Launch Leiden Global

Leiden Global was launched on 27 November 2013. The ASC is now officially part of the Leiden Global Platform, that seeks to connect academic and cultural institutions with local communities, media, government, business and NGO. Leiden Global wants to raise the impact of scholars around the world from cultural events to government policy and education.

The opening ceremony was held at Rijksmuseum Volkenkunde Leiden and was very successful. Here are a few pictures to give you an impression!

Prof. Dr. Mirjam de Bruijn hosted the first part of the evening and introduced the speakers. (1) The ASC director Ton Dietz presented his book *Asian Tigers, African Lions* to the mayor of Leiden, Henri Lenferink. (2) The introductory speeches were followed by roundtable sessions on various topics. (3) Ton Dietz described the ASC in 59 seconds. (4)

For more information on Leiden Global, the organizations involved and upcoming events, please check out the [website](#).

Commemorative Meeting Nelson Mandela

The ASC and ZAM magazine organized a Commemorative Meeting for Nelson Mandela on 11 December. Ineke van Kessel, Harry Wels and Jos Damen were among the speakers. If you missed the event, look [here](#) for an impression!
**Web dossier Nelson Mandela**

The ASC Library compiled a web dossier on the occasion of Nelson Mandela’s death, containing a list of publications on Nelson Mandela as well as publications by Nelson Mandela; it also contains a list of publications about Robben Island and a selection of web resources. Take a look at the web dossier here.

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**Texts↔ (Con)texts ↔ Contacts : Research trip to Tanzania and Kenya**

Gerard C. van de Bruinhorst went to Tanzania and Kenya last September to do research and to make some new acquisitions. He visited Zanzibar, the International Book Fair in Nairobi and many other places! Read his anecdotes and reflections of this trip! Read the whole story here!

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**NVAS Afrikastudiedag 2013**

NVAS organized its annual Afrikastudiedag on 23 November 2013 in Museum Volkenkunde in Leiden. The ASC and its members were present at the bookstand, Mirjam de Bruijn gave a lecture and various PhD-ers made posters of and gave short presentations on their research. Harry Wels was there to award the Africa Thesis Award 2013 (see below).

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**Winning Thesis Africa Thesis Award Online**

Are you curious to find out which thesis was appointed winner in the Africa Thesis Award 2013? Esther Bergstra and Roxanne Hornman (Wageningen University, Landscape Architecture & Spatial Planning) won with their thesis on ‘Cyclone Resilient Landscape: the Case of Vatomandry, Madagascar’. Read it online here. Are you also interested in what made this thesis the best of all? Read the Jury report here.

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**Blog Research Masters**

This blog is written by students of the 2-year Research Master African Studies in Leiden. In this blog, students from the Research Masters African Studies will reflect on their experiences and expectations. This month’s blog is written by Njeri Mwaura, a 28-years old student with a Kenyan/American background. Read Njeri’s blog here.
Visit our web shop!

Most of the books published by the African Studies Centre in Leiden can be found in our web shop. Purchase the books from here at cost price or read them online for free. Our web shop also has a huge number of used books about Africa, mainly non-fiction but also some novels. The collection is regularly updated with new titles. Have a look at what the web shop has to offer! To give you a sneak preview already; this beautiful photo book Soweto – a South African legend is for sale. It holds 83 stunning illustrations in colour and duplex and includes an interview with late Nelson Mandela!

Past & upcoming seminars

The ASC hosted an incredible number of seminars in the last few months. Look here for an overview. The next seminar will be held on 23 January 2014, is titled ‘African Rentiers and Chinese Entrepreneurs: Local-Global Entanglements in South Africa’s Rural Towns’ and will be presented by Nkululeko Mabandle of the Centre for African Studies, University of Cape Town. Please look here for more information and registration!

Promoted!

Henrietta Nyamnjoh and Karin Nijenhuis have both successfully defended their PhD’s in November 2013! Henrietta did this at Leiden University and Karin at Wageningen University. Henrietta wrote her PhD on migrants’ appropriation of the new Information and Communication Technologies to link home and host country and the wider migrant community and Karin on ‘Farmers on the Move: Mobility, Access to Land and Conflict in Central and South Mali’. Congratulations ladies!

New Thematic Maps!

The ASC published three new thematic maps of Africa. The three themes are ‘drinking water’, ‘economic growth from a labour perspective’ and ‘sanitation’. Download the maps online or get your free copy at the ASC!

ASC in the media

Calendar

New ASC publications

New acquisitions of the ASC Library

New Community members

ASA online (abstracts of recent publications)

Filmed ASC seminars