

CALL FOR PAPERS:

2004 Breslauer Graduate Student Symposium on:
NATURAL RESOURCE ISSUES IN AFRICA

Friday March 5th, 2004
University of California at Berkeley Campus
International House

Submission deadline: November 15, 2003



International and Area Studies



Center for African Studies

Sponsored by



International House

**The Rudy Grah Chair in
Forestry and Sustainable
Development**

ESPM Division of
Society and Environment

Introduction

The African continent is endowed with a vast and diverse array of natural resources, placing it in the center of global debates on sustainable development, biodiversity conservation, and climate change. The current state of Africa's natural resource base is the product of a long and complex history of multiple interacting forces including ecological processes, indigenous people, colonial exploitation, post-colonial political institutions, international aid, pressures of economic development, and more recently globalization. Unfortunately, in many parts of Africa, distant and recent events have produced high levels of natural resource exploitation, threatening the structure and functioning of many important ecological systems. Concern for Africa's natural heritage has led to the establishment of a number of programs and policies to make African natural resource management more sustainable and equitable. While these efforts vary by region and by resource, numerous complex challenges, similarities, and contradictions are faced across the continent.

The Breslauer Symposium

The 2004 Breslauer Symposium will be held on Friday March 5, 2004, at International House on the UC Berkeley campus. This symposium will provide a forum to discuss the many socio-political and biophysical dimensions of natural resources management and conservation in Africa. Graduate students from diverse fields will have the opportunity to present their research plans, experiences, and results in an interdisciplinary setting to obtain feedback and foster future collaborative efforts. Paper sessions will be chaired by faculty members with relevant expertise, and all symposium papers will be published online as a working papers series hosted by the International and Area Studies Digital Collection. The keynote speaker for the symposium will be Marshall Murphree, Professor Emeritus from the Centre for Applied Social Sciences at the University of Zimbabwe.

Eligibility & Honoraria

All presenters at the symposium must be graduate students whose research is focused on some aspect of natural resources in Africa. The scope of working papers may include anything from well-developed research proposals, draft dissertation chapters, papers in preparation, to independent research projects. An important goal of the symposium is to stimulate cross-disciplinary dialogue, hence papers should be accessible and relevant to scholars from a variety of fields. UC Berkeley graduate students presenting papers at the symposium will receive a \$100 honorarium. Proposals from graduate students from other universities are highly encouraged, although no funding for honoraria or travel is available at this time.

Abstract Submission Process

Paper abstracts will be accepted on the symposium website from September 15 - November 15 2003, and accepted authors will be notified by December 15. Abstracts should be 2-3 pages in length and a final working draft of the paper will be expected three weeks before the symposium, February 13, 2004. Authors will have six weeks after the symposium to submit the final version of their paper, which will be published online as part of the International and Area Studies working papers series. Final papers may also be eligible for online publication in the peer-reviewed UCIAS Digital Collection.

Contact Information

For additional information, please visit <http://www.ias.berkeley.edu/africa/events/breslauer>, or contact Arielle Levine (alevine@nature.berkeley.edu) or Andy Lyons (alyons@nature.berkeley.edu).