

Dr. Chizoba Imoka

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EDUCATION

PhD, Education Policy & Leadership & Sept 2014 - Present

Comparative International Development Education

Ontario Institute of Studies in Education (OISE),

University of Toronto, Toronto, ON

Masters' of Education, Educational Administration & Nov 2014

Comparative International Development Education

Ontario Institute of Studies in Education (OISE),

University of Toronto, Toronto, ON

Bachelor of Arts, Economics Nov 2007

Minor: Sociology

University of Alberta

PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

Course Instructor Jan 2019 – Apr 2019

African Youth Languages and Cultures (358H)

African Studies Program, New College

University of Toronto, Toronto, ON

Teaching Assistant Sept – Dec 2018/Sept – Dec 2017

Critical International Development (01)

Centre for Critical International Development Studies,

University of Toronto Scarborough, Scarborough, ON

HONORS AND AWARDS

Illuminence Human Rights and Social Justice Honouree **May 2018**

Recognition for exceptional advocacy for human rights, social justice and legal rights for women. (\$0)

Senior Doctoral Fellow, New College – University of Toronto **2017/18**

Recognized for academic excellence and impactful research for the African continent. (\$2,500)

Adel Sedra Distinguished Graduate Student Award **March 2016**

Recognized by the University of Toronto for excellence in academia and extracurricular leadership. (\$25,000)

Adrienne Clarkson Public Service Laureateship **January 2016**

Highest honor at Massey College, in recognition of outstanding public service at the college and beyond. (\$500)

University of Toronto Fellowship **September 2014 – September 2018**

(\$93,958.08)

Council Member, World Economic Forum **November 2014**

Recognized as a leading practitioner in the field of civic participation and invited to develop a project to reduce barriers to civic participation. (\$0)

Minerva Scholarship **October 2013**

Awarded by the Black Business Professional Association for Academic Excellence and Community Service. (\$2,000)

Heroes Award **June 2013**

Awarded by Selfless for Africa for selfless service and contribution to Africa's development. (\$250)

Government of Alberta Teamwork Award**June 2010**

Awarded by Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation in recognition for valued participation, outstanding level of performance and working cooperatively and productively as a team. (\$200)

Government of Alberta Acclaim Award for Outstanding Initiative**April 2009**

Awarded by Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation for showing outstanding initiative and assisting co-workers above what is deemed normal.

Global Citizenship Award**March 2007**

Awarded by University of Alberta International for the student who has best shown global citizenship in several community projects and has demonstrated the ability to reach out to highly diverse audience.

RECENT RESEARCH PROJECTS**Doctoral Research Project****January 2016 – Current**

Student Success in Nigerian Secondary Schools: An Inclusive-Democratic Analysis

- A three-phased mixed methods research study that involves document analysis, survey and student interviews. The study investigates how the nature of student success students experience and the extent this conception of success is aligned to principles of inclusive-democratic leadership.

Educational Administration Internship Program**May 2015 – Aug 2015**

The Social and Policy Context of Student Engagement Experiences in Nigerian Secondary Schools

- A qualitative research study that involved interviewing school administrators and parents about how students' cultural identity/indigenous knowledge systems are promoted and infused into school curriculum and student leadership development programs.

Field Research in Education Administration**Jan 2015 – Apr 2015**

Student Engagement Experiences in Nigerian Private Secondary Schools

- A qualitative research study that involved interviewing students from Nigerian private secondary schools about how they were engaged as students and the extent to which their schooling experiences prepared them for leadership.

Masters Research Project

Dec 2013 – July 2014

The Case for an African Centered Education System in Africa: The Case of African Leadership Academy, South Africa

- A mixed methods research study that involved analyzing organizational documents and interviewing students, teachers and administrators of African Leadership Academy about schooling practices and the leadership philosophy of the program.

PUBLICATIONS

Book Chapter/Articles

Dei & Imoka (2018). Colonialism: Why Write Back? in E-International Relations. <http://www.e-ir.info/2018/01/03/colonialism-why-write-back/>

Forthcoming: Imoka (2018). Speak Up, Elevate the Discourse. In Cassar, M (Ed) The Leader Reader. Word & Deed, ON.

Imoka (2018). Educating for Global Citizenship but Local Irrelevance: The Case of an Upscale Nigerian Private school. In Wane & Todd (Eds) Decolonizing the Public Sphere (Chapter 5). Palgrave, NY.

Imoka, C (2016). Student Engagement Experiences in Nigerian Secondary Schools: An anti-colonial and student centered analysis. In Dei & Lordan (Eds) Anti-colonial and decolonial praxis. (Chapter 7). Peter Lang, NY.

Imoka, C (2014). The Case for an African Centered Education System: A Case Study on African Leadership Academy (Masters Thesis).

Public Academic Publications

Imoka, C (2017). Social Injustices in Nigerian Secondary Schools and Implications for Education Reform http://www.vanguardngr.com/2017/03/hausa-students-not-smart-igbos-deemed-smart/#disqus_thread

Imoka, C (2017). Sexual Violence, Poverty and Education Corruption in Nigerian Secondary Schools. <https://www.vanguardngr.com/2017/08/sexual-violence-poverty-education-corruption-in-nigerian-secondary-schools/>

Other Publications

Imoka, C (2015). Educating for servant leadership: The case of African Leadership Academy. Comparative International Education Society Conference – Washington

Imoka, C (2015). Educating for global citizenship but national irrelevance: The case of select Nigerian private secondary schools. Decolonizing the Spirit Conference – University of Toronto

Imoka, C (2014). The Case for an African Centered Education System: A Case Study on African Leadership Academy (Masters Thesis).

Imoka, C (2013). Equipping Nigerian Teenagers with Social Change Capital for Nigeria's development. Global Citizens Forum, Toronto
Imoka, C (2013). African Teenagers: Diamond in the Rough – The case for a youth and African centered development plan. Massey Junior Fellow Lecture Series, Toronto

Imoka, C (2013). What type of Education Do Developing Countries Like Nigeria Need to Bring About Sustainable Change? OISE Dean's Graduate Student Research Conference.

Imoka, C (2013). Civil Societies and Quality Education in Africa: The Case of Unveiling Africa. Comparative International Education Society Conference – New Orleans.

Imoka, C (2013). Education for Social Change – Spotlight on Nigeria. Joseph Farrell Student Symposium – OISE.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Invited Public Lectures/Panels

Imoka, C (2018). *Equity and Inclusion in the era of Racial Backlash*. York University, Toronto, Ontario. <https://rights.info.yorku.ca/canada-inclusion-at-a-crossroads-2018/>

Imoka, C (2018). Hancock Lecturer - *Black & Educated?: Unveiling the Contradictions, Redesigning the Future*. <https://youtu.be/svIT1CMTKuc>

Imoka, C (2018). Ted Talk – *Historical Consciousness: A Precondition for Education Justice*. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tnX3HF9sKDA&t=6s>

Imoka, C (2018). Interrogating Alt-Right, White Nationalism & Trumpism. Decolonizing Conference, University of Toronto.

Imoka, C (2018). *The Urgent Need for Decolonial Voices from the Global South in the Discourse of Development*. MA Course in Development Policy & Power. University of Toronto, St. George Campus, Toronto, ON

Imoka, C (2018). *The Case for Decolonial Perspectives in the Development*. International Development Class – University of Toronto Scarborough. Toronto, ON

Imoka, C (2018). *Challenges & Opportunities to Achieving Sustainable Development and Economic Prosperity in Africa*. Engineers without Borders Toronto Fundraiser. <https://ewbtorontofundraiser.weebly.com>. Toronto, ON

Imoka, C (2016, April 16 - 17). Closing Remarks & *Youth and Development Panel*. Results Canada Conference, Ottawa

Imoka, C (2016, February 10). *Disrupting the Colonial Hangover in Canada's international development*. Keynote address at Cuso International's International Development Celebration. Toronto, ON

Imoka, C (2016, January 26). *Building Canada's Engagement with Global Sustainable Development Goals*. Massey College Policy Roundtable, Massey College, Toronto, ON

Imoka, C (2015). *An Invitation to Embrace your Igboness*. Igbo Association of Edmonton Cultural Day Conference, Edmonton, AB, Canada

Imoka, C (20). *Seize the Moment, Seize the Day*. Corona Secondary School, Agbara, Ogun State, Nigeria

Peer-Reviewed Academic Presentations

Imoka, C (2018). Decolonial Education Reform in Africa: A Framework for Deliberation and Action. Decolonizing Conference, Toronto, Ontario

Imoka, C (2018). *Educating for Global Citizenship but Local Irrelevance: The Case of an Upscale Nigerian Private School*. Decolonizing Conference, Toronto, Ontario

Imoka, C & Bushi, J (2018). Tete N'ula: Unveiling Colonial Education Violence and Enabling Citizen Resistance: A Methodological Approach. Decolonizing Conference, Toronto, Canada

Aniezue, O, Imoka, C, Chinemelu, K & Githumbi, M (2018). *African Youth & Decolonization in Africa: Towards a Framework for Mobilization*. Decolonizing Conference, Toronto, Ontario

Imoka, C (2018). *Towards the Development of a Grassroots Education Reform Movement*. African Studies Research Forum Conference, Carrolton, Georgia.

Imoka, C (2018). *A Decolonial Analysis of Student Success in Nigerian Secondary Schools*. Comparative International Education Society Conference – Mexico City, Mexico.

Imoka, C (2017). *Educating for Colonial and Divisive Leadership: The Case of Nigerian Secondary Schools*. School of Graduate Studies Speaker Series, Toronto, ON

Imoka, C (2015). *Educating for servant leadership: The case of African Leadership Academy*. Comparative International Education Society Conference – Washington, USA

Imoka, C (2015). *Educating for global citizenship but national irrelevance: The case of select Nigerian private secondary schools*. Decolonizing the Spirit Conference – University of Toronto

Imoka, C (2013). *Equipping Nigerian Teenagers with Social Change Capital for Nigeria's development*. Global Citizens Forum, Toronto, ON

Imoka, C (2013). *African Teenagers: Diamond in the Rough – The case for a youth and African centered development plan*. Massey Junior Fellow Lecture Series, Toronto, ON

Imoka, C (2013). *What type of Education Do Developing Countries Like Nigeria Need to Bring About Sustainable Change?* OISE Dean's Graduate Student Research Conference.

Imoka, C (2013). *Civil Societies and Quality Education in Africa: The Case of Unveiling Africa*. Comparative International Education Society Conference - New Orleans.

Imoka, C (2013). *Education for Social Change - Spotlight on Nigeria*. Joseph Farrell Student Symposium – OISE.

PRESS APPEARANCES

U of T News (2018). *U of T's African Scholars, Community Leaders Celebrated at Awards Ceremony*. <https://www.utoronto.ca/news/u-t-s-african-scholars-community-leaders-celebrated-awards-ceremony>

Toronto Star (2018). *OISE Student Expertly Debunk Myths of a Post-Colonial World in Education*. <https://www.thestar.com/opinion/star-columnists/2018/01/27/oise-student-expertly-debunks-myth-of-a-post-colonial-world-in-education.html>

University of Toronto News (2018). *What Does it Mean to Be Black & Educated? PhD Student Chizoba Imoka delivers Hancock Lecture*. <https://www.utoronto.ca/news/what-does-it-mean-be-black-and-educated-phd-student-chizoba-imoka-delivers-hancock-lecture>

University of Toronto News (2016). *Meet Chizoba Imoka: OISE Student Driven by a Different Vision of Education*. <https://www.utoronto.ca/news/meet-chizoba-imoka-oise-student-driven-different-vision-education>

University of Toronto News (2016). *Laying the Groundwork for an Ambitious Educational Reform – Chizoba Imoka wins the Adel S. Distinguished Graduate Award.*

http://www.oise.utoronto.ca/oise/News/Adel_Sera.html

The Guardian Nigeria (2016). Knowledge, Passion, Vision and Innovation.

<https://guardian.ng/opinion/knowledge-passion-vision-and-innovation/>

Celebrating Progress Africa (2012). *How 25-Year Old Chizoba Imoka is Teaching Nigerian Teenagers to be Change Agents.* <https://www.cp-africa.com/2012/06/21/how-25-year-old-chizoba-imoka-is-teaching-nigerian-teenagers-to-be-change-agents/>

Wana Wana (2012). *In Conversation with Miss. Imoka.*

<http://wanawana.net/2012/07/23/in-conversation-with-miss-imoka/>

ADVOCACY

Founder/CEO

Sept 2012 – Present

Unveiling Africa Educational Foundation (UVA)

Toronto, ON

A non-profit registered in Canada and Nigeria that provides a platform for African youth to acquire the skills they require to actively participate in nation building projects as early as their teenage years. (www.unveilingafrica.org)

- Perform strategic oversight duties by aligning programming plans with organizational vision.
- Serve as a liaison between Canadian supporters, potential partners and Nigerian audience.
- Perform public relations duties by sharing successes, organizational model at public events and academic conferences.

Founder/Convener,

July 2015

Advocacy for Inclusive Education Summit

Nigeria

In response to the removal of history from the Nigerian schooling curriculum and the consistent neglect of equity/social justice issues in Nigeria's educational change discourse, I organized a summit that put a spotlight on issues of exclusion - disability, indigenous knowledge and student voice in the Nigerian schooling system and

brought education stakeholders together to discuss solutions and create an action plan. Represented stakeholders include youth, education policy makers (federal and state level), teachers, civil society organizations, parents, school administrator and the media. Results from this summit were presented at the Nigerian Presidency and the Curriculum arm of the Ministry of Education. My doctoral studies and advocacy efforts in Canada builds on the findings of this summit.

Founder/Convener,

Sept 2013 – Sept 2014

Massey College International Development Symposium

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In response to the absence of critical international development dialogue and action at Massey College, I initiated a committee to mobilize and engage Massey community members that are interested in international development. Since its inception, the committee has organized two symposiums that attracted a wide range of people across academia, non-profits, and civil society groups to learn about Canada's international development foreign policy and how Canada can be positioned to provide more effective development partnerships. Former guest speakers include: RT. Hon. Brian Mulroney, Hon. Stephen Lewis, Former High Commissioner of Nigeria to Canada – HE. Ojo Madueke, Hon. Hugh Segal and Hon. Peter Stollery. Other community members have taken leadership for this initiative. This year's symposium puts a spotlight on the Global refugee crisis and is supporting efforts to welcome refugees into Canada.

AFFILIATIONS

- **Massey College – University of Toronto, Alumni Junior Fellow**
- University of Alberta Alumni
- University of Toronto Alumni
- **2011 Delegate & Member of the Common Wealth Youth Network**
- **Member, Expert Network -World Economic Forum**

LANGUAGES

Igbo: Advanced Speaker

English: Advanced Speaker