

## Accepting proposals for presentations at the 51st Annual Conference of the Liberian Studies Association

The Liberian Studies Association (LSA), the largest body of scholars working on Liberia, is still accepting proposals for presentations at its forthcoming 51st Annual Conference. **The deadline for submissions of proposals is January 31, 2019.**

Interested persons are invited to submit proposals for the symposium. Proposals must be no more than a page in length; single spaced, and must have the name, title, and institutional or organizational affiliation and full contact details of the person or persons submitting the abstract. All proposals should be no longer than 300 words, contain five key words, and sent to samwajohnson@gmail.com or jsb25@cornell.edu.

In 2018, Liberia completed its first major political transition since the end of the nation's civil war, with the seating of President George Weah as the democratically elected successor to Mrs. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf. This transfer of power has presented the country with new possibilities to address the fragility of its recovery from the civil war of 1989-2003 and to build on the gains of the Sirleaf administration. The new government has indicated its resolve to address these problems with its call for a sustainable development agenda that is pro-poor. This agenda, however, is not without challenges, given the country's history of poor governance and unbalanced development and the changing nature of highly needed international development assistance. There are also questions of reconciliation with a rising demand by Liberians for criminal accountability of atrocities committed during the civil war. This issue has been left unaddressed since the end of the civil war in 2003.

Proposals being accepted include proposals for papers, panels, and roundtables related to this theme for its 2019 annual meeting at Concordia University Chicago. Theoretical and empirical papers, action research and case studies using a range of scholarly approaches including qualitative, quantitative and critical methods with data-driven conclusions are especially encouraged.

Consistent with LSA tradition, presenters are encouraged to draw from their fields of discipline to submit papers that reflect any and all aspects of this broad conference theme.

The Liberian Studies Association (LSA) publishes the LSA Journal. Its editors will attend the conference and will consider excellent papers presented at the 51st annual conference for publication in the next edition of LSA Journal.

**The conference will be from held April 11-13, 2019 at the Concordia University Chicago, Illinois. The conference will held under the theme:**

## **"Beyond Transition: Sustainable Development Challenges for Liberia's New Administration"**

Conference Registration: Academics/professionals: \$100, Retirees/community activists: \$75, Students: \$50, by March 10, 2019. There will be on-site registration. Preparations are being made for on-line registration.

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