

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SACRAMENTO
COLLEGE OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES



**34TH ANNUAL
AFRICA PEACE AWARDS DINNER
& CAPCR 30TH ANNIVERSARY
HONORING OUR PEACE HEROES**

April 25, 2026 6:00pm – 10:30pm

**The Harper Alumni Center,
California State University, Sacramento,
6000 J Street, Sacramento Ca 95819**





Program

5:45 PM	Doors Open/ Reception	DJ Music by Emeric Sawyer
	Slide show	
6:25 PM	Call to Order	Dr. Data Barata, CAPCR Board Chair
6:30 PM	Host	Dr. Don Taylor
6:35 PM	Awardees Enter	Dr. Don Taylor
7:10 PM	Libations	Tina Jordan, CEO and Founder of Sankofa Intercultural Intelligence Consulting LLC
7:15 PM	Invocation	Volunteer
	Opening	Dr. Ernest Uwazie, Director, CAPCR
	Welcome	President Luke Wood, CSUS
	Dinner	Buffet style
	Celebrating CAPCR's 30th Anniversary	Cake and Toast
8:00 PM	The Velji Family CAPCR Student Scholarship Awards Presentation	Dr. Data Barata, Board Chair, CAPCR
	Students	Munir Omar Brittney Diab Sharnell Martin Chino Ibenegbu Shemida Harrison Karena Payden
8:10 PM	Keynote Speaker	His Excellency, President Joseph Boakai of Liberia to be introduced by Dr. Don Taylor
8:40 PM	Peace Awards Presentations	Dr. Ernest Uwazie, Director, CAPCR President Luke Wood, CSUS
	Awardees	
	Peace Leadership	His Excellency, President Joseph Boakai of Liberia
	Peace Builder	Dr. Edward Bush
	Peace & Justice	Dr. Emem Omokaro
	Peace Service	Ms. Azizza Davis Goines
	Peace Education	Dr. Butch Ware
	Peacemaker	Alternative Dispute Resolution Secretariat (ADRS)- The Gambia
9:30 PM	Closing/ Acknowledgments	Dr. Theresa Abah, CAPCR Board Member

Dr. Luke Wood

President, California State University Sacramento



Dr. J. Luke Wood assumed the presidency of California State University, Sacramento (Sacramento State) on July 16, 2023, becoming the university's ninth permanent president. Born in Oakland, California, and raised in McCloud, a small town in Siskiyou County, Dr. Wood's life story embodies resilience and purpose. A former foster child and transracial adoptee, he grew up in a large foster home that served more than 350 children. He is also a two-time alumnus of Sacramento State, having earned both his bachelor's and master's degrees from the university.

Under President Wood's leadership, Sacramento State has reached historic milestones. The university has been designated a Research II institution, achieved its highest-ever graduation rates, and became the first Black-Serving Institution in the state of California. Enrollment has also surged, with the university welcoming the largest incoming classes in its history.

During his tenure, Sacramento State launched several nationally recognized initiatives, including the nation's first Black Honors College and the Wileety Native American College both designed to provide students with enriched, culturally grounded educational experiences highlighting the history, life, and contributions of Black and Native American communities. In partnership with UFC Hall of Famer Urijah Faber, Dr. Wood also helped establish Combat U, the nation's first university-backed collegiate pathway in boxing and mixed martial arts.

Prior to his presidency, Dr. Wood served as Vice President for Student Affairs and Campus Diversity and Chief Diversity Officer at San Diego State University. As a faculty member there, his groundbreaking research on student success and equity particularly concerning men of color earned him the distinction of being the first Black Distinguished Professor in the university's 125-year history.

Dr. Wood has authored or edited 16 books and published more than 200 scholarly works. A Critical Race Theorist, his research focuses on racial equity in education, especially regarding community colleges and school discipline practices. His work has directly shaped state policy, informing two key laws: AB 740 (McCarty), which ensures foster children have their attorney and social worker involved in school suspension determinations, and SB 1984 (Weber Pierson), which discourages the use of student transfers to conceal suspension and expulsion data.

Dr. Wood holds a bachelor's degree in Black History and Politics and a master's degree in Higher Education Leadership from Sacramento State. He also earned an additional master's degree in Early Childhood Education and a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies (Higher Education concentration) from Arizona State University. He is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., and a passionate boxing enthusiast who trains daily and spars regularly.

Dr. Ernest Uwazie

Director, Center for African Peace & Conflict Resolution



Prof./Dr. Ernest Uwazie holds a Ph.D. in Justice Studies from Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona, and graduated from the Harvard Law School Mediation and Negotiation Program. He joined the Sacramento State criminal justice faculty in 1991, and served as the immediate past Chair (2017-2023) of the Division of Criminal Justice. Dr. Uwazie is very active in the community, including being the cofounder and chair of Africa House Sacramento.

Since 1996, he has served as the founder and director of the Center for African Peace & Conflict Resolution (CAPCR), and founder/convenor of the landmark annual Africa/Diaspora conference at Sac State starting in 1992 under the then African Studies Coalition, leading to the creation of the CAPCR; he continues to direct the annual Africa/Diaspora conference for 33 years. Dr. Uwazie teaches courses on restorative justice & conflict resolution, minorities and criminal justice, community and justice system and comparative justice. In addition to his multiple publications and conference presentations as well as workshops on conflict resolution and restorative justice, Prof. Uwazie is a world -renowned expert on mediation and alternative dispute resolution. Since 1995, Dr. Uwazie has developed ADR curriculum and led trainings for approximately 20,000 participants, including lawyers, traditional rulers, community and religious leaders, police, educators, student/youth leaders, and other groups in the US, Europe, and many African countries, including Nigeria, Ghana, Senegal, Kenya, Ethiopia, Morocco, Liberia, South Africa, Uganda, and Rwanda, etc.

Because of this expertise, Prof. Uwazie has played an essential role in organizing or leading one-in-a-lifetime experiences for students who participated in the study abroad programs to Ghana, Nigeria, Rwanda, and Ethiopia, along with multiple US Dept of Education Fulbright-Hayes faculty professional development seminars in Africa. Dr. Uwazie has also been tirelessly committed to running a restorative justice circle program at California State Prison, Sacramento (CSP-Sac). This multi-faceted work has been funded twice by the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) under his leadership, with Dr. Alexa Sardina as the Co-PI; the grant activities include facilitating a weekly restorative justice session at the CSP-Sac every Friday, training community volunteers to be restorative justice facilitators, and facilitating victim offender dialogues (VODs) throughout Northern California, as the cases are referred to CAPCR by the Office of Victim and Survivor Rights of the CDCR.

Since 1993, he has directed over \$12 million in various US federal, State, local, and Foundation grants and contracts, with multiple publications and conference presentations. He is the recipient of the CSUS's 2010 Outstanding Scholarly Achievement Award, the 2010 Judge Warren Knight Award of JAMS Foundation for promoting peaceful settlement of conflicts in Africa, and 2023-24 CSUS's Distinguished Faculty Lecture Award, among other recognitions. Currently, he is directing the CAPCR's Africa Peace Fellows initiative as an endowment to build the next generation of peace leaders as well as the US DOJ -OVW Restorative Justice Practices Pilot 5 year grant, as a collaboration between the CAPCR and REACH rape crisis center in Orange County-California. He also serves on the statewide Restorative Justice Working Work Group under the California District Attorneys' Association. Dr. Uwazie is married to Dr. Mrs. Nnenna Uwazie, a California clinical pharmacist with Kaiser, and they are blessed with two children (Ijeoma & Chima).

His Excellency, President Joseph Nyuma Boakai of Liberia

Keynote Speaker & Peace Leadership Award



His Excellency Joseph Nyuma Boakai, Sr., is the President of the Republic of Liberia and a seasoned statesman whose life story reflects resilience, integrity, and public service. Born on November 30, 1944, in Wasonga, Lofa County, he rose from humble beginnings to become one of Liberia's most respected leaders. His early pursuit of education marked by extraordinary determination, including long journeys on foot in search of schooling culminated in studies at the College of West Africa and later at the University of Liberia, where he earned a degree in business administration.

President Boakai has held several key leadership roles in both public service and national development. He served as Managing Director of the Liberia Produce Marketing Corporation, Minister of Agriculture, and later as Managing Director of the Liberian Petroleum Refining Corporation. From 2006 to 2017, he served as Vice President of Liberia under President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, contributing significantly to the country's post-conflict recovery and development agenda.

A leader known for honesty, humility, and compassion, President Boakai has long championed integrity in public service and has been deeply engaged in humanitarian work, including providing scholarships and support for vulnerable communities. His leadership philosophy is captured in his enduring call to action: "Think Liberia, Love Liberia, Build Liberia."

Elected President in 2023, he is committed to advancing inclusive development through Liberia's ARREST Agenda, with a strong emphasis on human capital development, governance reform, and economic transformation. President Boakai's life and career continue to inspire a new generation of leaders dedicated to service, discipline, and national progress.

In recent years, President Joseph Boakai has undertaken several significant initiatives promoting peace, reconciliation, and conflict resolution both domestically and across West Africa. Within Liberia, he has prioritized transitional justice by establishing a long-awaited war crimes court to prosecute atrocities committed during the civil wars, emphasizing that accountability is essential for "peace and harmony" and long-term stability. He has also led national reconciliation efforts, including issuing the government's first formal apology to civil war victims and instituting memorialization initiatives to heal divisions and foster unity. Regionally, President Boakai has reinforced Liberia's engagement with multilateral peace frameworks through active participation in organizations such as the Economic Community of West African States, the United Nations, and the African Union, promoting cooperative security, mediation, and democratic governance across West Africa. His leadership has also elevated Liberia's global peace role, exemplified by its election to the UN Security Council for 2026–2027, signalling international recognition of the country's renewed commitment to peacebuilding and conflict prevention. Collectively, these actions demonstrate a sustained commitment to justice, reconciliation, and regional stability, aligning with key principles and achievements typically aligned with the CAPCR Africa peace leadership awards.

Dr. Edward C. Bush

Peace Builder



Dr. Edward C. Bush is a builder of institutions and global partnerships. He is a nationally recognized educational leader, pioneering scholar, and global advocate for equity, healing, and the advancement of Black students. Since 2015, he has served as President of Cosumnes River College in Sacramento, California, where he made history as the institution's first African American president. Under his leadership, the college has gained national recognition for its commitment to racial equity, student-centered reforms, and transformative approaches to student success.

Dr. Bush is a leading scholar in the field of African American male studies. He is co-author of African American Male Theory (AAMT)—the only theoretical framework dedicated specifically to understanding and improving the educational experiences of Black boys and men. He is also a founding contributor to the Sankofa Research Model, a culturally grounded research methodology focused on restoring, remembering, and reimagining pathways for Black male success. His scholarship has helped shape national conversations on educational equity, racial justice, and institutional transformation.

Dr. Bush is a co-founder of A2MEND (African American Male Education Network and Development), a nonprofit organization committed to improving educational outcomes for Black men. Over its 20-year history, A2MEND has provided mentorship, global learning opportunities (specifically in Africa) and scholarships have been awarded to hundreds of black men in the community college system. Under his leadership with A2MEND, the organization has purchased and owns land in Africa and is in the building process to establish “The Racial Trauma, Healing, and Wellness Center”, a pioneering space dedicated to restorative healing, cultural reconnection, and research on the intergenerational impacts of racial trauma.

Dr. Bush currently serves as the Chairperson of the “All-African Diaspora Education Summit (ADES) a groundbreaking international convening of Educators held bi-annually in Ghana, West Africa. Since 2022, and continuing through 2032, Dr. Bush has committed to lead educators from the Diaspora for a premier immersive professional development experience. Under his visionary leadership over 600 Educators have attended the Summits with the next convening being held in 2026, Ghana, West Africa. Extending this global vision, Dr. Bush also serves as the founding visionary and Chair of the Pan-African Virtual College. In partnership with California Community College Chancellor’s Office, Dr. Bush is developing a transnational initiative connecting institutions in the United States and Ghana to create culturally grounded educational pathways across the African Diaspora.

Dr. Bush is guided daily in his work by the foundation provided by his parents, whose values of faith, perseverance, and service helped shape his life’s work. He is blessed to share life and legacy with his wife of 31 years, Dr. Jenise, and their two children. Daughter Nia is a graduate of Spelman College and UC Irvine School of Law and Son Khari a graduate of Morehouse College. Through his leadership, scholarship, and global vision, Dr. Bush continues to advance education as a pathway to liberation, healing, and peace.

Dr. Emem Omokaro

Peace & Justice



Dr. Emem Omokaro is known for original contributions of major significance in the field of Ageing and development and for her leading and critical role in organizations of distinguished reputation and for outstanding achievements.

Dr. Omokaro is a distinguished expert with over 20 years of extensive experience in ageing research, older persons' rights advocacy, human resource development, and facilitating multi-sectoral and intergenerational engagements in inclusive ageing policy action across Nigeria and the African continent. Her life's work is defined by the pursuit of a "society for all ages" through building integrated systems to confront ageism and the marginalization of older persons. She founded the Pan-Africa Dialogue Series in Ageing and Development, a global transformative initiative that provides a collaborative framework and co-leadership space for partners including the African Union Commission and UN agencies (such as UN DESA, OHCHR, and INIA, UN Malta) to support African governments in implementing global development agendas. Furthermore, she is the Convener and pioneer co-chair of the Stakeholder Group on Ageing Africa, which engages with the African Regional Forum on Sustainable Development Goals and the UN High Level Political Forum on Ageing.

Dr. Emem Omokaro holds a Post-Doctoral Certificate in Social Gerontology (INIA, UN Malta) and a Ph.D. in Development Sociology (University of Calabar, 2005). Her doctoral thesis on "Non-Cultural Determinants of Older Children Care of Elderly Parents" won the Nigerian Universities Doctoral Thesis Award for Best Doctoral Thesis in Social Sciences (2005). Emem led national advocacy for older persons' rights and dignity, shifting Nigerian and African policy towards rights-based and social development frameworks that place "Care of Older Persons as an Act of Decision Making, equity, inclusion, peace and social justice." As a LEADS scholar, she partnered with the NUC to develop the first National Benchmark and Minimum Standards in Applied Gerontology for postgraduate studies. She also collaborated with the University of North Texas, Denton USA, to train academic staff from eleven Federal Universities in Nigeria for the Specialist Certificate in Ageing.

As Founder and Executive Director of the Dave Omokaro Foundation (DOF), Dr. Omokaro spearheaded national legislation to establish the Federal Agency for older persons, human resource training in ageing and Nigeria's ratification of the Protocol on the African Union Charter on Human and People's Rights and the Rights of Older Persons. She led innovative programs promoting inclusive aging policies, intergenerational solidarity, community engagement and elder abuse preventive education for peaceful coexistence. Dr. Omokaro built multisectoral ecosystems and partnerships with government MDAs and stakeholders for participatory program planning and implementation, cascading to the sub-national level. Her efforts increased older persons' access to healthy ageing promotions, medical support through outreaches, and assistive devices and technologies for those with functional decline or life-long disabilities as a social assistance measure.

As the pioneer Director General of the National Senior Citizens Centre (2021-2025), Dr. Emem Omokaro's leadership developed the National Policy Guidelines for Quality Assurance in Geriatric Social Care and Standard Operating Procedures, establishing a national template for older adult care and inclusion. These efforts are foundational to social care reform, leading to a National Policy on Care Economy. She operationalized Nigeria's first National Policy on Ageing (2011), published the first National Plan of Action on Ageing, and the 10-year National Strategic Road Map on Ageing (2022-2032). Dr. Omokaro initiated transformative geriatric social care certification systems, aligning caregiving with the National Skills Qualification framework and integrating tertiary hospitals, community services, and private operators into a Quality Assurance System. She developed and published National Benchmark and Minimum Standards for accrediting care agencies, facilities, and training centers.

Emem also led the development of Nigeria's first National Occupational Standards Levels 1-5 for caregiver training and certification in Geriatric Social Care, and created a specialized Central Information, services, and applications Portal for Quality Assurance. To promote equity and financial inclusion, she oversaw the first National Survey on Older Persons' Livelihood Ventures, piloting sector-wide income security and empowerment of senior-led cooperatives to increase older persons' autonomy and independence. Her transformative initiatives as Director General of the NSCC (2021-2025) are documented in her book, NSCC First Four-years- A National Report. Dr. Omokaro is a Fellow of the Nigerian Institute of Management (Chartered), Fellow, Center of African American Research Studies, founding President of GERAN, and promoter of the Dave Omokaro Africa Institute on Ageing and Development (DOFRIAD).

Ms. Azizza Davis Goines

Peace Service Award



With over 30 years of experience in association management, Azizza Davis Goines is a highly respected leader and strategic business partner in Sacramento and beyond. For the past 19 years, as President and CEO of the Sacramento Black Chamber of Commerce, she has strengthened regional and statewide partnerships while championing the economic growth of small businesses and microenterprises. Her leadership has resulted in a 200% increase in Chamber membership and established a lasting legacy of best practices for both emerging and established entrepreneurs.

A 36-year resident of Sacramento, Azizza has been deeply engaged in initiatives impacting healthcare, social justice, education, and economic development. Early in her career, she worked with the Birthing Project (now HER Health First), advocating for maternal and child wellness. She later served as Executive Director of the Alzheimer's Association, where she expanded community awareness, strengthened board leadership, tripled the organization's budget within two years, and significantly increased fundraising outcomes.

Her success led to her role as President and CEO of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Sacramento, followed by her position as Community Relations and Development Director at CARES, a leading HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment organization in Northern California. There, she built strategic collaborations and secured a \$500,000 grant to launch the Community Care Network for People of Color, a multi-agency initiative delivering faith-based outreach to at-risk communities.

Azizza's work across business, healthcare, and social justice has earned her widespread recognition from business leaders, nonprofit peers, and policymakers at the local, state, and national levels. Her honors include the Rosa Parks Award, Woman of Inspiration Award, Woman of Excellence Award, Community Service Award from the Sacramento Asian Chamber of Commerce, California Black Chamber of the Year Award, and most recently, the Women Who Mean Business Award from the Sacramento Business Journal.

Her influence extends nationally and internationally through her participation in the Congressional Black Caucus Convention in Washington, D.C., and her work in countries including Tanzania, Ghana, Turkey, Cuba, and Fiji, where she fosters opportunities in trade, investment, education, healthcare, and agriculture.

In addition to her professional commitments, Azizza remains dedicated to advancing mental health policy and serves as a hospice volunteer, providing compassionate palliative care.

Dr. Butch Ware

Peace Education Award



Dr. Butch Ware is an Associate Professor at University of California, Santa Barbara, known for his unwavering commitment to peacebuilding, justice-centered education, and courageous public leadership. His work engages deeply with the African Diaspora while also advancing equity and empowerment across broader communities.

Dr. Ware's scholarly work and pedagogy are grounded in a profound moral clarity: that peace is not merely the absence of conflict, but the presence of justice, dignity, and collective liberation. His teaching focuses on Islamic intellectual traditions, anti-slavery movements in West Africa and the African Diaspora, and the critical intersections of race, religion, and revolutionary thought. In classrooms and community spaces alike, Dr. Ware equips students and audiences with the historical knowledge and ethical frameworks necessary to confront systems of domination while imagining emancipatory futures. His work insists that education itself is a form of peacebuilding one that cultivates historical truth, moral courage, and collective responsibility.

As an educator, Dr. Ware's impact extends far beyond the university. He is widely recognized for translating rigorous scholarship into accessible public education, ensuring that histories of resistance, abolition, and decolonization are not confined to academic silos. Through lectures, panels, and public talks across the United States and internationally, he empowers communities particularly those most impacted by racialized violence and structural inequality to understand their struggles within a longer tradition of global resistance and moral courage. This work directly advances CAPCR's mission by fostering cross-cultural understanding, reparative justice, and community-centered peacemaking.

Dr. Ware's leadership is distinguished by its rare fusion of scholarship, advocacy, and principled action. With unshakeable conviction, he has committed himself to dismantling systemic forms of repression through education, public engagement, and political courage. His willingness to step into the public arena whether through nationally recognized public speaking, sustained community advocacy, or announced bids for high public office reflects a deep belief that peace education must be paired with institutional transformation. Rather than retreating from controversy, Dr. Ware models ethical leadership by naming injustice clearly and insisting on accountability, even when such positions require personal and professional risk

ADRS - Alternative Dispute Resolution Secretariat (ADRS) - The Gambia Peace Maker



The Alternative Dispute Resolution Secretariat (ADRS) is a national institution established to promote and facilitate the peaceful resolution of disputes outside the traditional court system in The Gambia.

Established in 2008 pursuant to the Alternative Dispute Resolution Act-2005, the Secretariat provides accessible, efficient and cost-effective dispute resolution mechanisms through mediation, conciliation, arbitration, and negotiation.

Most importantly, the Secretariat provides access to justice to those in the rural areas, those vulnerable populations especially women, the youth and disabled, who may not have the means and the knowhow to access the courts or the services of a lawyer.

Through its work, ADRS contributes to the modernization of the justice sector by providing practical alternatives to litigation that are faster, less adversarial, and more inclusive. ADRS contributes to a justice system that is efficient, accessible, and responsive to the needs of the public especially those in the rural areas.

Since its establishment in 2008, the ADR Secretariat has played a significant role in resolving disputes and promoting peaceful conflict resolution across The Gambia. The secretariat boasts a workforce of in-house qualified mediators, a register of external mediators and arbitrators, as well as a Hundred and Twenty (120) Community Mediators nationwide trained by the ADRS to help resolve disputes in their towns and villages before it escalates to the secretariat.

Key Impact Statistics:

- Over 1,550 cases successfully resolved through mediation, arbitration, and conciliation.
- Hundreds of individuals and institutions assisted in resolving disputes amicably without litigation.
- Significant contribution to reducing court backlog within the national judiciary.
- Growing public trust and utilization of ADR services as a viable dispute resolution mechanism.

The Secretariat's interventions have helped save time, reduce legal costs, and preserve relationships between disputing parties by promoting cooperative and mutually beneficial settlements.

Dr. Don Taylor

Host



Dr. Donald Taylor is Professor Emeritus of Communication Studies, California State University, Sacramento where he served in several key leadership roles in the division of Academic Affairs overseeing educational effectiveness, global engagement, academic program quality, assessment of student learning outcomes and as Accreditation Liaison Officer to Western Accrediting Commission for Schools and Colleges (WASC) with a record of exceptional successes in these areas.

His academic expertise is in International & Intercultural Communication, Mass Communication, Communication Research Methods, and Communication Theory and National Development. He is a Fellow of the American Council on Education and a Fulbright Hays Fellow.

As a key force in promoting Africa on his campus and in the African Diaspora in the United States, Dr. Don Taylor has assisted in hosting prominent African leaders such as former President Akufo Addo of Ghana, President Paul Kagame of Rwanda, former President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia, and the Late Mrs. Winnie Mandela of South Africa, to name a few, and in so doing, served in key roles in support of the over three decades long annual conference on Africa at Sac State hosted by the Center for African Peace and Conflict resolution, and its predecessor, the African Studies Coalition. Outside of the university, Dr. Don Taylor has managed several communication and development programs across Africa including Sierra Leone, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Uganda, the DRC, and Guinea among others.

Professor Don Taylor is the recipient of numerous awards and distinctions including the 2023 Sierra Leone National Diaspora Focus Ambassadorial Award for Educational Leadership in the Diaspora, a 2024 California State Senate Resolution for distinguished record of leadership as a California Educator, a 2024 California State University, Sacramento Resolution for distinguished Service to the University and the Sacramento Community, the 2024 Lifetime Achievement Award by the African Diaspora Communities in Sacramento, and by Africa House Sacramento. Other honors include awards for: Outstanding Service (2018) for dedicated support and Contributions to the Center for African Peace and Conflict Resolution (CAPCR), and the NOSLINA Excellence in Leadership Award (2008) for service to the Sierra Leone communities of North America, among others. A former radio and television broadcaster in Sierra Leone and with the BBC African Service in London, Dr. Taylor offers continued dedicated service hosting community events as Master of Ceremonies.

Menu

Buffet Style

Snacks

Meat pies

Puff-puff

Main entrees

Jollof rice

Moimoi

Plantain

Casava leaf soup

White rice

Fish

Chicken

Salad

Desert

Fruits

CAPCR MILESTONE – “30 FOR 30” APPEAL

Dear CAPCR Friend, Partner, and Supporter of Peace,

Peace is not an accident. It is built through dialogue, through sacrifice, through years of quiet, dedicated, and diligent work, despite the challenges. In 1996, the Center for African Peace and Conflict Resolution (CAPCR) was established at California State University, Sacramento (Sacramento State) with exactly that belief. What began as a commitment to understanding and resolving conflicts in Africa has, over thirty years, grown into a movement that has positively touched the lives of peacebuilders, policy makers, crime victims, prison inmates, communities, and institutions in USA as well as Africa, and across the globe.

Over three decades, about 40,000 people from more than 60 countries and 6 continents have participated in the various CAPCR training workshops, conferences, seminars, peace awards, 50 student study abroad programs and faculty/teacher professional development exchanges in Africa, and more than 100 students have received its peace education scholarship, among other achievements. During same period, the CAPCR has hosted numerous dignitaries at Sacramento State, including sitting and former African presidents, chief justices, ambassadors, distinguished scholars, legislators, and prominent community leaders, and recognized over 100 unsung peace heroes through its renowned peace awards.

To mark this milestone, we are launching our “30 for 30” Anniversary Campaign — a collective effort by our team, alumni, and partners to raise \$30,000 in honor of 30 years of peace education leadership and impact. This campaign is not just about a number, it is a celebration of every fellowship cohort, every publication, every training or conference, every crime victim and offender in our victim-offender dialogues, or inmates in our prison restorative justice circles, and every community or institution that has been touched by CAPCR’s work.

Your generous contribution will directly support:

- Our 30th Anniversary Commemoration Events: bringing together stakeholders, scholars, and practitioners to reflect on three decades of work and chart the path ahead;
- The new Africa Peace Fellowship- providing scholarships and training for the next generation of African peace leaders;
- Ongoing research and publication initiatives in restorative justice and conflict resolution; • Enhance the sustainability of the ongoing CAPCR leadership transition plan;
- Student cultural enrichment programs and peace education scholarships.

We humbly ask you to join us in this historic moment. Whether you give \$30 to represent each year of our journey, \$300, \$3,000, or any amount that reflects your belief in this mission. Your support matters profoundly. Every contribution brings us closer to our goal and affirms that the work of sustainable peace is never finished, and never without a community behind it.

Thirty years ago, someone believed in this work. Today, we ask you to be that believer for the next thirty years. Together, we can ensure that CAPCR continues to build bridges, train leaders, and advance peace, at local and international levels.

To make donations, click here. Alternatively, copy the link below and paste in browser:

(<https://securelb.imodules.com/s/1894/19/home-hero.aspx?sid=1894&gid=2&pgid=418&cid=1063&dids=63>)

For Checks: Please make checks payable to University Foundation at Sacramento State. Please indicate CAPCR in memo/remarks line.

Mail to: University Foundation at Sacramento State.

PO Box 845004,
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Scan me to go to Donation page

With gratitude and in solidarity,

Dr. Ernest Uwazie
Founder & Director CAPCR

Dr. Data D. Barata
Board Chair, CAPCR

Dr. Alexa Sardina
Board Secretary, CAPCR

Acknowledgments

Decorations

LoyJoy Lwabai

Host/Master of Ceremonies

Dr. Don Taylor

DJ

Emeric Sawyer

Photography/Recording

Philippe Calouro

Presenters

His Excellency, President Joseph Boakai of Liberia (Keynote)

President Luke Wood (Welcome)

Dr. Ernest Uwazie (Opening)

Tina Jordan (Libations)

Dr. Data Barata (Student Scholarship Awards)

Dr. Theresa Abah (Closing & Acknowlegments)

Acknowledgments

Scholarship Donors

Drs. Anvar & Pari Velji

2026 Peace Awards Recipients

His Excellency, President Joseph Nyuma Boakai of Liberia

Dr. Edward Bush

Dr. Emem Omokaro

Ms. Azizza Davis Goines

Dr. Butch Ware

Alternative Dispute Resolution Secretariat (ADRS)- The Gambia

CAPCR Officers & Board

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Campus Police

Dr. Data Barata, Board Chair, CAPCR

Lilyz Catering Services

Loy Joy, Decorations

University Print, Sacramento State

Jlay Tor, Co-chair, CAPCR

Ambassador Al-Hassan, Liberia Embassy, DC.

Acknowledgments

We are Deeply Grateful to our VIP/Reserved Tables

Office of the President, CSUS
Professor Ernest & Dr. Mrs. Nnenna Uwazie Family
Cosumnes River College / Los Rios Community College District
CSUS Division of Criminal Justice
Office of the Provost / Academic Affairs, CSUS
Black Honors College, CSUS
Lead Star Security, Inc
United Nimba Citizens Council of California (UNICCO, California) (2 Tables)
Liberian Community (2 Tables)
A2MEND
Dr. Ezeani Group
Mr. Ayo Taylor
Project Rebound
Siaka Nuah
Mariama Bah
Madia Moore
Dr. Adrienne S. Lawson & Ms. Azizza Davis Goines

Please plan to join us for the 35th Annual Africa Peace Awards in
April / May 2027
Details to come!



We invite you to consider contributing to the Africa Peace Fellows program. Your generosity helps us the success of this program a reality. if you prefer to make a gift by check, please make it payable to “The University Foundation at Sacramento State” and indicate in the memo the Africa Peace Fellows fund—for your support. Mailing address is: Development Office, Sacramento State, 6000 J St. MS 6030, Sacramento, CA 95819. Or you could donate online:



SACRAMENTO
STATE

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