



SAPA NEWSLETTER
Section on African Public Administration
American Society for Public Administration
Issue 4 ~ February 2023



Message from Dr. Rym Kaki, SAPA Chair

Dear SAPA Members & Supporters:



SAPA continues to thrive, enrich systematic research, enhance its national standing, and forge new partnerships with counterparts on the African continent, all thanks to the members' steadfast commitment to advance our vision for a better African public service. After the well-attended 2022 Symposium at ASPA's annual conference, engaging participants from both the U.S. and the continent, SAPA is now taking its scholarship and conversations to Egypt on the continent, co-organizing with the American University in Cairo a conference entitled: *The Localization of African*

Sustainable Development Goals: Challenges and Opportunities for Public Administration Systems, scheduled for June 6-7, 2023. Stay tuned for more information!

SAPA is currently expanding its networks of partners and sponsors both at home and on the continent. The partnership with the African Association of Public Administration (AAPAM), precisely AJPAM, continues to find AJPAM's and SAPA's editorial boards engaging in joint publication opportunities, with another edition scheduled for release in mid-2023. At home, SAPA recently launched a new partnership with esteemed colleagues from the Consortium of International Management Policy and Development (CIMPAD), bringing together both organizations on new productive engagement with African public administration, policy, and development institutions. We hope to meet soon with our CIMPAD counterparts as we join forces to advance the art and science of public administration and governance on the continent. Last but not least, the University of North Texas Dallas recently renewed support for the SAPA mission with another generous gift, to sponsor the Cairo conference.

Finally, I am pleased to witness the rich and long-lasting connections binding SAPA members, a testimonial to the section that, apart from being an affiliate section of ASPA facilitating scholarship dissemination and exchange between U.S./Diaspora scholars and counterparts on the African continent, it has evolved into a safe space for community-building and human-centered conversations, all helpful to keep the ship afloat and forward looking. Together, we cheer for members' publications, professional promotion, successful dissertation defense, newborn offspring. Together, we extend sympathy to those experiencing trying times, and together we mourn the loss of cherished members including Dr. Joyce Mann, a staunch supporter of emerging African scholars. We hope that no one is left behind. I cannot help but count my blessings witnessing the resilient community that we have become, despite disruptions and distance as we move SAPA's mission forward. On behalf of SAPA's executive leadership and board, thank you all, individually and collectively, for making this section well-respected and impactful through expanded outreach, both at home and on the African continent.

With kind regards,

Rym Kaki

Contents: Mission & Goals; Executive/Committee Leadership; ASPA 2023—SAPA Panels; June 2023 SAPA/AAPAM/AUC Continental Conference, Cairo; Fundraising Update; New Partnerships; 2d SAPA/AJPAM Guest Edition; Member News; Co-Editors' Note

SAPA Mission & Goals



The American Society for Public Administration's (ASPA) Section on African Public Administration (SAPA) aims to advance the science, processes and art of public administration and governance on the African Continent. It purports to foster opportunities for joint research and exchange between African Public Administration scholars and their international counterparts; provide systematic analysis, commentary, and articulation of on-the-ground plight of Africa's public service; play a leading role in advocating for diverse representation at all levels of government and promote the sense of ethical responsibility focusing on the exploration of professional, democratic, constitutional, and human values in public service. <http://thesapa.org>

Executive/Committee Leadership Team

Officers: Rym Kaki (Chair); Gedeon M. Mudacumura (Vice Chair); Bakry Elmedni (Treasurer); Simone Martin-Howard (Secretary)

Advisory Board: Genevieve Meyers; Peter F. Haruna; Jessie Rose Mabutias; Oluwole Owoye; Deborah L. Trent; Atta Ceesay; Sombo Muzata; Bok Gyo Jeong; Aminata Sillah

Academic Affairs Committee:

Shin Kue Ryu (Chair) shinkueryu@isu.edu (Shin's updates are on pages 3, 4, 6)

Practitioners Capacity Building Committee:

Adebayo Andari (Chair) -- adebayo.adanri@gmail.com

Marketing & Membership Committee:

Atta Ceesay (Chair) – ceesayaa@buffalostate.edu

Communication, Newsletter & Website Committee:

Debbie Trent (Chair) – dtrent@civilstrategies.net

Fundraising Committee:

Jean-Claude Mansanga Ndonga (Chair) – jndongo2019@fau.edu (update on page 5)

Global Outreach Committee:

Mohamed Abdel-Moneim (Chair) – moneim@feps.edu.eg (update on page 4)

SAPA’s Two Panels at the 2023 ASPA Conference

The American Society for Public Administration
 March 20-24, 2023 Annual Conference *Online*

“Protecting Democracy for the Next Generation: The Role and Responsibility of Public Administration”



SAPA will conduct **two** panels.

On March 21st, 1-2 pm EDT is SAPA panel **“Tackling Infrastructure and Finance in Africa,”** in the *Infrastructure and Finance Track*. The following panelists examine the various dimensions of the infrastructure investment challenge on the African continent: Professor Oluwole Owoye, Western Connecticut State University; Associate Professor Bok Gyo Jeong, Kean University; Dr. Grace Yuehan Wang, Stellenbosch University; and, Doctoral candidate Jean-Claude Ndong, Florida Atlantic University.

On March 24th, 1:45-2:45 pm EDT is SAPA panel **“Governance and African Public Administration,”** in the *Global Challenges Track*, moderated by Professor Rym Kaki. The five presentations are by SAPA members exploring innovations and modifications to governance structures needed and already being undertaken on the African continent. Panelists are: Associate Professor Shin Kue Ryu and doctoral student Mohamed Echkaou, Idaho State University; Professor James K. Agbodzakey, University of North Texas Dallas and Professor Sandra Schrouder, Barry University; Doctoral candidate Phil Nyaku, Idaho State University; and, Professor Aziza Zemrani, University of Texas at Rio Grande Valley.

[For full program click here](#)

SAPA Academic Affairs



Giant thanks to our colleague Dr. Shin Kue Ryu and to all those who have substantially contributed to the call for SAPA panel proposals.

Shin writes:

“In the latter half of 2022, I worked on soliciting papers for the collaborative SAPA-AJPAM issue, sent out a CFP for the ASPA SAPA panels and drafted + submitted the panels, and finalized the CFP for the 1st Continental SAPA Conference in Cairo + was in video conference calls with the hosting institutions. Over the next 6 months I’ll work on the 2nd SAPA-AJPAM collaborative issue, participate and assist in the SAPA panels for ASPA’s Annual Conference in March, and continue organizing in consultation with SAPA Chair and Board, along with Global Outreach Chair, SAPA first Continental in Cairo (CFP work and organizing sessions).”

More news from committee chairs on pages 4-6 and from members on pages 7-9

SAPA 2023 CONTINENTAL CONFERENCE

American University in Cairo (AUC) |, June 6-7, 2023 Cairo, Egypt | HYBRID
**LOCALIZATION OF AFRICAN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AGENDA: Challenges, Lessons
Learnt & Opportunities for African Public Administration Systems**



Conference Host: Ghada Barsoum, PhD,
Associate Professor and Chair, Department
of Public Policy and Administration, The
American University in Cairo



SAPA Global Outreach Chair:
Mohamed Alaa Abdel-Moneim, PhD,
Associate Professor of Public Administration,
Faculty of Economics and Political Science,
Cairo University



Mohamed writes: “This conference will be a wonderful opportunity for scholars and practitioners from across the continent to engage in a dialogue and share knowledge about the localization of the SDGs and the Africa Agenda 2063. The conference is an invitation to reflect on our local heritage, indigenous knowledge, values, experiences, best practices and contexts, and to inform scholars and practitioners around the world of lessons we learned from implementing reforms in our societies and communities. The conference will address topics as diverse as governance, participation, monitoring, evaluation, finance, data collection, and international cooperation. We hope that this will be the first in a series of conferences gathering scholars and practitioners who specialize in African public administration and policy to meet on the continent.”

Review of SAPA 2023 continental conference proposal submissions began on December 15, 2022. Please email any questions to SAPA Academic Affairs Chair, Dr. Shin Kue Ryu at Idaho State University (shinkueryu@isu.edu).

Venue: AUC, School of Global Affairs & Public Policy, Department of Public Policy & Administration (PPAD). El Jameel Building, ground floor Dusit Hotels & Resorts - The Dusit Thani Bangkok, often referred to simply as the Dusit Thani Hotel, and The Westin Cairo Golf Resort & Spa, Katameya Dunes ([online-reservations.com](https://www.westin.com/en-us/reservations)).

[Please note: SAPA’s annual business meeting will take place after the continental conference. The chair will share the business meeting agenda along with the Zoom link two weeks before the meeting date.]

Fundraising Update

From Committee Chair Jean-Claude M. Ndong: *“In the past six months, the fundraising committee has secured a \$3,500 donation from the University of North Texas Dallas. UNT Dallas will be featured as a sponsor of the June conference in Cairo. Dr. Rym Kaki and Dr. James Agbodzakey also updated the sponsorship package that will be shared with prospective donors in the next six months. The fundraising committee will also repeat last year’s initiative of a \$100 pledge/donation from SAPA members with the objective of raising a minimum of \$1,000.”*



New Partnerships



Realizing that SAPA should reach every corner of the African continent, member **Oluwole Owoye** has initiated a partnership with the African Economic Research Consortium. At the January 27th SAPA board meeting, Oluwole welcomed ideas for collaboration and shared information about AERC’s March 29-30 webinar, Senior Policy Seminar XXV, focusing on Human Capital Development in Africa, as well as other events. Dr. Owoye is Professor of Economics in the Western Connecticut State University Department of Social Sciences/Economics.

SAPA Vice Chair **Gedeon Mudacumura**, and Chair **Rym Kaki** are facilitating a partnership with CIMPAD, the Consortium for International Management, Policy & Development.

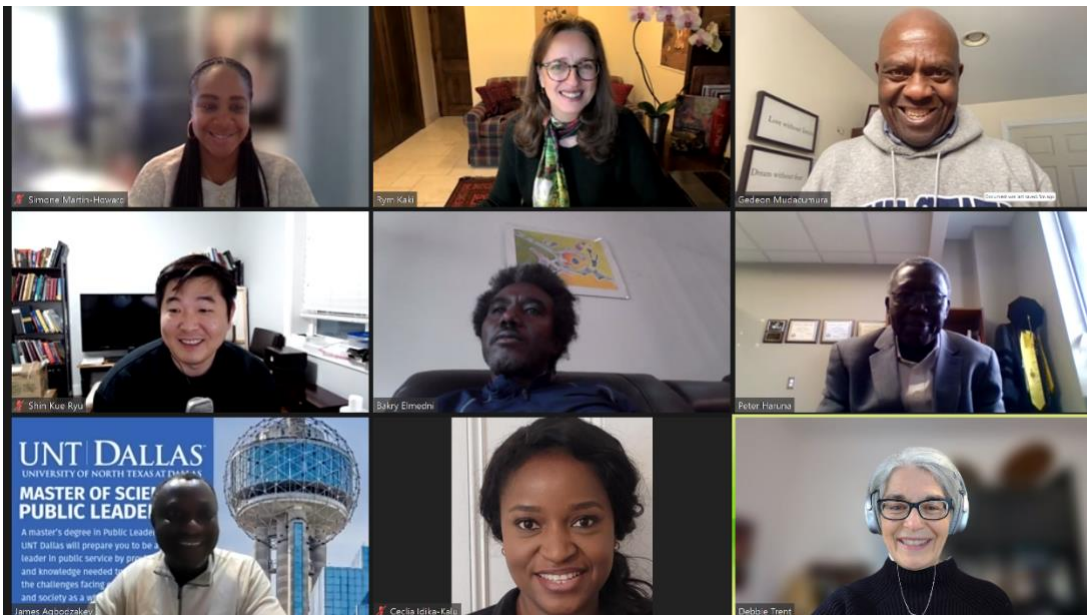


SAPA/AJPAM Second Guest Edition

Shin Kue Ryu advises that the first SAPA guest-edited publication is now accessible via the website of the *African Journal of Public Administration and Management* and the auspices of the Association of African Public Administration. This special edited issue of *AJPAM* (Vol. XXVIII No. 2 July- December 2021) – *Africa’s Development Governance Post-COVID-19 Disruptions, Setbacks, Opportunities for an Equitable Socio-Economic Recovery* – is available [here](#). This seminal accomplishment owes in particular to the central role of SAPA vice chair **Gedeon Mudacumura** in co-leading with SAPA Chair **Rym Kaki** the negotiations resulting in a mutually beneficial MOU among the three partners. Shin also shares that AJPAM and SAPA principals are at work on the second joint edition.



27 January 2023 Board Meeting



Wishing each other a happy new year and smiling about reaching 51 members and the report of a robust treasury!

MEMBER NEWS

In addition to the following delightful stories and commendable achievements, we are all inspired by those of you who are preparing your dissertations and climbing other challenging professional mountains.

Simone Martin-Howard, who had been serving as SAPA secretary throughout her first pregnancy, delivered Jerry Howard III, born at 6:13 AM, the 23rd of August. He is 7lbs, 9oz, 22 inches. On this occasion, **Oluwole Owoye** (Western Connecticut State University), wrote: *Congratulations to Simone and her entire family on the birth of our new Research/Teaching Assistant. Laugh!!!!!!!!!!!!!! I know the joy and happiness of holding a baby's hand and going with them to all sports events, of their choice, in their pre-teen and teenage years. Many days of joy and happiness are awaiting Simone and her family.*



Dr. Richard Gregory Johnson III was recently elected as Pi Alpha Alpha International President. He was also recently elected as a new NASPAA Board Member, one of only a couple of Black men to serve on the Board. Both terms end in 2025. Richard is Professor & Department Chair, Public & Nonprofit Administration, University of San Francisco.

Sombo Muzata is now an Assistant Professor in the Department of Political Science, James Madison University. She shares that she continues to engage with individuals on her campus, across the U.S., and in various countries in Africa to bring awareness to SAPA and its work. In the coming months she will undertake some innovative initiatives to drum up support for the Cairo conference. As an international development practitioner, Sombo conducted a virtual panel of experts on expectations for the December 2022 US-Africa Leaders Summit. *Co-editors' note: Shout-out to Sombo for stepping in as SAPA Secretary during Simone Martin-Howard's maternity leave!*



MEMBER NEWS (continued)

In the last six months **Susan Baer, PhD**, joined SAPA and we welcome her into the fold. Susan's two publications from fall of 2022 are: "Food Insecurity in Kenya's Urban Areas during COVID-19," *Section on International and Comparative Administration Occasional Paper Series, 4: 7-14*; and "Does an Internship Have Value for Political Science Graduate Students?" in *Strategies for Navigating Graduate School and Beyond*, Eds. Kevin G. Lorentz II, Daniel J. Mallinson, Julia Marin Hellwege, Davin Phoenix, and J. Cherie Strachan, American Political Science Association. Susan is a University of Kansas, School of Public Affairs and Administration Online Lecturer.



A thousand thanks to **James Agbdozakey** for enabling SAPA to secure a second gift from the University of North Texas Dallas and hearty congratulations on his promotion to full professor!

Dr. Aminata Sillah shares that her new publication is out. It is part of the [Routledge series on Volunteer Management](#) and led Towson University students on a study abroad trip to the Gambia in January.



Jean-Claude M. Ndongo: The SAPA fundraising committee chair's chief professional and academic activities are as an instructor with the School of Public Administration at Florida Atlantic University where he is also completing a Ph.D. with a focus on public budgeting and finance. His research areas are public procurement, social equity in public budgeting, and the impact of disasters on small businesses in underserved communities. Jean-Claude holds an MBA and has previously worked in finance, banking, and insurance for Fortune 500 firms in the United States.

Peter Haruna reports that his interest in public administration education and training inspired him to develop a publication on the subject, "[Educating public servants for a post-COVID-19 world: MPA/MPP curricular implications in Ghana.](#)" Fellow SAPAn **Sombo Muzata** emailed that the article is an excellent contribution to PA, finding it resonant with her experience in Zambia.

MEMBER NEWS (continued)

Rym Kaki has recently been appointed Director of the Master of Public Administration and Interim Director of the International Public Policy and Management Program at the USC Sol Price School of Public Policy.

Outside of SAPA, **Shin Kue Ryu** has been working on a multi-year Idaho Department of Health and Welfare grant on health inequity. The first year's findings will be shared on the social equity panel led by the Frederick Center at ASPA's conference. He's the lead author of the [County's Action Plan](#). Shin is also collaborating on a FEMA grant for wildfire, drought, and flooding with the director of his university's Geographical Information System Center director and continues in Pocatello to serve as the Vice-Chair of the Planning & Zoning Commission and to provide advisory services to the city's long-term land use planning document.



Co-Editors' Note: In this SAPA newsletter, we again showcase the work and achievements of scholars and practitioners in this organization. We consider it a privilege to be a part of highlighting this scholarship. Since the last edition, the section has continued to advance our mission; members have also done the same professionally and personally. We hope this issue reporting SAPA's progress fosters deeper stakeholder engagement.



Thank you.

Cecilia Idika-Kalu & Debbie Trent

