

## News from our Students

### Canada – Heather Tasker, PhD Candidate, York University

Heather is beginning her second year in the PhD program and is starting research assistant work on a new project in partnership with Dr. Susan Bartels at Queens University. Her activities mostly contribute to the Justice and Reparations theme. She has notably contributed to the elaboration and distribution of a survey for justice workers. Earlier this year, she presented at the Harriet Tubman Summer Institute on experiences of violence and suffering in forced marriage, as described in the last round of interviews completed in 2015. She is also working on a paper on this topic with Annie Bunting, Emily Lockhart, and Katrin Roots.

*“The work I'm doing on the interviews will hopefully be useful in contributing to discussion on what justice can look like, and what is needed in terms of reparations. The justice worker survey will do the same, as well as provide information about the work of different organizations across research countries.”*

Heather and CSiW postdoctoral fellow Izevbuwa Kehinde Ikimiukor are currently working on a paper exploring the gaps between academic and policy literature on Resolution 1325 Women, Peace, and Security, the ways grassroots organizations use the resolution and what they see as opportunities for improvement.

### Ketty Anyeko, PhD Candidate, University of British Columbia

Ketty works as a research assistant for Dr. Erin Baines at the Liu Institute for Global Issues at UBC. She is in the second year of her PhD program and is currently supporting the reparations project work in Uganda. This reparations project relates to the



justice and reparations theme of the CSiW Project and is conducted in partnership with the Women's Advocacy Network (WAN) with funding from Peter Wall Solutions Grant at UBC. Ketty has been selected among 30 PhD students at UBC to receive a grant worth \$7,000 through the Public Scholars Initiative (PSI) program. The latter seeks to support PhD students who collaborate with the public on various projects that furthers their research while at the same time benefiting the public good.

She just returned from Uganda where she was conducting consultative activities in June and July with female survivors of forced marriage. The focus of this collaborative project is to document survivor led informal reparation undertakings. Earlier this year, she spoke on an international justice panel in New York at Columbia University focused on the ICC trials of Dominic Ongwen. In February 2017, Ketty presented on *The politics of the missing persons in*

*northern Uganda* at an international round table discussion on memory and responsibility after violence at the Peter Wall Institute at UBC.

### Bruno Vêras, PhD Candidate, York University



Bruno has been coordinating the work of students and conducting research on masculinity and concubinage in Northern Nigeria. He has participated in a series of knowledge mobilization activities, including website development, video and audio recording of interviews and public events, and the development of an exhibit on

Girls Abductions and Forced Marriage in War.

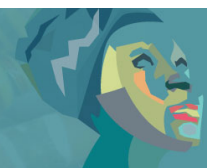
Under his coordination, two undergraduate students, Alex Karin and Adlynn Louidor, are currently organizing and updating a database with historical materials. The searchable database uses Mendeley as back-end and contains hundreds of 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century primary historical documents in English, French and Hausa languages from British, French, German and Belgian former-colonies in Africa, notably Nigeria, Sierra Leone, DRC, and Togo. These are mostly colonial reports, court cases, letters, missionary accounts but also biographical materials.

Over the Summer, Bruno conducted research on the topic of “Owning a concubine: manhood and masculinity within concubinal relationship in Northern Nigeria (1840s-1920s)”, examining biographical accounts, colonial reports and legal documents related to concubinage and analyzing the meaning of manhood and masculinity in relation to the ownership of concubines in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> Century Northern Nigeria. This included building a bibliographical list with secondary materials related to the thematic; a list with primary sources related to concubinage in Northern Nigeria; and a bibliographical list with secondary materials related to the concubinage in Islamic Africa.



### England – Toni Smith, PhD Candidate, University of Birmingham

The focus of Toni's research has shifted somewhat over the last few months. Instead of looking mainly at the history of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) in the Democratic Republic of Congo, she is now examining early international activism, discourses and interventions associated with marriage and SGBV in the country. She is interested in analyzing the perspectives and motivations of



those who sought to 'reform' marriage in the Congo and the entailing consequences. She has used a number of archive resources over the Summer, including those held at the University of Kinshasa and the National Archives in the DRC.



On the left: Toni Smith and Sarah Delius at the Cadbury Conference on Marriage in Africa, 1-2 June 2017.

Toni recently spent time at the Royal Anthropological Institute in London, before visiting the Bodleian Library in Oxford. Both places hold valuable material on the Aborigines' Protection Society and anti-slavery groups. In the last month, she has also examined archives at the University of Liverpool. Aside from her own project, she is helping put together a panel for the next African Studies Association of the United Kingdom (ASAUK) Conference, which will be held at the University of Birmingham.

*"By carrying out archive work I aim to link transnational networks which focused on African marriage, gender and slavery and inquire into the workings of international policy and activism in these areas in the case of the Congo."*

Her next plans include more data collection and a visit to the Library of Birmingham, which has documentation on smaller activist networks. She will then examine the E.D. Morel Papers at the London School of Economics and return to Brussels to look at the colonial material.

**South Africa – Sarah Delius, PhD Candidate, University of the Witwatersrand**

Sarah is writing two dissertation chapters based on the archival material collected during both her trips to the UK and is preparing and finalizing the logistics and ethics approval for her field trip to Sierra Leone early next year. She is also currently organizing a panel with Christine Whyte on Marriage and Slavery in Sierra Leone for the ASAUK Conference in Birmingham on 11-13 September 2018. The panel contributes to the objectives of the history group who are the main organizers of the stream on Marriage and Slavery in Africa.

**Joshua Walker, Postdoctoral Researcher, University of the Witwatersrand**

Joshua has been working on two articles based on archival research on missionaries present in the Congo in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries. One of these articles, which will shortly be submitted for publication, concerns the way in which slavery and marriage were conceptualized by American Protestant missionaries in the Congo. On May 21, 2017, he participated in a panel entitled *Slavery, Marriage, Raids* at the Southern African Historical Society Biennial Conference alongside Joel Quirk and Sarah Delius. His paper, upon which his article on American missionaries in Congo is based, was entitled "Husbands, Owners, or Both? Presbyterian Missionaries and the Slavery/Marriage Question in Colonial Congo."

In addition to publishing his article on Presbyterian American missionaries, Joshua is working on a second article, based on research in the archives of the Congregation of the Immaculate Heart of Mary in Leuven, Belgium. This article will address the ways in which missionaries both condemned what they saw as patriarchal cultural norms among the Luba people of Kasai, while simultaneously reinforcing them, in particular through teachings on marriage, which sought to limit women's movement and place her firmly under the authority of her husband, partly with a view to combating polygamy.

**Allen Kiconco, Postdoctoral Fellow, University of the Witwatersrand**



For the two-year post-doctoral fellowship, Allen is undertaking research on enslavement, marriage and conflict in Africa. Using a comparative approach, she is

particularly analyzing the underlying relationship between historical practices (pre-colonial, colonial and/or post-colonial) and contemporary enslavement, sexual violence and 'forced marriage' in conflict situations of Africa. To achieve this goal, she will carry out archival, ethnographic and/or legal research.

Allen will be presenting a research paper at an International Conference entitled, "Moving Beyond Paternalism: Supplicants, Saviors and the Politics of Anti-Slavery and Anti-Trafficking in Africa" at the University of the Witwatersrand on 29<sup>th</sup> November to 1<sup>st</sup> December 2017. In March 2018, she will be attending an intensive module on Slavery and Emancipation in 20<sup>th</sup> Century Africa convened by Dr. Benedetta Rossi at the department of History, and African Studies and Anthropology at the University of Birmingham, and will present a paper on her post-doctoral research in a workshop. Allen will also present on Slavery and Marriage in African Societies at the ASAUK Conference 2018.