

Statement of Purpose



Our goal is to facilitate faculty, postgraduate, and graduate research in African and African diaspora studies in the social sciences and the humanities and to foster the comparative, cross-national, and interdisciplinary dimensions of research with a core group of leading scholars. These research efforts are linked to larger local and international community concerns. The Center also oversees the undergraduate African Studies Minor.

For more information regarding AAASRC, or to be on our mailing list, call (858) 534-9063 or email bjulesrosette@ucsd.edu. We have an extensive list of resources on issues concerning African and African-American communities, newsletters and information about African Studies, as well as the experience and relationships that have been acquired over AAASRC's thirty-two years in existence.

Contact AAASRC:

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AAASRC 2025-2026 Calendar of Events

Ethnographic Film and Media Festival,
organized by Professor Bennetta Jules-
Rosette, Wednesday, December 10, 3:30 -
5:00 pm, SSB #101

Black History Month, February 2026:
Theme: A Century of Black History Month
Commemorations, Lectures TBD

Afro-Caribbean Dance & Drumming
Workshop with Master Percussionist Gene
Perry Thursday, February 19, 3:30 - 5:00 pm,
Social Sciences Building #101

Black History Month Brunch
Saturday, February 20, 10:00 am,
UCSD Price Center West Ballroom, A and B

ArtPower! in Collaboration with AAASRC
2026 Events TBD

AAASRC 32nd Anniversary Awards
Banquet Friday, May 29, 5:00 pm,
UCSD Faculty Club

Research Interests

The AAASRC Focused Research Group on Art, Culture, and Knowledge (ACK Group) organizes many of the symposia and special events. Our Music Workshops and Lectureship series blend academic inquiry with musical performances and public outreach. In past years, AAASRC has hosted world-renowned musicians **Dominic Kanza**, **Mighty Mo Rodgers**, **Don Byron**, vocalists **Marie and Anita Daulne** of the group **Zap Mama**, musical pioneer and activist **Thomas Mapfumo**, and innovative Malian guitarist **Habib Koité**, described by *Rolling Stone* as "the biggest pop star of the West African nation of Mali." We also sponsor master percussionist **Gene Perry** Live with the **Elimu Band**.

Other past AAASRC events include the Black West Symposium and Film Festival, the Symposium on African and African-American Intellectuals, the Circuits and Connections Symposium, the Symposium on Mediated Borders, and the Nollywood Symposium. During this academic year, we will pursue our research goals through our Lecture Series on Africa and the African Diaspora.

Presentation abstracts, bibliographies, and information are available for all our symposia and workshops on the AAASRC website at AAASRC.UCSD.edu for more details.

About AAASRC



AAASRC is an independent research unit of the University of California, San Diego with a rich, thirty-two-year history. Several European and African institutions have established ongoing relationships with the Center most notably, the Centre d'Étude d'Afrique Noire (CÉAN) at the Université de Bordeaux IV, the Université de Paris V, the African Studies Research Centre (ARC) at the University of Leuven in Belgium, and the National University of Côte d'Ivoire. The African and African-American Studies Research Center is an oasis and an international crossroads for students, faculty, and community members interested in African, African-American, and multicultural research issues and teaching at UCSD. We look forward to the upcoming year with enthusiasm and energy.

AAASRC BOARD MEMBERS

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UC San Diego



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Teaching at UCSD and in the World since 1994.

