

# GLOBAL

2018-19 SPEAKER SERIES:

# AFRICA

*“Prospects for Development in the Context of the UN Sustainable Development Goals and Africa-grown Initiatives”*

*Dr. Leo Zulu, Michigan State University*

Friday, November 16, 2018

3:30 - 5:00 pm in Derby Hall 1080

Former South African President Thabo Mbeki’s bold declaration in 1998 (then a Vice President) that “Yesterday is a foreign country - tomorrow belongs to us,” encapsulated Africa’s hopes for development and the re-imagining of the continent’s role global affairs in the dawning new millennium, with frequent references to an ‘African Renaissance.’ The United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) was one of the major international mechanisms channeling African hopes for the anticipated development. The eight MDGs (2000-2015) delivered mixed results with significant gains to keep the hope going while major challenges persisted in other areas. Dr. Leo Zulu explores challenges, opportunities and prospects for African development in the context of yet another international development framework, the expanded (now 17 goals) and ‘improved’ (over the MDGs) UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs, 2016-2030). The internal quest for more homegrown solutions and more assertive leadership from some leaders and African institutions, including the African Union and the African Development Bank provide further contextualization. Dr. Zulu draws on examples from selected areas of development, including those from a book that he recently co-edited: *Africa in the Post-2015 Development Agenda: A Geographical Perspective*.

Dr. Leo Zulu is a human geographer and Associate Professor in the Department of Geography, Environment, and Spatial Science at Michigan State University.

