

Africa Day Memorial Lecture

BY DR PAUL TIYAMBE ZELEZA



Professor Heidi Hudson from the Centre for Africa Studies has the pleasure to invite you to the annual **AFRICA DAY MEMORIAL LECTURE** on

The decolonization of knowledge in the African academy

Wednesday 24 May 2017 at 18:00

Equitas Building Auditorium, Bloemfontein Campus, UFS

Dress: Lounge suit | Limited seats available

RSVP on or before Tuesday 16 May to Ms Sihle Salman, tel: 051 401 3121, e-mail: salmansz@ufs.ac.za or bradfielda@ufs.ac.za

Dr Paul Tiyambe Zeleza is the Vice Chancellor (President) of the United States International University-Africa, Nairobi, Kenya, a position he assumed on January 1, 2016.

Prior to joining USIA-A, he was Vice President of Academic Affairs at Quinnipiac University in Connecticut, USA. Previously he was Dean of the Bellarmine College of Liberal Arts and President's Professor of History and African American Studies at Loyola Marymount University.

He also served as head of the Department of African American Studies and the Liberal Arts and Sciences Distinguished Professor at the University of Illinois at Chicago, taught at the Pennsylvania State University, and was Director of the Center for African Studies and Professor of History and African Studies at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Before coming to the United States in 1995 he was College Principal and Professor of History and Development Studies at Trent University in Ontario, Canada. Previously he worked at the University of Malawi, University of the West Indies, and Kenyatta University. Since 2006 he has held the title of Honorary Professor at the University of Cape Town, South Africa. In Fall 2015 he was a fellow at Harvard University.

In the early 2000s he worked as a consultant

for the Ford and MacArthur foundations on their initiatives to revitalize higher education in Africa and as an adviser to the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development for a project on *Policy Report on Gender and Development: 10 Years after Beijing*. His research project on the African academic diaspora conducted for the Carnegie Corporation of New York in 2011-12 led to the establishment of the Carnegie African Diaspora Fellowship Program in 2013 that has to date sponsored scores of African born academics in the United States and Canada to work with dozens of universities in Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania, and Uganda. He is a past president of the U.S. African Studies Association (2008-2009). He has raised millions of dollars in personal research projects and for institutional development.

In July 2013, he was recognized in *The New York Times* as one of 43 Great Immigrants in the United States. In May 2015 he was awarded Doctor of Laws (*honoris causa*) by Dalhousie University. In 2015 he was commissioned to produce the Framing Paper for the 7th African Higher Education Summit: *Revitalizing Higher Education for Africa's Future*, held March 10-12, 2015, in Dakar, Senegal.

Dr Zeleza earned his B.A. with Distinction from the University of Malawi and an M.A.

from the University of London, where he studied African history and international relations. He holds his Ph.D. in economic history from Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada.

Dr Zeleza's academic work has crossed traditional boundaries, ranging from economic and intellectual history to human rights, gender studies, and diaspora studies. He has published more than 300 journal articles, book chapters, reviews, short stories and online essays and authored or edited 27 books, several of which have won international awards including Africa's most prestigious book prize, the Noma Award, for his books *A Modern Economic History of Africa* (1993) and *Manufacturing African Studies and Crises* (1997). His most recent books include *In Search of African Diasporas: Testimonies and Encounters* (2012), *Africa's Resurgence: Domestic, Global and Diaspora Transformations* (2014), and *The Transformations of Global Higher Education* (2016).

He has presented nearly 250 keynote addresses, papers, and public lectures at leading universities and international conferences in 31 countries and served on the editorial boards of more than two dozen journals and book series and edited a personal online magazine, *The Zeleza Post*, from 2004-2012.

Persons with disabilities who wish to make a specific request regarding accessibility (physical access, South African Sign Language) are requested to notify us in good time so that we can make the necessary arrangements.

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