

## **Africa Multiple Cluster\_GDO ICDL Event Summer Semester 2021**

### **Abstract\_2nd ACC GDO Round Table\_22 April 2021\_4-6 PM\_Knowledge Lab**

The second GDO Round Table event continues the 3-D Dialogues series, which began last November 2020. It takes up the 2nd D i.e. the question of **Democracy** in Black women's knowledge production. In academic contexts, the notion of democracy drives the concept of academic freedom, which articulates critiques of hegemonic structures and policies by intellectuals and educators in higher education systems. Notably this notion also merits some reflection as regards epistemic freedom, which as Sabelo Ndlovu-Gatsheni notes ,is fundamentally about the right to think, theorise, interpret the world, develop own methodologies and write from where one is located and unencumbered by Eurocentrism' (2018: 17).

While African Studies agendas in university spaces demonstrate interest in promoting academic knowledge produced by women scholars in African countries, there are problems evident due to economic imbalances, racial and ethnic differences alongside cultural gender expectations which intersect to produce and influence how women's positions in university spaces are shaped, often rendering them invisible in scholarly and sociopolitical contexts (see Tamale, 2020: 258-259). While higher education contexts will be scrutinized in this light from the ACC GDO situated contexts on the continent, the situation of African women scholars in diasporic contexts would also merit attention, as regards democratic rights, dignities and freedoms. These reflections will be undertaken in intersectional frameworks, which consider the multiplicative complexities of gender, race and ethnicity, class, among other units of analysis.

**The discussants for this 2nd 3D Dialogue are Prof. Akosua Ampofo (University of Ghana) and Dr. Serawit Debele (University of Bayreuth).**

Please note that the event will be recorded.