



First Friday Lecture Series: Implications of Leadership Patterns for Economic Development—during the First Friday Lecture scheduled for February 7, 2020, Drs. Chanda Elbert & Fred Boadu, both from the College of Agriculture & Life Sciences, will discuss economic development of African-American migrants in Ghana.

The First Friday Lecture Series is presented by the African-American Professional Organization (AAPO). A complimentary lunch will be served at 11:30 am for all registered participants and the one-hour lecture will begin promptly at noon in MSC 1400. Admission is free, but registration is required online by February 5, 2020.

While registration is set to be open until February 5, it will close if we meet our room capacity before the deadline. You may register by [clicking here](#).

African-American (AA) migration to countries in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) is on the rise. Some AA migrants have settled in identifiable communities and have evolved their own leadership and governance systems to manage political and economic affairs. An internet-based survey of the AA community in Ghana found two main cultural leadership patterns – a universalist general leadership approach, and a culture-influenced leadership approach. The universalist approach is leadership based on elected representation. Elected representation is practiced in both the U.S. and in Ghana. Thus there is an opportunity to exploit the commonalities in these leadership systems to the benefit of Ghana. The culture-influenced leadership approach pertains to practices of chieftaincy. The paper discusses how the universalist leadership pattern may be used to develop institutions to promote Ghana’s economic development objectives in both the international and local contexts. In the international context, AAs provide the critical backward linkages to sources of foreign direct investments to Ghana. In the local context, AAs may contribute to improved rural development, for example, land use controls, planning, and revenue generation. The discussion in this study will be useful in designing public policies and programs to promote contributions by AAs to Ghana’s economy, and the approaches used may be applicable to other countries in SSA that follow the universalist approach discussed in this study.

Dr. Chanda D. Elbert received her Ph.D. in Agricultural and Extension Education from The Pennsylvania State University in 2000 and joined the Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communications at Texas A&M University in 2000. Dr. Elbert has developed and taught university courses in leadership theory, women’s leadership, multicultural leadership and program evaluation. She collaborates with the Department of Multicultural Services and the Department of Student Activities in developing courses to promote multicultural scholars in leadership education. Currently, she is working on African Americans in leadership in the United States and Ghana. She is the faculty advisor to the Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Related Sciences (MANRRS) chapter at TAMU. In 2014, she received the Women’s Progress Awards-Faculty from the Women Leadership Forum at Texas A&M University. She was also the recipient of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Climate and Diversity award in 2015 & 2017. Most recently, she has accepted the North America College Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) award in 2018.



Fred Boadu is a Professor at Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas and holds advanced degrees in Agricultural Economics (Ph.D.) and Law (J.D). Dr. Boadu has taught macroeconomics, Land Economics, and Agricultural Law. He has conducted a survey on rural and peri-urban water use, and recently collaborated with personnel from the Ghana Statistical Service to conduct a survey of street youth in Ghana. He was the Senior Economist and led the CONDEV/Texas A&M research in Ghana. He supervised the development of 5000 geo-referenced maps of farms from the four agro-ecological zones in Ghana. His publications cover issues concerning land, water, investments, and institutional changes relevant to the U.S., Texas, and Ghana. Dr.

Boadu is the recipient of several awards and recognitions during his career. He is a Risk Policy Fellow, American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), (2005-2006), and a Diplomacy Fellow, American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) (1993-1994).

Lectures in the series occur on the first Friday of each month during the fall and spring semesters. To register, please click this [registration link](#). For additional information, or to learn more about the African-American Professional Organization, please email [aapo@tamu.edu](mailto:aapo@tamu.edu). You can also contact Dr. Arthur Watson at [acwatson@tamu.edu](mailto:acwatson@tamu.edu).

