The Department of History, Political Science, Geography, & Africana Studies at Tennessee State University, Nashville, Tennessee, invites academics, independent scholars, policymakers, and graduate students to present scholarly papers at its fifth annual conference on the theme:

**Transformations in Africana Studies:**
**Epistemology, Theory Building, and Methodology**

Africana studies is an academic discipline which interrogates all aspects of African identities and experiences including those of its diaspora. It involves the study of peoples of African descent irrespective of location, and their political, economic, social, and cultural institutions from a multidisciplinary framework. It thus incorporates the fields of African Studies, African American Studies, Afro-Caribbean Studies, Afro-Latin American Studies, and Afro-European and Asian studies.

This year’s conference will provide a platform for scholars and other participants to examine Africana Studies from the prism of intellectual development and scope, theoretical conceptualization, theory building and knowledge production, paradigm shift, and other facets of its character as a scholarly enterprise.

The sub-themes and potential topics around which the conference is organized may include but are not limited to the following:

- African and African Diaspora studies
- Conceptual and theoretical frameworks
- Africans Studies Programs: Emergence, Achievements, Challenges, and Prospects
- Research, methodologies, and sources
- Afrocentric theory and analysis
- Historiographies, philosophies, and worldviews
- Africology and Africa-centered models
- Western narratives and Eurocentric perspectives
- Africana Studies within global studies
- Art, music, and literature
- Language of discourse
- Religion, women, and gender studies
- Pedagogics and praxis
- History, religion, and psychology
- Egyptology and Ancient Africa
Globalization, Multiculturalism, and the Black Atlantic World
Rewriting African History: Revisionism and Reinterpretation
Intersection of academics, politics, policy, and practice
Orientalism and Occidentalism
Historical-cultural studies of Africa: Ethnocentric and multicultural perspectives

**Plenary Speaker**
**Dr. Victor Oguejiofor Okafor**, Professor of African American Studies and Head, Africology and African American Studies Department, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, Michigan

**Keynote Speaker**
**Dr. Bobby Lovett**, Retired Professor of History, Tennessee State University, Nashville, Tennessee

**Date of Conference**
April 6-7, 2017

**Venue**
Tennessee State University
Avon Williams (downtown) Campus
330 10th Avenue North, Nashville, TN 37203

**Conveners**
Dr. Adebayo Oyebade  
Professor of History & Dept. Chair  
Tennessee State University  
Nashville, TN 37209  
aoyebade@tnstate.edu

Dr. Gashawbeza Bekele  
Assistant Professor of Geography  
Tennessee State University  
Nashville, TN 37209  
gbekele@tnstate.edu

**Abstracts/Panel proposals**
Each prospective presenter should submit electronically an abstract of 500 words or less to either of the conveners by Saturday, Dec. 31, 2016. Abstract prepared as Microsoft Word document should include the presenter’s name (last/surname, & first name), title of paper, institutional affiliation, contact information (mailing address, phone number, and email address), and five keywords relevant to the theme of the conference.

**Conference Registration Fees**
Mandatory non-refundable registration fees for the conference are:
- **Regular**: $75 by Dec. 31, 2016; & $90 by Feb. 15, 2017 (banquet included).
- **Graduate Students**: $30 by Dec. 31, 2016; & $45 by Feb. 15, 2017 (banquet included).
- **Banquet only**: $30 by Dec. 31, 2016.

Please, make your check payable to Tennessee State University.

**Publication of Selected Papers**
Selected conference papers will be published as a book.