

# Business School

## Book Review

### City, Street and Citizen: The Measure of the ordinary

**Author :** Suzanne Hall  
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**H**ow can we learn from a multicultural society if we don't know how to recognise it? The contemporary city is more than ever a space for the intense convergence of diverse individuals who shift in and out of its urban terrains. The city street is perhaps the most prosaic of the city's public parts, allowing us a view of the very ordinary practices of life and livelihoods. By attending to the expressions of conviviality and contestation, 'City, Street and Citizen' offers an alternative notion of 'multiculturalism' away from the ideological frame of nation, and away from the moral imperative of community. This book offers to the reader an account of the lived realities of allegiance, participation and belonging from the base of a multi-ethnic street in south London.

City, Street and Citizen focuses on the question of whether local life is significant for how individuals develop skills to live with urban change and cultural and ethnic diversity. To animate this question, Hall has turned to a city street and its dimensions of regularity and propinquity to explore interactions in the small shop spaces along the Walworth Road. The city street constitutes exchange, and as such it provides us with a useful space to consider the broader social and political significance of contact in the day-to-day life of multicultural cities.

Grounded in an ethnographic approach, this book will be of interest to academics and students in the fields of sociology, global urbanisation, migration and ethnicity as well as being relevant to politicians, policy makers, urban designers and architects involved in cultural diversity, public space and street based economies.

Dr Suzanne Hall is a lecturer in the Department of Sociology at LSE and a research fellow at LSE Cities. 'Suzi Hall breathes new life into discussions of multiculturalism, citizenship and identity. These commonly focus on nation-states, but in this lucid, engaging ethnography she shows how local practices and their contexts shape a sense of belonging and nearness that facilitates relations across lines of difference.' Craig Calhoun, president of the Social Science Research Council.



## Association of African Business Schools Holds Conference in Lagos



Dr Enase Okenodo Dean, LBS and Chairperson AABS.

Dr Enase Okonedo, Dean of Lagos Business School and Chairperson of AABS, notes that there is a dearth of skilled managers on the continent across various sectors. Given the projected growth rate for Africa (6per cent for 2012), she said there is an urgent need to develop competent managers to bring these projections to reality. "As AABS, we consider it critical that member schools are suitably equipped and work assiduously to address this growing need".

She urges providers of business education to develop managers who are cognizant of the social and development needs of their respective regions. Such managers must also be equipped to address these needs. The conference will round up with a gala dinner at the Eko Hotel and Suites later in the day. A new project called the African Management Initiative (AMI) will also be launched during the dinner.

The Association of African Business Schools (AABS) is an association of leading business schools in Africa promoting excellence in business and management education through capacity building, collaboration and quality improvement. Currently, the membership of AABS is 27 schools including Lagos Business School, Nigeria; Gordon Institute of Business (GIBS), South Africa; Strathmore Business School, Kenya; American University, Cairo; University of Witwatersrand (WITS), South Africa and University of Stellenbosch Business School, South Africa. AABS recognises that business schools in Africa play a critical role in laying the groundwork for economic development by training current and future leaders in their home markets. Lagos Business School is situated in Nigeria's commercial and industrial hub, Lagos. The school, which was established in 1991 has been ranked every year since 2007 by the Financial Times of London among the top 55 business schools in the world in the area of open enrolment executive education programmes. It is the only Nigerian school to attain this world ranking. LBS is part of Pan-African University.

**Compiled by Chris Uba (08059423849 SMS only)**

**O**ver 80 deans and directors of business schools from around Africa are meeting in Lagos on Tuesday May 15 at the annual symposium of the Association of African Business Schools (AABS).

The symposium aims to enable business education providers develop a deeper understanding of the issues

and challenges facing management education in Africa. It will explore the theme "Best Next Practice in Management Development".

Delivering the keynote address will be Srikant M. Datar, PhD, the Arthur, Lowes Dickinson Professor of Accounting at Harvard University. He will be discussing "Innovative Thinking and Problem Solving". The conference is being hosted by Lagos Business School.

## Unilag to Introduce Terrorism and Security Studies

**I**n view of the security challenges across the country, with bombings and attacks by fundamentalist sects, the University of Lagos (UNILAG) is concluding plans to start programmes in terrorism and security studies.

This was disclosed by Professor Adetokunbo Sofoluwe, Vice-Chancellor of the university, at a press briefing to flag off the institution's 50th anniversary celebrations. According to him, the proposed department will help in research and training to tackle the

menace.

Sofoluwe also noted that the university is being positioned to be one of the first 100 universities in the world, as it marks its golden jubilee. UNILAG was established in 1962.