



**The 2017 Annual ASnA Conference,  
Chancellor College, University of Malawi, Zomba. Malawi.  
18-20 August 2017**

**1. CONFERENCE THEME:**

STRENGTHENING THE TEACHING OF ANTHROPOLOGY IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

**2. RATIONALE FOR THE CONFERENCE:**

Most of the Departments of Anthropology in public universities in Southern Africa, apart from South Africa, were established soon after independence. These Departments were quite vibrant in the 1960s till 1980s and 1990s when the teaching of the subject somehow declined and in some universities the teaching of anthropology ceased completely. Outside South Africa, there are very few public universities which are offering degrees specializing in anthropology. It has been argued that the decline in the teaching of anthropology in the region has been due to a number of factors: the lack of interest of students in the discipline as it is perceived as a discipline with no employment prospects; the linkage of the subject to the colonial enterprise exacerbated by the stagnant curricula and teaching methods; anthropologists in the region not being interested in teaching the subject but in other activities such as conducting consultancies and the misperception that anthropology does not really offer solutions to contemporary African problems. The 2017 ASnA conference will be held at the University of Malawi in Zomba and aims at bringing together, not only anthropologists working in Southern Africa, but also Vice Chancellors and Deans in the region to effectively discuss the strengthening of the teaching of anthropology in the region.

**3. Specific topics to be discussed during the conference**

- Anthropology and Development
- Current debates on Race and Ethnicity
- Decolonising the anthropology curricula
- Health and well-being
- Anthropology and disability
- "Fees must fall" experience in Southern Africa

Suggestions on panels are welcome and participants are encouraged to get in touch with the organisers of the conference.

**4. Call for abstracts**

Call for papers: 15th March 2017

Abstract submission deadline: 31<sup>st</sup> May 2017

Acceptance letters: 15<sup>th</sup> June 2017

## **5. Conference fees and other costs**

The participants will be responsible for their own travel to and from the venue of the conference. They will also be responsible for their own accommodation as well. If anyone requires assistance in booking accommodation, please send an email to [asna2017@cc.ac.mw](mailto:asna2017@cc.ac.mw).

Each participant will be required to pay conference fees as follows: Full members of ASnA and others: US\$200 and Students: US\$75. Account details where this money should be deposited into will be provided.

## **6. Contact details**

All questions regarding the conference should be addressed to Dr. Alister C. Munthali at the Centre for Social Research, Chancellor College, University of Malawi, P.O. Box 280, Zomba. Tel: +265888822004. Email: [amunthali@cc.ac.mw](mailto:amunthali@cc.ac.mw).

For all logistical issues including accommodation and travel, please contact Ms. Agnes Mkundiza at the Centre for Social Research, Chancellor College, P.O. Box 280, Zomba. Tel Number: +265881087268; email: [asna2017@cc.ac.mw](mailto:asna2017@cc.ac.mw).