THE CENTER WOULD LIKE TO THANK

Jessica Horwood for coordinating this project, the students and faculty who contributed reports and photographs, and Luca Brunozzi for the design and layout of this report. Cover photos by Erik Timmons and Abdoulaye Kane.
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ABOUT THE CENTER

One of the nation’s premier institutions for teaching and research about Africa

Founded in 1964, the Center for African Studies at UF has been continuously designated a U.S. Department of Education Title VI National Resource Center for Africa for over 30 years. It is currently one of only 10 such centers nationally, and the only Africa NRC located in a sub-tropical zone. Title VI funding to CAS supports research, teaching, outreach, and the development of international linkages in Africa.

The Center has over 100 affiliated teaching and research faculty in all of the core disciplines in the humanities and social sciences, as well as in agriculture, business, engineering, education, fine arts, natural resources and environment, journalism and mass communications, law, tourism, and natural sciences. Graduate study on African issues may be pursued in any of these fields. Center faculty maintain ties with universities across the African continent, including institutions in Botswana, Ethiopia, Ghana, Mali, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, and Uganda.

The Center’s innovative and influential on-line journal, the African Studies Quarterly, is the first fully peer-reviewed electronic journal devoted to the field. ASQ plays an important and largely unique role in facilitating the publication of research on and from Africa, and offers invaluable professional training for UF graduate students who serve on its editorial board.

GRADUATE STUDY OF AFRICA AT UF

Graduate study with a focus on Africa can be carried out in virtually every graduate or professional program across the university. Prospective students are encouraged to consult the websites of the individual programs for admissions procedures and criteria. Students in any graduate program at UF have the option of pursuing a Graduate Certificate in African Studies. We also encourage them to consult the Center’s website and to contact us when they submit their applications.

Complementing formal coursework, a regular and dynamic series of lectures, conferences and other activities open to all interested graduate students provide rich opportunities for interdisciplinary exchange and discussion about Africa. Most significantly, a number of dynamic CAS-sponsored interdisciplinary working groups organize speakers and events that bring together faculty and graduate students with shared interests, providing students with unique opportunities for research and professional development.
It is a great pleasure to present the University of Florida's Center for African Studies (CAS) 2014-15 Research Report. The year 2014 marked the 50th anniversary of the Center for African Studies at the University of Florida, and former Center Director and Emeritus Professor Hunt Davis reviews some highlights of the Center's history below. We're extremely gratified at the continuing growth in the scope and diversity of research on Africa carried out by faculty and students at UF, as well as the increasing number of students and faculty involved in Africa-related teaching and research. With their efforts and involvement, CAS has become one of the largest and most diverse academic centers for African Studies in the US and in the world.

The research summaries in this report are a sample of some of the scope of work on Africa being carried out at the University of Florida. Our faculty and graduate students as well as visiting scholars are involved in research that spans the continent geographically and ranges in focus from multiple areas of the humanities to the natural sciences, conservation, and health; from aspects of political, social, economic, and linguistic change to the human and environmental impacts in Africa of climate change, disease, and globalization.

A major objective of CAS is to bring together scholars from numerous backgrounds and perspectives to identify and address important questions of intellectual and applied significance. We've been particularly pleased by the involvement of researchers in professional schools -- including among others architecture, public health, medicine, veterinary science, agriculture, forestry, law, journalism, and education -- together with those from the social and natural sciences and humanities, in cross-disciplinary research on and in Africa. The Center and our faculty and students have also consistently encouraged and supported collaboration with colleagues throughout Africa, and we have been enriched by both short and longer term visits by scholars and researchers from various parts of Africa and elsewhere.

In addition to graduate student and faculty research, CAS together with the CIBER program at UF's College of Business funded four innovative “Research Tutorial Abroad” grants in summer 2014 that allowed UF faculty members to bring undergraduate students to their research sites in Africa for a formative field research experience. These included Rose Lugano, whose students investigated self-employed women's financing innovations in Mombasa; Fiona McLaughlin, whose students studied the linguistic ecology of Dakar's markets; Esther Obonyo, whose students examined affordable housing options in urban Tanzania; and Jill Sonke, whose students explored arts and visual literacy in Uganda. UF students also participate in field research and instructional programs focused on archaeology in Ethiopia, ecology and conservation in Kenya and Swaziland, and UF's study abroad programs in Dar es Salaam and elsewhere.

CAS also continued its strong commitment to the Masters in Development Practice (MDP) degree, jointly offered with the Center for Latin American Studies at the University of Florida. MDP admitted its fifth class in 2014, and many of the MDP students have been or plan to be involved in development projects and efforts in Africa.

Finally, UF's Program in African Languages, which is closely linked to CAS as well as UF's Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures (LLC), hosted a fourth summer of intensive African language instruction through the African Flagship Languages Initiative (AFLI). Graduate and undergraduate students from UF and numerous other universities received innovative immersive instruction in five African languages.

We are also very pleased to acknowledge the support we receive from various sources. Most notably, CAS was again granted funding as a Title VI National Resource Center for African Studies in 2014, one of only ten in the country. This grant helps us continue many of our programs and supports students through Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowships. We are also extremely grateful for the consistent support for the Center from the University of Florida, particularly the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the Office of Research, the International Center, and the Office of the Provost. Numerous individual donors, listed later in the report, continue to support our activities and students and help us to prepare scholars and researchers who have deep understanding of and commitment to African peoples, societies, and environments.

Finally, we note with sadness the passing in January 2015 of Dr. Madelyn Lockhart, former Dean of the Graduate School at UF and a great friend of the Center for African Studies. We were very happy that was able to attend (and join the dancing) our annual party and 50th anniversary celebration in October 2014.
When it was founded in the 1964-65 academic year, the Center had two core faculty members: Rene Lemarchand (Political Science, appointed 1962) and Clement Donovan (Economics, appointed 1940). Lemarchand was the first Center Director, 1964-68. While the National Defense Education Act was signed into law in 1958, the first Title VI Centers received funding in 1959—nineteen in all. The UF Center for African Studies was founded with the intent of applying for Title VI funding. It received its first NDEA Center grant in 1965, thus joining the Center for Latin American Studies as a Title VI Center.

The Center's preoccupation in its first years was to develop its infrastructure, which meant first of all expanding the core Africanist faculty. The first two hires were both in 1966: Brian duToit in Anthropology and David Niddrie in Geography. Two additional core faculty members arrived in 1967: Haig Der-Houssikian in Linguistics/Swahili and Hunt Davis, Jr. in History. By the end of the 1972-73 academic year, when the initial period of Title VI Center funding ended the core faculty had increased to seven, with the addition of Paul Kotey in African humanities. There were now four additional resource faculty with extensive African field experience who could direct theses and dissertations on African topics. Course offerings had increased to forty-five, with twenty-four at the graduate level, and the library had begun to develop substantial holdings on Africa.

When Haig Der-Houssikian became director in 1973 (serving until 1979) upon returning from a Fulbright in Angola, the Center thus had a modest profile nationally, but it had established itself as an accepted norm in the academic life of the University of Florida. The fact that the university expanded its support of the Center despite not having Title VI funding is testimony to its significance on campus. There were four additional appointments to the core faculty over the next two years: Anita Spring in Anthropology, Bernadette Cailler in French, and Mildred Hill in English. Thus, by 1976, when, due to the ongoing university support, the Center was successful in its application for Title VI funding, the core faculty had increased to eleven with three new faculty members in the resource category, bringing that total to seven. Course offerings had increased to sixty-six, and there were now about twenty-five graduate students each year.

The Center was well placed to compete successfully for Title VI funding in 1976 and, for the first time, NDFL (subsequently FLAS) fellowships to support graduate students. The faculty continued to grow. A major expansion in the curriculum was the increase in African language instruction beyond Swahili. UF began to offer Shona in addition to Swahili, using the Fulbright program to bring graduate students from the University of Zimbabwe as teaching assistants while working on their degrees. Arabic was also added, as was Yoruba. This expanded language instruction led to the Center receiving six NDFL fellowships. It also laid the groundwork for a truly major institutional expansion of African Studies a few years later: the establishment in 1982 of the Department of African and Asian Languages and Literatures, with Haig der Houssikian as chair, in 1982-92. With departmental status, new faculty positions opened up.

The requirements for Title VI funding had expanded to include an active outreach program to schools, colleges, universities, businesses, and the general community. Hence, the Center in 1976 embarked upon an active outreach program with the first Outreach Coordinator appointed in 1978. A major outreach undertaking was creating a traveling art exhibit that traveled to fourteen other institutions and museums in the Southeast over the next three years. The material in this exhibit also forms the foundation for the Harn Museum’s African art holdings. The Center also began to conduct summer institutes for teachers.
Yet another outreach activity was the Center's funding and publication three times a year of the *Bulletin of the Southern Association of Africanists*. With a circulation of 800, it was addressed primarily to K-12 and community college curricular needs.

The Center again in 1979 lost its Title VI funding for what were now being called National Resources Centers (NRCs) just as Hunt Davis took over the directorship. The challenge facing the Center, if it was to regain Title VI funding, was to define what there was about African Studies at UF that made it a national resource for Africa so that it could compete successfully for a restoration of Title VI funding in 1981. The Center was fortunate that the university maintained its commitment to African Studies for this two-year period and even funded some of the areas that a Title VI grant would have covered. The answer arrived at was that UF was a land-grant university with a well-established Africanist liberal arts and sciences faculty and a focus on tropical and sub-tropical agriculture that was unique in the land-grant system. The Center's 1981 Title VI application reflected this expanded agricultural interest, for the resource and support faculty included six faculty members in the Food and Resource Economics Department, a soil scientist, and a wildlife ecologist. By the next year, the list of IFAS faculty affiliate with the Center had expanded to include five more in food and resources economics, four in agronomy, two in veterinary medicine, an additional soil scientist, and one each in animal science, extension service, and horticulture.

There was much more going on in UF African Studies in the 1980s beyond the focus on African agriculture. From 1980-88, the Center also was the host institution for the African Studies Review, which is a publication of the African Studies Association, with Hunt Davis serving as editor. In 1984-85, the Center established what was to become its major annual set of lectures/conferences on critical African-related topics, which it named in honor of Gwendolen M. Carter. The core faculty of African specialists continued to expand. Ron Cohen came to UF from Northwestern in 1982 and constituted a major anthropology hire that gave the Center enhanced visibility. Another major hire was that of Goran Hyden, who joined the political science department in 1987. In 1988, Peter Schmidt assumed the center directorship and joined the anthropology faculty as a specialist on African iron age archaeology. These faculty appointments, and numerous others, led to a continued expansion of African course offerings and of master's theses and doctoral dissertations on African topics.

The renewal of the Center's Title VI funding in 1981 also allowed for the expansion of the Center's administrative structure. Della McMillan was appointed as the first assistant director of the Center and Patricia Kuntz became outreach coordinator. These two positions enabled the Center to greatly expand its activities and presence on campus, including the Baraza lecture series, working groups, conferences, and outreach to schools and colleges. Expanded Center funding under Title VI also enabled the Center to support a growing number of graduate students with FLAS Fellowships. A mark of how far the Center had come from its early days was the willingness of Dean Charles Sidman to authorize an external search for a new director when I stepped down since he believed that such a search would enhance the Center's national presence and reputation.

R. Hunt Davis, Jr. is professor emeritus of history and served as CAS director from 1979-1988.
FACULTY REPORTS

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CHARLES BWENGE  
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BRIAN CHILD  
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BARBARA McDADE GORDON  
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Documentation of Baga Mandori: An Endangered Language of Guinea

JILL SONKE  
The Arts and Public Health in Uganda

LUISE WHITE  
Rhodesian Independence and African Decolonization
CULTURE AND HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE TO THE WEST AFRICAN EBOLA EPIDEMIC

SHARON ABRAMOWITZ

Sharon Abramowitz has taken a lead role in building the Emergency Ebola Anthropology Network. Starting in September 2014, Abramowitz, the American Anthropological Association, and colleagues obtained support for creation of the AAA/WCAA/Wenner-Gren/GWU Emergency Initiative on Anthropology and Ebola, which culminated in the convening of 30 leading anthropologists of Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, and Nigeria, infectious disease and epidemics, and humanitarian response at George Washington University on November 6th-7th, 2014. The first task of the initiative was to generate a series of anthropologically informed recommendations for the Emergency Ebola Response in West Africa, which is now publicly available through the American Anthropological Association Website.

Through the Emergency Ebola Anthropology Network, Abramowitz has sought to bring together interdisciplinary and international social science experts to inform the Ebola response. Presently, the network includes 150-200 experts in 11 countries, including U.S., U.K., Canada, France, the Netherlands, Germany, Belgium, Senegal, Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Guinea. Most participants have 10-30 years of experience in the region and with humanitarian organizations. Communications are further circulated across several other national networks of social science experts working on Ebola, including the Reseau Ouest-Africain SHS Ebola (a Francophone social science listserv), a collective of anthropologists operating in Liberia, and several practitioner networks (ex. UNDP’s ALNAP network, the Society for Medical Anthropology (SMA), and the National Association of Practicing Anthropologists (NAPA). The Network has built linkages with the Centers for Disease Control, the United Nations Mission for Emergency Ebola Response (UNMEER), the World Bank, the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), the World Bank, the US government, UNICEF, and the World Health Organization, as well as partners in the government of Sierra Leone, Liberia, Guinea, and neighboring countries. The network works via a publicly accessible listserv, a discussion board, and a website hosted by the UK Ebola Anthropology Platform.

In order to contribute to the Ebola response directly through research, Abramowitz has been working in partnership with colleagues at UF, Yale, and the World Health Organization in Liberia to analyze data collected during the height of the Ebola crisis in Liberia between August-October 2014. This research has explored several critical issues informing the Ebola response, including the pace in which local populations assimilated new information about Ebola, local attitudes towards mass graves and cremation, community-based responses to Ebola in urban neighborhoods, and patterns of healthcare-seeking and clusters of co-morbidity in the Ebola crisis.

Abramowitz published her monograph Searching for Normal in the Wake of the Liberian War in 2014 and has an edited volume forthcoming publication in 2015 (with Catherine Panter-Brick, Yale University) entitled Medical Humanitarianism: Ethnographies of Practice, both with University of Pennsylvania Press. In addition, Abramowitz has continued her pre-existing research agenda focused on medical humanitarianism and gender-based violence. She has also continued her research into the history of gender-based violence in Liberia, Cote d’Ivoire, and Rwanda in order to empirically examine and theorize how patterns of gender violence and gendered protections are shaped by historical and contemporary conditions in diverse contexts.

Sharon Abramowitz is assistant professor of anthropology & African studies.
Cities all over the world constitute a totality of urban cultural productions within which linguistic culture has been one of the most remarkable features that define the city. For example, in addition to ‘French’ architectural designs or ‘French’ business culture is the French language that defines Paris. A visitor is overwhelmed by French language in whatever corner they turn. How contemporary African cities are defined by the African unique linguistic complexities is an aspect that has not evaded sociolinguists’ attention (e.g. UP’s project: The Languages of Urban Africa (LUA), 2009, PI: Fiona McLaughlin). This study is a continuation of the LUA project specifically aiming at exploring how linguistic identities are negotiated in Africa’s globalized or globalizing urban settings. Swahili cities on the east African coast and its off-shore islands present an interesting case due to their long urban traditions (one of the oldest urban civilizations on the continent). Dar es Salaam (Mainland Tanzania), Mombasa (Kenya) and Zanzibar (Zanzibar) with a shared cultural background have been selected as the focus of this study as they are potentially well located (in space and time) for a productive comparative analysis.

Today, Dar es Salaam (DSM), Mombasa (MBS) and Zanzibar (ZNZ) indisputably are among the largest global cities in the east African region. DSM has a population of approximately 5 million people, MBS has a population of over a million, and ZNZ about a half million. All three have a lot in common, historically and in contemporary times. All cities represent the emergence and evolution of the Swahili civilization. They first emerged as trading centers during the early Indian Ocean Trade that brought merchants from the Arabian Peninsula and the Indian sub-continent to the east African coast in the first part of the 2nd millennium. Gradually, trading centers grew into remarkable city states particularly in the case of MBS and ZNZ, then they turned into colonial administrative and/or commercial capitals during European colonization of Africa in the first half of the 20th century, the status that would be inherited by the newly independent nations in the second half of the 20th century. Today, they do not only constitute part of the global urban Africa, but also popular destinations of Western and Oriental tourists and host cities to the Kiswahili study abroad programs.

Throughout these centuries, Kiswahili language and culture have consistently remained one of the major elements of their cultural identity. Certainly, no any linguistic or cultural landscape that remains static. In this regard, linguistic and cultural dynamics have also become part of general evolution of these cities. Farouk Topan (2006), for example, refers to these Swahili cultural dynamics as ‘from coastal to global.’ The bottom line is that there has been continuity and change in the Swahili cultural landscape, a phenomenon that has attracted a significant attention of scholars who study Africa. This project aims at highlighting the relatively sidelined phenomenon that pertains to the dynamics of linguistic landscape in African urban setting.

Charles Bwenge is senior lecturer & coordinator of the Program in African Languages (PAL) in the Center for African Studies and the Department of Languages, Literatures & Cultures.
The University of Florida has a strong programme of graduate research linked to large conservation areas and communities in southern Africa. We have cultivated relationships based on pragmatic research that adds as much value locally as we derive from it through our PhDs and publications. This has allowed us to form strong partnerships with a number of key agencies in the region, so that we can integrate our research directly into practice, or what we call co-learning by co-doing.

With the Southern African Wildlife College, the USAID-funded RESILIM Project, Norwegian Higher Education for Development and WWF-South Africa we are working with key communities in Mozambique and South Africa to assess livelihoods and governance, and to then use this to start a process of governance reform. These communities are locked into a vicious cycle of poverty and environmental degradation, yet private wildlife conservationists and national parks earn ten to forty times more from the same land. Our hypothesis is that institutional reform can transform these communities to a positive and green development trajectory, based mainly on replacing top-down committee-based collective action with genuine participation, and also on stronger commercial relationships with the private sector to unlock the bio-experience economy, especially wildlife tourism, hunting and ecosystem services. We have had particularly successful partnerships with the private Sabi Game Reserve and Mangalana community, which is situated in Mozambique but on the Kruger border. This is a post conflict situation in which people struggle to feed themselves, have been disenfranchised from wildlife, and provide a safe passage for rhino poachers. Earlier this year, they received their first ever cash payments from wildlife as a result of our partnerships, and we will be repeating earlier surveys to see if and how attitudes and opportunities are shifting.

In Zambia, we have a partnership with The Nature Conservancy which, incidentally, employs several Florida alums – Patricia Mupeta and Jessica Musengezi. Here our goal is to develop livelihood and governance tracking tools so that we can measure the impact of conservation interventions on people’s nutrition, health, production and associational capacity. We have introduced tablet computer technology to improve the accuracy and effectiveness of these surveys. Four Gators have played an important role in this process – Shylock Muyengwa and Leandra Clough in Zambia, and Antonieta Eguren and Alexander Sprague in the Makuleke community that owns part of Kruger National Park as part of their MDP practicum.

With surprisingly little academic interest in community micro-governance and protected area and wildlife economics, the demand for what we do is growing rapidly. Through partnerships with Southern African Wildlife College, Stellenbosch University and Copperbelt University in Zambia, we are working to translate our research in governance and economics into graduate level curricula. What is innovative is that we are avoiding the classroom, and are developing training courses where the participants are actively engaged in applying new skills to conservation and development programmes with a focus on communities in the buffer zones of the huge Kruger and Kafue National Parks.

With large amounts of donor money now being targeted at carbon, biodiversity and poverty in protected area buffer zones, we are positioning ourselves to provide the social technology (e.g. governance, economics, livelihood tracking) and other technology (e.g. satellite monitoring of deforestation and forest degradation) that is necessary if these investments are to be effective. The Global Environmental Fund for example has invested billions of dollars into biodiversity over the past two decades, and is keenly aware of the need for scientific evaluation of their projects, and the application of stronger science into project conceptualizing and design. Our goal is to bridge the gap between the immediacy of development assistance and the much slower cycles of scholarly consideration. The way we approach research through the co-learning by co-doing or transdisciplinary research process, is beginning to find traction with innovative agencies like UNDP’s global biodiversity programme. Building these partnerships, and working in an interdisciplinary way is a comparative advantage that Florida has that in being increasingly appreciated by communities and development agencies.

Brian Child is associate professor of geography and African studies.
In the face of a high burden of morbidity and mortality due to road traffic accidents, infectious diseases and, increasingly, non-communicable disease, Africans are vulnerable in times of acute illness and injury. In previous reports, I described the scary reality that in many parts of the world, casualty centers are staffed by junior physicians with no specialty training—if any particular care for emergencies is available at all. With the help of the African Federation for Emergency Medicine, local specialty organizations, Ministries of Health and nongovernmental organizations as well as local physician and allied health champions, this is slowly changing in Africa.

I continue to work with the AFEM to develop open-access content for the core curricula for specialist trainees. These lectures and simulation sessions supplement the African Federation of Emergency Medicine Handbook of Acute and Emergency Care. I authored several chapters and edited the psychiatry section for the text published in 2013, which has become a core resource for most emergency medicine specialist trainees on the continent. At the 2014 African Congress on Emergency Medicine, held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, I will present a lecture on the diagnosis of brain death in the low-resource Emergency Department and also serve as a facilitator in the pre-conference research skills workshop.

In the past year, I have worked on national and international committees addressing Global Health and Emergency Care. As a member of the Society for Academic Emergency Medicine’s Global Emergency Medicine Academy, I co-authored “Global Health and Emergency Care: An Undergraduate Medical Education Consensus-based Research Agenda” published in Academic Emergency Medicine in 2013. Specific to Africa, I lead a working group of the International Federation for Emergency Medicine’s Specialty Implementation Committee to produce a manuscript for publication this winter in the African Journal of Emergency Medicine entitled “How to Start and Operate a National Emergency Medicine Specialty Organization.” This document will provide practical guidance to stakeholders developing Emergency Care in Africa and beyond.

I continue to cultivate local relationships to provide education in training programs for practitioners of Emergency Medicine and have worked closely with the new post-graduate training program in Rwanda. A University of Florida College of Medicine-Jacksonville senior Emergency Medicine resident will join me in Kigali to participate in an elective at the referral hospital while I continue to provide faculty support for the residency. As I transition into the role of Director of International Medical Education Programs for the College of Medicine, I hope to continue to foster relationships that will allow us to develop sustainable partnerships for educational exchange and research partnerships including undergraduate and post-graduate trainees from the University of Florida. Ideally, many will have the opportunity to participate in educational and systems development endeavors related to ongoing AFEM programs.

Elizabeth DeVos is assistant professor in the Department of Emergency Medicine and director of the International Emergency Medicine Program.
I continue my routine of spending time in Tanzania, Sweden and Florida. Melania and I find it invigorating and allow us to experience new as well as old things either on location in these places or through travels to neighboring destinations. It would be a mistake to call this field research but the important things for both of us is the exposure to different parts of the world. With a keen and inquisitive mind these insights become valuable complements to the formalized knowledge that books and articles offer.

I have kept busy writing and doing consulting work ever since my retirement in 2008. The latter brings me in touch with the empirical reality of Africa. During 2013-14 I was involved in two challenging assignments. The first was to help the Inspectorate of Government in Uganda to come up with a stringent and more relevant set of indicators for tracking corruption in the country. There are myriads of measures out there, most of the administered by international bodies and most of them of little policy value in Uganda. The task, therefore, was to find the right mix of locally generated and international standard measures that could be adopted for greater relevance and effectiveness. After a successful validation workshop in January in Kampala, the project was brought to closure and the proposed new scheme approved by the IG.

A second assignment brought me to Kigali where I led a team of consultants with the responsibility to write the fourth Millennium Development Goals Progress Report for Rwanda. The project was administered by the UNDP but involved close consultation with the Government of Rwanda, notably its Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning. It was a sensitive exercise since the trust between the two partners seemed rather shallow. We had to go through several drafts before there was a consensus and it was only after a workshop meant to validate the report that all the issues that the Government had came out and thus forced us into yet a couple of more rounds of writing. Anyway, the assignment was completed in August 2014 and when this is being written it is under local production for dissemination in Rwanda as well as within the UN System.

My main writing project during the last fifteen months was the completion of a revised second edition of my 2006 book titled African Politics in Comparative Perspective. I am pleased to see that it is being widely used as a textbook both in North America, Europe and Africa. Other things that I have done include participating in a conference in Helsinki, Finland on “Knowledge Generation and Development.” My paper is included in an edited volume to be published by Routledge in late 2014. I have also contributed to two Festschriften, one for a former Tanzanian colleague at the University of Dar es Salaam, the other for a Danish researcher and friend who is retiring 2015. In September 2014 I organized two sessions on decentralization in Africa at the Nordic Africa Days in Uppsala, Sweden. I am also organizing a panel at the forthcoming African Studies Association Annual Meeting on “Contending Concepts of Justice and Peace in Africa” with my former student, Professor Peter VonDoepp, serving as discussant.

Goran Hyden is distinguished professor emeritus of political science and former director of CAS.
TOURISM AND COMMUNITY-BASED WILDLIFE CONSERVATION IN KENYA

SUSAN JACOBSON

Community-based natural resource management can be an effective approach to conserving wildlife and improving human welfare in Africa. Evaluation of the factors leading to effective wildlife conservation in protected areas as well as on communal and private lands can identify problems to be addressed by management and educational outreach, and promote efficiency and accountability.

My research on “Tourist Satisfaction and Information Needs at Kenya’s Community Tourism Enterprises,” examined the tourism experience in Laikipia, Kenya. A series of photographs and statements representing Laikipia’s wildlife, landscape features, cultural heritage, and a variety of service variables that may influence visitor satisfaction were Q-sorted by a sample of guides and managers of four nature-based tourism enterprises and visiting tourists. Using factor analyses, the data yielded 3 groups each describing a distinct visitor experience: “Ecotourist Experience,” “Comfortable Wildlife Experience,” and “Vacation Experience.”

Our results identified wildlife and cultural resources of importance to Laikipia tourists as well as relative values of service quality attributes and ecotourism benefits. Findings suggest the importance of management actions to maintain threatened, but controversial, wildlife species such as lions and elephants, and promotion of the region’s rare dryland species to contribute to tourism satisfaction. Ecotourism benefits, currently a focus of tourism enterprise websites, appeals mainly to only one type of tourist attracted to Laikipia. Recommendations to the Laikipia Wildlife Trust were to further enhance tourism-centered information and outreach for other audiences.

Research by M.Sc. student Dickson K. Ritan evaluated biodiversity threats and tourism development in Kenya’s terrestrial parks and reserves in order to improve policies and strategic management actions. We compared management effectiveness in national parks managed by the central government through the Kenya Wildlife Service and national reserves managed by local authorities. Based on documents and surveys to 104 managers at Kenya’s terrestrial national parks and reserves, 56% of protected areas experience high threats. Biodiversity threat levels did not differ between the national parks and reserves. However, specific threats, like livestock incursion and illegal human settlement were significantly higher in reserves compared to parks. The national reserves were less visited despite similarities in many types of tourist attractions, such as the “big five,” large mammals, and birdlife.

M.Sc. student Lily Maynard, is conducting an evaluation of community-based conservancies in Maasai Group Ranches in Kenya, assessing opportunities for stakeholder collaboration. A goal of her research is to determine differences in community participation and program understanding between mature and new conservancy programs. She is assessing strengths and weaknesses of the programs perceived by directly and indirectly involved stakeholder groups in order to construct a “Potential for Collaboration Index” to highlight supports and barriers to stakeholder collaboration and conservation. The results will inform recommendations for local action by communities and NGOs to increase benefits and decrease costs to support more effective conservancies.

Research on the governance and incentive structures for reducing emissions from deforestation and degradation (REDD) in Tanzania is being completed by my doctoral student, Theron Morgan-Brown. Experience with community based natural resource management in Africa suggests that in countries like Tanzania, where more than half of remaining forests are on village lands, REDD governance structures should ensure that communities receive tenure over forest carbon and a pathway to benefit from this resource. This requires that villages are nested within a national emissions accounting system and rewarded for their individual performance at reducing emissions. Theron is developing and assessing REDD benefit sharing systems at the village level that ensure wide participation and accountability.

Evaluation of conservation programs promotes an understanding of economic, cultural, and contextual factors that influence support or opposition to conservation policy. The success of conservation interventions for resources, wildlife, and livelihood depends on these analyses.

Abdoulaye Kane is associate professor of anthropology and African studies.

Every year thousands of West African Muslims belonging to the Tijani Sufi Order travel to Fez to pay a visit (ziarra) to the founder of the Tariqa buried inside the Tijani Zawiya situated in the old Medina of the city. The Baro family in Mbour, known for belonging to the Medina Gounass branch of Tijaniyya in Senegal, has over the past two decades led collective visits to the Zawiya Tijani of Fez. The annual Ziarra of Fez has become one of the most important moments for the Baro brothers to reenact their religious authority over their expanding translocal and transnational networks of followers.

In the 1980s, Mansour Baro initiated translocal circuits of travel that take him from Mbour to the villages of the Senegal River Valley (along the border between Senegal, Mauritania, and Mali) and to neighborhoods in Dakar where he preaches Muslims to return to the practice of “true Sufi Islam” by following the recommendation of the Prophet and Sidi Ahmed Tijani. Over the years, he established a vast network of villages affiliated to him and to the Medina Gounass Branch of Tijaniyya. Some of the leaders of this translocal community of followers are invited to join Tierno Mansour to his annual Ziarra in Fez where they are met by their followers in Morocco and Europe. After his death in 2007, Tierno Mansour was replaced by his brother who continues to entertain his expanding translocal and transnational networks with a special attention to Fez and their connections with the Tijani Family in Morocco.

This research examines how the Baro brothers use the Ziarra of Fez to consolidate their religious authority and to prove their special rank in the Tijaniyya brotherhood. It analyzes the ritual performances and the sermons delivered by the Baro brothers inside the Zawiya during the annual Ziarras. The appearance of Sheikh Tijani to Sheikh Baro as well as the claims of embodiment of Sheikh Tijani by followers, and the assurances of prayers answered are all part of the confirming elements of the high ranking of Sheikh Baro. The research analyzes the relations that pilgrims in the Zawiya Tijani of Fez entertain with the sacred and how they attempt to materialize baraka through the combination of the water of Zawiya’s well, the Tomb of the founder of Tijaniyya, and his descendants. The research addresses lastly a touristic dimension of the pilgrimage by looking at various activities that pilgrims engage in that make them comparable to secular tourists. The research examines the lodging arrangements for pilgrims outside the hotels. It investigates the shopping and sightseeing of symbolic places in and around the city of Fez.
Dr. Julie Silva (University of Maryland) and I continue to explore how rainfall variability and extreme rainfall events may be related to changes in income for rural subsistence farmers across Mozambique. Our collaboration has been extended to include Dr. Benedito Cunguara, a Research Associate in Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics (Michigan State University) who currently lives and works in Maputo.

Together, we have explored relationships between rainfall patterns, agriculture, and income occurring between national surveys of socio-economic data in 2002, 2005, 2008, and 2012. In our recent submission to *Applied Geography*, we examined how extreme weather in the context of on-going economic shocks influence regional inequality and polarization within Mozambique. We utilized rainfall estimates detected by satellites to develop a monthly rainfall climatology over 1998-2013 and determined the percentage of normal rainfall received at each village in each study month of the growing season. We sectioned Mozambique into rainfall regions based on being impacted by tropical cyclones, floods from non-tropical cyclone rainfall, rainfall deficits, and the receipt of relatively normal rainfall. We then relate these weather patterns to changes in inequality and polarization conducting decomposition analyses of the Gini index and Duclos-Esteban-Ray (DER) polarization index. Contrary to generally accepted view that weather shocks exacerbate existing income and power disparities within societies, we find evidence that inequality and polarization can decline in the aftermath of an extreme event, and increase even where the weather is relatively good. By identifying varying effects of extreme events on inequality and polarization at subnational level, our study enables a more detailed understanding of weather-related effects on socio-economic outcomes in rural societies rapidly integrating into the global economy.

In 2014, Dr. Silva and I had a paper published in the journal *Weather, Climate, and Society*: “Relating rainfall patterns to agricultural income: Implications for rural development in Mozambique.” The paper “Regional Inequality and Polarization in the Context of Concurrent Weather and Economic Shocks: The Case of Mozambique” by Silva, Matyas, and Cunguara is currently in revision.

I am serving as a named collaborator on a research grant funded by the National Science Foundation: Inside the Charcoal Trade: Investigating the Dynamic Intersections between Economic Development, Urbanization, and Forest Degradation in Mozambique. The PI is Dr. Silva and the Co-PI is Fernando Sedano, a Research Assistant Professor at the University of Maryland. Our other collaborators are Dr. Zacarias Ombe, Susana Baule, and Cardoso Meque from Universidade Pedagogica; Natasha Ribeiro of Eduardo Mondlane University; Dr George Hurtt from the University of Maryland; and Michael L. Lahr of Rutgers University.

Corene Matyas is associate professor of geography.
WILDLIFE RESEARCH IN SWAZILAND AND SOUTH AFRICA

BOB McCLEERY

I have been working on wildlife issues in Southern Africa since 1994 when I served as an ecologist in Swaziland for the United States Peace Corps. Currently, I have three major research efforts in the region that are all focused on areas of high endemism and rapid human growth (biological hotspots). Along with four of my PhD Students we are working with a group of colleagues from the University of Swaziland and UF to improve our understanding of how land-use changes (agriculture, settlement, urbanization, etc.) alter wildlife communities and ultimately impact human wellbeing. Taking an interdisciplinary approach, this projects aims to understand how land-use changes influence and reduce ecosystem services (i.e. pollination, pest control, disease resistance, seed dispersal) important to human populations. This work is critically important to developing regions where landscapes are rapidly altered without an understanding of the actual consequences.

We are also working to address an apparent African elephant conservation paradox: the conservation of elephants is essential for the health and functioning of savannas, but successful conservation of elephants can lead to declines in the health and functioning of African savannas. This paradox has led to a contentious debate on the best way to manage African elephant that are decline in some regions and locally over abundant in other. Africa’s savanna elephants are well studied but ecological data are rarely used to shape policies for their management and conservation. We are working create consensus among ecologist and to insure ecological data is used to find the proper balance between elephant population and the health of savannas. Our research will be used to determine elephant management practices in Kruger Park and Swaziland.

Also in Swaziland we have placed a considerable amount of time and effort into establishing a research and monitoring program throughout the country’s protected areas. These protected areas are some of the last refuges for endemic wildlife and plants found throughout the region. Working with a local Non-Governmental Organization (All Out Africa, Inc.), we developed a research plan that allows Swazi researchers and land managers to detect changes in the plant and animal communities as they respond to pressure from development, poaching, climate change and different management practices.

Finally, we are working to understand what causes the outbreaks of human diseases that are harbored in wild animals in some areas of Africa but not others. Some of the world’s deadliest diseases and greatest global health challenges include bat-hosted viruses in the family Filoviridae, such as Ebola (Ebola virus spp.) and Marburg (Marburg marburgivirus). There is an urgent need to understand what conditions lead to the “spill-over” of these bat-hosted pathogens to human populations and where these events are likely to occur in the future. The bat species that host these filoviruses have large geographic distributions, but spill-over does not occur evenly throughout their ranges. Biodiversity, human population density, and anthropogenic disturbance are broadly considered the primary drivers of zoonotic spill-over events, yet the influence of these factors has not been tested for filoviruses across regions of recent outbreaks. Along with my graduate student we are making good progress toward understand which factors have the greatest influence on these spillover events.

Robert McCleery is assistant professor in the Department of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation. Funding for these projects provided by: the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, the National Science Foundation, Bat Conservation International, and the Ford Foundation.
A research team under Niall Hanan (South Dakota State University) has developed an innovative pastoral ecosystem model to predict how climate change and emerging land use patterns will change availability of key resources like water, fodder, and movement corridors that pastoralists depend on (Climate Change, Pastoral Resources and Livestock in the Sahel: Developing a community relevant pastoral prediction system - CCPRL). The project team is working closely with local partner organizations and pastoral communities to ensure that our research activities align with community needs and to prioritize the information herders need to make decisions about livestock management practices. By design, informed and/or improved livestock management practices should enhance food security, income and the sustainability of grazing practices, leaving communities better able to adapt to climate change.

The negative impact of climate change on the nutrition of livestock holders – particularly women – is well documented. Pathways include low crop/fodder production and consequent caloric deficiency; interaction of infection, catalyzed by changes in weather and climate, and malnutrition; and unfavorable exchanges at market after environmental shocks. In addition to the direct consequences of climate change on nutrition, poor nutritional status may play an important role in determining what livestock management practices are embraced and if/how they affect food security, income, or sustainable grazing practices. In other words, poor nutrition may alter the way that communities use information and what livestock management practices they embrace. Thus, an understanding of the nutritional situation of herders is an important component when attempting to improve their adaptive capacity to climate change and other environmental shocks.

Since 2012, Dr. Sarah McKune has worked with the CCPRL team on the cross cutting issues of gender and nutrition. Her work is with project personnel and partners, including training of NGO partners in research methods for nutritional analysis and collaborating with staff and project partners to develop methodologies to explore gender and its impact on the broader research questions about adaptation to climate change. Dr. McKune works with the Research for Development Specialist to analyze nutritional and gender related results and to design appropriate empowerment and nutrition related activities, where appropriate.

In 2014-2015 Dr. McKune is working with one of the project’s NGO partners to conduct an analysis of herder nutrition at six locations, three in the north and three in the south. Sample populations will include pastoral populations across a gradient of mobility, including highly mobile transhumant populations as well as recently settled communities.

Sarah McKune is assistant professor of epidemiology and director of public health programs for the College of Public Health and Health Professions.
The Africa Diaspora, the distribution of peoples of African descent, is global and reaches every continent and almost every country in the world. The migration of African peoples has both historical and geographical resonance. I presented a paper at the International Conference on African Studies sponsored by the Institute of African Studies at the University of Ghana that captured this phenomenon, “The Geography of the African Diaspora: Where, When, Who, What.” I also chaired a panel session: “Out of Africa, Back to Africa: African Diaspora, Migration, and Sustainable Development.” Material from my research as well as other studies on this topic will inform the new UF course that I will initiate in Spring 2015: “Geography of the African Diaspora: A Global Survey.”

An additional component of this research is what may be conceptualized as “reverse migration.” I am interested in the phenomenon of people of African descent in the Diaspora who have chosen to move to Africa to settle permanently. Although most of them were born outside of Africa, culturally they identify as “returning” to what they consider their African roots. I have begun this research is in Ghana. The diversity of these groups ranges from recent immigrants from the United States and the Caribbean to descendants of Africans who escaped enslavement in Brazil in the 19th century and relocated to Ghana and other areas in West Africa. I am studying Africa Diasporans who are currently living in Ghana and conducted in-depth interviews with these ‘returnees’ from the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, Jamaica, and Trinidad. Some had lived in other countries in Africa (Nigeria, Cote d’Ivoire, South Africa) before settling in Ghana. The United States returnees comprised the largest number of those whom I interviewed, but additional study will help determine whether this is statistically significant or due to convenience or snow-ball sampling. According to the Ghana Ministry of Foreign Affairs (which recently established a Diaspora Affairs Bureau) approximately 3,000 returnees from the United States, Canada, and the Caribbean currently live in Ghana. However, this is an estimate as no census has been carried out to specifically collect such data. The returnees in the United States group were from a number of states: New York, Louisiana, Colorado, Florida, Maryland, Missouri, North Carolina, and Illinois. This research seeks to analyze their reasons for moving to Ghana and how they have fared as residents there.

Barbara McDade Gordon is associate professor in the Department of Geography.
A LEARNING THROUGH SERVICE APPROACH FOR ARCHITECTURE AND ENGINEERING

ESTHER OBYNO

Esther Obonyo was awarded a Fellowship by the Carnegie African Diaspora Fellowship Program to travel to Kenya during Summer 2014 to work with the University of Nairobi in a project is directed at designing and developing a research and education framework for providing intensive undergraduate research training for high caliber University of Nairobi (UON) engineering and architecture students, based on a Learning through Service (LTS) approach. The co-investigators were Prof. Patts Odira, Acting Principal, College of Architecture and Engineering at the UON and Erastus Abonyo, chair of the Department of Architecture.

Dr. Obonyo mentored six students during her two-month African in Diaspora residency. The students were Joseph Kivuva (civil engineering); Rose Oturi (architecture); Ruth Lelei (architecture); Phaustine Wekesa (civil engineering); Chris Okeyo (electrical engineering); and Hatim Dossaji (civil engineering). She designed group activities revolving around the “Engineering for Base of the Pyramid (E-BOP)” theme through which she enhanced the students’ understanding, application and evaluation of engineering solutions to the social needs of low income communities. There were several field trips to carefully selected sites including the Kibera Slum in Nairobi, which with an estimated population of at least one million people, is regarded by many as the largest slum in Africa; one of the most polluted parts of the Nairobi River; the IBM R&D Lab in Nairobi; and the Kenya Vision 2030 Head Office. Dr. Obonyo also travelled with the students to low income housing projects being implemented by the National Housing Building Research Association in Tanzania. There were several group deliberations on the challenges of urban growth based on recent efforts in Kibera. The Government of Kenya, in collaboration with other stakeholders, initiated two programs: the Kenya Slum Upgrading Program (KENSUP) in 2004 and the Kenya Informal Settlement Improvement Project (KISIP) in June 2011. The programs were directed at improving the livelihoods of people living in the slums and informal settlements through providing security of tenure, housing improvement, physical infrastructure and social amenities.

While touring Kibera, the group identified several examples of positive developments such as two small biogas plants. The group also noted that a significant number of slum dwellers still use “flying toilets” because the existing facilities are based on a pay per use model. The adjacent “Raila Flats” that were supposed to benefit some Kibera residents also appeared to have had very little impact. A small fraction of slum dwellers moved into the flats. Many of them found the cost of living in the formal housing system without a steady job unsustainable. During the visit to a section of the Nairobi River, the team observed the direct effects of a failure to provide infrastructure for sanitation and waste in Kibera. The water was visibly polluted and also had a strong unpleasant smell. There were some horticultural activities nearby which raised concerns among the students that some of this vegetables were sold in the main markets in Nairobi exposing the general public to a milieu of infections. The visit to the IBM labs in Nairobi was directed at enhancing the students understanding of how large corporations are using market-based approaches to address the Grand Engineering Challenges. The team interacted with different IBM groups making a contribution to problems such as pollution, traffic management and crime prevention using a data analytics approach.

At the end of the two months, the students indicated in their post experience feedback that program had a real life touch which enhanced their understanding of the role of designers. The students also indicated that their appreciation of the overlaps that exist across the different design functions. The teaching at the UON are still largely done in the traditional disciplinary silos.

Esther Obonyo is associate professor of building construction.

Esther Obonyo is associate professor of building construction.
Much of my research in 2014 has been devoted to three parallel projects, all dealing with religion and politics in the context of Ethiopia. While this is a continuation of my interest in Islam in the Horn of Africa, it has moved in the direction of investigating Islamic reformist views on democracy, secularism and the role of religion in the public sphere. Obviously, this also includes looking at how the state has reacted and acted. The first of these research projects is part of a larger one called “Ethiopia: Consolidating Peace, or Emerging New Conflicts?” which explores recent conflictual patterns emerging in the very recent years. My part of this investigates increasingly fragile interreligious relations, and how the competition over the same public space has caused tensions between Muslims and Christians. It also looks into the regime’s religious policies and how its assertive secularist policy have exacerbated negative relations to the religious communities, particularly the Muslim. My second project, again part of a larger one, “Ethiopia’s Foreign Policy,” has analyzed both the role of religious (state and non-state) actors in the Horn of Africa, and how this has shaped Ethiopia’s “religious” foreign policy. The project has also looked beyond the immediate region, and explores Ethiopia’s ambivalent policies towards Saudi Arabia and other Gulf States. The last project has been looking at representation of the Muslim Brotherhood in Ethiopia. While the movement has no concrete and formal presence in the country, it is present through individuals and groups of individuals attracted to the Muslim Brotherhood’s ideas, becoming crucial for what I have called a “Muslim Politics of Recognition.” All of this research is carried out through my engagement in the International Law and Policy Institute (Oslo, Norway), and the projects are funded by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and NOREF, respectively.

2014 has also been a successful year in terms of publications. These have included five journal articles in Comparative Islamic Studies, Africa Today, Journal of Islamic Studies, Institut Culturele Anthropologie, Contemporary Islam, as well as a case-study report on Islamic reform in Zanzibar.

Terje Østebø is assistant professor in the Center for African Studies and the Department of Religion.
Mathematics and simulation are essential tools in infectious disease control, enabling decision-makers to explore control policies before implementing them, interpret trends, and predict emerging threats. The ICI3D Program, a collaboration between the UF Emerging Pathogens Institute and the South African Centre for Epidemiological Modelling and Analysis (SACEMA), provides intensive training in these methods to students and researchers from the US and Africa and aims to cultivate an international network of researchers from diverse backgrounds. The program comprises two distinct but overlapping International Clinics on Infectious Disease Dynamics and Data and a complementary research scholars exchange program.

The Clinic on Dynamic Approaches to Infectious Disease Data (DAIDD), held annually at the University of Florida, targets public health researchers and population biologists interested in studying infectious diseases. Instruction focuses on how the complex dynamics of pathogen transmission influence study design and data collection for addressing problems in infectious disease research. Participants develop written research proposals for their systems of interest and receive guidance in seeking out the resources necessary for carrying out their proposed research.

The International Disease Dynamics and Data Research Scholars Program (I3D) funds scholars to spend 6 weeks working on an approved research project at the ICI3D faculty member’s home institution. The exchange program allows I3D scholars from Africa to work with ICI3D faculty at North American institutions and American I3D scholars to work with ICI3D faculty at African institutions.

Since the ICI3D program’s inception in 2012, the MMED and DAIDD clinics have provided training to 126 participants, 82 based at African institutions and 44 from US institutions. During this time, 14 UF participants from 9 departments and degree programs have attended the MMED and/or DAIDD clinics.

In addition, the first 3 I3D Scholars completed their exchanges in 2014. Joseph Sempa, a researcher at Infectious Diseases Institute, Uganda was supervised by Dr. Steve Bellan, an ICI3D faculty member based at The University of Texas at Austin. Joseph completed a project focused on novel prognostic markers for HIV-related health outcomes in an urban cohort in Kampala, Uganda. Sarah Ackley, a PhD student in Epidemiology at University of California – San Francisco (UCSF), was supervised by Dr. John Hargrove of SACEMA and completed a project on estimating tsetse fly mortality from entomological surveillance data, which has important implications for understanding transmission and control of the parasitic disease trypanosomiasis. Ernest Mwebaze, a PhD student at Makerere University in Uganda was supervised by Dr. Travis Porco of UCSF and completed a project on evaluation of clinical trial data from a trachoma elimination program.

More information on the ICI3D Program, including application information for the MMED and DAIDD clinics is available at http://www.ici3d.org.

Juliet Pulliam is assistant professor in the Department of Biology and Emerging Pathogens Institute and the director of the ICI3D Program. The ICI3D Program is supported by the National Institute of General Medical Sciences of the National Institutes of Health.
In 2010, Nairobi-based conservation practitioner Ian Parker donated his professional papers to the University of Florida George A. Smathers Libraries. These manuscripts cover wildlife related issues representing his over fifty-year career; first as a game warden in the Colonial Kenya Game Department in the 1950s, with Wildlife Services, Ltd. (East Africa’s first wildlife research and management consultancy) from 1964-1976, and as an independent consultant until Parker's retirement in 2011. The Ian Parker Collection Relating to East African Wildlife Conservation complements other African wildlife related acquisitions also open for research, the Graham and Brian Child African Wildlife and Range Management Collection, which notably documents CAMPFIRE community conservation programs across Zimbabwe, and the Records of the East African Professional Hunters Association, a group that was influential in establishing Kenya's wildlife conservation policies, wildlife tourism, and game laws from 1934-1974.

Among Parker's manuscripts is a unique, substantial set of elephant biological records. Curated within the collection are 3,175 data sheets that, from 1965 to 1969, Wildlife Services, Ltd. teams collected during large-scale culling operations designed to mitigate overpopulation at environmentally stressed sites in Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda. Project teams estimated ages, weighed organs, measured body parts, recorded sex and reproductive status, and noted other observations. It is unlikely that similar information will be collected again for such a large group of elephants from wild populations.

With the goal of making these significant records easily available after 45 years in private hands, the original handwritten Elephant Data Sheets were processed for preservation and access on site, before being digitized and loaded to the University of Florida Digital Collections (UFDC).

While image files of handwritten field data enable open access for readers online, the format is of limited use because these records cannot be analyzed as is. Recognizing the enhanced value transcription would add to the data, UF Health Science Center Library’s Veterinary Medicine liaison Hannah Norton and I were awarded internal funding in 2013 for The Parker elephant data sheets: A library mini-grant project proposal. A team of students transcribed the records over the summer in order to make the data accessible in an online digital format, which as a result can be downloaded directly into spreadsheet or statistical applications. Detailed information and a codebook are also available along with the data file in: The Ian Parker East African Elephant Data Sheets: A handbook for the transcribed biological data set.

The Parker collection includes other primary sources as well as scarce, rare, and unique wildlife conservation materials unavailable elsewhere until now. Some of the most significant reports were also digitized, of which a few examples may suffice to encourage research use. In 1960, Parker implemented the Galana Scheme, which broke with established practices to recognize Watta hunter-gatherers as managers of community resources rather than elephant poachers. Another area Parker is recognized as having been particularly influential (if controversial) is in his reports on the world trade in elephant ivory. Until now these confidential reports have been nearly impossible for researchers to access. This generous gift and grant of permission allows UFDC to make these reports freely available online: Black Report (1971), White Report (1973), Ebar (1975), The Ivory Trade (1979), and The Raw Ivory Trade (1989).

We welcome researchers to use these online materials and to further explore manuscripts available on site in the Smathers Library Grand Reading Room.

Daniel Reboussin is the UF Smathers Libraries’ African Studies Curator and a Center for African Studies Affiliate. Digitization of African Studies Collections is supported by the CAS Title VI grant in collaboration with the UF Libraries and UF Digital Collections. Transcription of the online data records was supported by the George A. Smathers Libraries Mini Grant Program.
DOCUMENTATION OF BAGA MANDORI:
AN ENDANGERED LANGUAGE OF GUINEA

FRANK SEIDEL

As a visiting research fellow at the Center for African Studies I am working on the documentation of Baga Mandori, an under-documented Atlantic language spoken in the coastal region of Guinea, West Africa. With this work I continue my efforts to document and preserve languages of the Guinean littoral that I have started with the documentation of Nalu, whose speakers live in the immediate vicinity of Baga Mandori speakers. The purpose of the project is to create a digital archive on Baga Mandori containing annotated audio-visual material, a grammatical sketch, and a trilingual, Baga-English-French dictionary. The project is funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Baga Mandori belongs to the Atlantic (Niger-Congo phylum) group of languages, or the langues sénégalo-guinéennes as they are sometimes referred to in French sources. It represents the northernmost variant of a cluster of languages (or dialects) generally called Baga which are (from north to south: Baga Mandori, Baga Sitemu, Baga Sobané, Baga Kalissa (also Baga Marara), Baga Koba, and Baga Kaloum, all of which are or were spoken (some of these varieties are already extinct) in the Republic of Guinea. This group of languages is, together with Landuma, related to the Temne language of Sierra Leone and are part of the Mel cluster of languages.

Speakers of Baga Mandori live in a heterogeneous ethnic and linguistic environment. The language is predominately spoken in the area around the mouth of the river Kogon, namely the districts of Dobaly and Kalagba located within the prefecture of Boké. Neighbouring languages include, among others, Landuma, Balanta, Nalu, Peul (Fula) and other Baga varieties. Overshadowing this situation is Soso, the dominant lingua franca of the Guinea littoral, with speakers also in Guinea-Bissau and Sierra Leone and to which Baga Mandori speakers are starting to shift. The community speaking Baga Mandori is said to number approximately 4000 speakers although I suspect the number to be much lower.

Baga culture, religion, and languages have been under considerable pressure from the outside for a long time and exist in an environment where being Baga is/was often viewed as pagan and backward by outsiders. This includes the political and religious dominance emanating from the Fouta Djallon, the expansion of Mande languages (notably Soso) and cultures, and the “paranationalist” politics after independence. In response to this every Baga society has already undergone critical changes to their culture. One illustrative example of this is the iconoclastic ‘Jihad’ by Asekou Sayon (Yaasekou Sayong) which happened shortly prior to independence and succeeded in destroying a considerable amount of Baga (and other coastal groups’) ritual objects and sacred sites. The adverse attitude towards being Baga, combined with the rise of Soso since independence as a language of the political center Conakry, has led to a general situation where Soso presents a prestigious alternative means of communication for Baga speakers. This contributes considerably to the language shift from Baga to Soso. A point that severely aggravates this situation is the inexistent administrative support for Baga Mandori. Baga Mandori (or any Baga language) is not considered a national language and thus it is, to my knowledge, neither part of any government or NGO initiative for alphabetisation, nor is it part of any school curricula, nor is it used in the media. This state of affairs has already led to the disappearance of Baga languages, such as Baga Kaloum, and to the endangerment of any Baga varieties still spoken, some of which are reported to only feature a few remaining speakers (Baga Koba, Baga Sobane).

In a 1996 New York Times article, Holland Cotter remarked that despite the international prominence the Baga cultures had gained due to the popularity of the Nimba (D’mba) mask that still iconically represents African art, the people, language, and culture behind the art still remain little known. Seventeen years later Cotter’s comments are still valid and this project hopes to make a dent into the lack of Baga linguistic documentation.

Frank Seidel is a post-doctoral research fellow in the Center for African Studies.
The arts have long been used as a means to educate the public, foster community engagement, and influence behaviors. Arts-based health promotion has its roots in traditional cultures where storytelling, drama, and music are primary means for enforcing belief systems that guide behavior. In many low-resource and low-literacy regions, the arts are indigenous forms of social learning and are deeply woven into the fabric of daily life. In these areas, the arts have been shown to be a highly effective and efficient means for health communication and social mobilization.

With support from a Research Tutorial Abroad (RTA) African Multidisciplinary Field Research Program grant and the UF Office of Research, I have undertaken a set of studies in East Africa focused on use of the arts for health messaging in low-resource and low-literacy regions. These studies investigate public health and other programs that use culture-based arts practices, aesthetics and design, performance, and mass media to engage target populations and convey health information.

I have been researching best practices in using the arts to promote health in East Africa since 2009. This investigation led to the recognition that Uganda is unique among nations in its longstanding investment, leadership and effectiveness in using the arts in health literacy campaigns. With RTA grant support, I traveled to Uganda in May/June of 2014 with project co-investigator, Dr. Virginia Pesata and four undergraduate research assistants. We engaged four additional research assistants and a third co-investigator from Makerere University and undertook two studies. The first included interviews with 25 public health and Ministry of Health leaders as well as professional artists who work in public health. The second study involved interviews with community members in three villages focused on how they get health information and how they make health-related spending decisions. In addition, along with Dr. Pesata and our team of research assistants, I conducted a full systematic review of the literature on use of the arts for health messaging in low-literacy and low-resource regions.

These studies, in addition to their individual findings, resulted in the development of a set of guiding principles for using the arts for health messaging and serve as the basis of our Evidence-Based Framework For Using The Arts For Health Messaging. The studies also informed the development and publication of a concept brief focused on use of the arts for health messaging to stop the spread of Ebola in West Africa and the development of an international network that is working to promote evidence-based use of the arts in the Ebola response. The Arts and Health Messaging Concept Brief and Evidence-Based Framework For Using The Arts For Health Messaging are available online through the Center for Arts in Medicine website.

Jill Sonke is director of the Center for Arts in Medicine. This project was supported by a Research Tutorial Abroad grant from the Warrington College of Business and CAS, with additional support from the UF Office of Research.
RHODESIAN INDEPENDENCE AND AFRICAN DECOLONIZATION

LUISE WHITE

For quite a number of years I’ve been working on a project looking at the history of statecraft during Rhodesia’s renegade independence, 1965-1980 which will be published by the University of Chicago Press in 2015 - *Unpopular Sovereignty: Rhodesian Independence and African Decolonization*. After almost thirty years of writing African social history, this project came as a surprise to me. Historians of Africa and historians of decolonization have tended to avoid writing about Rhodesia’s renegade independence (1965-80). Whether the white minority’s Unilateral Declaration of Independence (UDI) from Britain is described as a last stand of empire or as a pale imitation of South Africa’s apartheid, Rhodesia (until 1964 Southern Rhodesia, after 1980 Zimbabwe) is invariably seen as such a great exception to the orderly processes of decolonization that it is beyond explanation. There are two reasons for this. First, African historians have been reluctant to write the histories of rogue and reactionary regimes, especially when they were led by white minorities. White settlers have never been part of the canon of African history topics, however fashionable settlers might have become in imperial histories. For African historians, racist and reactionary regimes were interchangeable; thus it has been commonplace to explain Rhodesian racial policies by referencing South Africa’s. Second, there are no national archives for independent Rhodesia. For reasons more to do with staffing than politics, nothing has been accessioned in the National Archives of Zimbabwe since 1984: while there are a few manuscript collections available for the years of UDI, ministerial files are only open up to 1958. For this reason, the research I have done has been triangulated on three continents.

With summer funding from the Center for African Studies, the College of Liberals Arts and Science, and the International Center at UF I have used the large collection of oral interviews with Rhodesian politicians - conducted during the 1970s - in the Zimbabwe National Archives; Rhodesian cabinet materials from 1960-78 taken from Zimbabwe and deposited in the Cory Library of Rhodes University in South Africa; British government files in the British National Archives and recently accessioned election monitor files from the Commonwealth Secretariat Archives in London; private papers deposited in Rhodes House, Oxford; the papers of Rhodesian moderate, multi-racial organizations now housed in the Borthwick Historical Institute in York; the boxes of papers from the Rhodesian Army that were briefly available in a now-defunct private museum in Bristol; and the collection of Rhodesian ephemera at Yale. I have also relied on the extraordinary amount of white writing, mainly novels and memoirs, produced in Rhodesia at this time, and formal and informal interviews I have conducted in Africa and Britain. The refractory nature of this research has encouraged me to write a political history that shows the fractures and fissures of Rhodesian independence.

As I researched and thought about and honed this material I was fortunate enough to be able organize or co-organize three workshops, all supported to a degree by CAS, each of which allowed me to exchange ideas with colleagues at other institutions and to clarify my thinking on several issues as this project shifted from being a military history – which I intend to get back to – to a political history to a project that engaged with the broader issues of memories and memorialization. Between 2005 and 2013, I organized or co-organized four workshops, all funded in full or in part by CAS, one of which was on the politics of exile in Southern Africa, held in Sheffield, England on the snowiest weekend in its history.

Luise White is professor of history.
How do states respond to the increasing transnational character of criminal justice and the international diffusion of human rights norms and regimes? Whereas it is often argued that such transnational regimes of criminal justice may erode state sovereignty, my dissertation explores the ways in which states — especially those presumed to be weaker in the international system — use the International Criminal Court (ICC) as leverage in their domestic conflicts and to empower themselves in the pursuit of their political interests. To that end, with the ICC as a focal point, I argue that African states engage in the perversion of international legal norms and regimes.

The premise of my arguments is based on the exploration of the ways in which African states engage in political calculations of the costs and benefits of referring “situations” in their territory to the ICC. It appears that the states that have used the self-referral mechanism have deferred to the ICC jurisdiction in an attempt to pursue their own political agendas by inviting the ICC to deal with their local adversaries — whether political opponents or rebel leaders. Through an internationalization of the crimes that may have been committed in their territory, these states forsook their responsibility to investigate and prosecute.

By exploring the ways in which states self-refer cases to the ICC prosecutor, I posit that the political elites are mostly guided by their self-interests, not the rules and expected norms of behavior for upholding human rights and delivering justice. The end result may be either a violation of the norms and their de-legitimization, or simply their perversion, by which I mean their use for purposes other than what they were intended for.

Using an interpretive methodology, my dissertation research is grounded in Critical Theory of International Relations with an empirical component focused on the relationship between the ICC and four African states: Kenya, Uganda, Côte d’Ivoire, and Libya. Therefore, my project seeks to shed light on the intersection of state power and interests vis-à-vis international human rights norms and regimes of transnational criminal justice. Moreover, I offer a critical reading of transnational legal processes that challenges the conception of an international criminal justice regime as an unmitigated good.

In May and June 2014, I completed six weeks of fieldwork at the ICC in The Hague, Netherlands, where I did archival research, and interviewed officials in the Office of the Prosecutor, the Public Affairs Unit, and defense lawyers. While at The Hague, I also interviewed representatives of civil society organizations working in the area of international criminal justice. As a participant observer, I was also able to watch the Court proceedings of the trials of Kenyan Deputy President William Ruto, former DRC militia leaders Germain Katanga, and Thomas Lubanga, and the admissibility challenge of the Libyan government before the ICC.

The next step in my project is to do fieldwork research in Kenya, Uganda, and Côte d’Ivoire where I will conduct interviews with political leaders, judges, and officials at the ministries of justice who are involved in the criminal investigation and prosecution of mass atrocities. I will also do archival research focusing on primary sources in order to better understand the local debates that animate the relationship between the political and judicial apparatus in those countries with the ICC.

Oumar Ba is a PhD candidate in the Department of Political Science. Project research funded by the Center for African Studies, the UF Office of Research, the Department of Political Science, and the UF Graduate School.
(RE)BRANDING A ‘CHINA ALTERNATIVE’ IN AFRICA’S DEVELOPMENT SCENE

LINA BENABDALLAH

During summer 2014, I spent five weeks in China doing dissertation fieldwork. During the time spent in Beijing and in Jinhua (Zhejiang province), I have conducted semi-structured interviews with civil servants, government officials, academic specialists, think-tank experts on Sino-African relations, and journalists who work in Chinese news anchors in Africa. In addition to this series of interviews, I engaged as a participant-observer in a workshop comparing OECD/DAC group and Chinese aid agencies and their respective project evaluation mechanisms. The workshop invited representatives from Japan’s International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the Agence Française de Développement (AFD), and USAID to showcase their respective evaluation mechanisms and demonstrate with a case study. Then, there were three government representatives from Uganda, Cameroon, and Sri Lanka who each gave presentations evaluating the evaluation mechanisms of JICA, AFD, and USAID and highlighting their strengths and weaknesses. The final part of the workshop opened the floor to Chinese government representatives to (re) present the Chinese alternative in carrying developmental project evaluation in Africa mostly. Representatives from the Chinese Ministry of Commerce as well China Ex-Im Bank made a case for the advantage of China’s position as a later comer to the ‘donor’ role and stressed that China’s experience as a recipient of foreign aid gives it the advantage of understanding the recipients’ challenges and aspirations. The main take away for me from this experience attending the workshop was to see how the Chinese official rhetoric frames its relationship to the rest of the Global South as a provider of a promising alternative to existing traditional powers. In this regard, China can identify both as an emerging powerful donor as well as a historically long time recipient of foreign aid and can, thus, put both hats on as a way to illustrate the pragmatism of its foreign policy.

In addition to this, I also attended a high-level official China-Africa Media Forum which brought government representatives from 48 African countries to Beijing in order to discuss digital media collaboration. The experience was very engaging for me since I got to observe the interactions between Chinese officials and their African counterparts and listen to their speeches. The main take away for me from this experience was to see how African delegates were also able and willing to be pragmatic in their relations with China – emphasizing its value added in the continent’s development in their discourses – without excluding their chances to strike deals with American investors during the US-Africa Summit held in August.

This fieldwork research feeds into my dissertation project investigating China-Africa relations from an international relations perspective. More specifically, I investigate what the nature of China’s power in Africa is. Since China does not have a single military base in Africa nor does it conduct extensive military drills like traditional powers (such as, for example, the US, the UK, and France), in what other ways does China’s power take shape in Africa? I argue that it is not sufficient to examine Chinese influence and deployment of power in Africa from a material capabilities approach as seen in investment projects, construction works, resource extraction deals, and armament sales. Without neglecting the roles that these aspects of power play, I argue that it is necessary to investigate a more subtle face of power that lies within the practices that promote Chinese know-how and (re)brand a Chinese path to development. I therefore take practices such as training African military, agricultural technologies from Chinese rural areas, as well as producing African scholars sponsored by the Chinese government, as government practices that work by ways of producing and normalizing a China alternative.

Lina Benabdallah is a PhD candidate in political science. This research was supported by the Center for African Studies, the Jeanne & Hunt Davis Travel Fund, and the Department of Political Science.
THE REFORM OF INSTITUTIONS IN SENEGAL AND MALI

MAMADOU BODIAN

This report focuses on recent institutional reforms in Senegal and Mali as part of a three year research project by the Sahel Research Group, funded by a grant from the Minerva Initiative. Since the early 1990s, Sahelian states have been undergoing a process of institutional reform in order to manage the multitude of pressures confronting them, and hence to maintain stability and ensure social order.

In Senegal, the reform of institutions is one of the key commitments that the current president, Macky Sall, made during the 2012 presidential campaign. After his election, President Sall suppressed the Senate and set up a National Commission for Institutional Reform (NCRI) which was tasked with proposing reforms aiming to improve the operation of state institutions, to consolidate democracy, to deepen the rule of law, and to modernize the political system. Having concluded its work, the NCRI recommends the adoption of a new constitution. The proposed draft constitution divides political elites. The most controversial issues include the incompatibility of the status of President of the Republic and that of leader of a political party, the restriction of the age of presidential candidates to 70 years, and the limitation of the term of the Head of State to five years, renewable only once.

Another major reform concerns the adoption of a new electoral code for local elections. This followed an administrative reform known as “Act 3 de la décentralisation” that have deeply altered the organization of the territorial and local administration. Indeed, Law 2013-10 of 28 December 2013 establishing the General Code for local authorities suppressed the region, the communal district, and the rural community. These were replaced by two types of constituencies: the department and the commune. Consequently, the electoral code had to be adjusted to the new territorial organization before the June 2014 local elections. Despite disarrangements, members of the parliament overwhelmingly voted the draft electoral law (Law: 2014-18 of 15 April 2014) on April 2014, repealing and replacing the previous law (Law 2012-01 of January 3, 2012 regarding the electoral code).

Like Senegal, Mali has been undergoing a series of institutional reform since the late 1990s. After the breakdown of the authoritarian regime in 1991, a National Conference was held, primarily designed to build consensus over new institutions. In addition to the design of a consensual constitution approved in a referendum on 12 January 1992, new electoral rules were set up. This move turned the country away from the dictatorial legacy of the past regime and marked the transition to democracy. While minor revisions of the constitution and electoral regulations intervened at more regular intervals during the Konaré regime (1992-2002), major institutional reforms were envisioned during Amadou Toumani Touré’s rule (2002-2012). However, the 2012 military coup interrupted the process. Indeed, during Touré’s second term, the regime grew increasingly unpopular with claims of corruption and ineffectiveness. On March 22, 2012 – following the Tuareg rebellion connected to Islamists affiliated with Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) that took over northern Mali – elements of the Malian military, unhappy with the Touré government’s handling of the insurgency began a protest that turned into a military coup. The persistent crisis and international mediation that followed was marked in addition by debates on a series of institutional reforms, including the electoral system. Elections for a new government were held in July 2013, under rules largely agreed to in the exceptional circumstances, but which are followed by new debates on reforming the system. Today, a general consensus exist over the maintenance of the 1992 constitution. However, a number of political and institutional reforms were intended. These include (1) conferring a legal status to the main leader of the opposition; (2) reforming the territorial administration and improving the electoral system for local elections in order to improve the national representation of minority groups (particularly from northern Mali). The National Assembly have voted the laws regarding these reforms, but they have yet to be promulgated by the president, Ibrahima Boubacar Keïta.

Mamadou Bodian is a PhD candidate in political science. He is currently funded by the Minerva Research Initiative.
Over the past year I have been analyzing data from preliminary research conducted during the summer of 2012. This ethnographic research took place across eight rural towns in the Senegal River Valley region of Mauritania and Senegal and addressed local perceptions of transnational migration and community development. Currently, I am preparing for extended field research in rural Senegal and among Senegalese migrant communities in France that will refine and expand upon this previous work.

My preliminary findings suggest that a variety of social and economic factors influence migrants from the rural towns of the Senegal River Valley in their decisions of when and how to invest in and return to their communities of origin.

The Senegal River Valley has a long and varied history of transnational migration stretching back to the colonial era. Migration has long been viewed as a way to bolster household finances. However, life in the rural towns of the region has become increasingly reliant upon the remittances of family members elsewhere. Today the region is facing growing environmental challenges as desertification renders traditional agro-pastoral livelihoods less viable. This in conjunction with the fact that few local economic opportunities exist means that many see migration as the only path to prosperity.

However, despite the economic marginality of the Senegal River Valley and despite migrants’ physical absence, the rural towns of the Senegal River Valley are hubs of migrant investment.

The vast majority of migrants maintain strong social and economic ties to their family and friends back home. During their time abroad, migrants remain in frequent contact with people in their hometown and are formally organized through hometown associations that structure homeward-facing social networks and promote practical development projects in hometowns. Hometown associations collect and coordinate funds, solicit development aid, and collaborate with people at home to carry out self-determined community improvement projects. These development projects address issues that span from education to food security. They prioritize projects that address local peoples’ social and economic conditions, often through productive collaborations with a variety of state and non-governmental organizations.

Upcoming ethnographic research will be conducted both in Senegal and with migrants from the Senegal River Valley residing in France in order to better understand the ways that transnational connections are shaping life in the Senegal River Valley today.
In summer of 2014 I had the opportunity to travel to the city of Kisumu in Kenya, located on the shores of the Lake Victoria for my pre-dissertation field research. I was accompanied by my colleagues from UF, John Anderson and PI of the study, Dr Richard Rheingans. It was an opportunity for me to not only visit the continent of Africa for the first time but also experience and learn field level coordination and data collection in a new and unfamiliar setting. Through my PhD research, I hope to gain a better understanding of the relationship between gender and social disparities and how they influence water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) situations in peri-urban households and communities of Kenya.

Diarrheal diseases, second only to pneumonia, are a major cause of mortality of children under five years of age in Kenya. We know that poor WASH conditions not only in households but in the broader community are a major cause of diarrheal disease. Kisumu is a rapidly growing city of nearly 500,000 inhabitants, located in Kisumu County in the Nyanza region of western Kenya. Over the last 25 years, a large belt of informal settlements has rapidly expanded and now surrounds the municipal boundary, forming a rural-urban continuum with poor sanitation infrastructure and high heterogeneity in population density and socio-economic status. A majority of the population identifies themselves as Luo, but the city attracts people from all over western Kenya, with varying livelihoods.

We used qualitative research methods to gain a deeper understanding of WASH experiences, existing support mechanisms and perceptions of diarrheal disease risk from poor WASH conditions common to communities in two peri-urban communities in Nyalenda and one in Obunga. We conducted six focus group discussions (FGD) with mothers of who had children of ages 6-36 months, six FGDs with landlords and tenants and seven transect walks within the communities of the three slums. The FGDs with mothers covered a set of pertinent questions for understanding gendered roles and social factors influencing household WASH conditions. Questions were directed to know about their decision making roles within the households, mechanisms of seeking social support and existing challenges in case of their child’s illness due to diarrheal diseases, and for not having adequate WASH facilities. The FGDs with landlords and tenants covered questions regarding solid and liquid waste management, household and land tenure systems and ownership policies, social and political participation and decision-making for household WASH conditions and behaviors. Systematic transect walks within the communities helped us better understand the community infrastructure and contamination from the community’s perspective, wherein the participants identified and discussed about key WASH issues, challenges and potential for collective action based on observations of garbage piles, open drains, broken toilets, etc., during the walk.

The data from this first phase of this research is now becoming available and the results are very exciting. I wish to acknowledge the efforts of our partners, Dr Jane Mumma and her staff at the Tropical Institute of Community Health and Development in Africa at Great Lake University of Kisumu. This work could not have been such a success without their help in establishing ongoing relationships with the communities and their skills in collecting these data. This trip was also critical for my dissertation and career development, helping me re-define my research aims and improve my PhD proposal. I hope that the outcomes of this research would help us better understand the various socio-economic and environmental factors which affect WASH conditions and identify sustainable solutions for Kisumu and for similar peri-urban settlements around the world.

Poulomy Chakraborty is a PhD candidate in the Department of Environmental and Global Health. Her pre-dissertation field work was funded by the Center for African Studies, the Madelyn M. Lockhart Summer Research Fund, the UF Office of Research, and the SHARE Research Consortium (United Kingdom).
During the summer of 2013 I travelled to South Africa and Zambia where I conducted preliminary research towards my dissertation project addressing the economic performance of protected areas (PAs). The purpose of the research is to develop efficient and reliable methods for measuring the economic value of a PA, and, by comparing the economic values of PAs in different institutional settings, to determine the economic competitiveness of such wildlife-based land uses and the distortionary effects of different policy regimes on this measure of performance.

Through consumptive and non-consumptive use of wildlife by eco-tourists and safari hunters, PAs in Southern Africa are significant earners of foreign exchange, generators of revenue, and sources of employment for impoverished rural communities. They are also thought to have a comparative economic advantage over alternative uses of the land, such as livestock production, through the value added by service-based—as opposed to extractive—industries. The comparative advantage and associated economic values may however be undermined by certain policies that increase the costs of PA management. By applying a new institutional economics framework I seek explanations for underperformance that go beyond the proximate causes highlighted by conventional approaches to PA performance evaluation, and which are rooted in the political, social, and economic landscape surrounding PAs.

Prior to the 1960’s, monocentric forms of governance created boundaries between private land and state-run parks in Southern Africa. With legislation that devolved rights of proprietorship over wildlife to landowners, these boundaries became blurred and the typologies of PAs diversified. In South Africa, for example, my research was concentrated in the private game ranches and the game ranch collectives (known as conservancies) that border the western boundary of Kruger National Park, and in Zambia, the private concessionaires operating within and adjacent to two national parks. Subsequent to the devolution of wildlife rights to private landowners, communities also began to receive such rights, though to a lesser degree. Hybrid forms of governance, therefore, also exist, and part of my research was situated in two co-managed parks in South Africa and in communal land in Zambia where partnerships have been formed with the private sector.

While privately managed game ranches, conservancies, and related businesses in South Africa appear to be highly lucrative enterprises, co-managed PAs are generally regarded as economically underperforming. To investigate this perceived difference I began by collecting qualitative data through unstructured interviews with PA managers and lodge operators in both private and co-managed PAs, as well as with community leaders, game breeders, and professional hunters. The purpose was to understand the political and geographic constraints on the industry, the ecological context in terms of conservation trends, as well as to obtain a small sample of financial data on income and expenditures on which methods can be piloted to derive economic multiplier values. Similarly, in Zambia—a country with a small and possibly declining wildlife economy—I conducted interviews with lodge operators, hunters, and industry representatives mainly in the areas within and surrounding Kafue and South Luangwa National Parks. Future fieldwork will focus on expanding a financial data set on which to perform economic analysis and gathering tourist spending data to conduct an analysis of value chains.

Alex Chidakel is a PhD student in Interdisciplinary Ecology and FLAS fellow (2013-15). Funding for this project was provided by the Center for African Studies, the UF Office of Research, and the Norwegian Programme for Capacity Development in Higher Education and Research for Development.
With roughly 21.8% of the seats in Africa’s Parliament now held by females, more African women than ever are being elected to legislative office. By comparison, in 1998, women held about 11.5% of legislative positions. In part this advance in women’s representation can be attributed to a rapid uptake in affirmative action mechanisms, which promote women’s candidature and election to legislative office. In the last two decades, 18 sub-Saharan countries have adopted some sort of gender quota for the lower house of Parliament.

My research focuses on gender quotas as a legal institution for promoting women’s entry into the legislature. Broadly, the project encompasses three main questions: (1) Why do countries decide to adopt gender quotas? (2) What are the outputs of these quotas in terms of legislative gender ratios? and (3) What are the outcomes of these quotas in terms of the performance of female MPs?

The research program includes a variety of methodologies. I conduct general investigations quantitatively using cross-national time series data on sub-Saharan Africa. My research also investigates quota adoption, outputs, and outcomes qualitatively using a case study approach that blends comparative historical analysis, discourse and content analysis, and within-case quantitative methods. Over the past year, I have focused specifically on the case of Uganda, where quotas were adopted in 1989. Future fieldwork as part of the dissertation project is likely to include Tanzania, Kenya, and Rwanda.

The data suggest that confluence of factors provide strategic incentives for elites to adopt gender quotas, particularly during the current period of democratization. Some of these factors include mobilization of women’s movements, democratization norms, the potential for cooptation of a large women’s voter “bank” and also of female MPs, and finally, international pressures for greater gender equality at all levels of society. More importantly, quotas for women have been adopted in two distinct waves throughout sub-Saharan Africa’s history – the first starting in the late 1980s and 1990s in East Africa and the second starting in the mid-2000s in West Africa.

In general, quotas appear to promote higher gender ratios in the lower house of sub-Saharan parliaments. The data suggest that these are the most important institutional mechanism for determining women’s representation, followed by proportional representation electoral systems. Reserved seat quotas appear to be the most effective at increasing women’s representation – with notable examples such as Rwanda where women now hold 64% of the seats in the lower chamber.

In terms of outcomes for women’s political empowerment, the case of Uganda suggests that female MPs perform relatively similar to their male counterparts when it comes to attendance, participation, and impact on legislative sessions. Male and female MPs in Uganda also tend to focus on relatively similar policy areas. This suggests that quotas are working in that particular context to level the playing field, not just in terms of elections but also substantive policy debate within Parliament.

Amanda Edgell is a doctoral candidate in political science and a FLAS fellow (2012-14). This project has been supported by the Center for African Studies and the UF Office of Research.
PERCEPTIONS AND ATTITUDES TOWARD WILDLIFE AND PARKS IN THE MAKULEKE VILLAGES, SOUTH AFRICA

ANTONIETA EGUREN

Despite the ecological benefits of the establishment of parks or protected areas (PA), these are embedded in a socio-ecological context that is frequently omitted or overlooked. The South African community of Makuleke represents a particular case study to evaluate perceptions and attitudes toward wildlife and parks due to its history and current situation. The community was removed from the Kruger National Park (KNP) in 1969 during the apartheid period. The village was burned and people was transported in trucks to their new home 32 miles to the south. The new settlement formed by three villages, presented totally different conditions than their previous territory, forcing them to adapt their livelihoods and lifestyle to this new scenario. By 1996, after the return to democracy, the community claimed their land back supported by the restitution of the Land Rights Act. After two years of negotiations with the government, the community recovered their land under one main condition: the land must be used for conservation purposes and remain protected within the KNP. Currently, the Makuleke Community owns 22,000 ha of the KNP under the management of the Community Property Association (CPA). Facing the impossibility of returning to their lands, the CPA constructed three lodges and started to rent them to external companies. The revenues from the lodges are managed by the CPA and should be allocated to development projects and/or individual benefits for the Makuleke inhabitants.

In this context, and under the umbrella of a broader effort to empower communities by developing an evidence-based adaptive management program, a team of local translators and two UF master students carried out livelihood surveys in the three villages of the Makuleke community. In order to assess people’s perceptions of wildlife and the KNP, I included specific questions regarding this issue in the main questionnaire.

The preliminary results of this data reveal that respondents from the Makuleke community have positive perceptions and attitudes toward both, wildlife and the KNP. Some of the reasons given by the respondents for their positive attitudes toward wildlife were highly intangibles, such as aesthetic and religious reasons. According to the respondents, the conflicts with wildlife have decreased in the last 5 years, both the attacks to livestock, as well as the damage of crops by wild animals. Additionally, more than half of the respondents perceived the KNP as valuable for their community, and agree that park managers treat them with respect. Nevertheless, they reported that more contact with the park would be desirable. These results suggest that increasing the number of meetings with the community have the potential to improve even more the positive perceptions of the KNP, supporting the idea that participation is crucial for people’s perceptions of parks.

Regarding the underlying factors influencing attitudes and perceptions, gender, education level, and wealth status showed to have significant influence in people’s responses. Particularly the educational level seems to be an important contributing factor for an appreciative vision of wildlife and park, showing that people with higher levels of education are more likely to have positive attitudes and perceptions.

It is interesting that the potential economic incentives resulting from the CPA were not mentioned by the respondents, only 10 from the 171 respondents declared have received some type of benefit from the CPA in the last years. These results not only highlight the need for improvement in the governance structure and decision making process of the CPA, but also leave us the uncertainty of what are the real drivers behind these positive perceptions and attitudes. Ultimately, the results of this research will hopefully help to inform park managers, researchers, policy makers, and the CPA to prioritize avenues for future actions.

Antonieta Eguren is a second year student in the Master of Sustainable Development Practice program. Funding for this research provided by the MacArthur Foundation and USAID-RESILIM.
Today, virtually all African regimes participate in the core rituals of democracy through the political institutions of multi-party elections. However, the degree of substantive political competition varies noticeably from country to country. How do different types of institutional configurations affect the overall level of political competition in the different regimes of Africa? How, in turn does social mobilization shape political reform in the name of democracy? How do the iterative effects of institutional reform and social pressure combine to influence the prospects of regime resilience or breakdown?

As was the case in much of sub-Saharan Africa, the countries of the Francophone Sahel embarked on democratizing political transitions during the 1990s. Recently, significant pressures on regime stability have emerged as a result of the fall of the Qaddafi regime, the rise of Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb, and the state collapse of Mali. Further, together the countries of the Sahel are considered amongst the least developed on earth; their regimes struggle to control demographic change, drug and arms trafficking, and various social cleavages. Given these challenges, how have certain regimes not only remained stable, but in some cases engaged in the processes of democratization?

My dissertation examines how regimes respond to social pressures resulting in augmented political liberalization in certain cases, but the persistence of authoritarian practices in others. Through a comparative framework and extensive fieldwork in Chad, Burkina Faso, and Senegal, this project will systematically analyze the interactive and reciprocal effects of institutional reform and social pressures on each country’s political development and how these effects have shaped the prospects for political stability in each case. This research will be carried out over a period of eighteen months divided between each of the three countries and builds off of previous pre-dissertation research conducted during the summer of 2013.

This past year, I began conducting my research in N’Djamena where I worked alongside a team of university student researchers based at a local civil society organization, Le Comité de Suivi de l’Appel à la Paix et à la Réconciliation (CSAPR). I have conducted interviews with political party leaders, state officials, academics, other civil society organizations, and journalists. I have been able to collect numerous documents from the archives of institutions and libraries which illuminate the various political reforms which have taken place under the current regime of the president Idriss Déby Itno and his party le Mouvement Patriotique de Salut (MPS). Déby led a political transition from the single party rule of former dictator Hissène Habré to a multi-party political system which marked the end of decades of political violence and civil war. However since this transition, Déby and the MPS have dominated the political arena of the country, winning overwhelming majorities in all of the legislative and presidential elections and leaving little room for genuine political competition.

Conducting research on processes of democratization in this context has proven to be challenging. Nevertheless, my research has advanced considerably while in Chad and I continue to gain crucial insights into the political mechanisms of the regime. This is largely thanks to the invaluable advice and support of faculty at the Center for African Studies, CSAPR’s local network, and the engaging community of scholars who compose the Sahel Research Group at the University of Florida.

Daniel Eizenga is a PhD candidate in political science and FLAS fellow (2010-2012). Funding for his dissertation research was provided by the UF Office of Research, the Center for African Studies, the Department of Political Science and the Minerva Research Initiative.
My research examines the development of Nigeria’s boxing culture in Lagos from the 1920s to the early 1970s and the influence of Nigerian fighters abroad. Through the case study of Lagos, Nigeria’s largest city and economic capital, this work demonstrates the role and importance of boxing in constructions of masculinity, urban and Atlantic migration, urbanization, and conceptions of “Empire” and later “Commonwealth.” Boxing was one of the most popular leisure enterprises during the post-WWII era in Nigeria up until the early 1970s. Although soccer is by far Nigeria’s most popular sport today, boxing was as popular, if not more so at the end of colonialism within Nigeria. In fact many of their first sporting ‘stars’ were boxers. They were in many cases the first professional athletes to leave their colonies for the wider world, and they were heavily followed in the press, radio, and later television. Their success paved the way for a rising generation of sports stars in independent Africa. But boxing declined in popularity in recent decades. The story of its rapid rise in popularity is just as important as the decline. The stories of Nigerian boxers’ careers highlights the ending of colonialism in Africa after WWII, the transition from Empire to Commonwealth, and the creation of a Nigerian diaspora during a time of heightened nationalism and the euphoria of independence. The hopes of the emerging nation was vested in these boxers and they did not disappoint.

In the Fall of 2013 I published my first article in the International Journal of the History of Sport entitled, “‘The Whole Place is in Pandemonium’: Dick Tiger Versus Gene Fullmer III, and the Consumption of Sport in Nigeria” based on a chapter of my dissertation. The article focuses on the first ever World Title fight in Africa in 1963 in Ibadan, Nigeria. Using this fight I analyze the culture and ethos of sport through boxing in Nigeria, and how that affected the various ways that Nigerian consumed sports through a multitude of media and live shows. Boxing was a part of everyday life that was hotly debated and enjoyed, and the “ring” was a site for the “performance” of masculinity, sportsmanship, and fair play to be contested and recreated.

During the summer of 2014, a Graduate School Dissertation Research Award funded my travel to Liverpool and London for 6 weeks in order to assess the impact of Nigerian boxers on local British and international boxing from the late 1940s through the early 1960s. During my travels I was able to conduct interviews with several former Liverpudlian boxers, managers, and trainers. I attended the monthly meetings of the Merseyside Former Boxers Association and the Wirral Former Boxers Association, and met some fascinating boxers from all walks of life. The award also gave me time to consult the Liverpool Archives and the British National Archives at Kew to bolster my research. This data will inform two chapters of my dissertation: one on the creation of a Nigerian diaspora in Britain that exists until today, and another on how Nigerian boxers were part of a larger migration of Empire peoples after WWII to Britain. Empire-born boxers from across Britain’s Empire, from the West Indies to Africa to India, were some of the most visible people in Liverpool, and they were instrumental in breaking down racial barriers not only in Liverpool, but across the British Isles and Empire.
State-run museums are central to the study of national identity formation because they are tangible, relatively uncontested sites of state-articulated national narratives. Throughout the summer of 2014, I spent time in nine museums and visited multiple public monuments across six different cities in Tanzania. I also went to the Kenya National Museum in Nairobi. I was fortunate enough to be the recipient of a FLAS fellowship and a Center for African Studies Pre-Dissertation Grant, so I combined intensive Kiswahili classes at the University of Dar es Salaam with preliminary fieldwork for my future dissertation project.

My research is primarily concerned with identity formation and the ways that states try to create consensus through narratives that delineate who belongs to the nation and who does not. Tanzania is at the center of my research project because it arguably represents a case in which independence leaders and the postcolonial government were largely successful in encouraging national identity formation. Further, there is a relevant and complex racial and national dynamic that exists between mainland Tanganyika and the Zanzibar archipelago. The salience of this identity divide is heightened by ongoing maneuvering for potential constitutional reforms. My purpose this summer was to look at how state-led nation building continues today, fifty-three years after independence. Additionally, I hoped to investigate the inclusiveness of the narrative enshrined in the family of national museums.

I was able to spend time at museum sites in Dar es Salaam, Bagamoyo, Stonetown, Songea, and Arusha. The national stories told in each of these museums, excluding the National Museum of Zanzibar, were strikingly consistent. Each of these places was a touchstone in an overarching narrative that celebrates the ruling party (CCM), memorializes its guidance into independence, and largely glosses over its policy failures. This is not an altogether surprising telling of history, but the fact remains that it appears to be significantly one-sided. This bias also extends to representation of racial subnational groups in Tanzanian museums.

The National Museum of Zanzibar in Stonetown was a surprising departure from the museums on the mainland because the identity that it memorialized was almost completely oriented toward the Indian Ocean and the Arab world. Perhaps what is most interesting about this museum was its lack of any exhibit or commemoration of the archipelago’s union with the mainland. This is particularly surprising because the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of union was ongoing this summer and widely propagandized on the mainland, but hardly mentioned in the museum Zanzibar. I mention this to draw attention to the puzzling and complex relationship between the two formerly separate states that make up the United Republic of Tanzania, particularly as it pertains to the idea of an overarching Tanzanian national identity.

This summer provided me with a valuable foundation, both in terms of research and language skills, upon which to build future research projects. I plan to expand the work I did this summer, both within Tanzania and within other cases in East Africa. Although I focused this trip on state-articulated national stories, my future work will also be concerned with the acceptability of these official narratives to ordinary citizens, as well as with grassroots alternative national histories and identity articulations.

Victoria Gorham is a PhD student in political science. Pre-dissertation travel funding provided by the Center for African Studies and the UF Office of Research.
I conducted field research in Zanzibar and Uganda from June 2013 through February 2014. My dissertation is a microhistory of the 1964 Zanzibar Revolution, using both archival sources and interviews with revolutionaries to dissect what have become iconic moments in the few hours it took to overthrow the government.

The first post-colonial revolution in East Africa, this revolution has fostered many conflicting accounts, and no single coherent tactical analysis of what transpired. It remains so politically sensitive that, at first, many Zanzibaris said it would be difficult to get people to talk. Having visited Zanzibar countless times over the last twenty plus years, I was fortunate to tap into long-standing networks in order to connect with relevant historical figures, many of whom have not previously told their stories. Even my location tied in to my topic, as my rooftop flat overlooked the Malindi Police Post, the site of the last skirmish of the revolution.

A former policeman who researched and wrote a report on the revolution in 1980 for Aboud Jumbe, the second President of Zanzibar, explained what he had uncovered and introduced me to other knowledgeable sources. I spoke with both of the last living members of the “Committee of 14”, the group of mostly vibaruu (day laborers) who have been credited with leading the revolution. Equally ground-breaking are conversations with several of the Comrades of the Umma Party who had received military training in Cuba in 1962, and who formed the beret-wearing group of rebels saying “Venceremos” in the early days of the revolution. They were mistaken for Cubans, adding to the inaccurate Western fear that the revolution was a Communist plot. Finally, I was part of a local baraza with an unusual political mixture of people, including a former member of the Police Mobile Force whose armory was attacked as the first target of the Revolution, as well as a Principle Secretary in the current government.

Additionally, through an archival newspaper article and contacts in Uganda, I located a previously unknown wife of Ugandan Field Marshall John Okello, who was the instigator of the government overthrow. In a remote village in northern Uganda, I interviewed this woman and other family and friends of Okello’s who provided me with insights into his childhood as well as his life after the Zanzibar Revolution. Far too Fanonian in his expression of retributive violence for Zanzibari sensibilities, this revolutionary leader’s desire for power got him unceremoniously deported from Zanzibar only two months after the revolution. Finding himself persona non grata all over East Africa, he was ultimately killed by soldiers of another Ugandan Field Marshal, Idi Amin.

The opposing narratives of the Revolution that are regularly debated in blogs and barazas each entail factual details as well as conspiratorial imaginings. In my dissertation, I deconstruct the narratives, situating and analyzing both the actualities and the roots of the conspiracies.

In late 1963 and early 1964, various groups of Zanzibaris were talking about revolution. In a climate of rampant political gossip, one Assistant Superintendent of Police admitted he “learned to ignore these rumors”. With roadblocks down at night, unarmed police sleeping in the barracks, rebels killed the sentry and took the guns from the armories. Within hours, control over weapons had far-reaching political ramifications, as other groups of people joined in when it began to appear that the government was actually toppled with much more speed and ease than almost anyone imagined was possible.

Ann Lee Grimstad is a PhD candidate in history. Funding provided by a Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship, the Center for African Studies, and the UF Office of Research.
NEITHER “FRIENDSHIP FARM” NOR “LAND GRAB”: 
CHINA’S AGRICULTURAL INVESTMENT IN NIGERIA

YANG JIAO

My dissertation, titled “Migration and Social Life of the Chinese entrepreneurs in Ghana,” is an ethnographic study of the transnational lives and everyday practices of Chinese entrepreneurs in Ghana as well as their impact on the Ghanaian and Chinese society, economy, and culture respectively. It is the first step of a larger research agenda aiming to understand a bigger question: What are the implications of China’s global economic expansion to the Sub-Saharan African countries? In 2014, I have focused on the agriculture sector among other areas.

China’s agricultural engagements with Africa have two main types of collaboration models. The first is China’s comprehensive aid program that includes agricultural technology demonstration centers, sending agricultural experts, training African farmers and technicians, as well as participating FAO’s “South-South” cooperation framework. The second model includes investment projects by Chinese entrepreneurs that produce locally and serve locally in Africa.

In April, I received a small grant to conduct a scoping study of a Chinese company called the Green Agricultural West Africa Ltd.(GAWA) located in the town of Wàrra in the Kebbi state of Nigeria. GAWA is initiated by China Geo-engineering Construction Overseas Corporation Nigeria (CGCOC). CGCOC Nigeria has extensive engineering contractor experiences and has committed itself to agricultural development since 2005. It obtained 2025 hectares of land on a 99-year lease from the Kebbi state in 2006. Later it formed a joint venture with Yuan Longping High-tech Agriculture Co Ltd. Shandong Denghai Seeds (specializes in maize) and Zhangjiakou Academy of Agricultural Sciences (specializes in millet) later also joined as shareholders. GAWA currently grows 400ha of rice in the rainy season and 100ha of rice in the dry season.

GAWA has three ongoing businesses now. The most developed one is to use Chinese technology to produce rice seeds. In what is called the outgrower program, GAWA provides foundation seeds to the participating Nigerian farmers. Next GAWA buys the seeds produced by the outgrowers, processes and packages them, and then sells the certified seeds to Kebbi state. The latter sells those certified seeds to farmers who have registered their names into a national database with subsidies. Outgrowers produce on their own land and GAWA sets up several regional centers and provide technological support. GAWA also let adjacent outgrowers to use their land to produce seeds (see Figure 1).

Through this outgrower program, GAWA has participated in Nigeria’s Growth Enhancement Support program, and local farmers gain training and reduce their cost of production. GAWA’s partners gain a well-established partner that provides infrastructural input and human capital. Such partnership thus serves as a conduit for them to achieve the goal of “Go Global” and exporting Chinese agricultural technologies.

GAWA is not the only agribusiness endeavor of CGCOC. According to its manager, they have obtained a 54ha land near Abuja to build an agricultural industrial park. They plan to demonstrate hybrid rice and maize developed with Chinese technologies, experiment ecological farming, and show case agricultural processing machinery from China.

Although the case in Nigeria is not a “land grab”, it is relevant to the trend where large corporations are exporting farming technologies to the global south and endangering small-scale farming livelihoods.

Yang Jiao is a PhD candidate in anthropology. Support provided by Johns Hopkins University-SAIS China Africa Research Initiative with funding from the Smith Richardson Foundation.
More than two decades have passed since the end of the Cold War, yet in many ways the world continues to experience its consequences. As many countries, including those in Africa, lost support from their previous Soviet allies, and as future financial assistance became conditional upon measures of good governance and democracy, many regimes were compelled to both liberalize and democratize in order to survive. Within Africa, such conditions were all the more significant as many regimes were confronted with poor economic conditions held over from the previous decade. As a result of the increased difficulty of maintaining an authoritarian status quo, no fewer than twenty-eight African countries undertook “experiments” with democracy during the critical period between 1990 and 1994.

However, in spite of the democratic upsurge, instances of coups, crises, and institutional stagnation continued to challenge the democratic gains made during the inaugural period. By 2009, only half of the states previously experiencing such democratic openings could still be listed as nominally democratic, while only six could be considered “liberal” democracies.

As comparisons of these countries’ democratic paths reveal a striking disparity between aspirations and outcomes, such comparisons also reveal the puzzling case of one country experiencing an inauspicious democratic transition, yet eventually producing one of the most widely recognized democratic regimes on the African continent. How is it that Ghana, a country possessing many conditions unfavorable to democracy at the time of its democratic opening—including questionable inaugural elections, a de-facto one party inaugural government, a dominating presidential system, and an overall uneven playing field between government and opposition parties—nevertheless managed to follow a steadfast path of democratization? Whereas all other countries with similar conditions have since produced ambiguous, or otherwise non-democratic governments, what factors explain why Ghana took a different path?

In answering this puzzle, my project investigates Ghana’s political history after its 1992 democratic opening and argues that the case of Ghana indicates a larger phenomenon when explaining contemporary democracy in Africa. Positing Ghana as a paradigmatic example of a democratic trajectory, the insights gathered from this project aid in explaining the variation of regimes occurring in Africa after the Cold War. In brief, this project assesses for variation among three factors present at the time of each country’s democratic opening: the strength of political opposition, foreign aid, and the amount of international leverage placed behind such aid. Furthermore, I also consider executive decision-making and the manner in which leaders of these countries chose to either tolerate ongoing democratic demands or to repress them altogether, based on the proverbial “writing on the wall” displayed through the presence/absence of the three previous factors. In other words, these conditions structured the sets of choices for leaders following each democratic opening: each leader’s perceived chances of maximizing their authority ultimately determined whether a given country would proceed along a democratic or non-democratic trajectory.

During my eight months of field research in Ghana, supported through the Boren Fellowship Program, I collected data through elite interviews among a variety of in-country experts within academia, politics, government, and civil society, as well as through local archival and academic resources. Based on the results produced from this investigation of Ghana, my research successfully explains 21 of 25 countries’ regime trajectories (excluding exceptional cases). In sum, by regarding Ghana as the norm, rather than the exception to democracy in Africa, we learn more about why some countries maintained democratic regimes, and we understand why others will continue to do so in the future.

Nicholas Knowlton is a PhD candidate in political science. Funding for his dissertation field research, including foreign language training in Twi, was provided through the National Security Education Boren Fellowship Program.
During the summer of 2014, I traveled in Kenyan Maasailand to assess the status of six community-based conservancies for my Master’s thesis. I collected information about the projects by speaking with conservancy managers, game scouts, and other stakeholders to evaluate community involvement and to work towards recommendations for improving the projects in the future.

Community-based conservation is a prevalent and often successful approach to conservation in Africa, and Kenya has over 150 such conservancies. These conservation institutions created on the ground are vital, because over 70% of the wildlife in Kenya is found outside of national park boundaries. Since most of the diverse wildlife coexist with people, these programs driven by communities to promote conservation are extremely important.

For my fieldwork, I was busy with focus groups, interviews, and time getting to know the Maasai group ranches in the South Rift valley of Kenya, which are hard at work growing conservation. Lying between Amboseli and Maasai Mara National Parks, this region is an essential corridor for sustaining wildlife populations. These six community protected areas represent true community-based programs driven by local leaders and local participation. My project was an opportunity to support these institutions.

With the intention of assessing stakeholder participation in community-based conservation on these group ranches, I collected community leaders’ opinions and perspectives on what is currently happening in their conservancies as well as what may happen for them in the future. I had focus group discussions with the conservancy management committees and the community game scouts. Also, I interviewed other opinion leaders who are not involved in the conservancies but are community members with important perspectives. These leaders included government chiefs, traditional Maasai chiefs of different age sets, women’s group leaders, head teachers, and church pastors in each community. In total my research included 10 focus groups with 55 participants and 36 key informant interviews. The many conversations in each site allowed for me to get diverse views on the communities’ projects.

After completing my data collection in the Rift Valley, I could see that these communities are each in different stages of their conservation projects. They have different issues to address in order to promote resource, wildlife, and environmental conservation. Subdivision of land was a major issue influencing the capacity for communal conservation projects. Also, illegal resource use, such as logging and wildlife poaching were major problems in many of the sites. The interviews and focus groups in each area brought out their unique and pertinent problems to be addressed by management and community participation for each community. This evaluation of the community conservancies identifies these problems to be addressed by protected area management and educational outreach and to promote accountability and community participation.

The next step for my project will be to distribute reports of my findings for each community and the region. Identifying the strengths and weaknesses of the current programs and analyzing differences in stakeholders’ perspectives will aid managers in improving benefits and ensure the long-term success of the communities’ programs. This dissemination of results is my priority to ensure that the project supports conservation improvements at each site and promotes stakeholder collaboration to augment the conservation success in the region.

By offering a new method for analyzing activities associated with effective community-based conservation, I hope this project will enable managers to improve their conservancies. This study contributes to a proactive discussion and analysis of community-driven projects in East Africa in the hopes of enhancing the conservation potential of conservancies by facilitating the implementation of truly participatory policies.

Lily Maynard is a second-year M.S. student in the Department of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation and a FLAS Fellow (2013-15). Support for this research was provided by the UF Tropical Conservation and Development Program, the Angel Fund, and the Vogel Trust.
Since the end of my undergraduate studies, the prime issue that has deeply concerned me as well as energized me to remain within the discipline is whether as an African I can practice an archaeology that is vibrant, engaging, accessible, and directly applicable to the daily lives of African people. I redirected my research interest to address whether producing African archaeologists makes a difference or not, both to African people and the discipline of archaeology.

The need to train Africans in archaeology has been highlighted for the last five decades. Equally, some African and Africanist archaeologists have begged for the direct relevance of archaeology to Africans as early as the mid-1980s. In this decade, we see the emergence of research interests that address the relationship between local communities and archaeology in sub-Saharan African countries. Yet despite these developments, research that recognizes local communities’ perceptions, reactions, and demands on archaeology or that examines the practice and teaching of archaeology in African universities is very sparse.

Within that broader inquiry, between July 2010 and January 2012, I spent sixteen months in Uganda and Tanzania to explore the experiences of Africans—as practitioners, students, and local communities—in archaeology. My research findings show that archaeology in the Tanzanian and Ugandan higher education systems was introduced during the early 1960s in only two universities: Dar es Salaam College in Tanzania (now the University of Dar es Salaam - UDSM), and Makerere College in Uganda (now Makerere University - MKU). Archaeology was more vibrant at Makerere College than at Dar es Salaam.

By the late-1960s, its visibility at MKU started to decline and has remained undeveloped ever since then. Whereas at the UDSM archaeology started to emerge as a full-fledged program only in 1985, today, the UDSM has a refined program that offers both undergraduate and graduate degrees. On the other hand, MKU just opened an archaeology program in the 2013-2014 academic year to offer Bachelor of Arts in Archaeology.

In addition to documenting the status of academic archaeology in these countries and publishing a co-authored article in Azania, I also organized collaborative research involving both Tanzanian and Ugandan archaeologists, particularly fresh graduates both from undergraduate and graduate archaeology programs at the UDSM. In this collaborative research with Muwonge Herman from Uganda and Kokeli Ryano and Naserian Ndangoya from Tanzania, we examined local communities’ perceptions of and attitudes towards archaeology and archaeologists. Local communities, either from archaeologically under-researched areas such as Kajuna village, Masaka District, in central Uganda or over-researched areas for almost a century such as Olduvai Gorge in northern Tanzania, have the same attitude towards archaeology and archaeologists.

We learned that despite the growth of the number of local scholars, the relationship between archaeologists and local communities still continues its colonial legacies that disenfranchise the latter and disregard their voices, rights, and needs. The Maasai community of Olduvai Gorge, based on their long-term experience, strongly advise to archaeologists to adhere a neighborhood reciprocity approach. As one way of transforming archaeological practices in African settings, we presented the concerns and experiences of the Maasai community in two venues. The first was at the community archaeology workshop held at the UF in March 2014. The second venue was the joint international conference organized by the Pan-African Archaeological Association and the Society of Africanist Archaeologists, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, in July 2014.

Asmeret G. Mehari received her PhD in anthropology in 2015. Funding for this research was provided by the Wenner-Gren Foundation, the UF Graduate School, the Center for African Studies, and the UF Office of Research.
Non-biodegradable waste is an ever-increasing byproduct of urbanization and globalization in Sub-Saharan Africa. Senegal has experienced rapid urbanization in recent decades, and faces challenges in managing non-biodegradable waste produced in the country’s urban centers. This waste marks changes in consumption patterns as urban centers increasingly rely on packaged goods compared with their rural counterparts. Despite rapid incorporation into a global market economy that facilitates access to packaged products and durable goods, Senegal’s cities have not responded in turn by developing infrastructural capacity to absorb the resulting non-biodegradable waste. This unintended consequence of urbanization is not limited to major urban centers such as Dakar, but impacts smaller peri-urban centers as well. My summer research explored the spatial distribution of non-biodegradable waste in urban centers and peri-urban peripheries.

An exploration of wastescapes led me to investigate informal recycling of non-biodegradable waste at Mbeubeuss – Dakar’s large waste dump located in the suburb, Malika. Mbeubeuss was scheduled to close in 2006, but failed planning for a new site resulted in it remaining in operation until present day with no further plans to close it. Informal recyclers – who make up the Association Bokk Diom – work and live at Mbeubeuss collecting non-biodegradable materials, namely plastics and metals, which they resell to nearby industry. They sort through waste daily for items such as single-use plastic bags and PET bottles. This livelihood is one that grew out of a lack of efficient waste management on the part of the state. Despite low productivity of manual sorting, recyclers serve to manage waste volume at Mbeubeuss. The threat to health and wellbeing for recyclers is not to be dismissed. To meet needs, they were able to found Association Bokk Diom, which in turn established a school for recyclers and their children, and a medical clinic. While their struggles are profound, they are able to access some of the benefits of the infrastructure and development capacities of Dakar due to their close proximity to the urban center. The Association Bokk Diom is also currently in dialogue with municipal and state officials that calls for a reduction of urban consumption of non-biodegradables through restriction of single-use plastic bags.

Peri-urban zones far from the nation’s capital experience a manifold burden with regards to their growing wastescapes. These small urban centers are increasingly engaging in consumption of non-biodegradable goods similar to the consumption of larger urban cities, however they also still rely heavily on local food production for economic and livelihood security – mainly agriculture and livestock production carried out in the adjacent lands. Peri-urban zones have little infrastructural capacity to direct the waste stream away from residential areas, agricultural fields, and grazing pastures. Consequently, the potential for waste to contaminate drinking water, reduce soil productivity, and kill grazing livestock pose significant challenges to public health. Environmental changes that have resulted in low crop yields and insufficient pastures and water for livestock over recent decades has led to conflict between farmers and herders over access to land. Thus these vast wastescapes aggravate already strained resources for livestock and agricultural production. As rural migrants continue to migrate to urban areas, wastescapes will continue to continue to increas-ingly strain the Senegalese landscape.

This research project served as a foundation for a larger doctoral project that will comparatively explore the health outcomes of those most impacted by these wastescapes in urban and peri-urban zones of Senegal.

Therese Ryley is a doctoral student in anthropology and FLAS fellow (2013-15). Research funding provided by the Center for African Studies and the UF Office of Research. The West African Research Center in Dakar was instrumental in coordinating this project.
Over 2014 I conducted research for my dissertation on hip hop in Nairobi, Kenya. Focused on young urban Kenyans from disadvantaged socio-economic backgrounds this research examines the daily social, discursive, and aesthetic practices hip hop musicians and producers deploy while pursuing a livelihood. In the last fifteen years or so “African youth” and their futures have been focal points of debates among development organizations, policy makers and scholars due to some staggering demographic and economic trends. In Kenya approximately 80 percent of the population is under the age of 35, and within that population the unemployment rate in urban areas is estimated to be 35-60 percent. In the lower income estates of Nairobi the outlook for employment is particularly grim. Nairobi is sometimes referred to by young Kenyans as shamba la mawe (farm of stones), meaning that earning a life from the city is akin to farming on rocky soil. Hip hop is one way that some young Kenyans try to squeeze a living out of these difficult conditions. With this research project I hope to contribute to contemporary debates about younger Kenyans by showing how hip hop is utilized as both a forum for expressing grievances and strategy for combating the challenges they face in their daily lives.

Overall, Nairobi hip hop performers encourage and reinforce each other through social networks. But they also conflict with one another, as when one of the producers at a community studio disappeared with several hundred dollars worth of studio equipment, causing the studio to be shut down and many local artists to lose their music. As one member of the community said to me, “He was so shortsighted! He’ll make a little cash from selling the equipment, but what we were building here could have fed all of us for years.” The constant tension between “eating today” and trying to build a future is a major issue hip hoppers I’ve interviewed struggle with. Another rapper I interviewed complained that his wife’s family won’t accept their marriage - even after nine years and three children - because he still can’t afford to pay bride wealth. It is from ethnographic analysis of these types of encounters that I think the most interesting insights into the social worlds of Kenyan rappers can be made to speak to larger debates about African youth and their futures.

Throughout the course of this research and previous fieldwork experiences I have spent hours sitting with these musicians and their friends on street corners, basketball courts, newspaper kiosks and numerous other locations where one can listen to the safi ya mitaa (voice of the streets). As a musician I’ve been fortunate to work with very talented Kenyan rappers on a number of songs. These collaborative experiences have helped me to understand the process of how songs are made - from street to studio; from original concept to final mix. Analysis of the social worlds produced in and around the studios, and the other spaces that hip hoppers inhabit, adds another dimension to our understanding of how urban African youth are challenging adverse demographic and economic situations as they work to make a life through their art.

Erik Timmons is a PhD candidate in anthropology and a FLAS fellow (2008-10). Research funding provided by a Fulbright-Hays DDRA grant, the Center for African Studies, and the UF Office of Research.
My research focuses on the crisis of Islamic insurgency in the Sahel region. I am particularly interested in the socio-political and religious dynamics that contributed to the emergence of the crisis, and the factors of vulnerability and resilience in each of Mali, Mauritania, and Niger.

The Sahel region is going through an important transformation. A region that was once known for its peace and stability has suddenly turned into a sanctuary of violence, kidnapping, suicide bombing, and the spread of radical jihadist ideologies. This sudden change has puzzled scholars, and challenged the existing paradigms for understanding the political and religious dynamics of the region. Mauritania, Mali and Niger are the three Sahelian countries that are on the frontlines of this crisis. These countries have each experienced military assaults, suicide attacks, kidnappings, and killing of civilians perpetrated by jihadists inside their territories. Yet all three have had different trajectories.

While the Malian state collapsed in 2012 in the face of the crisis and Niger struggles to maintain a precarious stability, Mauritania seems the first to have reached a post-Islamic insurgency period.

Over the course of the summer 2013, I conducted field research in both Mauritania and Niger to investigate their experience of the crises of Islamic insurgency. Mauritania appeared as the first Sahelian country to have successfully expelled the threat of jihad out of its territory. In fact, after six years (2005–2011) of intense counterinsurgency no terrorist attacks occurred on Mauritanian soil. This is all the more notable given that, prior to the onset of the Malian crisis, a number of factors suggested extreme vulnerability to jihadist activism, and seemed to set Mauritania apart from its Sahelian neighbors as the easiest prey for the jihadist enterprise. Surprisingly, despite the political instability that punctuated the period of the crisis, a combination of military, political, and religious strategies by successive Mauritanian governments proved effective in fighting against the threat posed by jihadist movements and eventually led to the defeat of the jihadists and their withdrawal from their unsuccessful national front to join more promising ones in Libya and Mali.

In Niger my investigation revolved around the description of this country in the media as well as in officials’ speeches as an “island of stability.” Niger is, in fact, encircled by crises of Islamic insurgency across its borders: Boko Haram, Ansar al-Sharia, AQIM, and MUJOA. Yet despite its structural weaknesses and the spread of violence along its borders, Niger appears unexpectedly resilient. Contrary to the other frontline countries, Niger has avoided the emergence of indigenous cells of jihadist groups within its territory, and prevented the occupation of its territory by such groups. This unexpected performance is credited to the country’s secularized Islam, its fairly operational and organized military, and the experience of handling Tuareg insurgencies, which allowed Niger’s government to maintain tight control over the northern regions.

My ongoing project consists of a comparative historical analysis that traces down structural socio-political and religious dynamics that might explain the different trajectories taken by each of Mali, Mauritania, and Niger in the face of the crisis of Islamic insurgency.

Ibrahim Yahaya Ibrahim is a PhD candidate in political science and a Fulbright grantee (2011–2013). Funding for this research is provided by the Minerva Research Initiative.
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ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND PALEOENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH IN THE NDALI CRATER LAKES REGION OF WESTERN UGANDA

PETER SCHMIDT AND JULIUS LEJU

During the summer of 2014, faculty and students from the University of Florida participated in a collaborative research project in western Uganda with faculty, staff, and students from Mbarara University of Science and Technology (mUST), Kyambogo University, Rollins College, and the National Museum of Uganda. The overarching goal of our research was to inquire into the history of human settlement among the crater lakes east of the Ruwenzori Mountains, with the subsidiary goals to assess anthropogenic change to the environment as well as climatic change. The geographical setting--several score of small crater lakes within a small 12 x 15 km core zone--provides an ideal set of conditions for studying environmental change from lake cores. Prior research in the regions by Peter Schmidt in 1995 showed that there was significant early settlement along the margins of lakes and throughout the crater lake zone. This suggested a high potential for fine-grained analysis of human-induced environmental change vis-a-vis climate change.

Prior paleoenvironmental research shows that there was a significant burning episode about 1000 BC, an event that we speculated could possibly be tied to early human activity. The modest archaeological testing program of 2014 documented distinct burning strata in two sites, both associated with Late Stone Age (LSA) materials--one dated to the 4th millennium BC and the other to the 2nd century AD. This suggests that possible intensification of hunting and gathering activities may be associated with these locales in a humid, forested landscape. The more recent site holds diverse lithic resources used in stone tool production, moving from a quartz-based industry to one that incorporates a wide range of chert resources alongside quartz. A high frequency of LSA remains across the landscape suggest strong possibilities for fruitful inquiry pertaining to the mid to later Holocene period.

Our program of survey and test excavation showed a pattern of population growth and diminishment during the Iron Age in several major cycles: 1) the Early Iron Age, starting about 500 BC with significant impact on forest resources; 2) the turn of the millennium at 1000 AD, marked by the incursion of a second group with a distinctive stamped and carved roulette pottery; and 3) a significant presence of large villages during the so-called Ntusi/Bigo period which, further to the West by 200 kms, started about 900 AD and ran until approximately 1400–1500 AD. The growth of large communities in the mid-second millennium AD may have been a response to the drying episodes associated with Little Ice Age in dryer central Uganda--inducing communities to move west into the wetter crater lakes region. Finally, a new chronological chapter has been added to Ugandan history with documentation of the Boudine culture. Ambiguous in its chronological attributions (ranging from early first millennium AD to the 18-19th century AD) over the last five decades, there is now evidence for Boudine-associated sacred sites--numerous cemeteries--on crater rims spanning the first millennium BC. The presence of this cultural component may allow more viable explanations environmental perturbations observed in the paleoenvironmental from the late 2nd millennium BC to the late first millennium BC.

Paleoenvironmental Research: We succeeded in obtaining a number of deep cores from Kabata swamp dating back 13,000 years, where other researchers laid out the first known patterns of landscape change. Using phytolith analysis with pollen analysis we hope to produce a more fine-grained environmental record that is tightly correlated with results from a number of test excavations along the western, southern, and eastern rims of this caldera. Moreover, several deep cores taken from marshy contexts in the Lake Rwakenzi basin, provided paleoenvironmental records over the last 6800 years.

Community Outreach: The Uganda National Museum staff worked with other members of our team to effect outreach to schools, churches, local governmental authorities, and the major local employer--the Ndali Vanilla Factory. School outreach focused on upper primary (5-7) and the only secondary school. Presentations of our research goals and scientific methods in both archaeology and paleoenvironmental research were followed up by distribution of permanent posters in English and Lutoro, the local language. These were very well received and used the principle that a trickle-up approach from kids to adults is more effective in communicating our research goals. Presentations to local churches occurred on several occasions, sending teams of investigators along with our outreach personnel to answer questions that arose from a population very sensitive to land issues, given court-confirmed claims by expatriate land owners for land lost during the Idi Amin regime.

Peter Schmidt is professor of anthropology and former director of CAS. Julius Lejju is associate professor of biology at Mbarara University of Science and Technology (mUST). Research was funded by the National Science Foundation, the Paleontological Scientific Trust (PAST) and Scatterslings of Africa Programme, MUST, and the Foundation for African Prehistory and Archeology and its donors.
Collaboration

In summer 2014 I was awarded an RTA grant that facilitated research in Kenya, with two University of Florida undergraduate students, Farah Charles and Heejin Ahn. We examined the alternative financing options utilized by self-employed women who are unable to access microfinance loans to establish business. What prompted this research was the widespread small scale businesses run by women in response to acute rising rate of unemployment. Self-employment plays an important role in Kenyan economy and has the potential for contributing to women’s economic, social, political empowerment, and specifically in reducing poverty. We collected the data through surveys, in-depth interviews with individual women, and observed women’s self-help groups called *chama* - rotating saving & credit associations (ROSCAs) - in two primary locations, Mombasa and Nairobi. Both rural and urban women belong to *chama*, where they contribute money monthly and lend to each other.

Women entrepreneurs’ contribution to the economy of Kenya is immense, yet they cannot secure formal bank loans due to lack of collateral. In response to these challenges, many microfinance institutions have evolved from NGOs to provide historically disadvantaged women with access to financial services, such as the Kenya Women Finance Trust (KWFT), Kenya Rural Enterprise Program (K-REP), Women Economic Empowerment Consort (WEEC) and Kenya Equity Bank.

Despite this development, the current research indicate that informal forms of lending such as ROSCAs (or “merry-go-rounds”) are the main source of small loans for women entrepreneurs. All the women interviewed borrowed from their group while only 4% of them also subscribed to KWFT.

The study found that the choice to borrow from formal institutions highly depended on the socioeconomic status of the applicant and that poor women were often restricted from joining KWFT due to failure to meet collateral requirements. Furthermore, KWFT’s strict penalty system for defaulters which involves confiscation of physical assets hinders women from joining. In informal lending, there is a degree of flexibility; the rules governing repayment are negotiable when borrowers encounter extenuating circumstances, such as death in the family. Thus, frequently an “emergency fund” is established to assist members at no cost.

Another deterrent to joining a formal institution is the high interest rate (20-30%) compared to informal saving groups (5-10%). The women informed us that it was advantageous to borrow from their informal groups because the interest they pay stays within their group and adds to the collective “pot” whereas formal institutions keep the interest to pay for operation costs. Although informal associations seem to be efficient in serving women entrepreneurs’ needs, interviewees pointed out two major challenges; often times the informal associations do not provide them with adequate capital to expand their businesses. Also, when a default case occurs, the “informal” nature of these groups makes it challenging for the group to successfully battle it out in court, because they are often related or friends with each other.

The ROSCAs are highly valued by small business owners due to their informal nature and their rootedness in the traditional mutual guarantee system. There are thousands of ROSCAs in Kenya, serving as the predominant source of credit for women, with many having experienced positive impact on their businesses and family life. There is a need for the formal and government financial institutions to work with the informal financial groups to strengthen them through the provision of technical and financial support in order to meet women entrepreneurs needs and enable them to reach their highest production in business. Overall, the study findings indicate that ROSCAs have great potential in improving the standard of living of many people in Kenya and reducing poverty.

Rose Sau Lugano is senior lecturer in the Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures (LLC). Farah Charles and Heejin Ahn both completed undergraduate minors in African Studies. This research was funded by the Center for International Business Education (CIBER), the Center for African Studies, and the UF Office of Research.
COMMUNITY ARCHAEOLOGY & HERITAGE WORK IN AFRICA: ISSUES, LESSONS, & THE FUTURE

PETER SCHMIDT AND INNOCENT PIKIRAYI

In March 2014, CAS joined the Wenner-Gren Foundation in sponsoring a workshop at UF that addressed community archaeology and heritage work in Africa. Professional archaeologists and heritage experts from Kenya, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Ghana, Nigeria, Eritrea, the USA, Canada, and Switzerland discussed pre-circulated papers with the assistance of three outside discussants from the USA and Australia. The goals were to explore ways in which community engagement in Africa by archaeologists and heritage experts can contribute to good practices outside of Africa as well as incorporate good practices from other world regions appropriate to African settings. The workshop also explored questions of top-down and bottom-up initiatives, examining both to see what positive lessons could be drawn from both genres. Much of community engagement heretofore in Africa has been mandated by funding agencies and development enterprises, top-down efforts have been colored by centralized control over policy and implementation, often leaving communities distanced from participatory activities. Centralized control over community work has meant the alienation of communities from critical heritage sites, with policy directives aimed at protection overwhelming community needs for access to sacred places. These legacies have dominated African efforts to integrate community needs in planning of research, implementation of preservation plans, and development of heritage sites.

The workshop discussions isolated a number of key issues: 1) many archaeologists engaged in long-term research over the last several decades do not view their research as community-based, 2) some notable top-down approaches (e.g., culture banks in Dagon, Mali) have incorporated innovative ideas with the potential to be grown elsewhere in Africa and around the world; 3) displacement of contemporary people by development activities requires that heritage experts be prepared to find innovative ways to care for sacred sites that are threatened by development; 4) the colonial legacy of central control over excavation planning and implementation is deeply engrained in university pedagogy and will take serious and determined efforts to change; 5) the glorification of heroes of colonial archaeology, such as Louis Leakey, masks serious degradation of community sensibilities and participation in archaeological inquiry and heritage protection; 6) community archaeology remains a remote ideal in some parts of the continent, particularly where land alienation has occurred under settler displacement and apartheid; 7) culture change, especially the coming of Christianity, has devalued traditional heritage values—thrusting experts into tenuous ethical postures when they advocate against the destruction of heritage places no longer highly valued.

Other common themes emerging in the papers and discussions, to be the focus of a forthcoming volume, were: a) Decentralization of some State institutions, such as the National Museums of Kenya, has led to community governance of heritage sites alongside professional heritage managers, a significant change from top-down approaches. b) Community archaeology and heritage takes many guises: local initiatives and professional participation; outside initiation with local buy-ins, etc. The many different permutations require nuanced case studies to bring out what practice best fits local needs and larger management strategies. c) Long term community engagement for research purposes inevitably means community buy-ins and participations at various points and levels of research, varying as research goals and community needs change. d) Response to community invitations to engage in heritage projects are fraught with hidden agendas and mixed motivations that may pose a threat to professionals or members of the community. e) Ethical responsibilities to individuals in attribution of testimony varies according to the subject matter and setting and must result in “no harm done.” f) Public and community archaeology are different species that may be interbred. To avoid confusion in our use of these concepts we should distinguish between a public archaeology that incorporates outreach and dissemination of results and community archaeology that incorporates community engagement with research, crafting of interpretation, and sharing of indigenous knowledge. g) Multivocality in community heritage cannot be heard if archaeologists or heritage workers speak on behalf of community members. The clearest way to ensure that the voices of participating members of communities are heard is to stand aside and let them speak or to write them, letting them carry the narrative. h) A discourse-based approach to defining “What is heritage” requires listening to people as they engage in daily discourse about what they consider to be their heritage. i) Human rights claims are often unveiled in community heritage and archaeology investigations in disguised form, e.g., when people complain about the lack of food, the absence of employment opportunity, and the deprivation of religious beliefs. j) There is a professional and ethical responsibility to constantly assess the change that archaeologists and heritage workers are inducing in a community.

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Peter Schmidt is professor of anthropology and former director of CAS. Innocent Pikirayi is professor in the department of anthropology and archaeology at the University of Pretoria.
Dramatic events in recent years have brought new attention to the little-studied countries of the West African Sahel. This large research project of UF’s Sahel Research Group, funded by a grant from the Minerva Research Initiative, is focused on the factors affecting political stability in a set of six Sahelian countries—Senegal, Mauritania, Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger, and Chad—stretching across this arid region of West Africa. Collectively these are among the least developed countries in the world, and they present some of the most significant governance challenges anywhere. At the same time, several have been in many ways laboratories for democracy in the Muslim world, and all have experimented in the past couple of decades with reforming institutions in the name of democracy. Unfortunately, developments in the region in the past few years, including the actions of Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM), and especially the consequences of the collapse of the Qaddafi regime in Libya, placed significant pressures on these states. In the time between the submission of the research proposal and the initiation of the project, the region was rocked by the overthrow of the government in Mali and the subsequent displacement of state authority in the north of the country by an assortment of Islamist jihadi groups.

The goal of the research project to understand the points of vulnerability as well as of resilience in the region, and in particular to examine the variations in these factors among the six countries. The project undertakes this via an analytic framework that examines the interactive and reciprocal effects of institutional reform on social change, in an iterative process of “micro-transitions” that cumulatively build to potentially more substantial transformations in state capacity, and that hence shape the prospects for stability or instability.

As with virtually all of Africa, the Sahelian states were directly affected by the intense pressures for political reform in the name of “democracy” of the early 1990s. While their initial responses were quite varied, all were obliged to undertake significant liberalization, reflected primarily in reduced state capacity to shape and control social forces. As a result, in all six countries significant social transformations were set in motion, and their political systems today are still being shaped by those forces. The collapse of Mali, and the eventual French-led international intervention to attempt to restore the country’s territorial integrity, however, also set in motion new dynamics affecting the entire region.

In the initial phase of the project the research team, led by PI Leonardo Villalón and including three Ph.D. students in political science (Mamadou Bodian, Ibrahim Yahya Ibrahim, and Daniel Eizenga), elaborated a framework for comparative analysis of the six countries, largely influenced by our ongoing analysis of the causes of the Malian collapse. Our weekly discussions in the broader setting of the UF Sahel Research Group (sahelresearch.africa.ufl.edu/) continues to serve as a forum for refining our framework and analysis. Periodic visiting scholars form the region, as well as other invited speakers regularly contribute to this effort. Other major activities have included a 2013 conference on “The Politics of Institutional Reform in the African Sahel,” featuring distinguished scholars from all six countries. In September 2014 we sponsored a symposium on “Demography and the Challenge of Social Change in the African Sahel,” as part of a collaborative project on “Development, Security, and Climate Change in the Sahel,” in conjunction with Sciences Po (Paris) and the Université Cheikh Anta Diop (Dakar). Information on other activities of the group, and a number of working papers from the project are available on our website.

In June 2014 the research team met in Senegal to finalize plans for the fieldwork component of the project. In the historic city of St. Louis, we co-sponsored a workshop on “Islam in the Sahel: New Trends and Local Dynamics,” in collaboration with the Centre d’Etudes des Religions of the Université Gaston Berger. In August the formal field research portion of the project was launched, initially in Senegal and Chad before moving on to include all six countries.

In each of the six countries, the interactive processes of institutional reform and social change that have been carried out in the name of democratization had led to our initial grouping of the six countries into three pairs on the basis of an observed outcome on the democracy dimension in the two decades from 1991-2011: Senegal and Mali (democracies); Chad and Burkina Faso (electoral authoritarian regimes) and Niger and Mauritania (unstable efforts at democratization). Our research in the first part of the project—underlined by developments in the region—clearly demonstrated that the processes and patterns of democratization do intersect with processes of building resilient state institutions, but in complex ways that are in the end independent of the outcome on the democracy dimension. Within each of our pairs, then, we identified one country where the two decades of political debates on reform appear to have strengthened state structures and another where it has not done so, despite similarities in terms of the democracy variable. Our fieldwork objective is to understand the processes that produce these varied results, and the variables we need to consider in trying to build a broader understanding of these processes.
Over the last four years, the Harn Museum of Art has opened two major original exhibitions, both of which have travelled to US venues. Each has been a collaboration with UF faculty and institutions in the US and Europe.

In 2011, the exhibition *Africa Interweave: Textile Diasporas* featured fifty-three textiles spanning the continent, including garments, wall-hangings, flags, masquerade costumes, and contemporary artworks. Immediately after the opening of *Africa Interweave*, the Harn entered into a major collaborative project with the Royal Museum for Central Africa, Tervuren, Belgium. The RMCA is a leading museum and research institution for the study of African art, culture and science. Working with Harn Museum of Art director Rebecca Nagy, and the RMCA’s director, Guido Gryseels, collections manager and researcher Hein Vanhee, curators, linguists, musicologists, anthropologists, conservators and contemporary art specialists, Harn curator Susan Cooksey and Robin Poynor, devised a plan for an exhibition on Kongo art and culture and its trans-Atlantic impact. The three exhibition curators, Cooksey, Poynor and Vanhee, assisted by UF art history graduate student, Carlee Forbes, also worked together on a major publication by the same title, *Kongo across the Waters*. The co-edited publication included essays by scholars in the US and Europe, and a full color catalogue section of works selected for the exhibition.

The exhibition included over 160 objects, many of which were seldom-displayed treasures from the RMCA. New research in archaeology and documentation of African-American life starting with the Middle Passage incorporated into the exhibition in the form of artifacts from slave villages in the US and works by contemporary artists. These along with a selection of works of art and artifacts by African American artists from 13 collections in the US, including the Smithsonian Museum for American History and the Smithsonian Museum of American Art, told the story of Kongo creolization in the New World. A website, kongoacrossthewaters.org, was developed and will be maintained for the entire run of the exhibition. Extensive programming highlights featured two after hours events for students and community called Museum Nights, a UNESCO sponsored program focusing on Gullah culture, and the Gwendolyn M. Carter conference in 2014, *Kongo-Atlantic Dialogues: Kongo Culture in Central Africa and the Americas* with thirty panelists from the Caribbean, Africa, the US, Canada and Europe. The exhibition’s travel schedule includes the Jimmy Carter Presidential Museum and Library in Atlanta, the Princeton University Museum of Art, and the New Orleans Museum of Art.

These two monumental exhibitions cap off 25 years of the Harn’s origination of innovative and significant exhibitions and publications on African art. The Harn is looking ahead to a reinstallation of its African Gallery in 2015. In February 2015, it will present *Kabas and Couture: Contemporary Ghanaian Fashion*, guest curated by UF alumnus Chris Richards, who worked with designers in Accra in the course of his doctoral research. This exhibition will look at fashion in Ghana since Independence with a number of garments by internationally recognized designers. A major purchase in 2014 of South African artist William Kentridge’s film, *Tango for Page Turning*, is a milestone in the Harn’s history of collecting African contemporary art. The upcoming exhibition, and exciting new works it will feature, as well as newly acquired works in both the historical and contemporary collections affirm the Harn’s legacy of collecting and researching African art in collaboration with local and international partners.

Susan Cooksey is curator of African art. Support for these exhibitions from: Michael and Donna Singer, the Harn 20th Anniversary Fund, the 1923 Fund, the Center for African Studies, the Madelyn M. Lockhart Endowment for Focus Exhibitions at the Harn Museum of Art, and Mary Ann and Richard Green, the Harn Program Endowment, the AEC Trust, Christie’s, UF Office of the Provost, UF International Center, UF Office of Research, UF School of Art and Art History, UF Center for African Studies, the C. Frederick and Aase B. Thompson Foundation, Hyatt and Cici Brown, William and Hazel Hough, Robert and Janet Kemerait, Nella Taylor, Drs. Israel and Michaela Samuely, Robert Haiman, Mary Kilgour, the Londono Family Endowment, the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities, and anonymous donors.
With support from a Research Tutorial Abroad grant from the Center for African Studies and the Center for International Business Education & Research (CIBER), in May and June of 2014 Fiona McLaughlin accompanied two UF linguistics students to Senegal to participate in a new research project entitled *The linguistic ecology of Dakar’s markets.*

The goal of this research trip was to start to collect data on the variable use of different languages in Dakar’s markets, including the use of written language in advertising, and to see what kind of correlation exists between the type of market and the languages used. Markets were characterized as predominantly ‘sites of necessity’ or ‘sites of luxury,’ following Stroud & Mpendukana’s (2009) work on the material ethnography of the linguistic landscape in a South African township. Markets that constitute sites of necessity include those that involve little investment in infrastructure and that sell basic food and clothing, i.e., necessities. Those included in our study were the centrally located food and clothing markets, Sandaga and Tîlène, as well as the HLM cloth market, and the Chinese-run Centenaire market. Our mid-range markets included the Casino and City Dia supermarkets. Casino, a French company, has long had a presence in Dakar, catering to European expatriates and the Senegalese bourgeoisie. City Dia is a new Spanish-owned chain in Dakar which has been successful in implanting itself conveniently in popular neighborhoods. Finally, the Dakar Biennale, a prestigious international art show and one of only two on the continent, served as the ‘site of luxury’ in our research.

The two students involved in this project carried out individual research projects, working with Senegalese research assistants, and gathered data for their MA thesis and undergraduate honors thesis, respectively. Claire Harter is interested in sociolinguistics and discourse analysis. While in Dakar she collected data on bargaining sequences, primarily in Marché Sandaga, a major market in downtown Dakar, but also traveled to several other markets to look at the strategies used by buyers and sellers to achieve their goals in the market. Claire’s research focuses on bargaining as a genre in the Dakar marketplace and how buyers and sellers demonstrate their competence in the genre by using cultural and economic strategies. Claire will graduate with her Master’s degree in May, 2015.

The focus of Tracy Lu’s research in Centenaire market was to explore how the Chinese merchants communicate in this environment. When they arrive, the Chinese have almost no background knowledge about Senegal, let alone French or Wolof, but these merchants are able to effectively adapt to the environment and communicate with the Senegalese by developing their own pidgin which based on urban Wolof. In the streets of Centenaire there are around 200 Chinese owned shops. Tracy collected data from around thirty-five of these shops. She interviewed the Chinese owners about when and why they decided to move to Senegal and what methods they were using in their attempt to learn the local language. She took pictures of their notebooks, in which they create their own Wolof-Chinese dictionaries.

The data collected during this project will be archived in the UF Department of Linguistics’ Language Documentation Archive. The corpus consists of audio recordings of natural conversation, interview with Chinese merchants and their Senegalese employees, and photographs of the markets, the Chinese merchants’ notebooks, and the commercial linguistic landscape.

Fiona McLaughlin is an associate professor of linguistics and African languages and currently serves as the chair of the Linguistics Department. Funding provided by the Center for African Studies, the UF Center for International Business Education and the UF Office of Research.
In Fall 2014, we launched a new collaborative program between the University of Florida, Sciences Po (Paris, France), and University Cheikh Anta Diop (Dakar, Senegal) to promote research and institutional exchange involving faculty and graduate students. All three Universities are part of the Global Association of MDP (Masters in Development Practice) programs and this is the first initiative that builds on this network to create lasting collaboration on African development issues. The initiative is coordinated at UF through the Center for African Studies, the France Florida Research Institute, the Sahel Research Group, the International Center (UFIC), and has been partly financed by the Cultural Services of the French Embassy in New York, which promotes closer association between American and French Institutions.

The project focuses on the development challenges facing the African Sahel in the wake of security and climate change. The Sahel is an expansive region characterized by intense environmental change, political and economic instability, and rapid population growth— all of which contribute to various security issues in the region. Despite this confluence of issues, development initiatives in the Sahel have lacked a systemic approach able to tackle interaction and feedback effects between different problem areas. The aim of the project is to shed light on the interplay between these different challenges and to generate development-based interventions and solutions aimed at alleviating insecurity.

The goal is for selected project participants to meet three times during the academic year, once in each location. The first series of activities took place at UF during September 20-26th. Two students from the MDP program at Science Po, and three students from UCAD MDP and Economics Programs attended.

On the first day we held a one-day symposium on the theme “Demography and the Challenge of Social Change in the African Sahel”, which was organized around three main teams: 1) Malcom Potts (founder of OASIS, UC Berkeley) and Alisha Graves (co-founder of OASIS) presented a collision of crises in a discussion of population growth and climate change in Niger, followed by an argument for the effectiveness of family planning, girls’ education, and women’s empowerment programs in encouraging fertility decline; 2) Matt Turner (University of Wisconsin) and Leif Brottem (Grinnell College) discussed the impact of micro-climate variability on pastoral and agricultural livelihoods and the constant need for these populations to adapt to environmental change; and 3) Arame Tall (IFPRI) and Sarah McKune (University of Florida) discussed the challenges of appropriately engaging local populations, particularly women farmers, in climate information services, and shared lessons from CCAFS projects in Senegal. More than 50 faculty and graduate students participated in the symposium, from Anthropology, African Studies, Climate Change Institute, Geography, Linguistics, MDP, Political Science, Public Health, Veterinary Medicine and other departments and programs.

The symposium was followed by a series of workshops and lectures held at the Center for African Studies. The workshops were designed to expose students to specific issues and to generate discussion in order to facilitate small-team collaborative projects. The workshop and lecture topics included: “Pastoral livelihoods and vulnerability to climate change” (Sarah McKune - UF Public Health); “Demography, girls’ education, and women’s empowerment in the Sahel” (Alisha Graves - OASIS Initiative); “Food insecurity in the Sahel: Global markets and domestic policies” (Renata Serra - UF Center for African Studies); “Managing Salafi Activism in areas of limited statehood: Evidence from Mali and Niger” (Sebastian Elischer - University of Lüneburg and GHGA, Germany); and “Linguistic Warscapes of Northern Mali” (Fiona McLaughlin - UF Center for Linguistics/LLC).

The weeklong events concluded with the formation of small-group cross-collaborations between students of partner universities. Students have self-selected into these smaller groups and will be working through the 2014-15 academic year to develop a deliverable in the form of either a literature review or a manuscript. Participating students will continue working from their respective universities, and select students will reconvene at each of the partner universities for weeklong collaborative endeavors. Students will meet at Sciences Po Paris in spring 2015 and at the University Cheikh Anta Diop in Dakar during summer 2015. A virtual conference is scheduled to take place this December.

Renata Serra is lecturer in the Center for African Studies; Sarah McKune is director of Public Health Programs; Leonardo Villalón is dean of the International Center and professor of political science; Thérèse Ryley is a PhD student in anthropology; Alioune Sow is director of the France-Florida Institute and associate professor in the Department of Languages, Literature and Culture (LLC).
The potential for using a social enterprise approach to achieve impact and scale in low cost housing

ESTHER OBONYO, MĐĐUNG THỌ NGUYỄN, KELLY WOODFINE, GERÓNIMO ETCHECHURY

The focus of this undergraduate research tutorial abroad (RTA) was identifying the key barriers to scale and impact in low cost housing using selected cases from Tanzania. Tanzania’s housing deficit is a staggering 3 million units. Among the existing households throughout the mainland, only 15 percent have electricity. Over 80 percent of urban residents live as tenants in unplanned informal settlements. Efforts by different players in both the private and public sector directed at providing adequate housing have had limited success and do not appear to have the potential for impact at scale. The host for the program was the National Housing Building Research Association (NHBRA), a Government Executive Agency, which was launched on 1st September 2001. The NHBRA is under the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development. NHBRA conducts research in local building materials and the required technology to meet the demands for low-cost housing through collaborating with both the public and private sector organizations. The most successful product is the soil-cement interlocking bricks technology which is 40% cheaper than the conventional building blocks. The interlocking mechanism eliminates the need for mortar between layers (an external sealant is used) and allows for a faster building rate. The use of this technology can reduce the construction costs of a 3-bedroom home from TZS 70 million to TZS 40 million TZS. The construction time is also reduced by 50 percent. NHBRA affiliated sites visited during the RTA include: a community-based organization (CBO) resettlement initiative at Kurasini-Chamanzi, slum upgrading and low income housing projects by the Women’s Advancement Trust (WAT) and a National Housing Cooperation (NHC) project in the proposed Kigamboni Satellite City. The diversity of needs among the different stakeholders revealed the multivalent character of affordable housing. Understanding the social context and the interfaces with the financial market are as important as the developing suitable technologies. Through collaborating with the NHBRA the home owners in the Kurasini-Chamanzi Resettlement Project have constructed 2-bedroom units costing 4.7 million TZS. The owners provide labor for the construction following training in the compressed block making from NHBRA. The projects use a modular construction approach through which each unit is built incrementally over time as each individual home owner pays off initial startup loans and qualifies for additional funding. WAT has also used the modular/ incremental construction approach to assist members in the Hanna Nassif slum to improve their living conditions. WAT provides Microfinance loans to its members. The largest NHBRA-affiliated project was the NHC Kigamboni one which when completed will contribute an estimated 500 units. Financial constraints emerged as one of the key barriers to scale and impact. Most of these initiatives rely on limited funding from the Tanzanian government. WAT indicated that they were transitioning into a for profit organization in the hope that stronger ties with the private sector will increase the scale and impact of their initiatives.

Esther Obonyo is associate professor in the School of Building Construction. Funding for this program was jointly provided by the Center for African Studies, the UF Center for International Business Education and Research (CiBER) through grants from the US Department of Education and the UF Office of Research.
In May 2014, Professor Anita Spring presented the final release of SABER, 2012-13 at the Plenary Session of the International Academy of African Business and Development (IAABD) in Bridgetown, Barbados. SABER 2012-13 provides business information at a ready glance for the 19 largest economies in Sub-Saharan Africa. Each Regional Summary and Country Report highlights the current situation for six topics: Political Stability; Economic Growth; Trade and Agriculture; Foreign Direct Investment (FDI); Doing Business; Business Culture and Financial (Stock) Markets; Infrastructure (construction, energy, telecommunications, transportation); and Health and Social Aspects.

Appendix A contains a series of tables created by SABER that provide a comprehensive statistical database, both quantitative and qualitative. The tables include FDI and trade; political and legal indicators; agricultural and commodity production and sales; ease of doing business rankings; financial market data; and social, gender, health, and education indicators. These data help evaluate business deals, business enablers and constraints, and political stability for each country report and sub-region summary. Development assistance programs and business investments by governments and companies from Africa, China, Europe, India, the United Kingdom, the United States, and other countries are also provided.

What is new in SABER 2012-2013? Although the previous volume, SABER 2011, included information on China's FDI in African countries, SABER 2012-2013 examines the subject in greater depth in terms of exports and imports; infrastructure contracts for building construction (houses, stadiums, government buildings); transportation construction (roads, railways, ports, airports); energy (electricity and wind power); mining and resource extraction; and telecommunications. New statistical tables and indices have been added on the values of imports and exports by commodity between SABER countries and the United States and China.

In response to reviewers, SABER 2012-2013 has also added a “Summary of Business Culture” based on the literature and personal experiences of SABER’s authors and colleagues. It covers greetings, business meetings and timing, titles and business cards, communication, bargaining and negotiation, gift giving, women and gender issues, tipping, personal space and eye contact, business dress codes, and practices to avoid. In addition, SABER has developed a series of Business Culture tables that will be put on the website so that readers can provide data for countries of which they are knowledgeable.
As CAS celebrates its first 50 years, we also reach a remarkable milestone in our partnership with the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM). Founded upon a memorandum of understanding developed by then-CAS Director Peter Schmidt and signed by both institutions in 1989, this linkage continues to provide extraordinary opportunities for UF students and UDSM academic staff.

CAS and the UF International Center work with the UDSM Office of Cooperation, Links, and Projects (Links) as well as the Office of Staff Development (OSD) to administer our student-faculty exchange. Both UF and non-UF students can study abroad as international students at UDSM, residing on campus while doing language and area studies coursework with UDSM instructors. As per the continuing MOU, UDSM provides housing, a food stipend, and tuition waiver for student participants. This allows UF to hold the student program fees in an account which supports the other aspect of this exchange: UDSM faculty residencies at UF.

Candidates for faculty residencies are selected by the UDSM OSD in collaboration with CAS. The program prioritizes junior staff members who are working towards their doctorate in any field. CAS and UFIC coordinate visiting scholar visas, air travel, accommodation, and maintenance stipends for semester-long residencies. CAS also connects scholars with UF faculty expertise for mentoring opportunities. UF Libraries offer research assistance and training. CAS provides staff support and while based in Grinter Hall, scholars are also able to participate in the full range of event programming on Africa.

Since the program’s inception, UF has hosted over 75 scholars from a large variety of UDSM departments, including archaeology, architecture, botany, chemistry, development studies, economics, engineering, fine arts, geography, history, law, linguistics, literature, management, marketing, mathematics, sociology, statistics, and zoology. After completing their program at UF, UDSM visiting scholars either continue to pursue their doctorate through UDSM or go on to programs elsewhere, e.g. Germany, Norway, Spain, UK, etc. We are also pleased to announce that one former exchange participant, Prof. F.D. Luoga, will become the new UDSM deputy vice-chancellor for academic affairs in 2015.

Todd Leedy is associate director and senior lecturer in the Center for African Studies. He has coordinated the UF-UDSM exchange since 2001.
Part of the mission of the Center for African Studies is to promote the teaching of Africa in schools, colleges and universities outside the University of Florida. The Center with the assistance of its affiliated faculty provides various levels of training and assistance to teachers at K-12, two-year colleges, and universities. At college level, the Center provides workshops and institutes to enhance the teaching of Africa and assist instructors in developing courses or sections on Africa. In addition, the Center holds an annual summer institute for K-12 teachers. The objective is to help teachers increase their knowledge about Africa and develop lesson plans to use in their classrooms. In the last ten years more than 100 teachers have taken part in the summer institutes and more than 6,000 have participated in our in-service training. Part of the objective of the summer institute is to produce a publication for teachers. Teachers who participate in the institute design lesson plans and write articles which are published in the Irohin: Bringing Africa to the Classroom. Thus far, we have published more than 15 editions of the Irohin, most of which are available online. The Irohin serves as a valuable resource for teachers locally, regionally and nationally. Print copies are provided to teachers at workshops and in-service training sessions. The articles in the publication are written by teachers for other teachers. The objective of the publication is to provide teachers with accurate information about Africa and offer effective ways for teaching about the continent. The Irohin also explores topical issues pertaining to Africa. The 2014 Irohin edition included: Reflections on Nelson Mandela; Ngungi wa Thiong’o; a comparative look at the cities of Lagos and Gaborone; Sudanese attempts to rebuild the country; conflict diamonds and the Kimberley process; great African leaders and social movements; the clash of traditional and modern cultures in Guinea; a look at African women authors; body adornment in selected regions of East Africa; Western versus African Hip-Hop; and the origin of the African Cup of Nations.

In 2014 CAS held its 10th Jambo! Summer program for area high school students. The objective is to introduce the students to an African language and contemporary Africa and thus sow the seed for future Africanists! So far, we have taught an average of 20 students each summer the basics of the Swahili language, introduction to the continent, music and dance. At the end of the institute the students demonstrate their knowledge of Swahili through performances including self-introductions, riddles and songs. They also demonstrate their newly acquired African music skills through the creative playing of drums, singing and dancing. Parents and families are invited to the graduation celebration.

Agnes Ngoma Leslie is the outreach director and senior lecturer at the Center for Africa Studies. She directs the summer institute for teachers and Jambo! She is also the editor of Irohin: Bringing Africa to the Classroom.
ALUMNI UPDATES

TIMOTHY AJANI
Taking Yoruba and Africa to an HBCU

CARLEE FORBES
Into the Collections: Congolese Painting

ASHLEY LEINWEBER
The Muslim Minority of the Democratic Republic of Congo

ROBERT PRESS
Resisting Repression without Violence
My primary research area continues to be on the new Englishes (with emphasis on Nigerian English). More recently, I have published on the legacy of Amos Tutuola as well as action research in the Yoruba language classroom (published in Paris, France). I have also published on Nigerian English, with emphasis on the works of Wole Soyinka and Chinua Achebe. More recently I submitted a couple of entries for the still-in-progress first Encyclopedia of Yoruba, and currently, I am busy working on a forthcoming paper on aspectual relations in the Yoruba. Thus, in spite of carrying a full load of administrative responsibilities, I have managed to keep myself busy with research and publication nonetheless. Other research work in progress includes such topics as compounding in Yoruba (morphology) and influence of the substrate in Tutuola’s English (syntax).

I came to Fayetteville State University (FSU) in the fall of 2001 in response to a job ad seeking someone to help jump-start an ESL program and help infuse Africa into the course curriculum of the now defunct Department of English and Foreign Languages. I am glad to report that we now have an add-on licensure certificate in ESL and offer Yoruba language courses. I have also been privileged to teach a few courses in African literature and the modern novel with an African emphasis. I have 19 students in my Yoruba class this semester! Due to a strong demand for French, though, and the non-availability of funds to hire a full-time position in French, I have also been teaching French language courses. I am currently the Critical Language Scholarship Program advisor for FSU – a fully-funded summer language institutes for U.S. university students sponsored by the U.S. Department of State. In 2010 I was awarded the much coveted UNC Board of Governors’ Award for Excellence in Teaching, the highest teaching award in the UNC system. That same year I became the pioneering Chair of a new Department of World Languages and Cultures.

It is evident that my deep roots in the UF Center for African Studies, the Department of African and Asian Languages and Literatures, and the Linguistics Program have served me well, and have been the impetus for my ongoing work and activities in the Tar Heel state, thanks to the strong mentoring support received while at the University of Florida, and particularly at the CAS. May I also add that while at UF, I was one of the fortunate beneficiaries of the CAS Summer Travel Grant award (1994).

Timothy T. Ajani (PhD, linguistics, 2001) is professor and chair of the Department of World Languages and Cultures at Fayetteville State University.
INTO THE COLLECTIONS: CONGOLESE PAINTING

CARLEE FORBES

In summer 2014 I began my pre-dissertation research while completing a curatorial internship with the Royal Museum for Central Africa (RMCA) in Tervuren, Belgium. This internship continues the collaborative bonds formed between the RMCA and the University of Florida created via the Kongo across the Waters exhibition and publication.

My internship served two purposes. The first was to begin organizing, inventorizing, and cataloging the RMCA’s recently acquired collection and archive of Congolese popular culture from historian Bogumil Jewsiewicki. This collection consists of over 2,000 Congolese popular paintings (dating from the 1970s to the present) and over 80 boxes of accompanying archival material. My task was to sort, organize, and categorize the archival boxes that included field notes, written personal narratives, recorded interviews, photos, music recordings, and objects. I separated these materials to be moved to their respective RMCA departments—the news archive, ethnomusicology, object storage, etc. In addition to organizing the archive, I am now part of the exhibition team under curator Bambi Ceuppens and co-curator/artist Sammy Baloji for a 2016 exhibition of Congolese popular painting at the Bozar Museum in Brussels. So, while sorting the archive, I was responsible for separating any material related specifically to popular painting, as this will be used in the exhibition’s research.

The second portion of my internship allowed me to begin expanding my research on Kongo artistic productions that I began in conjunction with the Kongo across the Waters exhibition/publication and my 2013 MA thesis. My MA thesis examined the imagery and patterns used in early 20th century raffia funerary mats to demonstrate both design continuity with raffia textiles dating from the 16th century and also the creative changes employed by 20th century Kongo artists for new markets and contexts. My new research, which I hope will develop into my dissertation, brings in and compares other two-dimensional Kongo arts from the early 20th century. This summer, my research focused on gathering materials from RMCA’s collection including: engraved calabashes, commissioned watercolors, and further examples of raffia funerary mats.

I was also able to view a large collection of commissioned watercolors held at the Bibliothèque Royale in Brussels and a smaller collection at the RMCA. These collections consist mainly of works by Albert Lubaki and Djilatendo (Tshelatende, Tshyela Ntendu), two Congolese artists working in the 1930s. These works were commissioned by a Belgian colonial officer George Thiry and promoted in Belgium by Colonial administrator Gaston-Denis Périer. These works have been discussed in the context of colonialism and the reception of African art in Belgium during the period. However, the two collections also hold a small number of rarely discussed works by Ngoma, René Massali, and Paul Mapinda. Relatively little is known about these three artists. By comparing the five artists: Lubaki, Djilatendo, Ngoma, Massali, and Mapinda it is my hope to better understand the atmosphere surrounding the production of these watercolors.

As my dissertation research progresses it is my intention to bring together the engraved calabashes, raffia mats, and watercolors to create a larger discussion on the nature of two-dimensional representation in the Congo during the early-mid 20th century. By questioning the nature of two-dimensional representation, this research may serve as a bridge between three art historical discussions: from cave paintings, to more canonical works (such as carved ivories), and finally the academic paintings of the 1950s (such as those by artists in Pierre Romain-Desfossés’s workshop in Lubumbashi). The larger themes I hope to consider are questions of Kongo artists’ artistic agency while living under the colonial system, local vs. foreign audiences, and Belgian reception of Congo art.

Carlee Forbes completed her MA degree in art history and was curatorial assistant at the Samuel P. Harn Museum of Art during 2013-14. Funding for this research was provided by the UF International Center. Carlee is now enrolled in the art history PhD program at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill.
The Muslim minority of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), approximately 5% of the total Congolese population, experienced intense repression and marginalization during the colonial period, resulting in detachment from politics and the state that carried over even after Congolese independence. Surprisingly, since the formal end of conflict in 2002, the Muslim minority has become increasingly active, as evidenced by a proliferation of Islamic associations now involved in spiritual and development realms. In particular, there has been a concerted effort to establish Muslim public schools throughout the country.

Undisputedly, more than a decade of war in parts of eastern DRC had an immensely negative impact on the social fabric of communities. However, tales of destruction are not all that have arisen out of the ashes of the Congo wars. Dissertation research in 2008 and 2009 revealed that the minority Muslim community was capitalizing upon the post-conflict moment of state weakness and desperate human need to mobilize for the benefit of the larger society. Despite decades of marginalization, discrimination, and withdrawal from politics and development, Congolese Muslim associations were organizing to provide social services. Specifically, although Catholic and Protestant groups had been running educational facilities since colonial times, Islamic organizations became actively involved in the provision of education since the end of the conflict in 2002.

Therefore, we first documented how the Muslim community has progressively taken active part in the provision of social services, and then ask why Muslims have been able to do so, why now, and what the political ramification of such involvement is. It is argued that the minority Muslim community has been able to mobilize for two primary reasons. The first explanatory factor is that in recent years there has been an easing of historic tensions within the Muslim community itself. The second factor is the opportunity that the post-conflict moment in Congolese history presented as the state was too weak to govern on its own, yet increasingly democratic and allowed access to previously marginalized groups, such as the Muslim minority.

In addition to involvement in post-conflict reconstruction, members of the Muslim community expressed interest in furthering their participation in newly formed democratic institutions. Therefore, more recent fieldwork in 2013 aimed to build upon the previous research by further exploring the political involvement of the Muslim minority in recent democratic elections. Since the previously quiescent community appeared to be experiencing a process of awakening through mobilization, we expected to find increased levels of involvement in post-conflict politics as well. However, as a consequence of the historical legacy of marginalization, today few Muslims hold significant political or leadership positions and there is a clear underrepresentation of Muslims at all levels of the Congolese government. Unfortunately a continual delay in local and provincial elections has hampered efforts at collecting data on the Muslim minority’s involvement and success in subsequent democratic elections. However, what is clear is that the Muslim community, despite its historic marginalization, has mobilized in the post-conflict period in numerous associations and is getting involved in the provision of social services; time will tell if this expansion includes more active engagement in democratic politics.

Ashley E. Leinweber is assistant professor of political science at Missouri State University. She earned her Ph.D. from the University of Florida in 2011. She was a Center for African Studies FLAS fellow in Swahili (2005-07 and summer 2006). Her 2008-09 dissertation fieldwork was funded by the African Power and Politics Program through their partnership with the CAS. A MSU Faculty Research Grant funded her 2013 fieldwork.
My dissertation, with some changes, was published in 2006 by Ashgate, a UK academic publisher. It is titled: Peaceful Resistance: Advancing Human Rights and Democratic Freedom. A second book is forthcoming next spring from Amsterdam University Press: Ripples of Hope: How Ordinary People Resist Repression Without Violence. Both books use social movement theory and critique prevailing western-born theories of social movements in a number of ways. They recognize individual activism and not just organizational activism; and they look at the various tactics activists — ranging from mothers, students, teachers, lawyers, and others use to confront authoritarian regimes in sub-Saharan Africa. In essence, they describe how in situations where it is too dangerous to have formal organizations, activists resist without them though often staying in touch with each other informally. The first book focuses on Kenya; the second highlights Sierra Leone, Liberia and a fresh analysis of Kenya. I have also published a number of articles in peer-reviewed journals, including the Journal of Human Rights and the Journal of Contemporary African Studies. I am currently starting research on African migration to Italy and the rest of Europe, a process that has seen thousands die trying to cross the Mediterranean.

I’d like to thank my professors at UF for giving me the solid academic foundation these works are built on. Those professors include, particularly, Philip Williams, who introduced me to social movement theories and was the first to support my argument that individual activism is almost entirely left out of those theories; Michael Chege, my first chair; and Goran Hyden, my second and final chair who has guided and advised me even to this day on academic progress; Larry Dodd, Leslie Anderson, Peggy Conway; Paul Magnarelli; Dennis Galvan and Hunt Davis, who helped me enroll on short notice and always encouraged my progress. Elsewhere in the University, Ken Mease, Leslie Thiele, Wayne Francis, Rich Conley and Jeffrey Needell stimulated my intellectual growth. And finally, librarians Peter Malanchuk and Dan Reboussin always helped me find Africa research materials when I need them. At the political science office Debbie Wallen and Sue Lawless-Yanchisin helped me keep things organized. Finally, Michael Martinez patiently answered my endless questions about the administrative details involved in getting a PhD. He was also a big source of encouragement throughout my years at UF. I owe a lot to the Center for African Studies and I’ve got a full research and teaching agenda ahead.

Robert Press (PhD, political science, 2004) is associate professor at the University of Southern Mississippi and currently serves as president of the faculty senate. In 2008-2009 he was a Fulbright Fellow in Sierra Leone.
CAS is saddened to inform you of the recent passing of one of our longtime and most stalwart supporters. Madelyn was born September 21, 1924 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, the daughter of Alexander and Mary Lockhart. She graduated valedictorian of Dormont High School and received a scholarship from the Pittsburgh Music Society. She received an academic scholarship from Denison University in Ohio and graduated with a double major in Music and Economics. She earned her Master's and Doctorate degrees in Economics from Ohio State University. Her research on measurement of income of cities and counties was adopted by the US Department of Labor. She and her husband, Dr. Milton Z. Kafoglis, came to Florida in 1960 and she became director of the Alachua County Poverty Program. She served as a member of President Johnson's Council of Social Advisors and later on President Nixon's Commission on Revenue Sharing. She served as Professor of Economics and Assistant Dean and Dean of the Graduate School. She spent most of 1978 in Africa visiting local universities in order to open research opportunities for University of Florida faculty research and to promote CAS. In 1984 she was appointed Dean of the University Graduate School, the first woman to hold an academic University-wide position at the University of Florida and one of the first of major universities. She later served as Chairman of the Southeastern Association of Graduate Schools.

Dr. Lockhart generously established several endowments to support African Studies. Her summer travel award for doctoral students funds one student each year to conduct pre-dissertation field research in Africa in order to assess project sites and develop institutional contacts. Her generous endowment to UF Libraries specifically supports African Studies collection development and has funded the purchase of antique and rare modern maps, videos, rare books and scholarly publications as well as paid for the shipping of unique manuscript collections.
The Center for African Studies founded the African Studies Quarterly (ASQ) in 1997 to promote research on Africa beyond that undertaken by University of Florida faculty and graduate students. It is an interdisciplinary, fully refereed, online open access journal dedicated to publishing the finest scholarship relating to the African continent. ASQ invites the submissions of original manuscripts on full range of topics related to Africa in all areas. To qualify for consideration, submissions must meet the scholarship standards within the appropriate discipline and be of interest to an interdisciplinary readership. As an electronic journal, we welcome submissions that are of a time-sensitive nature.

ASQ undertakes two kinds of publications. Most issues contain articles from a wide range of authors on diverse topics, as in Volumes 13 & 14:

- Ethiopia’s Role in South Sudan’s March to Independence, 1955-1991
- Hip Hop as Social Commentary in Accra and Dar es Salaam
- Securing Reform? Power Sharing and Civil-Security Relations in Kenya and Zimbabwe
- Becoming Local Citizens: Senegalese Female Migrants and Agrarian Clientelism in The Gambia
- Sons of the Soil and Conquerors Who Came on Foot: The Historical Construction of a West African Border Region

ASQ also publishes “At Issue” commentaries as well as special issues that focus on a specific theme, as with volume 11/2&3 guest edited by Ilda Lindell of Stockholm University titled “Between Exit and Voice: Informality and the Spaces of Popular Agency.”

REVIEW PROCESS

An internal editorial committee - composed of graduate students in African Studies across a wide range of disciplines - conducts the internal review of submitted manuscripts that are original and not submitted or accepted for publication elsewhere. Final publication depends on the quality of the manuscript and the associated external peer review process. For submission guidelines, matters related to the ASQ style, how to contact the ASQ, and other issues, potential authors should consult the ASQ website: www.africa.ufl.edu/asq or contact the managing editor: africanstudiesquarterly@gmail.com
FLAS FELLOWSHIPS

ACADEMIC YEAR & SUMMER
FOREIGN LANGUAGE AND AREA STUDIES FELLOWSHIPS

The University of Florida’s Center for African Studies anticipates awarding Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships for the academic year. These fellowships are funded by the U.S. Department of Education (USED) under Title VI of the U.S. Higher Education Act and are awarded to students combining graduate work in any academic discipline with African area and language studies.

Fellowships are offered for any one of the regularly taught languages (Akan, Amharic, Arabic, Portuguese, Swahili, Wolof, Yoruba, and Zulu) as well as for other African languages for which instruction can be arranged.

Academic year fellowships provide a stipend of $15,000 and cover the cost of tuition and fees (12 credits per semester). Applicants must be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States and be admitted to a graduate program at the University of Florida.

Summer fellowships provide students with an opportunity to undertake intensive African language study in any USED approved program. Summer fellowships cover tuition at the host institution and provide a stipend of $2,500.

For more information, including application deadlines, please visit our website: www.africa.ufl.edu/graduatestudies/flas.
AFRICAN STUDIES FACULTY & ALUMNI PRE-DISSERTATION AWARD

JEANNE & HUNT DAVIS
Graduate Research Award

In 2004, Dr. R. Hunt Davis, professor emeritus in History and a former director of the Center for African Studies, and his wife, Jeanne, established an endowment to support graduate students doing pre-dissertation research in Africa.

The generous contributions from Jeanne & Hunt Davis and Dr. Lockhart has made it possible for the Center to provide support for graduate students each summer doing fieldwork in Africa. In an effort to expand our capability for supporting graduate students, Dr. Davis has taken the lead in helping CAS work toward establishing an additional endowment.

The African Studies Faculty & Alumni Pre-Dissertation Award now has over $20,000 in commitments and is moving toward the goal of $30,000, which will provide more support for graduate students. If you would like to contribute, please refer to the following page.

The Center would like to thank the individuals below who have contributed to our various funds in the past year (with an extra special thanks to those who are working to build the Faculty & Alumni Pre-Dissertation Fund).

THANKS TO OUR DONORS

Anonymous
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Susan O’Brien
Terje & Marit Ostebo
Daniel Reboussin
Sandra Russo
Renata Serra

Jane Southworth
Emerson R. Thompson
Leonardo Villalón
Luise White

In 2004, Dr. Madelyn Lockhart, professor emeritus of economics and a former Dean of the Graduate School, established an endowment to support an annual award for graduate students doing pre-dissertation research in Africa.

Madelyn M. Lockhart
Graduate Research Award

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CONTRIBUTE TO GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH ON AFRICA AT UF

Funds for graduate students to travel and carry out research in Africa are in very short supply, especially in these trying economic times!

Beyond their training at UF, field research in Africa is absolutely essential for students to write the kinds of dissertations on which they will be able to base successful careers, whether in academia, government, NGOs, or the private sector. The major dissertation research awards for Africa are limited in number and increasingly competitive. In order for Ph.D candidates to be competitive for these awards they must demonstrate a strong familiarity with the proposed field site and the capability to carry out the proposed work.

As a result, preliminary summer research trips to lay the groundwork for dissertation fieldwork are invaluable for making students competitive for national awards for dissertation funding. Helping our students launch their professional careers in this way is one of our top priorities at the Center for African Studies.

The Center for African Studies has recently established a fund with the goal of creating an endowment of at least $30,000, so as to generate the revenue for an annual award to help a student carry out pre-dissertation research in Africa. If you would like to make a contribution to this fund, we (and future generations of UF Africanist students!) would be very grateful. For instructions, please visit our website:

HTTP://AFRICA.UFL.EDU/ABOUT/MAKE-A-GIFT/

If you are a UF employee and would like to contribute via payroll deduction, please contact CAS for assistance.

If you have any questions or would like more information—please contact Abraham Goldman (CAS director) at agoldmn@ufl.edu or 352-392-2183