

CURRICULUM VITAE

Benson C. Onyeji, Ph.D.

Professor of Political Science and Director of the International Studies Program
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Education

Ph.D. 1990 and M.A. 1982.
Josef Korbel School of International Studies
Formally, Graduate School of International Studies
University of Denver, Denver, Colorado.

M.A. 1980. School of International Studies
American University, Washington, D.C.

B.A., Summa cum laude, 1979
Double Major in Political Science and Sociology
University of District of Columbia, formally
Federal City College, Washington, D.C.

Research Interests

Professor Onyeji has an active research agenda which extends to the examination of the nature and role of the state, and the broader issues of globalization, democratization, and economic development. Most recently, he spent one year sabbatical leave during the 2012-2013 academic year conducting research in Nigeria. The topic of this ongoing research is: "A New Political Economy of Nigeria: The Transition From Oil to Sustainable Development." The work seeks to examine how states like Nigeria endowed with oil resource can use the oil wealth to promote economic development, equity, and democratic transformation in their societies.

Areas of Academic Specialization

International Relations, International Political Economy, Globalization, Comparative Politics, Africa

Courses taught

Current

Introduction to International Studies

International Politics
Comparative Politics
Comparative Foreign Policy
African Politics
International Law
International Political Economy
International Organization
Model United Nations
Globalization

Past

Contemporary Politics (variable topics): The New World Order 1992
Politics and Development
American Foreign Policy
Senior Research Project
African History
Analysis of war and peace
International law and organization
Power and purpose
Capstone Seminar (variable topics) Democracy 2008-2012; Inequality 2013-14
International Management
International Marketing (MBA)

FACULTY POSITIONS

Professor of Political Science

Manchester University, 2010 to present

Director of the International Studies Program

Manchester University, 2014 to present

Visiting Professor of Political Science

Enugu State University of Science and Technology, Sabbatical Leave 2012 to 2013

Associate Professor of Political Science

Manchester University, 1997 to 2010

Division Chair

Manchester University Social Sciences Division, Spring 2007

Department Chair

Department of History and Political Science Manchester University, 1997 to 2003

Director of the Hawthorne Program

Manchester University Lilly funded program on diversity and academic enhancement for minority middle school students in Fort Wayne and South Bend areas in Indiana, USA, 1999 to 2003

Assistant Professor of Political Science

Manchester University, 1991 to 1997

Assistant Professor of Political Science

Department of Political Science, Bates College, Lewiston, Maine, 1990 to 1991

Assistant Lecturer

Administrative and Political Science Department, University of Port Harcourt, Rivers State, Nigeria (National Youth Service Corps) 1985-1986

Adjunct Professor

Indiana Institute of Technology, Fort Wayne, Indiana, USA, Summer 2007 to May 2015.

PUBLICATIONS & NEWSPAPER COMMENTARIES

“Globalization and the Localization of Politics in Africa,” in *The Global Studies Journal*, Vol. 2, No. 1, 2009.

“Dean’s Meeting to Focus on Global Links,” in *The News-Sentinel*, Wednesday, February 13, 2002.

“Relations won’t Change: Jordan to Remain Prominent in Mideast Peace Process,” *Wabash Plain Dealer*, Monday, February 8, 1999.

“Trouble in the Great Lakes region of Central Africa Offer Important Lessons for U.S. Foreign Policy,” in *The Journal Gazette*, Tuesday, April 8, 1997.

BOOK & MANUSCRIPT REVIEWS

Douglas A. Yates, *The Scramble for African Oil: Oppression, Corruption and War for Control of Africa’s Natural Resources*, (London: Pluto Press, 2010).

Matt Hounnikpo, *Africa’s Elusive Quest for Development*, (New York: Palgrave McMillan Publishers, 2007).

WORK IN PROGRESS

Editing conference proceeding on: The Political Economy of Mbieri in the Era of Globalization

A New Political Economy of Nigeria: The Transition From Oil to Sustainable Development

OTHERS

“Another Africa,” A Keynote Address at the Wabash College African Network Kick-Off Celebration,

Tuesday, April 1, 2008.

The Postcolonial State and Industrialization: The State and the Oil Industry in Nigeria, Ph.D. dissertation, Graduate School of International Studies, University of Denver, 1990.

Varieties of Capitalist Development and the African Experience: The Implications of Slavery, Colonialism, Apartheid, and Globalization (manuscript).

Globalization, Corporatism, and the Transition to Democracy in Nigeria and South Africa (manuscript).

Papers, Presentations and Participation in Academic Conferences

“Boko Haram and the 2015 Presidential Election in Nigeria,” presentation with Caleb Leninger (senior, Manchester University), April 17, 2015 in Petersime Chapel, Manchester University, North Manchester, Indiana.

“Is the Concept of “Godfatherism” Relevant for Understanding African Politics?” paper presented at the 57th Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association held in Indianapolis, Indiana, November 20-23, 2014.

“China’s New Role in Africa: Engendering the Next Frontier in Global Economic Transformation,” paper presented at the 1st World Emerging Industries Summit held in Shangri-La Hotel, Changchun, Jilin Province, China, August 31- September 3, 2010.

“China’s New Role in Africa: Globalization or Imperialism?” paper presented at the African Network Annual Conference, April 16-18, 2010 at Denison University, Granville, Ohio.

Attended African Studies Association Annual Conference, in Chicago, Illinois, November 13-16, 2008.

“Nigeria We hail Thee,” a Keynote Address at the Nigeria’s Independence Day Celebration, in South Bend, Indiana, October 4, 2008.

“Teaching Africa in Liberal Arts Institutions” presentation in a workshop titled “Consultation on the Interdisciplinary Teaching of Black Experience” at Wabash College, October 25-27, 2007. This workshop brought together 15 prominent African and African American scholars in social science and the humanities to explore pedagogical issues in interdisciplinary programs dealing with black experiences in Africa and the Diaspora.

Attended the International Studies Association annual meeting in San Francisco, March 26-29, 2008.

“Sudan and the Genocide in the Darfur Region: a Comparative Historical Analysis,” presented at Manchester University, North Manchester, May 9, 2006, by invitation of the Peace Studies Institute.

“Naming as an important aspect of African culture,” Keynote address on the occasion of the naming ceremony of Kweku Magualla May Akan, formerly Carl Johnson, member of the Fort Wayne Community School Board, on Friday, April 14, 2006 at the Weisser Park Youth Recreation Center, Fort Wayne, Indiana.

“The Political Economy of Mbieri in the Era of Globalization,” a video Documentary filmed in Mbieri, Imo State, Nigeria in July 2005.

“Re-conceptualizing Globalization, Democracy, and Development in Africa: Lessons Learned so far from the Creation of Autonomous Communities in Imo State, Nigeria,” presented at the African Studies Association’s 47th Annual Meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana, November 9-15, 2004.
“Globalization and the Perils of Liberal Arts Education,” presented at the 5th Annual Area Deans’ Conference on Educating the Global Community, Friday, February 22, 2002.

G. John Ikenberry, “American Imperial Ambition,” *Foreign Affairs*, vol. 81, no. 5, September – October 2002, 44-60, reviewed at the Manchester University faculty happy hour, September 23, 2002.

“Lumumba and Political Developments in the Democratic Republic of Congo (Zaire) in Historical Perspective,” Public presentation, Monday, November 26, 2001, at the Borders Bookstore, Fort Wayne, Indiana.

“President Clinton’s Monica Lewinsky Affair Repudiated his Sainthood not his Charm: Some Lessons and Implications for World Politics,” Presentation at Manchester University, Thursday, September 24, 1998.

“Globalization: What is New about it?” presented at the 23rd Annual Third World Conference, Chicago, Illinois, March 19-22, 1997.

“The Policy Implications of Globalization for Liberal Education and Employment,” presented at the 1996 Manchester University Faculty workshop as contribution toward the Lilly Grant on Liberal Education.

Attended the Five Colleges Program in Peace and World Security Studies conference titled, “Global Economic Inequality as a Source of Conflict in the 21st Century,” Amherst, Massachusetts, June 11-14, 1996.

“United States Role in Africa,” contribution to a panel discussion on The Political and Military Role of the U.S. in Changing World, Indiana-Purdue University, Fort Wayne, Thursday, April 7, 1994.

“Africa in the Global System: How to Survive in the New World Order,” Symposium on Imperialism, Manchester University, October 26, 1993.

“Transition to Democracy in Nigeria: Crisis and Prospects,” presented to Manchester University and the community, September 23, 1993.

“The Somalia Crisis and U.S. Response,” presentation with Nathan Davis during the Black History

month celebration, Manchester University, February 15, 1993.

“Somalia in the New World Order,” presentation with Ahmed Haile, sponsored by the Fellowship of Reconciliation, North Manchester, Indiana, January 19, 1993.

“Marxism and Liberation: First-World Theories, Third World Realities,” presented with Leonard A. Williams to the conference on “Marxism in the New World Order: Crisis and Possibilities,” Amherst, Massachusetts, November 12-14, 1992.

“The State, Capital Accumulation, and Industrialization in Nigeria: Implications for Africa in the Post-cold War Era,” presented at the African and Global Human Rights Conference in Honor of George W. Shepherd, Jr. and Edward Hawley, May 7-9, 1992, Denver, Colorado.

“The Question of Apartheid,” presented at Manchester University, North Manchester, Indiana, November 7, 1991.

“Nigeria in the New International Division of Labor: Managing the Ties of Dependency,” presented at the African Studies Association’s 33rd Annual Meeting, Baltimore, Maryland, November 1-4, 1990.

“The National Question in African Development,” presented at the African Development Conference organized by the African Student Association, University of Denver, May 15, 1984.

SERVICE To MANCHESTER UNIVERSITY

1. Faculty Advisor, Manchester University Model United Nations Association 1991- present
2. Chair, International Studies Council, 2013- present
3. Co-Advisor, Political Science Pi Sigma Alpha Honors Program 2011- present
4. Co-Advisor, Political Science Club, 2010- present
5. Co-Advisor, Democratic Party Club, 2010- 2011
6. Member, Peace Studies Council, 1991- present
7. Member, Global Connections Assessment Committee, 2015- present
8. Chair, Academic Standards Committee, 1992-1999
9. Student Marshall, Commencement Events, 1996- 2012
10. Participated as Advisor during the summer “Advising and Registration” of prospective freshmen classes, 2008 to present.

11. Primary Advisor to political science majors, 2000 – 2005 & 2008 to present
12. Academic Advisor to department majors in political science with interest in international relations and some pre-law students, 1991 to present.
13. Serviced as Coordinator, African and African-American Emphasis, 1991 to present
14. Served as member and chair of the Academic Standards Committee 1991-2002.
15. Served in Human Diversity Committee 1993-2010
16. Served in the Library Committee, 2007-2008, re-assigned 2010
17. Served in the Academic Policies Committee, spring 2007
18. Served in the Education Committee spring 2007
19. Collaborated with, Julie Garber, Director, Lilly Plowshares Grant, in the search for a suitable Fulbright writing of the proposal which brought Dr. Jorge Escobar Bula to Manchester University in 2005
20. Served in the Student Conduct Review Committee, 2004
21. Organized a student centered debate forum titled, “The Great Debate: America Debates its Role in the World,” held in Manchester University, North Manchester, Indiana, Wednesday, October 15, 2003
22. Collaborated with the Dean in the search for a suitable Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence and personally wrote the proposal which brought Dr. Akusua Perbi from University of Accra, Ghana, to Manchester University as Fulbright Scholar in 2000-2001 academic year
23. Served as Academic Director, Hawthorne Program, 1999-2003
24. Participated in the “Presidential and Deans Scholarship” Awards (1995-2005).
25. Facilitator, Admissions Internet Scholarship Interviews, 1996 to 1997.
26. Member, Department of History & Political Science David Waas Research Award Committee, 1991-2001
27. Organized and co-authored a grant proposal submitted to Lincoln National Corporation to host Archbishop Desmond Tutu to Indiana. Funding requested: \$20, 000. Status: Funded. Date: Fall 1999. Bishop Tutu was not able to accept the invitation
28. Served in a principal capacity as member of the Human Diversity Committee in the production of the 1st Manchester University audit report titled, *Diversity at Manchester: Results of the Campus-wide Diversity Assessment Conducted by Manchester University Human Diversity Committee and Cox & Associates Consulting*, Spring 1999

29. Organized symposium on Africa and invited Dr. Vincent Vera, Deputy Vice Chancellor, University of Venda, South Africa as guest speaker in Manchester University, North Manchester, Indiana, Monday, November 10, 1998
30. Manchester University representative to the Indiana Consortium for International Programs, 1991-1996 (Member of the Executive Board, 1995-1996)
31. Faculty Advisor, Manchester University Student Government Association (SGA), 1994-1996
32. Member, sub-committee for Undergraduate Education, 1995
33. Symposium held in Manchester University, North Manchester, Indiana, 1995
34. Organized the Indiana Consortium for International Programs Model United Nations conference held in Manchester University, North Manchester, Indiana, October 26-28, 1995
35. Member, Lilly Grant on Campus Climate sub-committee, 1994
36. Member, Inauguration Planning Sub-Committee for the 12th President of Manchester University, Parker Marden, 1994
37. Organized symposium on Africa held in Manchester University, North Manchester, Indiana, April 15, 1993
38. Organized symposium on Africa held in Manchester University, North Manchester, Indiana, October, 26-29, 1993

SERVICE To THE PROFESSION

1. Served as a member of the Local Arrangement Committee, and chaired two panels during the African Studies Association Annual meeting held November 20-23, 2014 in Indianapolis, Indiana, USA
2. Co-Chair with Lisa Aubrey of Ohio University/Arizona State University—the section on politics and governance for the 2007 Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association held October 18-21, 2007 in New York, USA. We were responsible for reviewing over 300 conference proposals which constituted the largest number for all the sections covered during this 2007 annual meeting.

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

1. Volunteered and supported the 2008 President Barack Obama campaign from day one. I

donated money and time because I believed in the change Obama talked about. More specifically, I volunteered a minimum of 15 hours weekly on the campaign during which I:

- registered new voters, knocked on doors, made phone calls to get the vote,
- participated in fundraising, hosting two sections of “Unite for Change” parties.
- served in leadership position as Team Captain,
- made my house available as staging location where volunteers picked up and returned their canvassing packages,
- hosted and housed campaign workers from out of state, including 6 people from New York for days, and
- worked as poll/book watcher on the day of election.

Combined with the efforts and dedication of other volunteers, campaign staffs, and field organizers such as Brian Gorman—(telephone # 773-272-5214), Francis Iacobucci—(telephone # 484-437-1163), and Chris Dean—(telephone # 260-517-3369), we delivered Indiana on November 4, 2008 to Democratic Presidential Candidate Barack Obama.

2. Volunteered three hours weekly to the Union Baptist Church food bank which provides food to the poor and needy in Fort Wayne community in Indiana, USA, 1999- 2008.
3. Served in the Deacon Board of the Union Baptist Church, Fort Wayne, Indiana, 2000- present.
4. Served as Treasurer to the Board of Directors, Urban Brightest Community Academy, which was a public charter school that served students from low income families in Fort Wayne, Indiana, 2003-2004.
5. Collaborated with Fort Wayne Community School and Weisser Park Youth Recreation Center in organizing and raising funds which sponsored a study abroad program to Ghana in 2000. This study program led by me benefited 25 people of African American descent, primarily High School students drawn from Fort Wayne.
6. Served as General Secretary, Mbieri National Association USA, Inc., a nonprofit national organization of Mbieri people in the USA, 2000 to 2008, and as President, 2010 to 2014.
7. Organized the conference on “African Development by Year 2000,” held in University of Denver, Denver Colorado, May 1984 with grant from Ford Foundation, and several other private and public organizations in the Denver metropolitan area.
8. Served as President of the African Students Association, University of Denver, USA, 1983-1986.
9. Served as Secretary of the African Students Association, University of Denver, USA, 1981-1982.
10. Served as director of the student leadership program and special advisor to the Student Government President, University of District of Columbia, Washington, DC, USA, 1978-1979.

HONORS & AWARDS

- (1) Named Faculty Advisor of the Year 2010-2011
- (2). Received the 2010 “Distinguished Service Award” by Mbieri Nwaotuoke USA Inc., A *Nonprofit National organization of Umu Mbieri in the USA.*
- (3). Manchester University Faculty Advisor of the Year 2007
- (4). Named in “Who is Who Among America’s Teachers” numerous times since 1996
- (5). Named in the Marquis Who’s Who since 2009. Latest publication in the 65th Edition
- (6). Martin Luther King Jr. Distinguished Service Award for demonstrating notable Commitment to the Promotion and Development of a Pluralistic Learning Community, April 2, 2001
- (7) Certificate of Appreciation for role in organizing the African Studies Association Annual Meeting held November 20-23, 2014 in Indianapolis, Indiana, USA.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- (1). Member, African Studies Association (current)
 - (2). Member, International Studies Association (current)
 - (3). Member, American Political Science Association (current)
 - (4). Member, Midwest Political Association (current)
 - (5). Board Member, Center for National Purpose and Human Rights Institute, Indiana University-Purdue University, Fort Wayne, Indiana, 2003
 - (6). Board Member, Association of Blacks in Higher Education in Indiana, 1996-2001
 - (7). Board Member, Indiana Academy of Social Sciences, 1991-1995
 - (8). Board Member, Indiana Consortium for International Programs, 1991-1996
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