

The **U-M African Presidential Scholars (UMAPS) Program** brings early career faculty from African universities to Ann Arbor, Michigan for residencies that begin in late August, generally lasting up to six months.

Scholars are paired with a faculty mentor during their stay and have full access to the University of Michigan's resources to further their work on a research project, an academic degree, publications, grant proposal, or other relevant activity. The program supports the development of the next generation of African scholars by integrating them into international academic networks, and promotes U-M's international commitment to research and teaching collaborations across diverse disciplines, from engineering to literature to economics.

The **African Studies Center (ASC)** at the University of Michigan provides strategic guidance and coordination for Africa-related education, research, and training activities on campus, and promotes opportunities for collaboration with African partners on the continent. Founded in 2008, the center administers four initiatives funded by the Office of the President: African Heritage (AHI); African Social Research (ASRI); Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM-Africa); and U-M African Presidential Scholars (UMAPS) Program.

UMAPS@ASC



Fellowship Opportunity
FOR FACULTY FROM
AFRICAN UNIVERSITIES

The application deadline is **October 15.**

For online application, scholar testimonials, success stories, additional info, and updates:
ii.umich.edu/asc/initiatives/umaps



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UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
AFRICAN PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM



APPLICATION PERIOD
AUG15-OCT15



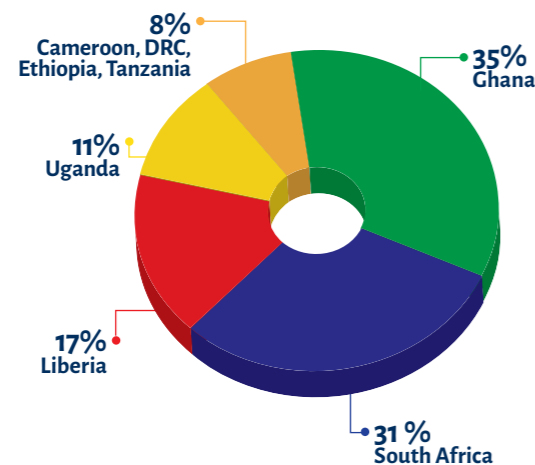
2009-2016

PROGRAM STATISTICS

107 TOTAL SCHOLARS

36% WOMEN

64% MEN



Since 2009, the UMAPS Program has hosted eight cohorts of scholars (107 total) from Ghana, South Africa, Liberia, Uganda, Ethiopia, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Tanzania

representing a wide range of disciplines that closely align with the following initiatives:

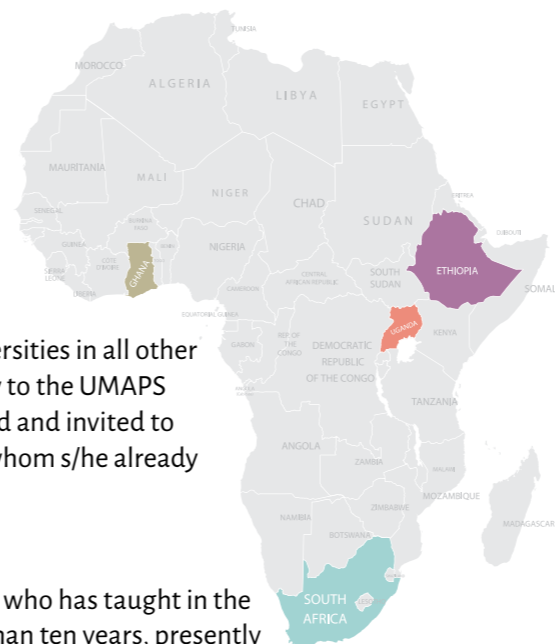
African Heritage Initiative (AHI) supports research related to the arts, humanities, and interpretive social sciences, which highlights the dynamic, contested process by which African cultures and histories are made;

African Social Research Initiative (ASRI) promotes social science research on democratic governance and distributive politics; income dynamics and poverty; and gender, health, and development;

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Initiative (STEM-Africa) nurtures the study of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics in Africa, which extends scientific knowledge and yields solutions to global problems.

UMAPS accepts direct applications from faculty members of colleges or universities in Ethiopia, Ghana, South Africa, and Uganda.

Faculty members of colleges and universities in all other African countries cannot apply directly to the UMAPS program without first being nominated and invited to apply by a U-M faculty member with whom s/he already has a pre-existing relationship.



All applicants must:

- ▶ Be an early career faculty member who has taught in the higher education system for less than ten years, presently teaching in a college or university in Africa
- ▶ Be able to demonstrate support from home institution with letter of recommendation from head of department, dean, or vice chancellor
- ▶ Be able to remain in residence from four to six months

AWARD DETAILS

Those admitted to the UMAPS Program will receive:

- ▶ Four to six months residency at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA, paired with a faculty mentor with full access to the university's resources
- ▶ Round-trip airfare from their home country to Ann Arbor, Michigan
- ▶ Free housing, and a modest stipend to cover living, health care, and research costs while at U-M. *Important note: The UMAPS program is unable to accommodate spouses and/or dependents*
- ▶ Office/Laboratory space
- ▶ Opportunity to present research to the U-M community

APPLICATION CHECKLIST AND TIMELINE

All applicants must:

- ▶ Complete the online application
- ▶ Submit a curriculum vitae
- ▶ Submit a scholarly program/research proposal (not to exceed five pages)
- ▶ Provide a complete name and contact information of the department head, dean, or vice chancellor at the applicant's home institution who will be writing their letter of support



Important note:

Applicants outside of Ethiopia, Ghana, South Africa, or Uganda must be nominated by a U-M faculty member

with whom the interested applicant already has a pre-existing/established relationship. The nominating faculty must:

- ▶ Complete the online nomination form
- ▶ Submit a letter of endorsement that indicates his/her willingness to serve as a mentor during the length of the residency, commit to meet regularly, and provide an office space for the prospective participant

Upon receipt of the U-M faculty's nomination form, ASC will send the invitation to apply to the potential candidate.

Residency period: Late August-Early February

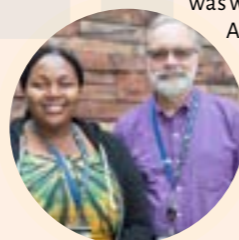
For details, online application, and/or guidance on the research proposal, visit: ii.umich.edu/asc/initiatives/umaps

The most important experience was having dedicated time to read and write. Since starting out in 2010 as a junior lecturer, I have not had time off dedicated to reading and writing. I have always had two or three other things going on concurrently with my research work. For the first time, I realized the necessity of dedicated time in developing ideas. Once I started settling into a routine, I also appreciated that I could follow an idea without having competing commitments or rushing for deadlines. Aside from writing, which was the main goal of the residency, I read! The reading time was perhaps the most valuable. In my writing, I can now draw from a wide range of sources.



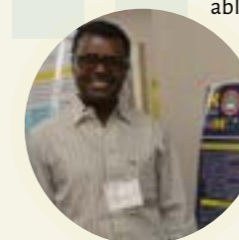
— Vangile Bingma (South Africa) · 2015-16 UMAPS Scholar

When I arrived in Michigan with lots of uncertainty, I kept wondering whether the decision I made was worthwhile. By the end of the second week, having met with my mentors, the ASC team, and the entire UMAPS colleagues, my fears started diminishing. In their place was a newfound feeling of awe. The infrastructure was amazing, the internet access an entirely new experience, the library resources, I can't even describe them. That is when I realized, "Joy needed to make every single day in Michigan worth it."



— Joy Gumikiriza (Uganda) · 2015-16 UMAPS Scholar

The UMAPS program was very instrumental for exchange of culture between me and my American colleagues and friends. I have celebrated Thanksgiving Day, Christmas, and New Year. I was also able to explain our (Ethiopian) holidays and foods to lots of people. Experiences like this help in the cultural understanding of people from all over the world and create opportunities for tolerance and peace. Similar to collaboration, cultural exchange has not only been between me and the American colleagues but also with my African brothers and sisters in this program. All of the UMAPS fellows have now celebrated the Ethiopian New Year in September which is different than other African countries. This has been a nice opportunity to exchange culture amongst ourselves in Africa because of the diversity in culture across Africa.



— Endale Hadgu (Ethiopia) · 2015-16 UMAPS Scholar