



# CSA News

CaribbeanStudiesAssociation.org

The Official Newsletter of the Caribbean Studies Association



## CSA Executive Council, 2015-2016

President:  
[Carole Boyce-Davies](#)  
Cornell University

Vice President:  
[Keithley Woolward](#)  
College of The Bahamas

Immediate Past CSA President:  
[Jan DeCosmo](#)  
Florida A&M University

Treasurer:  
[Dwaine Plaza](#)  
Oregon State University

Secretary:  
[Mala Jokhan](#)  
University of the West Indies, St. Augustine

Editor, Newsletter:  
[Meagan Sylvester](#)  
University of the West Indies, St. Augustine

Student Representative:  
[Lauren Pragg](#)  
York University

## Executive Council

- Michael Barnett
- Vilma Diaz
- Karen Flynn
- Terry-Ann Jones
- Heather Russell

## Join/Renew Membership

Please join CSA if you are not a member or if you have not paid your dues for 2015. You may also make a donation to CSA - all donations go directly to our programs.

» [JOIN TODAY](#)  
» [UPDATE MEMBER INFO.](#)

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

### **Deborah Thomas Appointed Editor-in-Chief of American Anthropologist**

Dr. Deborah Thomas (U Penn) has been selected to serve as editor-in-chief of the American Anthropological Association's (AAA) flagship journal, American Anthropologist (AA) effective July 1, 2016. The AAA Executive

**Issue: August 2015**

## **MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

### **Thinking About Caribbean Studies from China**

Eugene Chen, a Trinidadian lawyer and journalist of Chinese descent became the foreign minister of China in the Chinese revolution's early days and in that capacity worked closely with Sun Yat-sen in the 1920's to advance China's anti-imperialist politics. His migratory pathway took him first to London and then to China. His descendants still live in China. Only a few books exist which detail Chen's life in China including a recently published family biography, *Return to the Middle Kingdom. One family, Three Revolutionaries* (2015) which provides some details of his life. More research is clearly needed on this Chinese component of the Caribbean left tradition.



Carole Boyce-Davies

Today while there is Chinese business involvement in the Caribbean, the intellectual Caribbean is of course a long way from China and becomes a place which from here that few know or recognize. One meets occasionally and surprisingly Caribbean students on agricultural scholarships (I met two from UWI) who seem to be getting skills to help further Chinese interests in the Caribbean.

Jamaican-American Artist Peter Wayne Lewis has had a studio in Beijing for the last nine years and was instrumental in bringing his fellow artist Brian McFarlane to Beijing, the latter even more culturally connected now by creating family ties here. There are two Jamaican lecturers teaching English language at Florida International University's Tian Jinn's School of Hospitality and Tourism and an Associate Dean Darby as well who actually runs operations. A few Caribbean embassies are here, with the most recent being one from Trinidad under the leadership of Chandradath Singh.



What needs immediate repair is the absence of Caribbean Studies knowledge at the University level. The National Library has very few Caribbean books though they had copies of the Claudia Jones books perhaps

Board was moved to make this appointment early to help facilitate the dynamic ideas that won her this distinction.

"I envision American Anthropologist as a platform from which anthropologists are able to enter a broader academic conversation," said Thomas. "It is my hope that during my time as editor-in-chief, AA continues to foster dialogue and debate across the subfields while supporting the association's commitment to enhancing diversity in relation to forms of scholarly production and underrepresented groups."

Thomas's vision for the journal also includes the development of a robust and multi-faceted online presence that cultivates broad awareness of the important work done by scholars in the association.

» [CLICK HERE to read full press release](#)

» [CLICK HERE to read Dr. Thomas' bio](#)

because she had developed some connections with China in her last year. But while there is a huge library of African American materials, and everyone it seems has written a thesis about Toni Morrison or Alice Walker, there is little Caribbean study of Caribbean authors.

More research is needed too on the Caribbean-Chinese connections, political, familial and cultural, such as being engaged by CSA members like Christine Ho. Much more can be done to heighten this aspect of our Caribbean Global Movements. That kind of work needs to be supported and encouraged if we are to fully represent the range of Caribbean demographic and historical representations.

» [CLICK HERE to read artist's interview](#)

Carole Boyce-Davies  
President, CSA-2015-2016

## MESSAGE FROM THE PROGRAM CHAIRS



Marie-Jose Nzengou-Tayo



Angelique V. Nixon

### Report from CSA 2016 Program Co-Chairs

We are happy to inform you that the CSA 2016 CFP is ready and on the website in English, Spanish, Haitian Creole, and French (you will find the links below).

Your two co-chairs have been working very hard with Kiah, our Web Designer, as well as our President and Vice-President, to select and implement a new conference management software for membership, registration and abstract/panel submissions. This software will streamline our programming of the Conference and the handling of proposals. We are asking for your patience and understanding while we are setting up the new software. Please pay attention to email updates regarding the transition to the new system and for announcements about the submission process, which will be different than in previous years.

Please make note of the changes in deadlines (listed on the CFP and below). We are working to have the program and schedule put in place earlier than in the past, and we are counting on you to meet these deadlines.

**Proposals Due: October 15, 2015**  
**Membership dues: January 15, 2016**  
**Registration: March 1, 2016**

For all program-related inquiries or suggestions, please contact us directly at:  
[program.chair@caribbeanstudiesassociation.org](mailto:program.chair@caribbeanstudiesassociation.org).

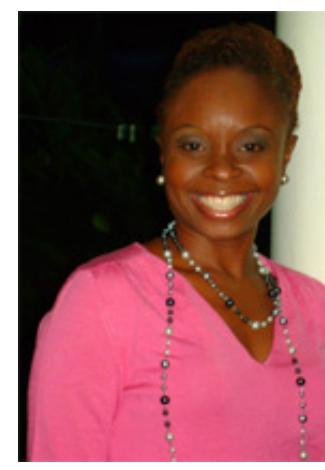
Enjoy the rest of your summer vacations and looking forward to an exciting CSA 2016 Conference in Haiti.

Marie-José Nzengou-Tayo  
Angelique V. Nixon

## MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

In this issue we continue to emphasise the importance of

"being a good neighbour" as we hold hands together with our fellow Caribbean citizens who stand to be affected by the Kick 'em Jenny submarine volcano located 8km north of Grenada (12.18°N, 61.38°W). The Caribbean Studies Association stands in solidarity with the rest of the Caribbean Community as we remain poised to weather the effects of nature together.



Meagan Sylvester

In this issue we bring you the good news of the early posting of our Call for Papers / Proposals which is now available on the CSA website in four languages. We ask that you make note of earlier deadlines, and check the website for all updated information on the conference, membership, and registration.

Our membership news features Dr. Deborah (U Penn) who has been selected to serve as Editor – in - Chief of the American Anthropological Association's (AAA) flagship journal, American Anthropologist (AA) effective July 1, 2016. We ask you to celebrate with us the achievement of our CSA member on her award of excellence.

As we plan for the upcoming conference in Haiti, we are excited about the many academic synergies and Caribbean collaborations which we expect to take root at this conference. In addition, going forward we want to bring news items about the art and culture of Haiti to your attention as we begin to prepare for Haiti 2016! See the link below taken from the Brice Foundation International online page which provides information which you might find useful. <http://www.bricefoundation.org/#!haitian-culture-and-tradition/c5ew>

To keep in contact with us, please feel free to email the Newsletter Editor directly at [newseditor@caribbeanstudiesassociation.org](mailto:newseditor@caribbeanstudiesassociation.org) to share your views, comments and the good news of your academic success with us.

Meagan Sylvester  
*Newsletter Editor, CSA*

## MESSAGE FROM THE LANGUAGE SUB-EDITORS

### Nouvèl (Martinican French Creole)

#### KICK'EM JENNY AN AKTIVITÉ?

La tè twanblé le 16 juiyé koté sétè di maten. I fèt Babad a 128 kilomèt nò-ès péyi a é sé té an sekous de 5,3. Ni rézidan St. Joseph, St. Andrew, St. Philip ki risanti sekous-la. Koté wonzé é dimi , an lòt sekous soukwé péyi-a. Mè, I té pli fò épi an magnitud 6,3. Péyi kon Sen Vinsan, Trinidad, Matinik épi dòt koté té touché.



Hélène Zamor

Dapwé Obsèvatwa Volkanologik é Sismologik, épisant-la té lokalizé adan sid komin Voklin (Matinik). Pwfondè-ï té de 253 kilomèt. Apwé sa, la té twanblé ankò. Sé dé zòt sekous-la té de 3,4 é 5,3 asou échèl ritchè a. Erèzman, piès moun pa mò, piès kay pa tonbé épi piès tsunami pa rivé. Piskè la tè twanblé souvan lè 16 juiyé, i ni chans ki réplik kè manifesté. Sant Richèch asou Twanbleman Tè di Trinidad konséyé moun pwan pwékosyon. Fòk sé bato-a pa alé adan zòn Kick'em Jenny a kòz di gaz ka soti di bouch vòlkan-an.

Mèm si sitiyasyon-an pa two ochipan, jéolog Babad Dòktè Lorna Inniss ka pansé la tè twanblé a kòz di Kick'em Jenny épi Jack. Sé dé vòlkan aban lanmè a épi yo pas Iwen Lagrenad. Yo dékouvè Kick'em Jenny diran lezané 30. Yo wè Jack koté 2003.

Yo palé an lo di Kick'em Jenny a kòz di sé aktivité-ï. Yo konté 12 érupsyon aban lanmè-a. An 2001, i viré mété koy an aktivité é pé fè an Tsunami ki pé tout région Karayib-la an danjé. Jédi 23 Juiyé2015, Sant Richèch Asou La Tè Twanblé konstaté ki vòlkan té an aktivité. I mété tout région a "alert oranj"-la pou infòmé popylasyon antiyèz-la di an érupsyon ki pé fèt twè pwochènman. Silon sé siantifik-la é sé

jéolog-la, aktivité Kick'em Jenny diminyé pou le moman. Mèk fò rété vijilan kanmenm.

Helene Zamor  
French & Martinican Creole Language Sub-editor  
CSA Newsletter

## Español

### El VOLCÁN Kick'em Jenny podría ser el nacimiento de una nueva Isla en el Mar Caribe

Una estación sísmica vigila el nacimiento de un volcán en el fondo del mar Caribe desde el año 2014



Vilma Diaz

Fuente: <http://granadaunad.blogspot.com/2012/05/granada-granada-un-pais-insular-en-el.html>



Según estudios recientes, el volcán crece y terminará por emergir en forma de isla, de la misma forma que lo hicieron hace miles de años nuestras islas. Fuente: <http://granadaunad.blogspot.com/2012/05/granada-granada-un-pais-insular-en-el.html>

El Kick-Ém-Jenny, es un volcán submarino que se localiza a 8 kilómetros de la orilla norte de Grenada, al norte del mar Caribe, en la isla de Granada y a 200 Km. de las costas venezolanas.

Es el volcán más al sur en el arco volcánico de las Antillas Menores y el único submarino activo. El volcán se encuentra a 180 metros de profundidad, y su altura es de 1300 metros desde el fondo marino. Dos erupciones, en 1939 y 1965, produjeron tsunamis pequeños registrados en lugares como Barbados.

En el año 1939, la erupción fue claramente visible desde la costa norte de Granada para numerosos testigos, entre ellos el historiador franciscano granadino R. P. Devas, quien escribió un informe de dos páginas que se encuentra actualmente archivado en la Unidad de Investigación Sísmica de la Universidad de las Indias Occidentales (UWI). El fenómeno duró más de 24 horas y generó una serie de tsunamis con olas de 2 metros de altura que golpearon la costa de Granada y el sur de las islas Granadinas. También alcanzaron la ruta costera occidental de Barbados, pero en ese momento no fueron reconocidas como tsunamis.

Desde entonces ha hecho erupción al menos doce veces. Las más importantes sucedieron en 1943, 1953, 1965, 1966, 1972, 1974, 1988 y 2001. Todas ellas fueron menores que la de 1939 y detectables solamente por medios sismográficos, excepto las de 1974 y 1988. Estas presentaron fenómenos visibles, por ejemplo, material volcánico eyectado al aire y ebullición de la superficie del mar.

Las erupciones de Kick-Ém-Jenny generan señales acústicas claramente discernibles para los sismógrafos y aún para el oído desde las costas Granadinas e incluso en islas tan lejanas como Martinica.

Actualmente, desde el año 2014, una estación sísmica flotante se instaló en las

cercanías del volcán submarino Kick'em Jenny. Según estudios recientes, el volcán está creciendo y terminará por emerger en forma de isla, de la misma forma que lo hicieron hace miles de años la plataforma antillana.

El equipo de científicos marinos del Instituto Oceanográfico Woods Hole vigila la actividad del volcán mediante *radiotelemedicina*, en tiempo real. La nueva tecnología permitirá mejorar la capacidad de proteger a los habitantes cercanos al volcán de las erupciones y los maremotos, ha señalado Alex Isern, Director de programa en la división de ciencias oceánicas de la Fundación Nacional de la Ciencia de Estados Unidos co-financiera de la instalación junto al US Geological Survey. Ésta forma parte de un proyecto para desarrollar nueva tecnología para vigilar terremotos en las áreas costeras.

La estación utiliza un sismómetro instalado directamente sobre la falda del volcán, y transmite los datos sísmicos por radio de alta frecuencia a un observatorio terrestre situado en una población cercana. Los datos alcanzan el observatorio en milisegundos. "Es la primera vez que se utiliza radiotelemedicina para transmitir datos desde una estación sísmica de vigilancia submarina", ha explicado Rob Reves-Sohn, geólogo y director del proyecto.

Como es conocido, para nosotros, lo que habitamos estas islas es imprescindible prestar atención a estos fenómenos. De ahí que los principales cambios sociales del siglo XXI deban tomar en cuenta estos procesos que transforman nuestro medioambiente y nos propone nuevos retos tecnológicos y científicos.

Vilma Diaz  
Spanish Language Sub-editor  
CSA Newsletter

## Français

### **LE VOLCAN KICK'EM JENNY, SERAIT-IL EN TRAIN DE SE MANIFESTER?**

Tout a commencé le 16 juillet 2015 à sept heures du matin lorsqu'une secousse sismique de magnitude 5,7 s'est produite à 128 kilomètres du nord-est de la Barbade. Certains résidents de St. Joseph, St Andrew, St Philip et de Christ Church ont ressenti le séisme. Aux environs de onze heures trente, la Barbade a été de nouveau frappée. Mais, cette fois-là, le tremblement de terre de magnitude 6,3 a également affecté la Martinique, Saint-Vincent, Trinidad et Tobago et d'autres îles voisines. D'après l'Observatoire Volcanologique et Sismologique<sup>1</sup>, l'épicentre se trouvait au sud de la commune du Vauclin (Martinique). Sa profondeur était de 253 kilomètres. Deux autres tremblements de terre de 3,4 et de 5,3 ont secoué la Barbade une fois de plus. Fort heureusement, il n'y a eu ni dégâts matériels, ni victimes et ni alerte "tsunami". Vu le nombre de secousses enregistrées le 16 juillet, plusieurs répliques se sont fait ressentir.



Hélène Zamor

Le Centre des Recherches sur les Séismes<sup>2</sup> à St. Augustine à Trinidad a tout de même conseillé les populations de se tenir en alerte en cas d'urgence. Quoique la situation ne soit pas trop alarmante, la géologue barbadienne Dr. Lorna Inniss pense que ces activités sismiques sont étroitement liées à celles de deux volcans sous-marins se situant au large de la Grenade. Il s'agit alors de Kick'em Jenny et de son voisin Jack. C'est dans les années trente que les scientifiques ont découvert Kick'em Jenny. Quant à Jack, il a été repéré en 2003. Le Kick'em Jenny s'est fait davantage parler de lui compte tenu de ses 12 éruptions sous-marines. Il s'est remis en activité en 2001 et s'il continue de se manifester, il peut engendrer un tsunami qui mettra la région en danger. Le jeudi 23 juillet 2015, le Centre des Recherches sur les Séismes du Campus de St. Augustine a remarqué que Kick'em Jenny est en activité. Du coup, il a lancé l'alerte "orange" mettant en garde la population antillaise contre une éruption volcanique imminente<sup>3</sup>. Selon les scientifiques et les géologues, les activités sismiques du Kick'em Jenny auraient diminué pour le moment. Mais, il faut quand même rester prudent et éviter de naviguer près du volcan qui émet de temps en temps un peu de gaz.

Helene Zamor  
French & Martinican Creole Language Sub-editor  
CSA Newsletter

1 Centre situé en Martinique

2 The Seismic Research Centre (University of the West Indies St. Augustine)

3 "Undersea Volcano called Kick'em Jenny rumbling off Grenada". [www.omaha.com/news/world/undersea-volcano-called-kick-em-jenny-rumbling-off-grenada](http://www.omaha.com/news/world/undersea-volcano-called-kick-em-jenny-rumbling-off-grenada). 23 July 2015

## GRADUATE STUDENT CORNER

### Writing Collectively

Picking up where we left off in last months' Graduate Student Corner, this month I want to talk about another grad student survival tip - collective writing. Now if you're like me you've always thought about 'writing groups' or their counterpart, 'reading groups' as a bit too much work and maybe a bit of a distraction from what you were working on.

Not anymore. I'm a reformed believer! My writing group experience is relatively new but I couldn't be more enthusiastic and grateful for it. It also came out of one of the most nurturing and supportive mentorship/colleague relationships I've had the pleasure of experiencing in grad school. A friend who I met through conferences and events in the city is a couple years ahead of me on this academic journey. She also recently got hired at one of the universities in the city - a much deserved position. Luckily for me this didn't spell the end of her generosity and commitment to support. She reached out to a handful of us who she knows are starting to write our dissertations.



Lauren Pragg

Since then we've met regularly - once or twice a week at this point - while allowing for flexibility to accommodate the ebbs and flows of life. We send each other emails with links to writing tips, articles, and methods that have helped. We also started a mobile phone text message group to stay in touch easily and schedule meetings regularly.

A key part of our meetings and support network, to me, is the times we talk about things other than the content and details of our work. It's invaluable to have a small group of people going through, or having just gone through, the same thing you're facing. And to have a group that also experiences the academy in the same way based on identity, position, or any other set of circumstances shaping this journey.

Lauren Pragg  
*CSA Graduate Student Representative 2015- 2016*

## FILM AND VIDEO NEWS

### THE BANYAN COLLECTION - CARIBBEAN CULTURAL ARCHIVE ON VIDEO



» [CLICK HERE to view on Vimeo](#)

After four years of work with the National Library Services of Trinidad & Tobago, York University in Toronto, Canada and the University of the West Indies at St. Augustine, Trinidad, the Banyan archive has now been digitised and a comprehensive database of over 14,000 records of metadata for the over 2000 files has been compiled.

Banyan, together with Caribbean Tales Worldwide Distribution is now making this unique and invaluable archive of Caribbean culture available to educational institutions and libraries for students and researchers. The archive may be purchased in physical form and incorporated into an institution's own network or through a virtual online access by annual subscription.

» [CLICK HERE to view/download flyer](#)

You are receiving this message because you opted in at [caribbeanstudiesassociation.org](http://caribbeanstudiesassociation.org)

[Unsubscribe](#)