ANNUAL REPORT
OF
THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN SCHOLARS COUNCIL
(September 20, 1971 through November 30, 1972)

Grant: AID/Afr - 800

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On November 30, 1972, the African-American Scholars Council marked the end of fifteen months work under Grant AID/afr 800. The Council's activities under this first phase of the grant have focussed on two major areas:

--the promotion of meaningful contacts and linkages between African and U. S. universities, scholars, and research institutes;
--the stimulation of research activity by African and American scholars on development issues and the support of this research by grant awards.

BACKGROUND

The African-American Scholars Council emerged from a tradition dating to the early 19th century, when black Americans first organized to assert concretely their continuing link to their African past. This movement continued through the years and has been carefully documented in a work co-edited by the Secretary of the AASC, Dr. Adelaide Cromwell Hill. (1)

In the spring of 1971, several black scholars and professionals met to discuss a wide range of issues relating to US/African relations. The group saw economic development as a top priority for African nations in the 70's. They sensed a need "to play a more effective role in the implementation of socio-economic development programs in Africa." (2) A few months later the African-American Scholars Council was formed. The new organization sought and received from the U. S. Agency for International Development a grant to support a program promoting African development through encouragement of development-oriented research.

In the months following the signing of the grant, discussions were held with numerous scholars and other professionals possessing a special interest and competency in African affairs. Twenty-two

1. A Propos of Africa. London, Frank Cass and Company Ltd., 1969.
2. Letter by Dr. Adelaide C. Hill, October 29, 1971.

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of these persons met in Washington in November, 1971 and agreed upon the broad lines of the grant's implementation. A Secretariat was created and guidelines established. Subsequently, announcements of the Council's program were distributed to over 5000 scholars, universities, research centers, organizations and media representatives in the United States, Africa, and Europe. Plans were made for visits to university campuses--particularly African Studies Programs and black colleges--to inform students and scholars of the new program.

SUMMARY OF PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

I. United States/African University Contacts and Linkages

To enable the Council to pinpoint needs and research priorities in African countries, Council members, staff, and representatives have visited a total of 19 African countries during this reporting period. This travel included attendance at professional meetings, visits to African universities and research centers, and field research projects.

In February, 1972, Dr. Franklin Ampy, Professor of Zoology at Howard University, was a member of the mission from AID's Bureau of Science and Technology, which visited Ethiopia, Nigeria, and Uganda. Dr. Ampy summarized the needs he observed as: a) the need for adequate food production for domestic consumption; b) the need to develop adequate storage and preservation methods for the food commodities produced; c) the need for improved transportation, roads, and marketing procedures; d) the need for locally produced machinery for agricultural use; and e) the need for trained personnel in management.

In April, 1972, Dr. Elliott P. Skinner, the Council's Chairman, was invited by the Ford Foundation to visit its Fellows in their field placements in twelve African countries. In the course of his visit, Dr. Skinner found considerable interest in the Council as a source of assistance for African faculty and students needing support for research projects.

During the same period, Mr. James L. Hope, then Executive Director of the Council, travelled to

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eight countries--Zaire, Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia, Ghana, Liberia, and Senegal--contacting government and university officials, AID representatives, and the Association of African Universities on behalf of the Council.

In June, Dr. Skinner and Dr. John Henrik Clarke, a Board member from Hunter College, participated in the conference on Manding Civilization, sponsored by the School of Oriental and African Studies of the University of London. Both Dr. Skinner and Dr. Clarke felt, following this conference, that the Council should make every effort to help those African institutions desirous of developing research capacities within Africa.

This need was a theme of the workshop, "Creating the African University," sponsored by the Association of African Universities. Three Council members and one staff member attended this workshop, which was held in Accra, Ghana in July. Dr. Clarke, Dr. Hugh Smythe of Brooklyn College, Dr. Asa Davis of Amherst College and Ms. Yvonne Williams of the AASC staff, shared observer status with representatives of African, European, and U. S. foundations, academic institutions, and government ministries.

The delegation found attendance at this conference to have dual value. First, observing sessions and participating in after-session dialogue provided insight into some of the key issues facing African universities in their struggle to become institutions responsive both to the local and the universal dimensions of the university's mission. It was the overwhelming conclusion that the African university of the 70's must be

> a community essentially of African scholars--men and women, old and young, lettered and unlettered--dedicated to serve knowledge to its community and committed to the total development of the African society with the objective of the total liberation of the common man from all that hampers his well-being physically, materially, and intellectually. . . .
>
> Likewise the African university shall live

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with the world community upholding its identity, but sharing contributions with it, realizing the whole time that the area of knowledge is a human heritage, handed from the past through the present to the future, from which all can draw and to which all the worthy should contribute.

Secondly, meeting and interacting with representatives of national and international funding sources helped the Council formulate a clearer impression of the total resources available for the realization of African developmental priorities. This knowledge will provide an additional basis on which the Council can make judgements on the allocation of its modest resources.

In August, the Council supported the participation of Ms. Gertrude T. Cuthbert, a social worker and Associate Professor of Afro-American Studies at Boston University, in the seminar, "Social Welfare Education and Practice: Future Perspectives" sponsored by the Ghana Association of Social Workers in Accra, Ghana. Ms. Cuthbert's report pointed out the emphasis which Ghanaian social workers place on the need for comprehensive planning for development. They cited, for example, the problems which resulted from the enactment of compulsory primary education legislation without adequate prior planning for the required teachers, buildings, transportation, etc. They also saw their own lack of professional status within the society as an impediment to their full contribution to development.

In September, two Council members assumed teaching positions in African universities. Dr. Joseph Harris of Williams College was named Professor of History at the University of Nairobi. Dr. Sidney Evans of North Carolina A & T State University was appointed to the Department of Rural Economy and Extension at Makerere University. Both members have continued to participate in the Council through correspondence. Both have outlined possible areas of program activity for the Council in their respective countries.

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In November, the Council was invited to send participants to the conference on "The Implications of the Enlargement of the EEC for African Trade and Development." This Conference, sponsored jointly by the Council of Directors of Social and Economic Research Institutes in Africa (CODESRIA) and the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP), is to be held in Dakar, Senegal, January 29 through February 1, 1973. Dr. Monique Garrity, Professor of Economics at the University of Massachusetts-Boston, and Mr. David Swinton, Ph.D. Candidate in economics at Harvard University and Assistant Director for Research of the Black Economic Research Center in New York, will represent the AASC at this meeting. In addition to participating in the proceedings of the conference, the Council representatives will discuss with Dr. Samir Amin, Director of IDEP, the implementation of a program of exchange of information and scholars to be coordinated by AASC.

Council members have continued their leadership role in a wide variety of activities which enhance the overall competency of the Council. Dr. Hezekiah Jackson, Vice-Chairman of the Council, is a frequent visitor to Cameroon, the site of Southern University's agricultural program.

Dr. Hugh Smythe and Dr. Skinner presented testimony before the joint hearings of the House Sub-Committees on Africa and the Near East. The hearings were designed to inform the Congress on the current and future economic and political trends in the countries of North Africa and to scrutinize aspects of the U. S. involvement with these states. Several Council members and staff participated in the planning of the African-American National Conference on Africa, sponsored by the Congressional Black Caucus. Dr. Calvin Sinnette, a Council member who has taught at the Universities of Lagos and of Ibadan and at Ahmadou Bello University, headed a delegation of American physicians and other health personnel who visited the Republic of China during the summer.

The Council has also participated in key U. S. professional meetings including: the African Studies Association; the African-American National

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Conference on Africa; the National Business League Annual Meeting; and the Annual Meeting of the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History. This participation has resulted in a greater awareness of the Council's program among U. S. scholars and the growth of interest in the Council's program of grants in support of development-oriented research.

The Council has made a special effort to stimulate greater interest in development-related research and programs among members of the black professional community. As a result of these efforts, six of the original grant awards were made to Afro-American professionals. Among these projects, the Council is supporting a study by the Black Economic Research Center in New York on "The Mining Industry in Africa: Problems of Africanization." A joint faculty-student team from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology is being partially supported by the Council for a comparative study entitled "Management Training for Economic Development in Africa and in Underdeveloped Areas in America." This project was designed by an Afro-American faculty member and a Kenyan graduate student.

The Council has initiated a program of working with black colleges in helping to design and develop projects which would employ the skills of their faculty and students. This task has been greatly enhanced by the presence on the Board of members representing black colleges. From these initial efforts has come a librarian's exchange program, linking the libraries of Howard and Fisk Universities with the Sierra Leone Library Board and with the Lusaka City Library. Discussions have been held with departmental representatives in other black colleges to lay a firm groundwork for future successful programs in this area.

A major program effort will be realized during 1973. The Council has made plans for two regional conferences centered on African development issues. The central purpose of the conferences is to apprise an audience of African and Afro-American students, scholars, and professionals of the priority research needs of developing African nations, to determine the extent to which these needs are

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already being met, and to explore ways in which those present might participate in the search for new solutions to these problems.

The Atlanta University School of Business Administration has responded favorably to the idea of holding a major conference on economic development there in the fall of 1973. The conference, to be named in honor of the late Ambassador Samuel Westerfield, as economist, will have as a theme: "The Haves and Have Nots--International and National Concerns." The Council plans to invite ranking economists as principal speakers, tentatively Robert Gardiner, Andrew Brimmer, W. Arthur Lewis, and Samir Amin.

The conference program will include addresses by the principal speakers and workshops. Council grantees will be invited to lead workshops in their respective fields. The Council will provide scholarships to support the participation of twenty graduate students interested in African development. The Council attaches particular importance to the participation by the students as a means for stimulating much greater interest--particularly on the part of Afro-American students --in preparing themselves for meaningful participation in activities relating to African development.

The Council is also seeking sponsorship for a conference on African Agricultural Development tentatively scheduled for Southern University. This conference would seek particularly to examine the potential of a comprehensive and interdisciplinary approach to agricultural research. The Council will invite the participation of representatives of agricultural research centers in Africa and the United States and has already received expressions of interest from U. S. and African institutions.

II. The Research Grants Program

The Research Grants Program was established to assist students, faculty members, and other pro-

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fessionals who possess specific technical, research, or other skills and who have identified or seek to identify needed research. Within this context, the Council sought especially to identify African and Afro-American scholars and specialists whose research projects could be expected to contribute to the realization of development policies and goals as defined by African nations and regional organizations.

Between March 1, when the Research Grants Program was formally started, and November 30, 1972, the Council awarded 24 grants. Four of these grants assisted scholars attending professional meetings in Africa and twenty were in support of field research. A complete list of grant awards appears in Appendix A.* The tables in Appendix C and D show the geographical and subject matter distribution of applications and grant awards.

It might be useful to summarize briefly the procedures which have been instituted by the Council in processing grant requests. Examples of application forms and related materials may be found in Appendix E. Completed applications are reviewed periodically by the Council's Grant Review Committee. A complete dossier includes: (1) the completed application form; (2) a narrative statement of the problem, the research design, and the itinerary; (3) a research clearance, if required by the African country; and (4) three confidential reference reports. The criteria used in the evaluation include:

(1) the relevance of the research to African developmental needs;

(2) the qualifications of the researcher to perform the research;

(3) the quality of the research design;

(4) the recommendations of qualified references;

(5) the critique of outside reviewers.

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* An additional five grants have been processed by the Council and are awaiting AID field clearances.

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Following preliminary review, the staff and the Review Committee may make recommendations to applicants with respect to their definition of a problem, the research design, the budget, or other factors, such as practical conditions in a field research situation of which the applicant may not be aware. Once a grant request has received final approval from the Review Committee, an abstract is forwarded to the relevant AID officer as provided in the Grant. This officer is responsible for obtaining clearances from the USAID office in the countries where the research is to be conducted. The length of time required to obtain the AID field clearance has varied from two weeks to three months.

Once the Council receives the AID field clearance, the applicant is informed of the project's approval. A Grant Agreement is drawn up specifying the terms of the award and the reporting requirements. Once the applicant has signed the Agreement, disbursements may be made for his grant expenses. Grants of more than three months are disbursed in periodic installments, corresponding generally to the submission of the required field reports. An example of a Grant Agreement is included in Appendix F. Upon completion of their field research, grantees submit field research reports. They are also required to submit copies of their dissertations or publications to the Council once they are completed. The Council assumes that the results of the research are conveyed to the relevant ministry or institution in the country where the research was conducted.

To date, 7 grantees have completed the field research aspect of their work. Most of these persons are still engaged in completing the dissertation or final publication. Dr. Oladejo Okediji, Associate Professor of Sociology of the University of Lagos, has completed two reports which were partially sponsored by the Council and which are now on file at the Council. His study, "On Voluntary Associations as Adaptive Mechanism in West African Urbanization:

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Another Perspective;" will be presented before the IXth International Congress of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences to be held in Chicago in August, 1973. A study which he conducted with Dr. Francis Okediji, Head of the Department of Sociology at the University of Ibadan will be presented at the "Symposium on Medical Manpower" to be held January 21-24 at the University of Ibadan.

This study is entitled, "A Consideration of Some Factors Influencing the Loss of Nigerian Medical and Paramedical Personnel to the Developed Nations." The completion of this study and the presentation of its findings and policy recommendations before a Nigerian professional body is illustrative of one kind of practical impact the Council hopes to achieve through its Research Grants Program.

Another means through which the results of research become immediately available to indigenous institutions and policy-makers is through the awarding of research assistance to persons on leave from civil service positions for advanced study. The Council has made awards to three persons in this category. Mr. Oluwadare Awe, Assistant Conservator of Forests in Training, Western Nigeria Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, is currently engaged in field research on his Ph.D. dissertation on the subject, "An Ecological Investigation of Obeche, A Major West African Timber Species: Potentials for Wood Production and Soil Enrichment." Mr. Patrick Mtenga, Lecturer in Adult Education at the University of Dar es Salaam, is conducting research in Tanzania on "An Analysis of National Extension Agents' Program Planning Role in Producer Cooperatives in Tanzania." Mr. R. U. Igwebuike, a staff member responsible for economic affairs in the Ministry of Agriculture, Enugu, Nigeria, is on leave to complete his Ph.D. at Stanford University in Agricultural Economics. He was awarded an AASC grant for research on "The Economics of African Agriculture: A Case Study of Abakiliki Farmers of Nigeria."

The Council has obtained useful information from the periodic field research reports submitted

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by grantees under the terms of the award.* These reports comment on the practical aspects of field research and on related research needs which grantees observe.

A young economist completing his Ph.D. at Columbia reported:

> ". . . there is need for competent researchers --people with both the technical skill and the interests of Africa at heart. At the ECA I found great concern about the lack of adequate economic facts--national income, demographic, manpower and general social statistics on the "least developed" among the African countries: Equatorial Guinea, Malawi, Chad, etc. The agrarian economy was also badly documented. For instance, in one tea-growing country no one seemed to know the number of farms nor the nationalities of companies engaged in the growing, processing or marketing of tea. There is also great need for undertaking some major sectoral studies of an evaluative nature. For instance, there were many people who thought it was time somebody evaluated the costs and benefits of the tourist industry in East Africa or the wage differentials between skilled and unskilled in terms of productivity and expanding employment opportunities."

A Nigerian economist indicated:

> "An important area for further research is an analysis of the extent of the potential contribution from technological progress to agricultural development in light of the formidable problems of tropical agriculture in African countries.
>
> "Other research needs in Economics include: (a) an assessment of the effectiveness of existing import substitution programs as instruments for the promotion of rapid industrial development; (b) an inquiry into the process of specific project evaluation in national development plans and the nature

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* See Appendix G.

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of plan implementation itself; (c) a study of the national manpower development programs and the promotion of industrial discipline for improved labor productivity; and (d) the specific nature of Income Distribution and the quality of labor force participation rate."

A Zairian graduate student emphasized the need for:

--Assistance to Zaire in the evaluation of foreign educational systems and academic credentials;

--A study of folk and traditional science and technology;

--Analysis of issues related to population growth;

--Exploration of the idea of "knowledge diffusion centers," designed to provide for the diffusion of materials such as academic conferences, recordings and reports and research findings in specialized disciplines.

Through such reports, the Council plans to build up data which will be invaluable in the identification of developmental research needs and in helping future grantees and other researchers establish useful field contacts for references and collaborative purposes.

These reports and the grantees themselves will be key resources for the mounting of interdisciplinary research teams, composed of African and American scholars. Discussions have been held and plans are being drawn up for the first of these projects, looking at effects of migration and unemployment patterns on family life.

III. The Response

The response from African and American scholars to the programs of the African-American Scholars Council clearly reflects the importance of the need to which the Council has addressed itself. During the reporting

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period, the Council received correspondence from 93 U. S. scholars representing 85 institutions in all parts of the United States. The response from the African scholars was similarly enthusiastic. 87 written inquiries have been received from African scholars, 62 in U. S. institutions and 15 in Africa. Other inquiries have come through telephone calls and personal visits. In less than one year of full operation, the Council has received nearly 200 grant applications, another index of the real need to which the program addresses itself.

A letter from the Director of a major U. S. African Studies program is illustrative of this positive response:

> I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the valuable work that is being done by the African-American Scholars Council. I have long been concerned by the fact that advanced African graduate students in the United States have not had funding opportunities for research in Africa; . . . Doctoral research by Africans has either been done in this country, i.e., in the form of a library dissertation, or has been done in Africa itself on a shoestring. The perception and understanding of African problems by trained Africans is essential and your organization has helped make this possible, if only on a limited scale.
>
> In the past year two of our students, and here let me emphasize that they are both students in the social sciences, received valuable seed funding from the AASC; your contribution, complemented by funding from Indiana University itself, enabled these students to do field work toward completion of their doctoral dissertations.
>
> I encourage the continuation of this program, and hope that it will receive even more substantial support in the future.

The Council will continue to work to create a more dynamic and far-reaching program to meet the needs of African peoples and to advance our understanding of the development process.

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AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

OFFICE OF REGIONAL AFFAIRS

BUREAU FOR AFRICA

EVALUATION REPORT

AFRICAN-AMERICAN SCHOLARS COUNCIL, INC.

Grant No.: AID/afr-800

Grant Ceiling: $1,084,675

Expiration Date: April 30, 1976

Project Number: 698-11-995-401

Project Title: Economic Development Research Organizations

Evaluation Period: September 20, 1971 - January 31, 1976

Date: March 1976

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AFRICAN-AMERICAN SCHOLARS COUNCIL, INC.

Grant No. AID/afr-800

BACKGROUND

The original grant was signed September 20, 1971 to "establish a program to utilize the insights, experience and expertise of individuals and groups in America and Africa, to promote linkages between the African and American higher education communities, to further the participation of African higher education in the democratic processes of social and economic development of African nations, and to assist the Grantee's secretariat to administer this program." Amendment No. 9, dated January 22, 1975 required the grantee to "include two emphasis countries in which to concentrate research efforts." These purposes were to be achieved through a number of activities including research sub-grants, travel grants, workshops, conferences and recently, research efforts on two emphasis countries (Togo and Zambia were selected in consultation with AID).

The grant was authorized pursuant to Sections 211 and 635-b of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961.

The PROP contains a terminal fund date of FY 1975 but states "....the terminal funding date will be reconsidered for extension at a later time in light of project accomplishments and progress toward independent financing." The grant does not mention independent financing; however, it has been discussed with council members and secretariat staff on numerous occasions.

Total A.I.D. financing through January 31, 1976 is $1,084,675.

A fiscal interim audit (75-305) covering the period April 1, 1973 - June 30, 1974 was conducted by Lucas, Tucker and Co., Washington, D. C., at the request of the Auditor General. The Lucas, Tucker audit recommended AASC take necessary action to settle deferred amounts totaling $13,439.07 - all to research sub-grant recipients.

In addition to the above, Lucas, Tucker also made six recommendations designed to improve internal fiscal control.

A request was made by memo from Mr. Conroy to AG/AUD on January 25, 1976 for a follow-up and update audit. The report of this audit has not been received.

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COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATION

The AASC is a non-profit educational organization, incorporated in the District of Columbia in 1971, governed by no less than 25 council members and managed by a Board of Directors consisting of all Council Members, and an Executive Committee.

There has been virtually no change of personnel on the Council, Board of Directors, or the Executive Committee. The Council is undergoing a re-organization which will amount to the formation of specialized committees to facilitate Council functions; according to the Board Chairman.

The AID grant provides for five full time secretariat employees. The following table names the five positions, incumbents, number of incumbents, incumbent's starting date.

Position	Incumbent	Number of Incumbents	Incumbent's Starting Date
1. Executive Director	Lee Monroe	4	March 1976
2. Admin. Assistant	Blaun Eva Brewton	1	January 1972
3. Program Officer	Richard Pyle	3	September 1975
4. Asst. Prog. Off.	William Burr	2	February 1975
5. Recpt/Typist	Barbara Lewis	5	August 1975

The major observation to be made on the Council and Secretariat is the paradox of a static Council and Board membership and the extensive turnover of Secretariat staff. Such practices act adversely upon organizational efficiency.

There is some indication that violation of the Council by-laws exists concerning the duties of the Executive Director. The by-laws state the "Executive Director shall have full power to administer the affairs of the corporation....consistent with the resolutions and attend to all correspondence and perform all the duties incident to the office of the Executive Director...." We understand that other staff members have written officially to Ambassadors without the knowledge of the Executive Director. Also, the Council has never had more than 17 members and the by-laws require a minimum of 25.

In terms of visible performance it might be wise to consider reducing the council membership to perhaps six and the secretariat staff to three and a half or four positions.

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RESEARCH SUB-GRANTS

This is the major activity of the grant in terms of funding and staff time. As of November 1975, a total of 70 sub-grants have been awarded to 72 grantees to carry out research in 17 African countries in 26 disciplines. Forty-eight studies have been completed, twelve are underway and ten are delinquent.

The grantee established an acceptable system for advertising the activity by designing and mailing an attractive brochure to approximately 5,000 universities (one-half in Africa and one-half in the United States, mostly small black schools), and to other organizations and institutions with like interests. Research proposals are received and reviewed by the AASC staff and those approved are forwarded to AID for consideration. There is little if any indication that AASC has a system for the review of sub-grant research proposals. Prior to August 1974, the AID review was quite cursory. Cables which summarized each proposal were sent to the appropriate field Missions. These cables indirectly urged Mission approval of each proposal. However, after August 1974, AID/W instituted a more careful review process which included professional reviews in AID/W and transmittal of each proposal along with AID/W comments to the field requesting an objective Mission and host country review. Review criteria considered Congressional Mandates, potential contribution of proposed research to the solution of African Development problems, clarity and completeness of the design, and host country interest and need for such research.

An attempt to ascertain the value of these research sub-grants to the solution of country development problems was made by querying a number of field Missions where earlier research was carried out. There was no indication from the field responses that these studies made any contribution. However, it is believed that the more recent studies were of more interest and value at the host country/Mission level. The following are examples to support this view:

1. Airgram A-108 from Monrovia, Subject: Women in Development, cited an AASC research sub-grantee, Ms. Dovie Davis, who "....is doing extensive work on the place of Liberian women in society and will provide additional guidance as to areas of possible impact...."

2. The Ivory Coast Government is using material in its Five-Year Plan from the study, "Employment, Fertility and Status of African Urban Women," by Dr. Barbara C. Lewis.

3. "The Role of Public Bureaucracy in Agricultural Development," a study undertaken by Mr. Patrick O. Aliva, resulted in an invitation to Mr. Aliva to become a Research Associate of the Institute of Development Studies, University of Nairobi.

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4. There are now two AASC grantees serving at Chancellor College, Malawi. They are Mr. Chinyamata Chipeta, Faculty of Economics and Mr. Bernard Harawa, Faculty of Education, who returned home after completing their studies. Dr. Olu Makinde returned to the Faculty of Education at the University of Ife, Nigeria.

5. Ms. Achola Pala of Kenya is at present the first woman Research Fellow at Nairobi University's Institute for Development Studies. Ms. Pala's research project entitled "The Changing Position of Women in Economic Development in Kenya" is a two-fold study which seeks to assess the contribution made by women to the national economy in Kenya and it sets out to examine the extent to which the women themselves have conceptualized and interpreted the changing economic conditions and their participation in national development.

   Ms. Pala was invited by the Overseas Liaison Committee of the American Council on Education to participate in their 1975 lecture series. She used her research findings as subject for lectures.

6. Dr. Oladejo O. Okediji, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Lagos, Nigeria received an AASC grant to collect data on two subjects:

   (a) Voluntary Association as Adaptive Mechanism in West African Urbanization;

   (b) A Consideration of Some of the Factors Which Influence the Loss of Nigerian Medical and Para-medical Personnel to Developed Nations.

   Dr. Okediji was doing post doctoral research and has maintained his position as Professor of Sociology at Lagos University, Nigeria. As an outcome of his research Dr. Okediji has participated in expert groups set up to deal with the problem of mobility of high-level manpower from developing to developed nations with a view to formulation of effective policy recommendations for reviewing the protocol designed to study the phenomenon from a more comprehensive perspective. The major groups in which he has participated are:

   (a) Interministerial Committee set up by the Nigerian Federal Executive Council;

   (b) United Nations Committee under auspices of the Office for Science and Technology;

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(c) Committee under the auspices of the World Health Organization.

7. Dr. Alfred Opubor has returned to Nigeria and is Director of Mass Communications at the University of Lagos.

8. The Manpower and Management Section of the Economic Commission for Africa, Addis Ababa, has requested copies of the AASC-financed study "The Mining Industry in Africa: Problems of Africanization" by Robert S. Browne, Director, Black Natural Resources, Western State, Nigeria after completion of his study "An Ecological Investigation of OBECHE, a Major West African Timber Species: Potentials for Wood Production and Soil Enrichment."

Of the 48 studies completed to date the above examples are the most positive contributions made by the research portion of the grant. It is also worth noting that these achievements were predominantly done by Africans.

From the evidence currently available it can be concluded that the studies conducted by the United States grantees have not been as influential on African development as the studies carried out by Africans. However, the research sub-grant activity did provide opportunities to promote academic linkages but this could have been achieved thru research with more inherent potential for contributing to development. The writer believes a final judgment on the value of the research should be withheld until all research is completed and assessed.

Below is a summary of research sub-grant awards by broad disciplines:

Summary of Research Sub-Grants
by Major Disciplines
1971 - 1975

Discipline	Number of Sub-Grants
Economics	19
Sociology	11
Education	10
Political Science	6
Agriculture	5
Medicine	5
Science	5
Misc: Communications, Geography History, Labor Industrial Relations, Law, Nutrition	9
Total	70

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The table indicates the fields of economics and sociology represent almost half of all grants awarded. This concentration is obviously skewed when considering Agency priorities. (Aggregate of sub-grants in AID priority areas of food and nutrition, population and health, education and human resources amount to fewer than half of the grants awarded).

The AASC is making a direct effort to urge sub-grantees to complete and to submit delinquent reports. To date ten reports are overdue. An excerpt of one letter which is indicative of AASC's follow-up program was dated November 3, 1975 and begins, "In reviewing the files, I find that your reports remain outstanding and grossly in arrears. I cite as reference the AASC letter to you of June 30, 1975 to which you have chosen not to respond. As you are undoubtedly aware, your interim report was due in late 1974, and your final reports and financial statements were due in April of this year. According to agreement .... We shall expect to hear from you as to your intentions in this affair."

The council continues follow-up for months. No court action has been initiated to settle outstanding cases.

TRAVEL GRANTS

Travel grants have been issued to 13 council members to attend conferences and to explore possible new ways to attack African development problems. Conferences attended by council members are:

Manding Civilization School of Oriental and African Studies (London);
Association of African Universities (Accra);
Dependence and Development in Africa (Ottawa);
Association of African Universities (Nigeria);
World Peace Through Law and World Assembly of Judges (Ivory Coast);
and International Congress of Africanists (Ethiopia).

Council members' travel has resulted in one significant program change when the Council recommended concentrating research efforts on two countries - Togo and Zambia. Grant Amendment No. 9, dated January 22, 1975, incorporated this feature. In Togo some progress has been made to promote linkages when Dr. Elliot Skinner, Board Chairman, visited Togo and discussed the plan with the Rector of Benin University, the Director of the Law School and the Director of the Medical School. However, not much more has developed. In Zambia, efforts to identify research projects to assist with national planning have not produced any tangible results. The Council, in his dissapointment with these results has now backed off and is pondering other approaches.

Six travel grants provided scholars opportunities to participate in learned meetings. It is difficult to isolate the contribution this travel made toward goal achievement. Precise results include:

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1. Dr. Calvin Stinette's (US) attendance at the AAU conference resulted in his being invited to participate in a later meeting with deans of the African medical schools.

2. Dr. Monique Garity (US) is now a visiting professor in the Faculty of Economics, University of Dakar. She came to the attention of the University officials during a 1972 joint CODESRIA-IDEP Conference where she presented a paper on the "European Economic Community and its Implications for African Trade and Development."

Empirical evidence available to us indicates that grant funds for travel purposes have not contributed significantly to the achievement of programmed objectives, and the cost benefits is therefore questionable. One recent pilot travel grant provided for the AASC Program Director to travel to two countries and assist RA by conducting a feasibility study. The results of this experiment are encouraging and opens a question as to whether this type of service to AID would be more beneficial to development than some of the other things AASC is doing.

WORKSHOPS

The AASC organized and sponsored four workshops on specific development topics for the purpose of creating an awareness of a particular problem among specialists who had the capability of formulating significant development research proposals.

1. The Sahelian Drought: This workshop led to the development of a research proposal which involves four African scholars and four US scholars who are investigating "The Sahelian Population Groups: Their Adaptive Mechanisms and Behavorial Changes with Implications for Rehabilitation and Development Programs." The study is now being conducted with funds from AFR Bureau.

2. Hunger and its Consequences in the Arid Zone of East and West Africa: This workshop conceptualized a nutrition research proposal which is now in the final design stage. AASC has been meeting with IBRD officials for funding discussions.

3. Current Prospects in Africa Economic Development: This workshop did not result in a potentially useful research proposal. A proposal was submitted but was rejected.

4. Health Care Delivery Systems in Africa: Resulted in the development of a research project in Botswana entitled "Continuities between the Practices of Traditional and Scientific African Health Care Practitioners." This project has co-principal investigators,

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one African and one American with two African research associates and two American research associates. The Director of Health Services in the Botswana Ministry of Health recently wrote AASC "The outcomes of the project will be of great interest to us for the future planning of our national health policies."

Three of the four workshops led to research projects that were conceptualized and designed by workshop participants and all three involve joint African/American participation. Since none of the research projects originating from these workshops are yet completed it is premature to know the impact the studies make upon development. We can conclude, however, that the workshops contributed toward grant objectives by providing academic linkages between African and American scholars and utilized the insights, experience and expertise of individuals and groups. These efforts led to needed research which might be useful in solving development problems.

CONFERENCES

AASA sponsored three conferences:

1. Westerfield Conference on Economic Development. Involved 200 participants and 20 student observers. Attending dignitaries included the Director of the Nigerian Institute of Social and Economic Research, the Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, and the US Representative to the United Nations Economics and Social Council. The major outcome of this conference was that AASC gained stature and prestige as an organization dealing with African Affairs.

2. The African Woman in Economic Development. This conference resulted in the design of two research projects: "The Role of the Woman Farmer as Potential Human Resource Critical to the Integrated Rural Development Plan: The Republic of Liberia;" and "The Role of the Market Women in Sierra Leone's Economy: A Case Study of the Big Market." Both studies are now underway, the former by Ms. Dovey Davis (Liberian) and the latter by Ms. Frances White(US). Communications from both field posts anticipate substantive and useful outcomes from these studies.

3. First International Conference on Health Problems of Black Populations. The grantee collaborated with the Howard University College of Medicine in sponsoring this conference. This conference resulted in the design of a research project that will investigate hypertension among Americans, black and white; Nigerian and Caribbean blacks; and Asians. The research is currently being designed by five physicians - two Americans, two Caribbeans and one Nigerian. Significant progress has been made in securing funding from NIH.

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Unfortunately, none of the research emanating from the above conferences is completed, therefore the utility of the results are not yet known. However, the conferences did provide a mechanism to foster academic linkages between African and American scholars interested in African Development.

SEARCH FOR FUNDING

The Grantee has been virtually unsuccessful in its attempts to attract other donors to support its activities. With the exception of $20,000 from the Ford Foundation to help support the Westerfield Conference efforts have been fruitless. Ford has subsequently disapproved two funding requests.

The Grantee has actively sought support from the Russell Sage Foundation and Carnegie Corporation but these efforts have been fruitless.

AASC believes two factors are responsible for their lack of success - the dull economic situation and the "newness" of AASC.

CONDLUSION

AASC was created and supported by AID at a cost of $1,084,675 during the last four and one half years for the purpose of promoting meaningful contacts and linkages between African and United States scholars, universities, research institutions, and professional groups; and to stimulate research activity on economic and social development problems. These purposes were partially achieved. The major weaknesses were in the areas of research sub-grants and travel grants where costs exceeded results. Three reasons account for this:

1. Lack of attention from the council in promoting more joint African/US research;

2. Review process during first three years of grant not involving host countries and Missions; and

3. The apparent lack of a council mechanism for screening and approving research proposals.

Better results were achieved by workshops and conferences altho comparable results might have been achieved for less cost via other activities and procedures.

The Council has not been overwhelming in studying and exploring new approaches for making contributions to African development and there is little evidence that the Council as a whole is involved in the review of

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research proposals. Most if not all of the "Council's" thinking appears to rest with the Chairman of the Board. It might be healthy for the Council to incorporate some system of membership turnover. The reverse of this might be healthy for secretariat positions where it appears that the fast rate of turnover interferes with organizational efficiency.

The writer believes the AASC has been of value in the cause of African development but in view of the costs this value has been minimal.

AID should consider extending the terminal funding date one year to provide the Council time to overhaul council membership; develop improved operating procedures;and to develop and implement a program which would broaden the financial base.

It should be noted that Mr. Lee Monroe, Executive Director, on March 5, 1976 mailed a set of papers to each board member urging each member to study the papers carefully prior to the next Council meeting - which Mr. Monroe suggested be April 3. These papers included a questionnaire aimed at organizational improvement and purpose. Another questionnaire was directed toward broadening the financial base of AASC.

It was evident from these materials that the Executive Director senses a need for the Council to re-define its purpose, re-examine procedures, and re-dedicate its efforts.

AFR/RA:Dan Cox
3/12/76

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