



Consortium for International Management, Policy & Development E-News

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CIMPAD MISSION

To inspire and promote collaborative working relationships towards the advancement of knowledge in public administration, public management, public policy, and leadership development, among practitioners and academicians in various African countries and the diaspora.

Consortium for International Management, Policy And Development (CIMPAD) was precipitated by the struggle against apartheid in South Africa. In a strange way, this oppressive system inspired public service professionals in various countries on several continents to work cooperatively to enhance the provision of public goods and services.

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MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

A Pleasant Surprise

A few months ago, a second delegation of CIMPAD board members traveled to Kigali, Rwanda to meet with colleagues in planning CIMPAD's 13th International Conference in 2024. As a seasoned traveler who has visited many African countries, I was pleasantly surprised at the natural beauty of Rwanda, its landscape, rolling hills and the amount of development that has taken place during the past few decades. Stepping out of the airport, I could smell fragrant flowers in the air. The people were kind and there was an overall sense of peace and stillness, just what I needed after the hustle and bustle of work preceding my travel.

In fact, there is lots to love about Rwanda. It is considered to be one of the most peaceful and developed countries in Africa, with a low crime rate and a strong education system. What impressed me the most was how clean the city of Kigali appeared. All types of plastic bags have been banned since 2008, and the fourth Saturday of each month is set aside for the community,

including the president, to clean the streets and clear the land. It is a gender-neutral country and women hold 60 percent of leadership positions in parliament. All that I can say is, "You've got to see this place."

We are excited to hold the 13th CIMPAD conference in Kigali in partnership with our colleagues at the East Africa University of Rwanda and several other university co-hosts. Partnerships have been established with the local and national government of Rwanda along with the US Agency for International Development, Centers for Disease Control and the US Embassy. This newsletter shares exciting news about the conference and how you can participate. As you enjoy the convenient conference facilities and beautiful hotel accommodations, you too will be pleasantly surprised. We hope that you will join us on this exciting venture.

Peggy Valentine, EdD
CIMPAD President and General Chair
Vice President for Allied Health Education
Vanderbilt University Medical Center, US



A Celebration of Dr. Harvey L. White

Over 100 of Dr. Harvey White's graduates, family and friends came together to celebrate his legacy on April 5 – 7, 2024 in Pittsburgh. The celebration began on Friday evening at the University of Pittsburgh faculty club, continued on Saturday with a well planned and executed banquet, and ended on Sunday morning with a breakfast gathering. Alumni from all over the country attended from the east and west coasts and the Midwest.

What stood out was the outpouring of love and compassion for one who impacted their lives on so many different levels. Stories were shared on how Dr. White was instrumental in helping them through graduate school, how he assisted them in landing their first job, how he helped them travel internationally and how he still picks up the telephone to check on them. High school and college classmates, and former employees who worked with him in city government attended the event and sang his praises. The theme that resonated throughout the entire event was, "Pay it forward." Funds raised will be used to support future students who will follow in Dr. White's footsteps at the University of Pittsburgh. The group plans to make this an annual fundraising event.

All who attended were impressed with the attention to detail in fundraising, including a coveted souvenir booklet with letters from high-ranking governmental officials, ads from many prestigious organizations, and high-quality silent auction items. The showstopping event of African drummers and dancers escorted Dr. White into the Saturday night gala, where Peggy Valentine represented CIMPAD as the keynote speaker. It was the most high-energy event that many have witnessed in any celebration of its type. Kudos to the planning committee.

We say to Dr. White, "Well done!" Your life has positively impacted so many people and we wish you continued success on your journey forward.





13th International Conference Rwanda Conference Update

We look forward to welcoming you to the CIMPAD 13th International Conference that will be held at the Kigali Convention and Exhibition Village. Our collaborating partners include the Adventist University of Central Africa and East African University of Rwanda and University of Rwanda. High ranking government officials have been invited, including the Minister of Health, Minister of Education and Minister of Information Communication Technology and Innovation.

Over 45 abstracts have been received from the US and 5 different African countries. Those who have received approval to present at the conference are encouraged to submit their full paper for publication in the conference proceedings soon.

If you have not registered, we encourage you to do so at your earliest convenience. There are still rooms available at the Marriott and Four Points Sheraton Hotel and we encourage you to get your room soon. Please visit www.cimpad.org for further conference details.



CIMPAD TOUR OF AFRICAN VILLAGE ON ALGONQUIN LAND

On March 16, 2024, Drs. Harvey White, Clifford Sykes and Peggy Valentine toured some of the Ramapough Minsi sites in the region of the Ramapo Pass. This project led by Dr. Chuck Stead was designed to shed light on the historical connection between Ramapo Indians and Africans. As Dr. Stead indicated, during the precolonial period escaped slaves were rumored to have found refuge among the local Ramapough Luncape. Historians have long denied the Ramapough their indigenous identity and have also claimed there was little 'runaway' activity in the Ramapo Valley region. The Ramapough people who historically dwelt in Hillburn NY, Mahwah and Ringwood NJ, are of a rich ethnic mixture bearing cultural traditions that indicate a fusion of both indigenous roots. There is a need to research, explore, recover, and celebrate the multi-cultural infusion of the Ramapough Nation, and to protect the historic and sacred places before they are destroyed.

Guests for the tour included Dwaine Perry - Chief of Ramapough Nation, Vincent Mann – Chief Turtle Clan, Elder/Chief Carla Alexander – Deer Clan, Ramapough Artist June Van Dunk, Ramapough Michaeline Newton Conklin Mann, Rita Indira Cooma (CEO ICOUNCIL), Archeologist Ed Lenik, Historian Nancy Gibbs, Tyler Peterson, Jameila Braithwaite (Rockland County African American Historical Society), Ramapough Archivist Patricia Osterhoudt, Producer Joe Allen, two members of Allen's film crew and two Ramapo College students.

Our first stop was the Indian Rock at Montebello, Rockland County NY. This 17,300-ton Proterozoic granite gneiss is 1.2 billion years old. Originating between the Ramapo Mountains



Left to Right: Dr. Harvey White, Chief Perry, Peggy Valentine, Clifford Sykes

and Hudson Highlands, this glacial erratic was deposited here by the Laurentide Ice Sheet approximately 21,000 years ago. It served as a meeting site for Native Americans thousands of years before the arrival of European settlers. Tradition and local lore refer to this geological landmark as Indian Rock. The Village of Montebello preserved this rock by incorporating it into the shopping center design. Ed Lenik spoke to us about this site.

We later traveled west to an early 19th century Iron Workers community, where folks of German, English/Irish, African, Algonquin, and Polish ethnicity all lived and worked for the Pierson Iron Works at the Pass. This site is currently being considered for demolition to make room for warehousing. One of the historic

CIMPAD tour of African Village Continued

Saltbox houses was dismantled and reassembled in the Torne Valley and played a role in the restoration of the watershed. Dr. Stead offered commentary on this.

The next stop was Harmony Hall where we visited a Greek Revival Mansion built by Jacob Sloat in 1848, which is associated with the Underground Railroad. Although this has yet to be corroborated, in the cellar of this house is a second kitchen with a 'beehive' Dutch oven and open fireplace, as well as finished plank flooring, where it is alleged, escaped slaves could 'overnight' before either traveling further north toward Canada or taking refuge among the local native population. Curator Geoff Welch guided us to the cellar kitchen. Dr. Stead, Nancy Gibbs, and Ed Lenik offered commentary on this site.

We then toured Brook Church: one mile south of Sloatsburg we went to the Historic African/Native American Church located in Hillburn NY at 116, 6th Street, which is currently at the center of a heated regentrification debate. Known at the Brook Chapel, this church was dedicated in 1893, replacing a log chapel, which was the congregation's first permanent meeting place, before that services were held from one house to another within the 'colored' and American Indian community. The log chapel also served as the first schoolhouse for people of color. Deer Clan Chief Carla Alexander spoke of the church history. Here we had our soup and sandwiches, coffee, and water. The brilliant artwork of Ramapough Artist June VanDunk was displayed, and Ms. VanDunk talked about her work. Nation Chief Dwaine Perry and Turtle Clan Chief Vin Mann discussed the status of the Ramapough Nation. During the closing dinner, we met a number of Ramapo Indians and from their outward appearance looked like African Americans. One in particular was named, Black Bear.

At the end of the tour, we saw the importance of preserving this unique history and expressed the desire to support this effort. A vast number of historic sites have been destroyed. The greatest loss has been areas of concern to the African and Algonquin people. This is due to a lack of proper documentation, analysis, and funding for this rich multi-ethnic history. Resources are needed to further explore these sites and document the connection between the Ramapough Indians and runaway African slaves. We discussed potential opportunities to support this work, including proposals to the Congressional Black Caucus, the White House Initiative on African Americans and other. This is a great opportunity for future studies, including the rich culture, important landmarks and the people themselves. We kindly ask our readership to share their ideas on preserving the history and further exploring ways to share this unique story on a larger scale.