

'EZUMEZU' AND 'AFRICAN PHILOSOPHY AS CRITICAL UNIVERSALISM': ENGAGING AFRICAN INTUITIONS FOR NORMATIVE THEORY IN A PLURIVERSE

A special Workshop on the Nature and Significance
of Postcolonial African Philosophy

Organized by

**The Department of Philosophy and Religion,
Ebonyi State University Abakaliki**

In Collaboration with

**The Conversational School of Philosophy (CSP),
University of Calabar
&
The School of General Studies,
Ebonyi State University Abakaliki**



Date: May 27 to 29, 2019

**Venue: Faculty of Arts Lecture Theatre, Ebonyi State
University, Permanent Site Campus.**

Convener:

J. Chidozie Chukwuokolo PhD

Head, Department of Philosophy and Religion, Ebonyi State University

Co-Convener:

Victor C. A. Nweke

DFG Research Fellow, University of Koblenz-Landau

Host:

Professor Clement Osunwokeh PhD

Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, Ebonyi State University

Co-Host:

Grace Umezurike PhD

Director of General Studies, Ebonyi State University

Local Organizing Committee:

Albert O. Ogoko PhD - Chair Person

Patricia Nwazonobi PhD - Secretary

Gideon O. Idike - Public Relations Officer

Charles E. Onyeawuna - Logistic Officer for Visiting CSP Members

Primary Motivation and Source for Reflections:

Ezumezu: *A System of Logic for African Philosophy and Studies*
(Springer 2019).

Author: Jonathan O. Chimakonam PhD
Senior Lecturer, University of Calabar, Nigeria.

Paulin Hountondji – *African Philosophy as Critical Universalism*
(Palgrave Macmillan 2019).

Authors: Franziska Dübgen PhD
Professor of Philosophy, University of Munster, Germany;

Stefan Skupien PhD,
Postdoctoral Researcher, WZB Berlin Social Science Center, Germany

Invited Speakers and Panelists:

Professor Uduma Oji Uduma PhD (Keynote Speaker),
National Open University of Nigeria, Abuja

Mesembe Ita Edet PhD
Associate Professor, University of Calabar

Charles N. Okolie PhD
Associate Professor, Alex Ekwueme Federal University

Martin F. Asiegbu PhD
Senior Lecturer, University of Nigeria Nsukka

Kingsley N. Okoro PhD
Senior Lecturer, Alex Ekwueme Federal University

Peter Chukwu PhD
Lecturer, Ebonyi State University

Mirian Ngozi Alike PhD
Lecturer, Nnamdi Azikiwe University



Chukwugozie Nwoye PhD

Lecturer, Chukwuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu University

Eni Chima Uduma PhD

Academic Philosopher/Executive Chairman Afikpo South LGA

L. Uchenna Ogbonnaya PhD

Research Fellow, Conversational School of Philosophy (CSP)

Francis Chigozie Ofoegbu PhD

Lecturer, Alex Ekwueme Federal University

Osita Nnajofofor PhD

Lecturer, Nnamdi Azikiwe University

Amiara Solomon

Lecturer, Ebonyi State University

Amara Esther Ani

Doctoral Student, University of Lagos

Amaobi Nelson Osuala

Postgraduate Researcher, University of Ibadan

Chukwueloka S. Uduagwu


Doctoral Candidate, University of Calabar

Ogbu James

Academic Philosopher/Faculty Officer, Ebonyi State University

Yusuf Zakaria

Postgraduate Student, University of Jos



DATE AND ACTIVITIES:

May 27, 2019

Arrival of Invited Participants to Abakaliki

May 28, 2019

Workshop from 09.00 - 18.00 Prompt

Programme of Activities:

Part One:

Preliminary Remarks

Chair/Moderator: Grace Umezurike PhD

09.00 - 10.00 Arrival to Workshop Venue

10.00 - 10.10 Welcome Address by the Host

- Professor Clement Osunwokeh

10.10 - 10.15 Opening Remarks by the Convener

- J. Chidozie Chukwuokolo PhD

10.15 - 10.20 Brief Comments on the Workshop by the Co-convener

- Victor Nweke

Part Two:

Ezumezu: A System of Logic for African Philosophy and Studies

Chair/Moderator: James Ogbu

10.20 - 10.30 Author's Special Remarks by J. O. Chimakonam PhD

10.30 - 10.45 A General Review of Ezumezu' by Amara E. Ani

10.45 - 10.55 'Basic Presuppositions of Ezumezu'

by L. Uchenna Ogbonnaya PhD

10.55 - 11.05 'Distinctive Features of Ezumezu as an African Intuition'

by Amaobi N. Osuala

11.05 - 11.20 Tea Break

Part Three:

Glocal Conversations on Ezumezu

Chair/Moderator: Albert O. Ogoko PhD

11.20 - 11.50 "Rethinking the Logic Question in African Philosophy and the Need to Transcend Ethnocentric Impositions and Reductions" - Keynote Presentation
by Professor Uduma Oji Uduma

11.50 - 12.50 **Is Ezumezu beyond Ethnocentric Impositions and Reductions?**

1st Respondent (10 mins): Mirian Ngozi Alike PhD

2nd Respondent (10 mins): Gideon Idike

3rd Respondent (10 mins): Mesembe I. Edet PhD

Open Conversations: Q and A

12.50 - 14.00 Launch Break

Part Four:

Paulin Hountondji: African Philosophy as Critical Universalism

Chair/Moderator: Eni Chima Uduma PhD

14.00 - 14.10 Author's Special Remarks
by Prof. Franziska Dübgen/Stefan Skupien PhD

14.10 -14.25 'A Review of *Paulin Hountondji – African Philosophy as Critical Universalism*' by Charles N. Okolie PhD

14.25 -14.40 'Questioning Hountondji's Idea of African Philosophy in Relation to His Argument for Endogenous Knowledge'
by Martin F. Asiegbu PhD

14.40 - 14.55 'Critical Comments on Hountondji as a Global Thinker'
by Kingsley N. Okoro PhD

Part Five:

Glocal Conversations on Paulin Hountonji

Chair/Moderator: Peter Chukwu PhD

15.00 - 15.30 'Rethinking the Academic Debate on African Philosophy in relation to Eurocentric and Afrocentric Impositions and Reductions: A Case for Afroconstructivism'
by J. C. Chukwuokolo PhD

15.30 - 16.30 **Is Hountondji's Critical Universalism beyond Ethnocentric Impositions and Reductions?**

1st Respondent (10 mins): Osita Nnajifor PhD

2nd Respondent (10 mins): Francis C. Ofoegbu PhD

3rd Respondent (10 mins): Chukwugozie Nwoye PhD

Open Conversations: Q and A

16.30 - 16.40 Tea Break

Part Six:

Concluding Reflections

Chair/Moderator: Patricia Nwazonobi PhD

16.40 – 16.50 'Conversational Philosophy as a Postcolonial School of Philosophy' by Chukwueloka Uduagwu

16.50 - 17.20 'Undermining the Politics of Philosophy through Conversational Thinking: A Postcolonial Reading of *Ezumezu* and *African Philosophy as Critical Universalism*' by Victor Nweke

17.20 - 17.50 Open Conversations: Q and A

17.50 - 18.00 Closing Remarks by the Co-Host,
Grace Umezurike PhD

18.00 End of Workshop

May 29, 2019 Departure