

Our students, who are currently on a nine-month exchange program in Kalamazoo College, Michigan, USA, participated in an African Youth Empowerment Conference. Dalmas Oloo and Ekra Gituire joined students from other African Student Organizations from colleges and universities across the states. The Sankofa conference is an annual event organized by the Yale Undergraduate Association for African Peace and Development (YAAPD).

This year the event was held from 4th - 6th of April in Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut. Various speakers were invited to lead the various discussion panels. They also interacted closely with students during the break-out sessions. Some of key issues that were addressed in Sankofa54 2014 panels were; Defining African Governance; Leadership, Civil Society, and ongoing Challenges; Africa investing in Africa; Telecommunications, Innovation and Community Voices. During the break-out sessions, the participants discussed various topics including Education, Agribusiness, Leadership, Art and literature, Gender and sexuality.

This year's event was graced by keynote speakers from the continent and beyond. One of them was Nobel laureate Leymah Gbowee who won the Nobel Peace prize in 2011 for mobilizing Christian and Muslim women to demonstrate during the civil war in Liberia. Students learnt a lot and they were highly motivated to come back home and make a difference.