

## Chris Chinwe Ulasi, Ph.D.

*Professor & Interim Dean*

**Chris Chinwe Ulasi** is a Professor of Radio, Television, and Film and Interim Dean of the School of Communication. He also serves as Chair of the Department of Radio, Television, and Film. His background includes over 30 years of college/university level teaching/research and creative experience and over 25 years of administrative and leadership experience. He received his Ph.D. in International Communications from the University of Texas at Austin. His undergraduate education was at Texas Southern University with a B.A. in Telecommunications and a master's degree in Telecommunication. Since 2000 he has served as the Texas Southern University Marshal.

Ulasi is a screenwriter, producer, director, and poet. He has been a journal and book editor of the *Journal of Nigerian Affairs*, formerly **COMPO REVIEW**.

He is a co-founder and publisher of [The West African Pilot News](#) and serves as Executive Editor. He is the Executive Editor of [USAfricaonline.com](#). He has published scholarly articles, and book chapters, and presented papers at numerous conferences. His research areas include international communication, development communication, comparative global media systems, Film studies, and critical theory.

At the undergraduate level, he regularly teaches courses in film history and media criticism, including RTF 331, Media and Broadcast Criticism; RTF 438, Media and Society; RTF 335, Writing for Film and Electronic Media. At the graduate level, he teaches RTF 538, Internal Communication; RTF 539, Alternative Media Systems; RTF 501, Master Seminar in Mass Media Projects.

A film producer/director, Chris has produced seven & co-directed three feature-length films: "**Material Witness**" (Songhai Filmworks, 1994) and "**The Kangaroo**" (Songhai Filmworks, 1995), "**The Stalk Exchange 419**" (Songhai Filmworks, 1997). His fourth film as a producer, "**Return of the Exile**," which he co-wrote with writer/director Don Okolo was shortlisted at the 2005 Nigerian International Film Festival, in New York. Other films include "**Blood "n" Destiny**" in 2009 and "**The Land**," 2011 by Insurmountable Filmworks, and "**Page Thirty-Six**." His current project, a documentary film examining the lives of the Nigerian emigrant community in the United States, is currently in production. He currently serves on the board of **The African Film Festival (TAFF)**, Dallas, and the **American Journal of Transformational Leadership**.

He has appeared as an expert guest on numerous media platforms, including NPR, ABC, CBS, and NBC TV channels. His poems have appeared in journals and publications, including "**Poetic Voices of Contemporary Urban Cultures**," published by *Southern Illinois University Press* in 2000, *AfricanWriters.com*, *Drumvoices Review*, *The West African Pilot News*, *Journal of Nigerian Affairs*, *USAfrica*, *ajtlonline.com*, and *Drum*. He is working on a new book of poems, "**The Land of Ignoble Prodigals**."

Chris is a member of several professional organizations, including the African Studies Association and the International Communication Association, and is very active in local and nationally based social and cultural organizations. From 1993 –1996, he served as the Secretary General of the **Council of Nigerian Peoples and Organization, North America**. In 1990 he was the founding Secretary-General of the **Igbo People's Congress** (1990 –1994), an umbrella organization representing all the Igbo community organizations in metropolitan Houston, Texas.

He served as general secretary and later Vice President of **Anambra State Association, USA (ASA-USA)**, and past President of Anambra State Community, Houston (ANASCO). He is the Cultural Director of **Houston IgboFest**, a significant annual cultural, dance, and folklore festival that will celebrate its 20th anniversary in 2023. He's a former president Ndi-Ichie Cultural Association, Houston, and current president of the League of Nigerians in the Diaspora, LNID.