking that can be made available to improve living conditions in rural communities in Africa. The meeting took place from September 18-20, 2008 at Miami Dade College North Campus.

The Foundation for Democracy in Africa (FDA) is a 501(c)(3), non-profit, non-partisan, non-governmental development organization, founded in 1994 to promote and establish enduring democracy, sustainable development and economic growth and plurality throughout Africa, and to help integrate African countries into the mainstream of the global economy, thus cultivating the pathway for peace and prosperity in Africa. Dr. Johnny L. Houston, ECSU-Senegal TLM Program Director attended the 2008 AfrICANDO Symposium. He was featured in a video where he discussed the Textbooks and Learning Materials Program that he supervises at Elizabeth City State University in partnership with the West African country of Senegal.
His Excellency Pierre Buyoya
Former President of the Republic of Burundi

Monday, September 15, 2008
8:00 a.m. – 1:00 a.m. – Travel to ECSU
1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. – Lunch with GLA Mentors (BR)
3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. – Tour ECSU Campus
6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. – Private Dinner – AAU Faculty Alliance

Tuesday, September 16, 2008
12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. – Lunch
4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. – GLA-Leadership Student Forum (138 Lane Hall)
5:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. – Meeting with Chancellor
6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. – Dinner with Chancellor/Career Fair

Wednesday, September 17, 2008
12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. – Chancellor’s Distinguished International Lecture Series (By Invitation only)
   His Excellency Pierre Buyoya
   Former President of the Republic of Burundi
   Suggested Traditional International Attire Day for ECSU’s Students, Faculty and Staff
2:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. – Press Conference
4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. – Travel back to Boston

Major Pierre Buyoya (born 24 November 1949) is a Burundi politician who has ruled Burundi twice, from 1987 to 1993 and from 1996 to 2003. In September of 1987, Buyoya led a military coup against the Second Republic of Burundi, led by Jean-Baptiste Bagaza, and installed himself as the first president of the Third Republic. He proclaimed an agenda of liberalization and patching relations between Hutu and Tutsi ethnic groups, but presided over an oppressive ruling junta consisting primarily of Tutsi. This led to a Hutu uprising in August of 1988, which caused approximately 20,000 deaths. After these killings, Buyoya appointed a commission to find a way to mediate the violence.

This commission created a new constitution, which Buyoya approved in 1992. This constitution called for a non-ethnic government with a president and a parliament. Democratic elections were held in June 1993 and were won by the Hutu Melchior Ndadaye who created a balanced Hutu and Tutsi government. Nevertheless, the army assassinated Ndadaye and Burundi returned to civil war. Nearly 150,000 people were killed as the war raged. There were numerous attempts at government, but even the coalition government under Sylvestre Ntibantunganya was unable to stop the fighting.

On July 25, 1996 Buyoya returned to power in a coup, ousting Ntibantunganya. The civil war became less intense but continued. Economic sanctions were also imposed by the international community because of the nature of Buyoya’s return to power, but were eased as Buyoya created an ethnically inclusive government. Buyoya selected as his vice-president Domitien Ndayizeye, a Hutu. The conditions of the governmental agreement required Buyoya to hand over power in 2003, which he did. Ndayizeye became the president of Burundi on April 30. Buyoya is presently a Senator for life as a former head of state.

H.E. Buyoya, a husband and father of four, visited ECSU Tuesday and Wednesday and spoke at the K.E. White Center about the Arusha agreement, which was aimed at ending the country’s civil war and bringing a representative, power-sharing government to Burundi. He also talked about his rise to power in Burundi and its current state of affairs.

H.E. Buyoya’s visit to ECSU was made possible by the African Presidential Archives and Research Center (APARC) at Boston University under the direction of Ambassador Charles Stith. ECSU and APARC are part of an Academic Alliance.

African Art Exhibit – Monday, September 15, 9 a.m. – Friday, September 17th, 9 a.m.
(ECSU Art Gallery – M. L. Burnim Fine Arts Building, Room 133)
On Monday, September 8, 2008, Professor Abdou Salaam Sall, Ph.D., Rector (President) of the Université Cheikh Anta Diop [UCAD] – University of Senegal-Dakar, the largest university in West Africa, with more than 60,000 students, came to Elizabeth City State University [ECSU] and spent a week as Dr. Houston’s personal guest and friend and as the ECSU’s featured guest for African Introspection Week 2008 (second week of September). Activities included an African Art Exhibit in the University’s Art Gallery for the week (mostly pieces from Dr. Houston’s personal collection), a scheduled forum of “The Future of Africa,” the 2008 Induction of members in ECSU’s Global Leadership Academy (of which Dr. Houston was the Co-founder several years ago) – Rector Sall was the keynote speaker. A science symposium related to activities and research with Africa, a Distinguished International Lecture Series Luncheon, both of which Rector Sall was the keynote speaker. At the latter, he spoke about research and development at UCAD and “The Green Wall,” summer program of outreach in Senegal by UCAD’s students and faculty. Rector Sall and his family (wife and twin daughters) met with University officials, faculty, staff, and students; had a private dinner with the Chancellor’s family and guests, had a dinner with ECSU’s Board of Trustees and guests, and had a private dinner with Dr. Houston’s family and guests. The Salls also toured the area. They departed on Sunday, September
SCHEDULE OF EVENTS
African Introspection Week-2008
September 8 – September 12, 2008

Featured Guest:
Pr. Abdou Salaam Sall
Recteur (President) of l'Université Cheikh Anta Diop (UCAD), Dakar, Senegal

Monday, September 8, 2008

8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. – Travel to ECSU
2:00 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. – Meeting with Chancellor Gilchrist/Provost Khan
2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. – African Art Exhibit (MLB Fine Arts Bldg. – Rm. 133) – Open to the Public
3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. – Faculty Forum – The Future of Africa (Board Room, G. R. Little Library) – Open to the Public
7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. – Dinner with ECSU’s Board of Trustees

Tuesday, September 9, 2008

12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. – Tour ECSU Campus
2:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. – Attend Public Meeting of Board of Trustees
3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. – Meeting with Dr. Cynthia Warrick and Chemistry Faculty
3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. – Science Programs – Research – Exhibits Related to Africa (Jenkins Science Ctr.) – Open to the Public
4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. – Refreshments with ECSU’s MST Faculty/GLA Mentors
7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. – Private Dinner

Wednesday, September 10, 2008

2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. – African Studies Program – Senegal/Textbook Exhibit (214 G. R. Little Library) – Open to the Public
4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. – GLA Induction Ceremony (Little Theater, G. R. Little Library) – Open to the Public
5:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. – GLA Refreshments
7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. – Dinner with Chancellor and Family

Thursday, September 11, 2008

12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. – GLA Distinguished International Lecture Series – By Invitation only
Recteur (President) Abdou Salaam Sall
Université Cheikh Anta Diop (UCAD), Dakar, Senegal
(K. E. White Graduate and Continuing Education Center)
Suggested Traditional International Attire Day for ECSU’s Students, Faculty and Staff
4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. – Department of Education Diversity Seminar – Open to the Public
(McClendon Hall, Room 105 – School of Education)
5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. – Refreshments with GLA Mentors, International Faculty and Students
(McClendon Hall, Room 105 – School of Education) – Open to the Public
7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. – Private Dinner

On These Days the Schedule is TBD by Recteur Sall and His Family

For additional information, contact the African Studies Program, 214 G.R. Little Library @ (252) 335-3630/(252) 335-3272
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