

CROSSROADS

Oct. - Nov. 2012

Vo. 19
Number 2

A Newsletter of the U.S. Mission in Nigeria

U. S. Election 2012



The People Decide

Inside:

- The Electoral College
- Candidates Requirements
- Political Party Conventions
- Campaign Financing
- Media Influence



U.S. Grant to Support Clean Energy Distribution in Nigeria

Supporting the development of compressed natural gas (CNG) infrastructure in Nigeria is the goal of a U.S. Trade and Development Agency (USTDA) grant awarded recently to Oando Gas & Power Limited. The grant will fund a feasibility study to evaluate the viability of developing large-scale CNG refueling infrastructure in Lagos State, made possible because of Nigeria's growing pipeline network. The new infrastructure would include the construction of numerous refueling stations across the state as well as vehicle maintenance and repair facilities. The study will also provide an analysis of policy and regulatory issues surrounding development.

"The completion of this project will play a critical role in the Government of Nigeria's efforts to broaden and deepen the country's domestic market for natural gas," said Consul General Hawkins.

"This USTDA-funded initiative also holds the potential to generate significant U.S. exports of goods and services as well as build business relationships between U.S. industry and Nigeria's leading gas company."

The \$494,000 grant was signed at the U.S. Consulate in Lagos by U.S. Consul General Jeffrey Hawkins on behalf of USTDA and by Chief Executive Officer Mobolaji Osunsanya on behalf of Oando Gas & Power.

Oando Gas & Power Limited owns and operates Nigeria's largest natural gas distribution network, with approximately 62 miles of pipeline already present in Lagos State and another 80 miles in progress. The company has identified the opportunity to develop the large-scale CNG infrastructure in order to provide cleaner and cheaper fuel to private and commercial vehicles throughout

the region.

The opportunity to conduct the USTDA-funded feasibility study for Oando Gas & Power will be competed on the Federal Business Opportunities (FBO) website. A link to the FBO announcement will be posted to USTDA's website at www.ustda.gov. Interested U.S. firms should submit proposals according to the instructions in the FBO announcement.

The U.S. Trade and Development Agency helps companies create U.S. jobs through the export of U.S. goods and services for priority development projects in emerging economies. USTDA links U.S. businesses to export opportunities by funding project planning activities, pilot projects, and reverse trade missions while creating sustainable infrastructure and economic growth in partner countries. ❖



Terence P. McCulley
U.S. Ambassador to Nigeria

Dear *CROSSROADS* Readers, In the United States, we are in the midst of an interesting, closely-contested Presidential election campaign as well as electoral contests for other important offices in the U.S. Senate, House of Representatives, Governorships, and local offices. This

CROSSROADS edition focuses on the processes involved in these American elections. Here we will discuss the electoral process, evolution, and safeguards for all American citizens 18 and over to exercise their right to vote.

Free and fair elections remain the keystone of any democracy. When voters elect representatives, they elect leaders who will responsibly shape the future of their society. This is why elections empower ordinary citizens: they allow them to influence the policies of their government, and thus, their own future. Such elections also allow citizens to provide direct feedback to elected officials on their service to the nation – thereby promoting accountability of such officials for their stewardship of public resources.

For those interested in history, the United States has functioned as a representative democracy since its founding with the ratification of the

U.S. Constitution in 1788. The 2012 presidential election on November 6 will be serve as a continuation of this process.

You will also read of the robust and significant partnership among alumni of the U.S. State Department Exchange Programs, and about the contributions they make to the development of their local communities and the strengthening U.S.-Nigeria relations. Recently, Imam Fu’ad Adeyemi of the Alhabibiyya Islamic Society emerged as the first winner of the U.S. Ambassador’s Humanitarian Award during an all Alumni conference held in Abuja. In addition, eight other Nigerians who submitted grant proposals received individual support by the U.S. Mission to carry out various micro-grants in Nigeria. This people-to-people partnership strengthens our U.S.-Nigeria friendship. I think you’ll agree this edition is one of our best yet – please enjoy!

Ambassador Terence P. McCulley

CROSSROADS

is published bimonthly by the Public Affairs Section, U.S. Embassy, Nigeria.

Address all correspondence to:
The Editor, Public Affairs Section,
U.S. Embassy,
Plot 1075 Diplomatic Drive, Central
Business Area, Abuja, Nigeria.
Tel: (09) 461-4000. Fax: 09-461-4305

LAGOS OFFICE:
U.S. Consulate General, Public Affairs,
2, Broad Street, P.O. Box 554 Lagos.
Tel.: +234-703-150-4867/2444.
E-mail at: crossroads@state.gov
Website at:
<http://nigeria.usembassy.gov>
[Facebook.com/usembassyinigeria](https://www.facebook.com/usembassyinigeria)

EDITORIAL TEAM
MELISSA G. FORD
(Country Public Affairs Officer)
DEHAB GHEBREAB
(Public Affairs Officer, Lagos)
DEBORAH A. MACLEAN
(Information Officer)
IDIKA U. ONYUKWU
(Editor)

Inside This Issue

The People Decide the Next President.....	3
The Electoral College: How it Works	5
Did You Know?	6
The Candidates	8
Empowering Youth in Northern Nigeria	9
Nigerian Wins State Alumni Member of the Month	11
U.S. Exchange Alumni Receives Award	13
A Partnership to Eradicate Polio in Nigeria	15
Biotech Helps Create Safe and Yummy Food!	16
Meet Our Officers at Post	18
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Issues in the U.S.	19

The People Decide *the Next President*

Elections occur in every even-numbered year for Congress and some state and local government offices in the United States. Other states and local jurisdictions hold elections in odd-numbered years.

Every four years, Americans elect a president and vice president. Every two years, Americans elect all 435 members of the U.S. House of Representatives and approximately one-third of the 100 members of the U.S. Senate. Senators serve staggered terms of six years each.

The United States relies on a complex federal system of government, where the national government is central but state and local governments exercise authority over matters that are not reserved for the federal government. State and local governments have varying degrees of independence in how

they organize elections within their jurisdictions, but they hold frequent and well-administered elections.

Types of U.S. Elections

There are two basic types of elections: primary and general. Primary elections are held prior to a general election to determine party candidates for the general election. The winning candidates in the primary go on to represent that party in the general election (although there may be a few more steps before their party lets them do that).

Since the early 20th century, primaries have been the chief electoral device for choosing party candidates. With rare exception, victory in a primary election results in a candidate being nominated by that political party for the general election. In a few states, party candidates are chosen in state or local nominating conventions, rather than primaries, either by tradition or at the option of the political parties.

Once the primary elections or conventions conclude, a general election is held to determine who will be elected to hold office. In the general election, voters make the final determination from among the party candidates listed on the ballot. The general election ballot may also include independent candidates (those not affiliated with a major political party) who gain access to the ballot by submitting a specified number



of petition signatures, rather than by the traditional primary method. Furthermore, in some states, the ballot may include a place to “write in” the names of candidates who were neither nominated by the parties nor qualified by petition. Such candidates may be described as “self-nominated,” and they win election to public office from time to time.

In the United States, elections may involve more than just choosing people for public office. In some states and localities, questions of public policy may also be placed on the ballot for voter approval or disapproval. Measures referred to voters by the state legislature or local board or council — referendums — and those placed on the ballot by citizen petition — initiatives — usually

concern bond issues (approving the borrowing of money for public projects) and other mandates or strictures on government. In recent decades, these ballot measures have had major impacts, particularly on state budgets and policies.

In addition to federal, state and local elections held in even-numbered years, many states and local jurisdictions hold “off-year” elections in odd-numbered years. Many jurisdictions also provide for special elections, which can be scheduled at any time to serve a specific purpose, such as filling an unexpected vacancy in an elected office.

Presidential Elections

Every four years, the general election for U.S. President takes place

on the Tuesday after the first Monday of November. Prior to this general election, states hold primary elections or caucuses to choose delegates to the national nominating conventions where the party nominees are selected. These individual state primaries and caucuses typically take place between January and June, followed by the national conventions in the summer preceding the election.

Since the 1970s, the presidential candidates who will be the eventual nominees of the major parties are known before the conventions because they amass a majority of delegates before the primary and caucus season is concluded. As a consequence, the conventions have become largely ceremonial events. Highlights of the conventions include

The Electoral College:

How It Works in Contemporary Presidential Elections

*By Thomas H. Neale
CRS Government and Finance Division*

When Americans vote for a President and Vice President, they actually vote for presidential electors, known collectively as the electoral college. It is these electors, chosen by the people, who elect the chief executive. The Constitution assigns each state a number of electors equal to the combined total of its Senate and House of Representatives delegations; at present, the number of electors per state ranges from three to 55, for a total of 538. Anyone may serve as an elector, except for Members of Congress, and persons holding offices of “Trust or Profit” under the Constitution.

In each presidential election year, a group (ticket or slate) of candidates for elector is nominated by political parties and other groups in each state, usually at a state party convention, or by the party state committee. It is these elector-candidates, rather than the presidential and vice presidential nominees, for whom the people vote in the election held on Tuesday after the first Monday in November (November 2, 2004). In most states, voters cast a single vote for the slate of electors pledged to the party presidential and vice presidential candidates of their choice. The slate winning the most popular votes is elected; this is known as the winner-take-all, or general ticket, system. Maine and Nebraska use the district

system, under which two electors are chosen on a statewide, at-large basis, and one is elected in each congressional district.

Electors assemble in their respective states on Monday after the second Wednesday in December (December 13, 2004). They are pledged and expected, but not required, to vote for the candidates they represent. Separate ballots are cast for President and Vice President, after which the electoral college ceases to exist for another four years. The electoral vote results are counted and declared at a joint session of Congress, held on January 6 of the year succeeding the election. A majority of electoral votes (currently 270 of 538) is required to win. ❖

a keynote speech by a party leader or leaders, the announcement of the nominee's vice presidential candidate, the roll call of delegate votes by the state delegations, and the ratification of the party "platform" (the document that states its positions on the issues). As a televised political event and the start of the general election campaign, the conventions are an opportunity to promote the party nominees and define differences with the opposition.

The percentage of eligible voters who cast ballots varies from election to election, but voter turnout in general — even in presidential elections — is lower in the United States than in most other democracies. Since 1960, voter turnout has generally declined from 64 percent (1960) to just over 50 percent (1996), although it increased again over the past three elections. There are several reasons for the comparatively low turnout in the United States. In contrast to some other democracies, a voter in the United States must self-register to be eligible to vote, a process that varies somewhat from one state to another.

Another explanation is that voting is voluntary, not compulsory, as in some nations. Because of the high number of elections that are required to fill the estimated more than 1 million elective offices throughout the country, it is also possible that voter fatigue contributes to lower turnout.

Statistics indicate that turnout can drop when the public is content with the political situation, or when polls point to an inevitable victory for a candidate. Conversely, turnout may rise when the race between candidates is considered to be very close or controversial issues are on the ballot.

Candidate Requirements

Each federal elected office has different requirements, laid out in Articles I and II of the U.S. Constitution. A candidate for president, for example, must be a natural-born citizen of the United States, at least 35 years old, and a resident of the United States for at least 14 years. A vice president must meet the same qualifications. Under the 12th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, the vice president cannot be from the same state as the

president.

Candidates for the U.S. House of Representatives must be at least 25 years old, have been U.S. citizens for seven years, and be legal residents of the state they seek to represent in Congress. U.S. Senate candidates must be at least 30, have been a U.S. citizen for nine years, and be legal residents of the state they wish to represent. Those seeking state or local office must meet requirements established by those jurisdictions.

The 22nd Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, ratified in 1951, prohibits anyone from being elected president of the United States more than twice. However, the Constitution does not impose any term limits on representatives and senators in Congress, although various political groups over the years have lobbied for such limits. The term limits, if any, applied to state and local officials are spelled out in state constitutions and local ordinances. ❖

(This is a product of the Bureau of International Information Programs.)

Did You Know?

America's distinctive electoral process requires an understanding of some popular key words. Here are excerpts:

- **Absentee voting**

Absentee voting allows voters who cannot come to polling places to cast their ballots. A variety of circumstances, including residency abroad, illness, travel or military service, can prevent voters from coming to the polls on Election Day. Absentee ballots permit registered voters to mail in their votes. In Oregon, all elections are conducted by mail, but voters have the option of voting in person at county polling stations.

- **Blue state**

Blue state is a term used to refer to a U.S. State where the majority of voters usually support Democratic candidates and causes. See also Red state.

- **Buckley v. Valeo**

The legal challenge Buckley v. Valeo resulted in a landmark 1976 U.S. Supreme Court decision on campaign finance law that upheld the Federal Election Campaign Act's financial disclosure requirements, contribution limits and provision for public funding of presidential election

campaigns. The court struck down spending limits in the law, except for the limits accepted voluntarily by presidential candidates who receive public funds. Thus, the ruling allowed for unlimited spending by congressional candidates (they do not receive public funds) and by persons or groups who campaign for or against a candidate, but who do not coordinate their activities with any candidate or campaign. The ruling also said that candidates who do not receive public money do not have to limit campaign spending of their own personal funds. See also McCain-Feingold. ❖

The Candidates

BARACK OBAMA

The Foreign Policy magazine attributes President Obama as taking on a number of major foreign-policy initiatives, including a renewed troop surge in Afghanistan, the negotiation of the New START nuclear arms reduction treaty with Russia, the NATO intervention in Libya, the withdrawal from Iraq, ongoing trade negotiations with China, and of course, the killing of al Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden.

Overview: Obama is a much different candidate today from the senator who distinguished himself by his opposition to the "dumb war" on his way to the presidency in 2008. Obama has turned out, in many ways, to have pursued a fairly conventional, at times, hawkish foreign policy. He has had some notable successes, such as the bin Laden raid and this year's withdrawal from Iraq -- albeit on a timetable negotiated by his predecessor -- and the successful overthrow

of Muammar al-Qaddafi. All the same, "apology tours" and "leading from behind" -- referring to an unfortunate description of Obama's diplomatic strategy by a White House staffer -- have already become buzzwords for Republican candidates. He has also faced heavy criticism on the left for a sometimes inconsistent approach to international law in counterterrorism operations.

But with a significant economic recovery appearing unlikely and fewer domestic achievements to point to than he might have expected, coupled with the international inexperience of his opponents, Obama may make his foreign-policy wins the centrepiece of his reelection strategy. ❖

MITT ROMNEY

According to the Foreign Policy Magazine, as chairman of the organizing committee of the 2002 Salt Lake City Winter Olympics, Romney was credited with financially rescuing the scandal-tarnished event and restoring -- for a time -- the reputation of the International Olympic Committee. He lived abroad as a Mormon missionary in France while in college, and like Barack Obama before him, Romney has made a few campaign stops in Europe this time around.



Overview: As one might expect from the primary front-runner and favorite for the nomination, Romney has stayed clear of controversial positions and doesn't deviate much from the Republican Party's standard talking points. He's in favor of robust defense spending, strong ties with Israel, bulking up border security, and getting tough with China.

As a former governor, Romney has virtually no official experience implementing foreign policy, but having gone through the primary process in 2008, he may be more prepared to handle tough national security questions. ❖

Source: *Foreign Policy Magazine*



More than 200 current and former USG-sponsored exchange program participants pose with Ambassador Terence P. McCulley during the first all Alumni conference in Abuja, September 25-26. Embassy photo by Idika Onyukwu

Empowering Youth in Northern Nigeria Through Exchanges

*By Bukola Olatunji
Chief Information Officer,
National Universities Commission
and 2011 Alumni*

Dr. (Mrs.) Hauwa Evelyn Yusuf lectures at the Kaduna State University, Kaduna. In 2008, she benefitted from the Women in Leadership Program, under the International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) of the United States of America. On her return, she founded the Women Leadership and Empowerment Agency (WLEA) in Kaduna, which focuses on capacity building for

women, widows, youths and the physically challenged.

So far, 10 women have been trained in Birnin-Gwari and empowered with knitting machines and wool to start their own knitting businesses. A similar exercise also took place in Kudan, Kaduna State, while 15 other women were similarly trained and empowered in the second phase of the project in Igabi Local Government Area of the state.

Knitting, Mrs. Yusuf said, was chosen because cardigans and other knitted wears are known to sell well in the northern parts of the country. Her organization is however not

restricted to this skill as it is currently training 100 women, men and the visually impaired, selected from five communities (Rafin-Guza, Rigasa, Badiko, Tudun-Wada and Rigachikun), in and around Kaduna; to make jewelries, handbags, purses, shoes, etc, with beads, in addition to other mentoring programs.

With funding support from the Young African Women Leadership Forum through the US Embassy in Nigeria, WLEA last year organized training workshops in Igabi, Lere and Kaura Local Government Areas of Kaduna State for its target

groups.

This was one of the many good stories and experiences participants had to share at the first All-Alumni Dinner and Conference, organized by the US Embassy in Abuja, on September 25 and 26, 2012.

The conference with the theme: Leadership, Mentoring and Youth Development in Nigeria: U.S. Alumni Celebrating Partnership Through Exchanges attracted no fewer than 500 Nigerians who had benefitted from various exchange programmes, sponsored by the United States of America over the years. These include the Fulbright Scholarship, Humphrey Fellowship and IVLP, among others.

Mr. Olanrewaju Lawrence Osho of the Safe Alliance, Abuja; Mr. Augustine Abu Enyi from Early Childhood Education Center, Suleja; Dr. Theresa Nwachukwu, Children's Reformatory Center, Karu, Abuja; Gum Hembadon of the Ministry of Health, Benue State and Mr. Andrew Gani-Ikilama also shared their experiences.

While working with the Hope for The Blind Foundation in 2002, Gani-Ikilama participated in the IVLP with the theme: Community Service and NGOs. This was later followed by a Harvard Business School scholarship to attend its prestigious Strategic Perspectives in Nonprofit Management (SPNM) program in 2005. Armed with these experiences, Gani-Ikilama founded the Wusasa Business School, Zaria in 2009 and registered it last year.

Among other activities, it organized an Alumni Workshop on Entrepreneurship Development for Youth funded by the US Embassy in Zaria last year. The workshop with the theme, 'Self

Reliance and Development through Entrepreneurship and Leadership', was organized free of charge for the 98 youth that attended.

Wusasa Business School has graduated no fewer than 130 students, given public lectures to over 1,400 others, apart from the founder's weekly radio program – Entrepreneurship Today with Andrew that speaks to over 1 million entrepreneurs, almost every Saturday on Liberty Radio 91.7 FM Kaduna.

Some of the success stories from this workshop are Jay Daniel, who has graduated and written a second book, Victor Mathias, who now hosts a radio program on ABU FM station and Zanau Hassan, who has moved to Taraba State, won a grant and started a farm.

The Fulbright Alumni Association also presented its inspiring activities since it was founded at the University of Ibadan (UI) in the year 2000. Apart from various programs and projects targeted at young people and Nigerians in general, the association has so far held 11 annual

conferences, the 10th anniversary edition held last year at UI and this year's held at Covenant University Ota.

The association has published a number of books, including the research papers presented at its conferences. It also holds Youth Outreach Programs in secondary schools where the focus is on volunteerism.

The high point of the alumni conference was the award of nine Micro-Grants, worth N7 million, for youth empowerment projects in the Northern Nigeria and presentation of certificates to the recipients by the US Ambassador to Nigeria, Mr. Terence P. McCulley.

Ambassador McCulley remarked the alumni remained "key participants in this partnership because you comprise the best of Nigeria's strength and excellence – something Mission colleagues noted at the time of your selection years ago as participants of one of the United States' exchange programs." The conference, he added, was part of efforts to give back to the Nigerian society and share from



The eight recipients of the micro-grants pose with Ambassador Terence P. McCulley and their certificates. The grants totaling N7 million are meant for youth empowerment projects in northern Nigeria. Embassy photo by Idika U. Onyukwu.

their experiences in the United States.

He acknowledged the Embassy's partners: Chairman, Hampton Apartments Limited, Senator Farouk Bello Bunza; National Universities Commission (NUC); Joseph B. Daudu and Company, legal practitioners; National President of the Youth Sports Federation of Nigeria (YSFON) and Raybourne Dean Consulting Limited, who assisted in making the conference a success.

Others, who collaborated with the Embassy's Public Diplomacy Section were, founder of the Step to the Top Leadership Centre, Dr. Theresa Nwachuwu; U.S. - Nigeria Youth Exchange Alumni Association National Coordinator, Mr. Aliyu Mustapha Danladi and Project Director, U.S. - Nigeria Youth Exchange Alumni Association, Mr. Auwalu Alhassan; all alumni of US exchange programmes.

The Ambassador disclosed the United States' various academic and exchange programmes currently have about 5,000 Nigerian alumni, many of who play key roles in providing credible leadership to the country. They include Chairman of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), Professor Attahiru Jega; Governor Adams Oshiomhole of Edo State, and former Vice President, Dr. Alex Ekwueme. "We hope that these alumni, and others, will continue to inspire and provide hope to Nigerian youth", he said.

Welcoming participants on the first day, the Cultural Affairs Officer, Mr. Bill Strassberger, said the essence of the conference was for alumni to exchange

achievements and share success stories. He said there were commonalities in the various programs participants had been involved in and urged them to explore same. He observed the alumni from Nigeria were the youngest and newest in the program and therefore urged them to ask questions and come up with fresh ideas to improve the association.

Cultural Affairs Assistant, Mr. Clemson Ayegbusi, who spoke on the importance of registering on the State Alumni website, informed participants that the United States had recently approved grants to the tune of \$24,600, which could only be accessed by registered members, through the State Alumni website.

He expressed regret that less than 500 alumni were registered on the website and decried situations where approval of grants for projects was sought and proposals by Nigerian alumni were not approved because they did not have sufficient votes. He advised the alumni to avail themselves of the immense opportunities available on the site, which include availability of current journals for research purposes, networking and information gathering.

Before presenting the certificates, Ambassador McCulley said, "we want to work with you, the alumni of U.S. exchange programs, to reach out to the most basic levels of Nigerian society and reach individual youth in towns and villages around the country. In working with you, we seek to increase opportunities and hope where ever we can. In announcing the nine micro-grants today, we will reach young men and women in Bauchi, Kano, Kaduna, and several

Nigerian Wins State Alumni Member of the Month

Grace Ihejimaizu, a Nigerian alumna of the 2010 Study of the United States Institute for Student Leaders (SUSI) program on the theme of Social Entrepreneurship, is the September State Alumni Member of the Month. This honor recognizes Grace's leadership in developing the next generation of skilled Nigerian leaders and entrepreneurs, as well as for her commitment to the Alumni community in Nigeria.



Grace Ihejimaizu

Hosted at the University of Connecticut, Grace's SUSI experience allowed her to examine how business techniques and entrepreneurial skills can be used to address social issues, while also developing her own leadership and problem solving skills. Motivated by her knowledge and following her passion for helping young people, Grace returned to Nigeria after her exchange program and launched

other northern states. I want you to think about the future of your country. You should work together as alumni members by developing projects oriented to helping Nigerian youth.”

Some of the Grantees are as follows:

- **Empowerment for Self-Sustenance and National Development**

The project proposed by Dr. Hauwa Evelyn Yusuf, a 2008 IVLP alumnus, will work with 100 youths from rural communities in Kaduna State over a three-month period to produce and sell beaded products. After six months, the Embassy anticipates that the youth will establish small-scale businesses that will serve, both as sources of income and employment for other youth. She will be assisted by another IVLP alumnus, Elizabeth Anche.

- **DiP Girls Entrepreneurial Training for Accessing Markets (GET-AM)**

Ojobo Ode Atuluku, a 1995 exchange visitor, is targeting 50 girls from Oju and Obi in Benue State, unable to continue their studies, by teaching them that there are livelihood options available. The girls will receive entrepreneurial skills-training in the areas of sewing and quilting, smallholder farming, information technology and carpentry, with a focus on bookkeeping, numeracy, and literacy. Through this initiative, the women will be empowered to start and sustain small businesses in their communities.

- **Agriculture for Peace: empowering youth of Kaduna State with entrepreneurship skills**

Two Fulbright scholars, Dr.

Joshua Olalekan Ogunwole and Dr. Hussaina Joan Makun, have joined together to develop an agriculture training programme for youth in Kaduna State. At least 120 youths will gain exposure to modern planting methods and bee-keeping techniques, and trained in agricultural entrepreneurship. This project will partner with the Kaduna Agricultural Development Programme and the National Agricultural Research Institutes in Zaria.

- **Fish Farming Training Project**

This project, proposed by 2009 Fulbright Undergraduate Programme alumnus, Afeez Adeniran and assisted by six Bold Leader alumni, seeks to empower at least 20 unemployed Kano youths with entrepreneurial skills in fish farming. Over a ten-month period, the participants will be trained on catfish rearing techniques and business skills to ensure sustainability.

- **Gombe Mai Ruwa Project**

Dr. Raymond Bako, a 1998 Fulbright scholar and current president of the Fulbright Alumni Association, continues to “give back” to society from his experience. This project, located in Gombe State, seeks to create a new crop of water vendors, known as “Mai Ruwa,” by identifying unemployed youth, providing them with carts and basic business skills to increase the project’s viability and sustainability. A key component of this initiative will be the savings component of the project that will provide for equipment maintenance and the recruitment of new Mai Ruwa in the future.❖

(Nigerian Wins..cont'd)

Raising Young and Productive Entrepreneurs (RYPE). This after-school youth development program aims to educate, engage, and empower Nigerian youth between the ages of 16 and 24 with skills to become transformational leaders and entrepreneurs. It also offers services including skills trainings, internship placements, volunteering activities, and a peer mentoring club. Since its inception in 2011, RYPE’s services have impacted more than 150 Nigerian youth.

As a young social entrepreneur, Grace has won considerable national and international recognition. In 2010, just after her return from the SUSI program, Grace was recognized by SIFE Nigeria, the local chapter of an international non-profit organization, for her Outstanding Contribution towards a Better Society. In 2011, she was named one of Google’s 12 Brightest Young Minds in the World and was invited to attend Google’s prestigious event, Zeitgeist Minds 2011. Also in 2011, Grace won a grant from the Young African Women Leaders Forum Small Grants Program in support of her RYPE initiative.

Most recently, she was one of 60 young people selected from more than 2000 applications to attend the British Council’s Global Changemakers event, Euro-Africa Youth Summit 2012. In addition to leading these various youth initiatives, Grace also shares her time to promote exchange opportunities to other Nigerian youth, encouraging others and sharing her stories from her experience with them.❖

Alum of U.S. Government Exchange Receives Humanitarian Award



Ambassador Terence P. McCulley presents the first Embassy Humanitarian Award to Imam Fu'ad Adeyemi for the Al-Habibiyyah Feeding program and for continued dedication to volunteerism.

An alum of the U.S. government International Visitor Leadership exchange program, Imam Fu'ad Adeyemi was the first recipient of the U.S. Ambassador's Humanitarian Award instituted recently to recognize the contributions of outstanding alumni in Nigeria.

He was presented with the award at a reception organized in his honor by the U.S. Ambassador, Mr. Terence P. McCulley last week in Abuja. In his speech to mark the occasion, Ambassador McCulley said Imam Fu'ad was given the award in recognition of his outstanding contributions to community service in Nigeria.



Top: Former Chief Justice of Nigeria Muhammed Lawal Uwais congratulates Imam Fu'ad. Below: Ambassador McCulley at one of the feeding programs.

In the citation he read out to the audience, Ambassador McCulley said Imam Fu'ad has demonstrated leadership and exemplary character through the introduction of the Ramadan Feeding Program which he adopted as part of his U.S. experience during the 2005

International Visitor Leadership Program he participated.

Ambassador McCulley stressed the United States and Islam have a shared value of assisting the less privileged through programs like the Ramadan Feeding Program and the San Diego experience in the U.S. from where Imam Fu'ad received his inspiration. He urged other Nigerians to emulate the good job Al-Habibiyyah Academy had started.

In his thank you speech, Imam Fu'ad Adeyemi said he introduced the Ramadan

Feeding Program after meeting a Catholic priest in San Diego who started a similar project after retiring from missionary work. He said he started the program by taxing himself and other members of the Academy before he eventually won the patronage of other well-meaning Nigerians and the U.S. Mission who donate to the program.

The award ceremony was attended by over sixty alumni of U.S. Government exchanges, public officials and leaders of the civil society and religious groups.

The award comes with a \$5000 grant to the recipient to continue programs. ❖



The National Stop Transmission of Polio (N-STOP) Training Program: Partnership to Eradicate Polio and Build Capacity in Nigeria

By Gabrielle O'Meara and Lisa Esapa, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Nigeria hosted a meeting on Tuesday, October 2 and Wednesday, October 3 with its PEPFAR implementing partners to prioritize and plan for addressing HIV/AIDS activities in Nigeria in the coming fiscal year.

“We are entering a new phase of the HIV/AIDS response. It is a phase focusing on scaling up and sustainability,” said U.S. Ambassador to Nigeria, Terence P. McCulley, who spoke at the event.

The CDC office in Nigeria was launched in February 2001. Since then, CDC Nigeria has supported the Nigerian Ministry of Health in its efforts to prevent transmission of HIV/AIDS, treat and care for those who are already infected, increase laboratory capacity, and build health infrastructure to help support a sustainable national response. CDC Nigeria works with the Nigerian Ministry of Health, more than 20 partners throughout Nigeria, and within the U.S. Government (USG) Nigeria Team (Department of Defense, Department of State, USAID) to combat HIV/AIDS.

Dr. Zainul Khan, (far right) WHO Consultant, working with the N-STOP training participants on a micro-planning case study to define ward level catchment areas and plan vaccination strategies.



“This program is about people and this fight is about saving lives...saving Nigerians, saving mothers and their babies,” said CDC Nigeria Country Director, Dr. Okey Nwanyanwu. CDC, along with the USG Nigeria Team, are increasing efforts to ensure that its HIV/AIDS programs respond effectively at a local level to promote greater coverage and access to services and to ensure sustainability of services beyond PEPFAR. “The success of the PEPFAR activities in Nigeria squarely rests on the shoulders of local organizations and the local, state, and national government of Nigeria with the support of this U.S. Mission and leadership from CDC, USAID, the U.S. Department of Defense

(Walter Reed), and the U.S. State Department” said Ambassador McCulley. “It is a shared task to make sure these programs are strong, sustainable, and responsibly governed. It won’t be easy, but partner activities are paving the way for an AIDS-free generation in Nigeria.” Visit CDC Nigeria’s HIV/AIDS Web site for more information and their PEPFAR Implementing Partners:

Fact: Nigeria is one of only three countries in the world where polio remains pervasive (along with Afghanistan and Pakistan). Nigeria is the only country in Africa that has never interrupted polio transmission. Therefore, many of its neighboring countries are especially vulnerable to the spread of infection. As of August 16, 2012, 83 confirmed polio cases have been reported in Nigeria this year, compared to 26 cases reported year to date in 2011.

Government of Nigeria: Federal Ministry of Health, Medical Laboratory Science Council of Nigeria, National Blood Transfusion Service, National Primary Health Care Development Agency.

Indigenous Nigerian Non-governmental organizations: Achieving Health Nigeria Initiative, AIDS Prevention Initiative in Nigeria, Centre for Clinical Care and Clinical Research, Nigeria, Centre for Integrated Health Programs, Excellence Community and Education Welfare Scheme, Institute of Human Virology Nigeria, Songhai Health Trust.

Indigenous Nigerian Faith-based organizations : Catholic Caritas Foundation of Nigeria, Christian Health Association of Nigeria, Pro-Health International.

Indigenous Nigerian commercial organizations (For-profit organizations): E&F Management Consultants.

African Regional/Continental Institutions of Higher Education: Cheikh Anta Diop University – Dakar, Senegal

African Regional/Continental Non-governmental organizations: African Field Epidemiology Network–Kampala, Uganda

US-based Non-governmental organizations: American Society for Clinical Pathology, American Society for Microbiology, Association of Public Health Laboratories, the Axios Foundation, the CDC Foundation (CDCF).

Others include, the Clinical and



Laboratory Standards Institute, Jhpiego, an affiliate of Johns Hopkins University, Pathfinder International, Partners for Development, The Population Council, Safe Blood for Africa Foundation, United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), University Research Corporation.

US-based Faith-based organizations: Salesian Missions, Inc.

US-based Institutions of Higher Education: International Center for HIV/AIDS Prevention, Care and Treatment Programs, Columbia University, University of Maryland, Baltimore, Vanderbilt University. ❖

Figure 1. Wild Poliovirus (WPV) Cases worldwide as of Sept 11, 2012.

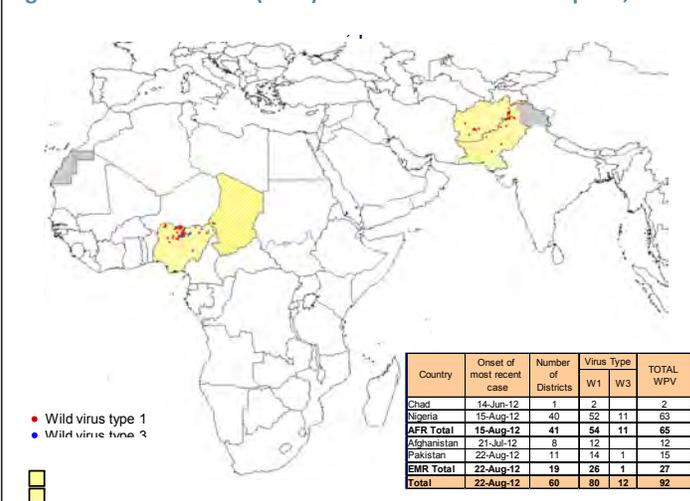




Photo: Embassy Agric Specialist Uche Nzeka, Nollywood star Bob Manuel Udokwu, and Aisha Umar being led through a biotech research unit at the Ernie and Lotti Sears Plant Growth facility at the University of Missouri. Photo credit: Emeka Okolo.

Biotechnology Helps Create Safe and Yummy food!

Agriculture and Food Security are principal elements of the Bi-National agreements between the United States and Nigeria, and in an effort to promote a better understanding of Biotechnology; the Foreign Agricultural Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Nigeria sponsored a group of prominent Nigerians on a Study tour on Biotechnology in the U.S. Rose Maxwell Gidado and Aisha Umar from National Biotechnology Development Agency; Prof. Anthony Olatokun of National Agricultural Seed Council of Nigeria; Mrs Mopelola Akeju of Consumer Protection Council; alongside Journalists, Emeka Anuforo from Guardian Newspaper; Ifeanyi Okafor of Nigerian Television Authority NTA and Ifeanyi Nwoko of News Agency of Nigeria NAN. Also in the tour are Nollywood favorite star and film maker Bob Manuel Udokwu, and an artist Emmanuel Okolo. Uche Nzeka from USDA Lagos and Nafisah Ahmad from Public Affairs Section of US Embassy in Abuja accompanied the group. The group visited St. Louis and Missouri from September 15 – 23. Nafisah Ahmad reports:

“Today, Global Population Growth is estimated to be slightly more than 7 billion, and by Year 2050, the world population is estimated to reach 9 Billion. That is 75 million more people each year. They all need to eat, and yet, an estimated 1 billion people don’t have enough food

today”; says Jack A. Bobo, Senior Advisor for Biotechnology, U. S. Department of State.

Jack Bobo made this remark at a presentation titled “Can Agriculture Save the Planet....before it destroys it”. Jack, who was speaking to a group of influential Nigerians, sponsored by the U.S. Mission’s

Foreign Agricultural Service based at the Lagos Consulate and the U. S. Department of Agriculture on a study tour in the U. S. on biotechnology, said the challenge is big. The world needs to produce more food between 2000 and 2050 than was produced during the past decade, using less land, less water, less fertilizer and

fewer insecticides; and this can only be achieved using Biotechnology.

The September 15 - 23 study tour began in St. Louis, Missouri where the group visited the University of Missouri in Columbia, Missouri. In a laboratory at the university the science behind biotechnology was demonstrated.

Samples were shown on how maize and soybeans are genetically modified using Biotechnology.

The group toured a working farm: Stemme's farm in St. Louis, Missouri. Unlike conventional seeds, the genetically modified maize and soybean seeds that has been planted at the farm for more than 15 years according to Stemme produced more yields; uses less water, less fertilizer, fewer insecticides, reduces greenhouse emission and is improved in nutrients. The crops are healthier and pest free,

toppings among others. Solae applies their expertise to deliver health and nutrition benefits to the consumer; using more than 95% genetically modified soybeans.

In Washington DC, the group met with different farmer associations in the U. S., including the Association of Wheat and Corn Growers. 95% of wheat, soybeans and maize planted in the U. S. are genetically modified said the farmers during a question and answer session. And unlike conventional seeds, genetically modified seeds yield a result that is 5 times or more than that of the conventional seeds. The tour ended with another session, this time with the U. S. regulators who allay all fears the group (and the American public) has on Biotechnology and the process involved in modifying the crops. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) are the main regulators of food and agricultural consumption in the United States. The FDA ensures safety of food and drugs before they reach the consumers, the EPA ensures environmental safety including pesticides and fertilizers used during planting, and the USDA regulates agricultural processes. The three bodies

addressed all questions asked and concerns raised by the group regarding the safety of Biotechnology. All returned to Nigeria fully aware that Biotechnology is safe and Biotechnology produces more same natural yields using less seeds, less pesticide, less fertilizer, less water and less land." ❖

when compared to conventional seeds. The group also visited Solae, a processing company. Solae's aim is advancing global nutrition through food ingredient innovation. They process food crops like soybeans to form products which include beverages, infant formula, breakfast cereal, dairy alternatives, snacks and



The right application of biotech could result in healthier and pest-free Cassava, a major staple food for millions of Nigerians.

Fact Sheet - Young African Leaders' Initiative

The Innovation Summit and Mentoring Partnership is this year's contribution to the Obama Administration's President's Young African Leaders' Initiative - a long-term effort to develop an enduring and productive U.S.-Africa relationship with the continent's youth. In August 2010, the initiative began with President Obama's Forum with Young African Leaders which brought 115 young African leaders to Washington D.C. for interactive exchange and dialogue on themes of youth empowerment, good governance, and economic opportunity. In May 2011, the U.S. Government hosted "The Dialogue with Young Africa Leaders," a month-long series of programs throughout sub-Saharan Africa featuring over 200 programs in 37 countries to expand leadership and social media skills. In June 2011, the First Lady's Young African Women Leaders Forum was held in South Africa, bringing together 76 young African women leaders to discuss themes of leadership, women's empowerment, and community service.

Objectives: The intent of this multi-year initiative is to advance U.S. understanding of and access to Africa's youth population and enrich their potential to contribute to economic, political, and social development in Africa. Each forum showcases the new generation of young African leaders and reinforces the U.S. commitment to two-way dialogue with African youth. ❖

Meet Our New Officers at Post



**U.S. Consul General
Jeffrey Hawkins**

Jeffrey Hawkins had been Director of the Office of Near East and South and Central Asia in the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor from September 2010 to 2012. Prior to his posting in Nigeria, he was an adviser to the Assistant Secretary on Human Rights Policies for the Near East and South Central Asia region and managed millions of dollars of human rights programs.

Mr. Hawkins serves as the new Consul General in Lagos, replacing Joseph Starford who finished his tour in Nigeria in June.

Mr. Hawkins is the recipient of numerous State Department awards, including the Meritorious Honor Award and the Superior Honor Award. Mr. Hawkins speaks French and Portuguese.

Mr. Hawkins is married to Annie Chansavang, a financial officer with the French oil company Total. They have two sons, Maxime and Alexandre. ❖



**Public Affairs Officer
Dehab Ghebreab**

Dehab Ghebreab is the new Public Affairs Officer at the U.S. Consulate General in Lagos. She began her assignment at the Consulate on October 9, 2012. Prior to that, she served as Public Affairs Officer in Liberia from 2009-2012, Cultural Affairs Officer in Ghana from 2006 to 2009, Public Affairs Officer in Zambia from 2004 to 2006, and Cultural Affairs Officer in Nigeria from 2001-2004. Ms. Ghebreab served as Deputy Chief of the Fulbright Teacher and Administrator Exchange Program of the Department of State's Educational and Cultural Affairs Bureau from 1988 to 2001. ❖



**Information Resource
Officer, Malore Brown**

Malore I. Brown is the Information Resource Officer (IRO) to Nigeria. Malore holds a Multidisciplinary Ph.D. in the areas of Urban Education and Library and Information Science from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Dr. Brown is excited her first assignment in the foreign service is Nigeria. She looks forward to working with the American Corners, Information Resource Centers, Universities and the Nigerian community at-large. ❖



**Public Diplomacy Officer
Rhonda J. Watson**

Rhonda was born in Hamilton, Ohio, and graduated with a Bachelors of Art from the University of Michigan. Thereafter, she earned a Masters of Library Science degree from the University of Maryland, and a law degree from the Columbus School of Law at Catholic University.

From 2008 - 2012, Rhonda served in Cotonou, in the Republic of Benin, as the Public Affairs Officer. She has been serving as the Public Diplomacy Officer at the U.S. Consulate General, Lagos since September 2012. ❖

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Issues in the United States

20 journalists from 20 countries participated in a U.S. Foreign Press Center organized global reporting tour to gain first-hand knowledge on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) issues in the United States. The global media tour was titled “A Developing Narrative: Lesbian Gay Bisexual and Transgender Issues in the United States.” The objective of the media tour was to give foreign journalists an opportunity to hear from U.S. activists and other stakeholders on how they have approached LGBT rights in the United States. Okechukwu Effoduh a Human Rights Lawyer and a Freelance Journalist with BBC Media Action Nigeria participated in the tour from June 3-10. He shared his program experiences with *Idika U. Onyukwu*, *CROSSROADS* Editor, below are excerpts.

Q: Tell me about the places you visited and the consultations you made on the tour.

A: On the first day of the tour, we visited the Department of Defense Press Operations at the Pentagon where we were briefed on the elimination of the ‘Don’t Ask Don’t Tell policy’ and the integration of LGBT persons into today’s US military. We also had an interview with the editor of the preeminent LGBT publication in the US called Washington Blade. He highlighted

the historical antecedent of LGBT publications in the US as well as the challenges faced by members of the LGBT community and how the Blade has been a tool for advocacy and LGBT news source.



The group of international journalists during the global tour.

The next day, we had a meeting with the Assistant Secretary of State for the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor Michael H. Posner as well as the Deputy Assistant Secretary Dan Baer. We were briefed on the policies being set up by the US government to combat discrimination on the LGBT community especially under the present leadership as well as the resolution at the U.N Human Rights Council on advancing rights of LGBT people globally.

We had consultations with many notable groups: the Log Cabin Republicans, the LGBT Equality Caucus in Congress and even the Vice President of the LGBT Research and Communications project at the Center for American Progress. Discussions centered mostly on equality and safety for the

LGBT community and the ongoing conversations that support or hinder the progress of same.

As many LGBT rights rely on the law to either flourish or perish, the tour accorded me the opportunity to gain requisite insights into several legal issues affecting the LGBT community. Same-Sex Marriage was recurrent in many of the meetings especially after President Obama’s endorsement on same. We had briefings with organizations and individuals, some of whom are in favour of nationalizing rights to same sex marriage and others who are opposed to it like the National Organization of Marriage as well as Helen Alvaré, an associate professor of law at the George Mason University.

From the discussions, the legal issues were centered on the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) and the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA). When we visited Maryland, we met the Maryland State delegates Luke Clippinger and Kieffer Mitchell who briefed us on how the Civil Marriage Protection Act (CMPA) came into existence in Maryland, the challenges it went through and how it is presently influencing other jurisdictions in America.

The last three days of the tour gave me entrée to the direct and personal issues that affect LGBT persons in the U.S. I listened to the touching stories of parents who have accepted their children and are currently in the fight for the equality

of the ones they love. We visited the LGBT center at the University of Pennsylvania as well as the Philadelphia police department where we got insights on the incidences of hate crime on the LGBT community and how it is specifically tackled.

Very interesting were briefings with Seth Meyer from The It Gets Better Project™, Eliza Byard from GLSEN (Gay Lesbian and Straight Education Network) and the briefing with GLAAD – a media organization that has been working for over 25 years to bring culture changing stories of LGBT people into millions of homes and workplaces every day. The tour rounded off with our visit to the Ali Forney Center in Astoria, Queens in New York- a shelter for LGBT homeless youth where I interviewed homeless young persons who shared very poignant stories of their life experiences.

This tour had developed my knowledge on the U.S. foreign policy as well as its Human Rights engagements - both in the U.S and on a global level. Most importantly, my awareness and understanding of LGBT issues has greatly advanced. I have acquired a firsthand account on these issues not only from the U.S but also from around the world because I interacted with journalists from 18 other countries and they shared stories on same from their countries: Albania, Chile, China, Croatia, Dominica, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Kosovo, Latvia, Liberia, Lithuania, Mexico, Moldova, Philippines, Singapore, Turkey and Uganda. I got to learn a lot from them - their approaches and techniques used in journalism as well as the human right issues prevalent in their countries especially as it relates

to the LGBT community.

Q: From your experience on the tour how can you relate it to the LGBT issues in Nigeria?

A: Nigeria has not regarded LGBT issues as apposite. The actions taken towards the LGBT community in Nigeria are in the adversary. Year in year out, we record incidences of hate crime; people being tortured because of their sexual orientation or gender identity, many are denied employment and healthcare and to add salt to injury, there is a Bill before the National Assembly seeking to jail persons for 14 years because of their sexual orientation. To talk about LGBT issues on the media is usually considered too controversial for public consumption meanwhile many Nigerians are ill-informed or ignorant to LGBT issues.

The human right issues faced by the LGBT community in the U.S and Nigeria are in many ways alike but while those in the U.S are pressing for equality, those in Nigeria are pressing for existence. Conversely, I believe there is hope because there is now some emergence of positive action by organizations here in Nigeria towards tackling some of the aforementioned issues.

From this tour, I have been greatly inspired. My commitment, as a human rights lawyer, to advocate for minorities in Nigeria has waxed stronger. The knowledge I have acquired will indeed foster my passion to advance for the human right protection of LGBT Nigerians as well as other minorities despite prevailing challenges.

Q: As your first international travel experience, what was it like for you?

A: It was completely a fantastic

experience for me! We went from Washington DC to Maryland to Pennsylvania and then to New York all in 7 days! We visited the Pentagon and the White House. We went to Ivy League universities, visited monumental locations and went to very beautiful places that I only used to see on TV. Surprisingly, I met a lot of Nigerians in diaspora who were as excited as I was to meet them. I really enjoyed the American fast food. The service is good and portions are very sufficient. People were very respectful and courteous. Everyone I met was friendly, welcoming and hospitable. I was very impressed. One thing I had to learn was - tipping. It is not compulsory but when you take a cab or eat in some restaurants it is good to leave a tip, no matter how small, especially when they've helped you with your bags or something. The salaries of many waiters actually accrue from these tips.

I must say a very big thank you to Michael Kiselycznyk, Deborah MacLean, Melissa Ford and Nafisah Ahmad of the American Embassy in Abuja. They have been of immense support and assistance to me. I am most obliged and grateful.

I have published a few stories from the tour and I am still publishing more. The stories are getting a considerable amount of publicity and attention and I am happy that many Nigerians are getting acquainted with LGBT matters. ❖

To see a few of Okechukwu's stories you can visit his blog on www.jakechukwu.com.

Editor's Note: The views held in this article do not imply U.S. Government endorsement, approval or sponsorship.

EducationUSA/Information Resources

Abuja -- Lagos

Do You Want to Study in the U.S.?



The *EducationUSA* Advising Centers in Abuja and Lagos provide quality, timely, accurate, unbiased information about all accredited U.S. higher education institutions for persons wishing to study in the U.S.

For more information about EducationUSA and study opportunities in the United States, please visit:

<http://www.educationusa.state.gov>

Educational Advising Centers Locations:

Abuja:

Embassy of the United States of America,
Plot 1075 Diplomatic Drive, Central District Area,
Abuja. Telephone: 234-09-4614251/4241/4257; Fax:
234-09-4614334/4010; E-mail: eacabuja@state.gov.
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/educationusa.abuja>

Lagos:

U.S. Consulate General, Public Affairs Section,
2 Walter Carrington Crescent; Victoria Island-Lagos.
Telephone: 01-460-3400/2724/2725/3801/3802
E-mail: lagos@educationusa.info



College and Career Fair 2012

More than 20 U.S. College recruiters participated in the 13th annual College and Career Fairs hosted by the *EducationUSA*

Advising Centers (EAC) in Abuja and Lagos. The fairs lasted from October 16 - 18, 2012. The theme for the Fair was *Advancing New Partnerships*. Acting Deputy Chief of Mission Melissa Ford opened the Fair in Abuja.

The resources highlighted below are available at the Information Resource Centers in Abuja and Lagos. To Register as a member, please visit: <http://tinyurl.com/ircregistration> and for all enquiries, please write to: ircabuja@state.gov (North) and wyllagos@state.gov (South).

U.S. Presidential Election 2012



Republican presidential nominee Mitt Romney and President Obama shake hands at the University of Denver on October 3.

Background Materials for the election and election

process in the United States of America:

- Election Debates: Commission on Presidential Debates
<http://www.debates.org/>
- 2012 Primary Schedule and current schedule
<http://tinyurl.com/8bvoob8>
- Federal Election Commission Regulates Presidential Campaigns <http://tinyurl.com/95vspkv>
- U.S. Election Procedures <http://tinyurl.com/cqzkhoh>
- Glossary of U.S. Election Terms <http://tinyurl.com/bo2zbor>
- U.S. Federal Offices: Who Can Serve in Washington? <http://tinyurl.com/d7h3chg>
- Outline of the U.S. Government –



USA Elections in Brief

(Released on January 04, 2012)

This revised 2012 edition sketches the way primary and general elections work and also the nuts and bolts of voting machines and poll workers, opinion polls and campaign finance. Read more: <http://tinyurl.com/>

Visit Us

Rosa Parks Center
Public Affairs Section, US Embassy
Plot 1075 Diplomatic Drive Central District Area,
Abuja, Nigeria.
Telephone: 09-461-4000 Fax: 0-9-461-4011
E-Mail: ircabuja@state.gov Visit us at:<http://nigeria.usembassy.gov>

Open

9.00 a.m. – 4.00 p.m. Monday – Thursday

To be on the mailing list send an email to ircabuja@state.gov; wyllagos@state.gov or eacabuja@state.gov

Whitney M. Young Information Resource Center
Public Affairs Section, U.S. Consulate General
2 Walter Carrington Crescent, Victoria Island, Lagos Nigeria
Telephone: 01-460-3400
Fax: 01-1-261-2218
E-mail: wyllagos@state.gov

Open

9.00 a.m. – 3.00 p.m. Monday – Thursday

9.00 a.m. – 12 noon Friday