

Florida State University Department of Religion,  
The College of Social Sciences and Public Policy's  
Ruth K. & Shepard Broad International Lecture Series

& The Center for Global Engagement's Engage Your World Speaker Series present



# Mother Earth, Pandemics, Gender & Religion: Pursuing Social Welfare & Human Rights in Southern Africa

*A Talk by Musa W. Dube*

**Thursday, March 2**

**5:30 p.m. Reception | 6 p.m. Presentation | The Globe Auditorium**



Musa W. Dube

Musa W. Dube is the William Ragsdale Cannon Distinguished Professor of New Testament literature at the Candler School Theology. She is the current continental Coordinator of the Circle of Concerned African Women Theologians and President of the Society of Biblical Literature. She studied the New Testament at the University of Durham (UK, 1990) and the University of Vanderbilt (1997). Her research interests include: gender, postcolonialism, translation, environmental studies, African Literature, Ubuntu and HIV and AIDS studies. She is also a Professor Extraordinaire at the Institute of Gender Studies, University of South Africa. From 2002-2005 she served as the Africawide HIV and AIDS theological consultant for World Council of Churches, charged with the task of training academic theologians and Faith-Based leaders on mainstreaming HIV and AIDS in their programs.

**Lecture Description:** All members of the human community are hosted in and by Mother Earth. This common home makes members of the Earth community siblings and inevitably family. Their interconnectedness, however, does not automatically guarantee the rights of the Earth as the hosting mother; nor does it guarantee the rights of the human, animal and plant family. Where members are denied their rights, health is also denied since health is the total sum of inhabiting healthy and empowering relationships. This lecture will explore the interface of Earth Crisis, Pandemics, Human Rights and the role of religion in Southern Africa. It will draw primarily, but not exclusively, from the work of the Circle of Concerned African Women Theologians, who have centered the theme Earth and Pandemics in their research in the past two decades.



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