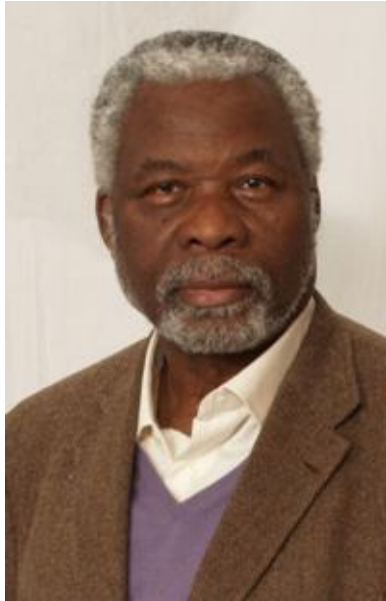


## Literary and Cultural Studies

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**Francis Abiola Irele** has recently taken the position of Provost of the College of Humanities, Management & Social Sciences at Kwara State University in his native Nigeria. Formerly Professor of French, University of Ibadan, Nigeria, he was also for several years Professor of African, French, and Comparative Literature at the Ohio State University. After retiring from Ohio State in 2003, he became Visiting Professor of African and African American Studies at Harvard University.

Among Irele's many publications are *The Cambridge History of African and Caribbean Literature* (edited with Simon Gikandi) and two collections of essays, *The African Experience in Literature and Ideology* and *The African Imagination: Literature in Africa and the Black Diaspora*. He is a contributing editor to *The Norton Anthology of*

*World Literature* and General Editor of the Cambridge Studies in African and Caribbean Literature series.



**Simon Gikandi** is Robert Schirmer Professor of English at Princeton University with affiliations in the Department of Comparative Literature, the Program in African Studies, and the Center for African American Studies. He has a Ph.D in English from Northwestern University. His major Fields of Research and Teaching are the Anglophone Literatures and Cultures of Africa, India, the Caribbean, and Postcolonial Britain, the "Black" Atlantic and the African Diaspora. He is also interested in the encounter between European and African languages in the modern period, literature and human rights, and writing and cultural politics.

Gikandi is the author of many books and articles including *Writing in Limbo: Modernism and Caribbean Literature*, *Maps of Englishness: Writing Identity in the Culture of Colonialism*, and *Ngugi wa Thiong'o*, which was a Choice Outstanding Academic Publication for 2004, and co-author of *The Columbia Guide to East African Literature in English Since 1945*. He is the co-editor of *The Cambridge History of African and Caribbean Literature* and the editor of the *Routledge Encyclopedia of African Literature*. His latest book, *The Aura of Blackness: Slavery and the Culture of Taste* has recently been published by Princeton University Press. He is currently working on *This Thing Called English: The Colonized and their Books* and editing vol 11 of *The Oxford History of the Novel in English: The Novel in Africa and the Atlantic World*.



**Eileen Julien** is Professor of Comparative Literature at University of Indiana, Bloomington. In her words: “The fact that I was born and grew up in New Orleans, Louisiana may well have pushed me into research and teaching that explore the connections between Africa, Europe, and the Americas and those issues that generally go by the name of *postcolonial studies*.”

Professor Julien has received Guggenheim, Fulbright, and Bunting Institute awards and has been elected President of the African Literature Association (1990-91), served as Founding Director of the West African Research Center, Dakar, Senegal (1993-95), and as Executive Director of the David C. Driskell Center for the Study of the African Diaspora, University of Maryland (2002-04). Her books include *Travels with Mae: Recollections of a New Orleans Girlhood and Beyond*. (Bloomington, 2009), and *African Novels and the Question of Orality* (Bloomington, 1992). She is also the Associate Editor of the *Encyclopedia of African Literature* (ed. Simon Gikandi, Routledge, 2002).



**Lu Xinyu** is Professor and Director of the Radio and TV Department, School of Journalism, Fudan University, Shanghai, China. Professor Lu is also Director of the Chinese Television Documentary Academic Association. She has a PhD in Western Aesthetics from Fudan University, and is today widely regarded as the leading scholar on independent Chinese documentaries. Her seminal book, *Documenting China: The New Documentary Movement* (Beijing, SDX Joint Publishing Company, 2003), was the first book to systematically theorize the New Documentary Movement in China from the beginning of 1990s. Among her other publications are the books, *Writing and What It Obscures* (Guangxi Normal University

Press, 2008), and *Mythology. Tragedy. Aristotle's Art of Poetry: New Concept to Ancient Greek's Poetics Tradition* (Fudan University Press, Shanghai, 1995).

**James Ogude** is Professor of African Literature at the University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa. He received his Ph.D. in African Literature from the University of the Witwatersrand in 1996. He is the author of *Ngugi's Novels and African History: Narrating the Nation* (Pluto Press, 1999), and co-editor (with Joyce Nyairo) of *Urban Legends, Colonial Myths: Popular Culture and Literature in East Africa* (Africa World Press, 2007). He has published numerous journal articles and book chapters. His initial research thrust centered around the works of Ngugi, especially in relation to questions of memory, historical reconstruction, and nation formation in African fiction. His recent research focus is in the area of popular culture and literature in East Africa.