

**The African Multiple Cluster Gender and Diversity Office
presents an ICDL Lecture**

UNMASKING LIBERAL ACADEMIC FREEDOM

**Thursday, 13 June 2024
2-4 pm, CEST**

**Cluster Knowledge Lab
Room S58, RWII
University, Bayreuth**

Dr. Christine Vogt-William
Director of the GDO will
chair the event



Prof. Tendayi Sithole
(Political Sciences, University of South Africa, Pretoria, SA)

Abstract: If there is a conception that academic freedom is a right and it is for everyone in the university, this is nothing but a fallacy if this conception elides the fact that the stakes a high for those who are racially marked. The racially marked, by the historical fact and its aftermath, are still at the receiving end epistemic injustice and all forms of dehumanization. If there is something that liberal academic freedom seeks to escape and even censor, is the question of racism and what will be inflated is “social justice” in its nebulous form, including the concept of redress thus positioned in ways that borders on generality. In this investigation, the conception of liberal academic freedom will be criticized for being mute on the question of antiblack racism and, on the other hand, perpetuating it by way of defending the status quo. If the liberal consensus is invested in the questions of liberty, equality, and justice, these are propagated in a form of universal applicability while at the same time making sure to silence the discourses of the racially mark, the latter who are perceived to be disturbing the order of things. It is in the spirit of that disturbance that the critique of liberal academic freedom will be undertaken in this intervention.

The African Multiple Cluster Gender and Diversity Office

presents an ICDL round table



ACADEMIC FREEDOM FOR ALL

Thursday, 13 June 2024
4-6 pm, CEST

Cluster Knowledge Lab
Room S58, RWI
University, Bayreuth

Dr. Christine Vogt-William
Director of the GDO will
chair the event

This is a hybrid event

Link: <https://uni-bayreuth.zoom.us/j/67948330883?pwd=RFZnWmJxSE1wbULTWjJKVTVleEoxUTo9>

Meeting ID: 67948330883
Passcode: 201486

Prof. Tendayi Sithole
(Political Sciences, University of South Africa
Pretoria, SA)

Prof. Olajamuke Yacob-Haliso
(African and African American Studies
Brandeis University, Boston, USA)

Prof. Catherine Kiprop
(Management and Leadership, Moi University
Eldoret, Kenya)

Prof. Sabelo Ndlovu-Gatsheni
(Chair of Global Epistemologies of the South
University of Bayreuth, Germany)

Prof. Stefan Ouma
(Chair of Economic Geography
University of Bayreuth, Germany)

Academic freedom has increasingly proven to be a major bone of contention in our current times. The conversation envisioned here is meant to instigate recognition of problems connected to academic freedom, as regards positionality and privilege, access to definitional and actionable power, rethinking and relearning in sociopolitical and disciplinary frames, situated knowledge and the diversity of loci of enunciation. The thought impulses generated here may help draft more reflexive and relational future visions, particularly in the transdisciplinary field of African Studies. The ICDL lecture (by Prof. Tendayi Sithole, UNISA) and the accompanying Round Table will consider perspectives from African continental and diasporic, as well as German contexts.



PROF. DR. TENDAYI SITHOLE



Tendayi Sithole is Professor in the Department of Political Sciences, University of South Africa and Senior Research Associate at the Institute for Pan-African Thought and Conversation, University of Johannesburg. Founding member of Africa Decolonial Research Network (ADERN), Pretoria, South Africa. His fields of specialization include: Political theory, Decoloniality, Africana existential phenomenology, Jazz and politics, Black aesthetics.

PROF. DR. CATHERINE KIPROP



Catherine Kiprop is a Professor of Educational Management and Leadership at Moi University, Eldoret, Kenya. She is a Member of the African Multiple Cluster Centre of Excellence Board and the Gender and Diversity Officer in the ACC Moi. Her research encompasses education management and leadership, women's and gender studies.

PROF. DR. OLAJAMUKE YACOB-HALISO



Olajumoke Yacob-Haliso is Associate Professor of African and African American Studies at Brandeis University. She previously taught Political Science and International Relations at Babcock University, Nigeria. Her interdisciplinary research bestrides International Relations, Refugee and Forced Migration Studies, Women's and Gender Studies, and African Studies.

PROF. DR. SABELO J. NDLOVU-GATSHENI



Sabelo J. Ndlovu-Gatsheni is a Professor and Chair of Epistemologies of the Global South with Emphasis on Africa at the University of Bayreuth in Germany. He previously worked as a Research Professor and Director of Scholarship in the Department of Leadership and Transformation (DLT) in the Principal and Vice-Chancellor's Office at the University of South Africa (UNISA), South Africa

PROF. DR. STEFAN OUMA



Stefan Ouma currently holds the Chair of Economic Geography at the Department of Geography at the University of Bayreuth. Before this position, they served as a Doc and Post-Doc at Goethe-University, Frankfurt. Their research interests lie in a theoretically and empirically informed economic geography of globalization and development. They draw primarily on insights from heterodox economics, political ecology, and post- and decolonial work.