

Friends of Tanzania 2021 30th Anniversary Celebration

EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARS' SERIES: SCHEDULE



DR. LAWRENCE MBOGONI

- DATE: October 16, 2021, Saturday
- TIMES: 6 pm EAT; 11 am EDT; 10 am; CDT; 9 am MDT; 8 am PDT
- PRESENTER: Dr. Lawrence Mbogoni, William Paterson University, Wayne, New Jersey
- TOPIC: "The History of the Peace Corps in Tanzania: Progress on a Book in Development"

TOPIC OVERVIEW: After asking how the Peace Corps affected Tanzania and how in turn, Tanzania affected the Peace Corps Volunteers, Dr. Mbogoni remains curious as to how RPCVs would answer the following queries: • Does the Peace Corps experience in Tanzania provide lessons for PC programs in other countries? • Is the Peace Corps sending Volunteers where they are needed most? Alternatively, how responsive has the Peace Corps been to the needs for trained professionals by host countries such as Tanzania? • Can the Peace Corps instead do a better job by underwriting jobs for educated local young people instead of sending Volunteers? • Is the Peace Corps still relevant after sixty years? Alternatively, after sixty years of existence has the Peace Corps achieved its original goals of (a) providing needed technical assistance/experts, (b) promoting a better understanding of Americans on the part of the people served by Volunteers, and (c) promoting a better understanding of other peoples and cultures on the part of the American people?



ABOUT THE SPEAKER: Lawrence Mbogoni is a Professor in the Dept. of Community and Social Justice Studies, and Director of the Program in Africana World Studies at the William Paterson University in Wayne, New Jersey. A native of Dodoma, Tanzania, he was taught by a Peace Corps Volunteer teacher as a child. He is currently a Board member of Friends of Tanzania. An historian of Tanzanian history, Dr. Mbogoni authored, among other treatises, *Aspects of Colonial Tanzanian History* (2013), a collection of essays examining the lives and experiences of both colonizers and the colonized during colonial rule. His most recent book, *Miscegenation, Identity and Status in Colonial Africa* (2019), explores the history of coerced inter-racial sexual liaisons during the colonial administrations of the 19th and early 20th centuries and the resulting confusion regarding conceptions of "race," e.g., what it meant to be European, African, native, and racially mixed.





ALLEN RUGAMBWA

- DATE: October 23, Saturday
- TIMES: 6 pm EAT; 11 am EDT; 10 am; CDT; 9 am MDT; 8 am PDT
- PRESENTER: Allen Rugambwa, University of Dar-es-Salaam, DSM, Tanzania
- TOPIC: "Development in Tanzania: Where Will It Do the Most Good?"
- TOPIC OVERVIEW: In his presentation, Mr. Rugambwa will reflect on how many educated and non-educated Tanzanians are left behind in the development process due to the lack of financial capital and opportunities. He hopes his presentation will assist in one way or another in enabling this marginalized group to get the financial support they need for their development.



- ABOUT THE SPEAKER: Allen Rugambwa is a consultant in teacher professional development. He previously worked at a university as an Assistant Lecture in Education management and pedagogy. He is currently a graduate student at the University of Dar es Salaam finishing his PhD Program in Education with a focus in Educational Management and Leadership. He also works as a teacher at an international school in Dar es Salaam. Mr. Rugambwa sees education as key to reducing poverty and enfranchising traditionally disadvantaged groups. He has previously coordinated several funded projects that promoted active and inquired-based learning with the aim of preparing students to become responsible citizens who can fight poverty through their education. It is not surprising then that he has a parallel interest in supporting efforts toward making "Maisha Bora kwa Kila Mtanzanian" (a Better Life for Each Tanzanian").





DR. FRANCES VAVRUS

- DATE: November 6, Saturday
- TIMES: 6 pm EAT; 11 am EDT; 10 am; CDT; 9 am MDT; 8 am PDT
- PRESENTER: Dr. Frances Vavrus, Professor, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis
- TOPIC: "Teacher Education in Tanzania"
- TOPIC OVERVIEW: This presentation will discuss the past, present, and future of teacher education in Tanzania with a focus on the Teachers for East Africa program (past), challenges and opportunities (present), and several international teacher education initiatives that may influence the future of teaching in Tanzania.



- ABOUT THE SPEAKER: Frances Vavrus is a Professor and Associate Dept. Chair, College of Education and Human Development, Dept. of Organizational Leadership, Policy, and Development at the University of Minnesota where she teaches in the Comparative and International Development Education Program. Prior to her position in Minnesota, Dr. Vavrus held a faculty position at Teachers College, Columbia University and was a postdoctoral fellow the Harvard School of Public Health. Her principal research interest lies in exploring how schooling is situated as a solution to a host of complex social problems especially in sub-Saharan Africa. She has intermittently lived, taught, and studied in the Kilimanjaro Region of northern Tanzania since 1992, conducting longitudinal ethnographic and survey research focusing on teacher education. She has had further involvement in a teacher education program for Tanzanian secondary school teachers and teacher educators at Mwenge Catholic University in Moshi, Tanzania.





DR. SALVATORY NYANTO

DATE: **Date yet to be confirmed.**

- TIMES: The time will be 6 pm East African Time (EAT; 11am EDT; 10am; CDT; 9am MDT; 8am PDT)
- PRESENTER: Dr. Salvatory Nyanto,
- TOPIC: "The Uhuru Torch (Mwenge wa Uhuru): Discourses on Nation-Building, Liberation, and Its Relevance to Contemporary Society."
- TOPIC OVERVIEW:



• ABOUT THE SPEAKER: Salvatory Nyanto is a researcher and lecturer in the Dept. of History, University of Dar-es-Salaam. He is co-author of a recent book, "A New History of Tanzania" (2017) with fellow historians, Dr. Isaria Kimambo of the University of Dar-es Salaam and Dr. Gregory Maddox of the Texas Southern University in Houston. The book is intended to fill a gap in the availability of a readily-accessible and concise history of Tanzania. Prior to that, "A History of Tanzania," had been published in 1969 by East African Publishing House in Nairobi for the Tanzania Historical Association. That book is no longer in print. The new volume covers aspects from antiquity to the present, drawing from archaeology, anthropology, biology, genetics and oral tradition. Within the broad field of history, Dr. Nyanto's research areas include "Religion and Empire," "Slavery and Missionaries," and Christian-Muslim Relations."

