

## CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS

### "Rwanda: From National Disintegration to National Reunification: The Legacy of the Genocide of the Tutsi in Rwanda"

Bates College, March 30–31, 2007



**Pamela Ballinger** (*Professor of Anthropology, Bowdoin College*)

Ballinger's research interests include memory, ethno-nationalism, Italian fascism, coastal studies, Italy and the former Yugoslavia. She has published in such journals as *Current Anthropology*, *Journal of Modern Italian Studies*, *Journal of Genocide Research*, and *History and Memory*. Her *History in Exile*, a study of contested memories of the displacement of Italians from Istria after World War II, was published by Princeton University Press (2003).



**Catherine Besteman** (*Professor of Anthropology, Colby College*)

Besteman teaches anthropology and African studies, focusing on the roots of violent conflict and the forces that sustain inequality and produce poverty. Her writings on the Somali Bantu communities living in the Jubba River Valley prior to Somalia's civil war seek to explain why this population was so victimized during the war. Many refugees from the villages in which she worked in the 1980s now live in Lewiston, Maine, and she is working with them to document what happened to them since the outbreak of civil war in 1991. She also studies post-apartheid transformation in Cape Town, South Africa, with a particular focus on local activists working to overcome Cape Town's enduring patterns of racism and poverty.



**Laure Coret** (*Professor of French Literature, Université de Paris VIII*)

Coret is the editor of *Rwanda 1994–2005: des faits, des mots, des œuvres (autour d'une commémoration)* (L'Harmattan, 2005) and has published several articles on postcolonial literature. She is currently finishing a book entitled *Traumatisme collectif et écritures de «l'indicible»* [*Collective Trauma and Writing the "Unspeakable"*]. She was a member of *La commission d'enquête citoyenne* against the French government (2005), and is the general secretary of the International Association of Research on Crimes against Humanity and on Genocide (the French acronym is ARCRIGE). She accompanied the theater troupe Groupov in 2004 to Rwanda for their tour of the play *Rwanda 94*. In 2005, she founded the association "Umuchó" [culture] to promote Rwanda's culture, music and dance in France and Belgium.



**Alexandre Dauge-Roth** (*Professor of French, Bates College*)

Dauge-Roth works on testimonial literature and documentary film of the genocide of the Tutsi, as well as on French AIDS narratives. His scholarship and teaching investigate the links between personal memory and collective trauma, and issues of social belonging through the historical, political and medical representations of the body in contemporary French and Francophone literature and film. He has published "Passing on Voices, Going on Haunted: Witnessing and Hospitality in the play *Rwanda 94*" (*L'Esprit créateur*, 2005) and is finishing a book titled *Writing the Rwandan Genocide: Dismembering and Remembering Traumatic History*. He is the founder of the association Friends of Tubeho: Scholarship Foundation for Rwanda's Orphans.



**Alison Des Forges** (*Human Rights Watch expert on Rwanda*)

Des Forges, a historian with a Ph.D. from Yale, directs research and advocacy on Rwanda, Burundi and the Congo for Human Rights Watch, an international nongovernmental human rights organization. Author of *Leave None to Tell the Story*, a prizewinning history of the Rwandan genocide, she has served as expert witness on the genocide at 12 trials at the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, in Belgian and Swiss courts, and before investigative panels of the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity, the Belgian Senate, the French National Assembly and the U.S. Congress.



**Elizabeth A. Eames** (*Professor of Anthropology, Bates College*)

Eames received her Ph.D. from Harvard University in social anthropology and taught at Harvard and at Haverford College before taking up her current position at Bates, where, among many other responsibilities, she has served as chair of the programs in women and gender studies, African American studies and, currently, the Department of Anthropology. Her areas of interest include: The relationship between production and reproduction; gender relations in comparative perspective; cinematic representations of Africa and Africans; and the political mobilization of African market women. Her long-term research site has been Ode-Ondo, in southwestern Nigeria, but her current research project breaks this tie, as she traces the production and global distribution of so-called Nollywood video films.



**David Gordon** (*Professor of History, Bowdoin College*)

Gordon was born and educated in South Africa and came to the United States for graduate studies. His doctoral dissertation for Princeton University, a socio-environmental history of a Central African lake that straddles Zambia and the Democratic Republic of Congo, was published as *Nachituti's Gift: Economy, Society and Environment in Central Africa* (University of Wisconsin Press, 2006). He teaches and has published on a wide variety of subjects relating to the history of southern and central Africa, and is presently working on a book about the intersection of religion and politics in Zambia.



**Chantal Kayitesi** (*founding member and former president of AVEGA*)

Kayitezi is a survivor of the 1994 genocide against the Tutsi. She lost her husband, her parents, her siblings and many members of her large family. She was elected first vice-president of the Association of Widows and Children of the Genocide Agahozo (AVEGA) in January 1995 and then president and executive coordinator until 1999. She was also involved in Pro-Femmes Twese Hamwe, an umbrella of women's organizations in Rwanda. She was a member of the Rwandan delegation that went to Beijing in August 1995 and was active in the creation of a coalition to prevent violence against women. Kayitezi earned a master's degree in public health at Boston University and has extensive experience related to program development and management, human resources management, clinical and social services case management, advocacy and research.



**Jean-Pierre Lindiro Kabirigi**

Lindiro is an internationally known expert on Central Africa's Great Lakes Region. He is currently working with Institute POLE, a think tank based in that region. Previously he worked for International Alert, a London-based think tank with operations across the world; taught conflict resolution and development studies at Southern New Hampshire University (formerly New Hampshire College); and worked with the Swiss NGO PREFED in the Great Lakes Region and with the United Nations. Kabirigi has dedicated most of his life to matters of conflict resolution, community organizing and development.



**Scott MacEachern** (*Professor of Sociology and Anthropology, Bowdoin College*)

MacEachern works primarily in Central Africa, in Cameroon, Chad and Nigeria. His research involves the study of state formation and ethnicity during the Iron Age in that area. Other areas of interest include the demarcation of 'races' in North America and Africa, as well as the relationships between archaeological and genetics research.



### ***Esther Mujawayo***

Mujawayo lost hundreds of relatives during the 1994 genocide, including her mother, father and husband. With 50 other widows, she founded the organization AVEGA to provide help, assistance and care for widows and orphans of the genocide. She now lives in Düsseldorf, Germany, and works in the field of trauma therapy with refugees. She is the author of two autobiographical testimonies on the genocide, both written in collaboration with Souâd Belhaddad: *Survivantes: Rwanda, dix ans après le génocide* (Editions de l'Aube, 2004), which won the 2004 Prix Ahmadou Kourouma, and *La Fleur de Stéphanie. Rwanda entre réconciliation et déni* (Flammarion, 2006).



### ***Yolande Mukagasana***

Mukagasana lost her three children in the genocide of 1994, as well as her husband, brothers and sisters. In their memory, she wrote three books: *La mort ne veut pas de moi* [*Death Does Not Want Me*] (1997), *N'aie pas peur de savoir* [*Don't Be Afraid to Know*] (1999) and *Les blessures du silence* [*Wounds of Silence*] (2001). She co-authored the theater play *Rwanda 94* in which she plays her own role. Today, Mukagasana has formed a new family by adopting three of her nieces who were orphaned in the genocide. She built a new house where she used to live in Rwanda and looks after around 20 orphans. She created the association Nyamirambo Point d'Appui, Foundation to Remember the Genocide and Assist the Reconstruction of the Country. Among the many awards she has received are the Award for International Understanding Between Nations and for Human Rights, conferred by the European College of Iena University, Germany (1999); Woman of the 21st Century for Resistance Award, Brussels (2003); Honorable Mention for Peace Education by UNESCO, Paris (2003).



### ***Naasson Munyandamutsa (Professor of Psychiatry at the National University of Rwanda in Butare)***

Munyandamutsa earned his degree in psychiatry from the University of Geneva and specialized in the area of trauma. He published *Question du sens et des repères dans le traumatisme psychique* [*Questions of meaning and points of reference in psychic trauma*] (Ed. Médecine et Hygiène, 2001). In addition to his teaching and work as a therapist with genocide survivors, he founded l'Institut de Recherche et de Dialogue pour la Paix [*The Institute for Peace Research and Dialogue*] to address the challenges of living together in Rwanda after the genocide.



***Augustin Nkusi***

Nkusi is a national prosecutor for the Rwandan state. He previously served as director and supervisor within the National Service for Gacaca Jurisdictions (NSGJ) and helped to improve the coordination and functioning of the NSGJ. He also served as counselor to the Supreme Court of Rwanda and was president of the "Tribunal de 1ère instance" of Butare. He earned his law degree from the University of Burundi. He also traveled to South Africa to study the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and has participated in judicial symposia in France, Canada and Gambia.



***Kenneth Rodman (Professor of Government, Colby College)***

Rodman is the William R. Cotter Distinguished Teaching Professor of Government at Colby and the founding director of Colby's interdisciplinary International Studies Program and the Oak Institute for the Study of International Human Rights. He is the author of two books: *Sanctity Versus Sovereignty: The U.S. and Nationalization of Natural Resource Investments* (Columbia University Press, 1988) and *Sanctions Beyond Borders: Multinational Corporations and Economic Statecraft* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2001). His recent work is on the potential tensions between international criminal tribunals and the kinds of negotiating processes that are needed for transitions from dictatorship or armed conflict. Last year, he published an article in *Ethics & International Affairs* titled "Compromising Justice: Why the Bush Administration and the NGOs are Both Wrong about the International Criminal Court."



***Pierrot Rugaba***

Rugaba has more than 10 years of experience working on refugee issues at the state, nonprofit and grassroots levels. He is the director of the Refugee and Immigration Services at Catholic Charities Maine. RIS/CCME is the only agency under contracts with the U.S. and Maine state governments to conduct refugee resettlement in Maine. Rugaba was Maine's state refugee coordinator for six years, and New Hampshire's deputy state coordinator for two years. He holds a master's degree in economic development from the Southern New Hampshire University (formerly New Hampshire College).



***Jean Bosco Rutagengwa*** (*founding member and first president of IBUKA*)

Rutagengwa was born in Nyanza, Rwanda, in August 1963. In 1985, he began working for the Rwandan government, first in the Ministry of Finance and Economy and then in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. He and his wife survived the genocide at the Mille Collines Hotel in Kigali. In 1995, he began work for the new government of Rwanda in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. The same year, he and some other survivors of the genocide founded IBUKA ("Remember"), the main association for the remembrance of the genocide and the defense of the survivors' and victims' rights. Rutagengwa was elected first president of IBUKA. In 1996, in order to better focus on IBUKA's activities and avoid any political interference, he resigned from the government. He served as president of IBUKA until 1998. Rutagengwa and his family moved to the United States in 2000. Rutagengwa and his wife Christine have three children and also adopted two orphans of the genocide. He is still active in the survivor's community and supports campaigns organized to stop other genocides.