

FRANCIS Y. OWUSU

May 2011

Community & Regional Planning
Iowa State University
146 College of Design
Ames, IA 50011-3095

Phone: 515-294-7769; Fax: (515) 294-2348

E-mail: fowusu@iastate.edu

Website: <http://www.public.iastate.edu/~fowusu/homepage.html>

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Governance and Public Sector Capacity building
- Development policy and planning in Africa
- Globalization and economic restructuring

EDUCATION

- Ph.D., Geography, 2000; University of Minnesota, Minnesota
- M.A., Geography, 1992, Carleton University, Canada
- M.A., Population Studies, 1990; United Nations Regional Institute for Population Studies, University of Ghana, Ghana
- B.A. (Hons), Geography (major) and Archaeology (minor); 1987, University of Ghana, Ghana

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Academic Positions

- Director of Graduate Education (DOGE), Department of Community & Regional Planning, Iowa State University, 2008 to present
- Associate Professor, Department of Community & Regional Planning, Iowa State University, 2007 to present
- Affiliated faculty, African and African American Studies program, Iowa State University, 2008-present
- Affiliated Faculty, Graduate Program in Sustainable Agriculture, Iowa State University, 2003-present
- Assistant Professor, Department of Community & Regional Planning, Iowa State University, 2001 to 2007
- Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science & Geography, Seattle Pacific University, WA, 2000 – 2001
- Research Analyst, Environmental Quality Board, Minnesota Planning, MN, 1998 – 2000
- Instructor, Department of Geography, University of Minnesota, MN, 1997 – 1999
- Adjunct faculty, Department of Geography, University of St. Thomas, MN, Fall, 1997
- Teaching Assistant, Department of Geography, University of Minnesota, MN, 1992 – 1997
- Teaching Assistant, Department of Geography, Carleton University, Canada, 1990 – 1992
- Research Assistant, Population Impact Project, Department of Geography, University of Ghana, Ghana, 1987 – 1989

Other Positions

- Editorial Assistant, *Environment and Planning A*, Department of Geography, University of Minnesota, MN, 1999
- International Student Advisor, International Student and Scholar Services, University of Minnesota, MN, 1994 – 1995
- Consultant, IFO-Institute for Economic Research, Department for Development Studies, University of Munich, Germany, 1987

HONORS AND AWARDS

Grants

- Global Development Network (GDN), New Delhi, India, Project: “Development on the Move: Measuring and Optimizing the Economic and Social Impacts of Migration in Ghana”. Collaboration with researchers in the U.S. and Ghana, 2008-2009 (\$110,000)
- Co-PI, Council on International Programs (CIP) Grant “Giving Global Public Health the Attention it deserves in the Classroom and in Service Learning at Iowa State” Iowa State University, 2008-2009 (\$5,000).
- Big XII Fellowship, Department of Economics, University of Kansas, July 2008-June (\$2,000)
- Community and Regional Planning Research Incentives Grant, ISU, 2008-2009 (\$9,000).
- Foreign Travel Grant, Iowa State University – to attend the “International Conference on Shared Growth in Africa” organized by Institute for Statistical, Social and Economic Research (ISSER) of the University of Ghana, Cornell University, World Bank, United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID) and United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in Accra, Ghana, Summer 2005 (\$1,400)
- World Bank-Netherlands, Governance Knowledge Sharing Program. Project: *Institutional Culture and the Performance of Public Institutions: Learning from “Good Performers,”* 2003-2004 (\$64,000)
- Rockefeller Foundation, African Dissertation Internship Award. Project: *Urban Livelihood Strategies, Institutional Efficiency and Economic Reform in Ghana*, 1995 – 1996 (\$20,000)

Teaching-Related

- ISU Wakonse Fellow, 2008 Wakonse Conference on College Teaching, May 22-27, 2008. Fellows are either nominated by a colleague or chosen for this honor by the Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching (CELT) because of their dedication to improving teaching and learning on our ISU campus.
- Memorable Teacher Award, Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching, Iowa State University (March, 2007 – Students are asked to nominate inspiring teachers who truly encourage and help them succeed).
- 2007 CRP Graduation Address - Nominated by the 2007 graduating class to give a graduation address at the College of Design Graduation Ceremony, May, 2007
- 2006 Polster Teaching Award Recipient, College of Design, Iowa State University (\$1,000) – Competitive award given to one faculty member in the College of Design each year for teaching excellence, April 2006
- Nominated by the Spring 06 graduating class of the Department of Community and Regional Planning to give a graduation address at the College of Design Graduation Ceremony, May, 2006

Professional

- Special Issues editor (with B. Ikubolajeh Logan and Ezekiel Kalipeni), *Progress in Development Studies*, (forthcoming) Theme: “Beyond the ‘posts’ in African development discourse: exploring real solutions to Africa’s problems”, (Oversaw blind review of submittals, decided which manuscripts to include in the special issue)
- Distinguished External Reference Group member for the development of *Africa Capacity Development for Agricultural transformation and Food Security*, African Capacity Building Foundation, Harare, Zimbabwe (2011 – 2012)
- Distinguished External Reference Group member for the development of *Africa Capacity Indicators 2011: Capacity Development in Fragile States*, African Capacity Building Foundation, Harare, Zimbabwe (2010 – 2011)
- [Fulbright Specialist Scholar List](#), December 2008-Present.
- Member, International Advisory Board of the Techiman Heritage Trust, Techiman Traditional Council, Techiman, Ghana (2009-present)
- Member, Association of American Geographers International Research and Scholar Exchange Committee, 2007-2008
- Chairperson, (elected position) Africa Specialty Group (a subgroup of the Association of American Geographers with over 250 members), 2005 – 2008
- Member, Board of Directors, (elected position), Economic Geography Specialty Group (a subgroup of the Association of American Geographers with over 800 members), 2005 – 2008
- Member, Student Dissertation and Paper Awards Committee, Economic Geography Specialty Group, 2005 – 2008
- Editorial Board Member, *PlacesOnLine* – an online project of the Association of American Geographers that brings together virtual online publications about "real" places; available at: <http://www.placesOnline.com>, 2002 – present
- Editor for the African Region, *PlacesOnLine* (<http://www.placesOnline.com>), 2002 – present
- Special Topics Editor, issue theme “Opportunities and Challenges for Development in Africa” *GeoJournal: An International Journal of Human Geography and Environmental Sciences* Vol. 62, No.1-2, 2005 (Oversaw blind review of submittals, decided which manuscripts to include in the special issue)
- Keynote speaker, “Empowering Future Generations,” Kenyan Night, organized by the Kenyan Students Association, Iowa State University, November, 2005
- Member, Board of Directors, (elected position), Africa Specialty Group (a subgroup of the Association of American Geographers), 2002 – 2005
- Keynote address, “Development in Africa: Beyond Afro-Pessimism” African Night, organized by the African Students Association, Iowa State University, April, 2004
- Student Director (elected position), Africa Specialty Group, Association of American Geographers, 1996 – 1999

Awards and Fellowships

- Certificate of Commendation from the Governor of Minnesota, Honorable Jesse Ventura for my work in developing the Minnesota Progress Indicator, August, 2000
- Employee of the Month, Minnesota Planning for my work in developing the Minnesota Progress Indicator, March, 2000
- Best Economic Geography Dissertation Award, Economic Geography Specialty Group, Association of American Geographers, 2001
- Best African Geography Student Paper Award, Africa Specialty Group, Association of American Geographers, 1999
- Dissertation Fellowship, Department of Geography, University of Minnesota, 1997
- Summer Fellowship, Department of Geography, University of Minnesota, 1993
- Awarded a Distinction for MA Dissertation, Carleton University, Canada, 1992
- Neil Huckvale Memorial Scholarship, Carleton University, Canada, 1991/92
- Carleton University Graduate Students Scholarship, 1990 – 1992
- United Nations Fellowship, United Nations Regional Institute for Population Studies, Ghana, 1989 – 1990
- Passed with Distinctions in all MA courses, United Nations Regional Institute for Population Studies, Ghana, 1990
- Awarded a Distinction for MA Dissertation, United Nations Regional Institute for Population Studies, Ghana, 1990

Consultations

- Africa Initiative, The Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI), Waterloo, ON, Canada,
- World Bank
- African Capacity Building Foundation, Harare, Zimbabwe

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles – Refereed

- “Beyond the ‘posts’ in African development discourse: exploring real solutions to Africa’s problems” (with B. Ikubolajeh Logan and Ezekiel Kalipeni), introduction to a special issue of the *Progress in Development Studies*, (forthcoming)
- “Organizational Culture and Public Sector Reforms in a Post-Washington Consensus Era: Lessons from Ghana’s ‘Good Performers’.” *Progress in Development Studies*, (forthcoming)
- “Young Women’s Marital Status and HIV Risk in Sub-Saharan Africa: Evidence from Lesotho, Swaziland and Zimbabwe.” (Christobel Asiedu and Elizabeth Aseidu, co-authors), *Journal of African Development* (forthcoming)
- “Locational Choices of the Ethanol Industry in the Midwest Corn Belt” (co-authors: Monica Haddad and Gary Taylor) *Economic Development Quarterly* Vol. 24, No.1, 2010, pp74 –86
- “Using PlacesOnLine in Instructional Activities.” *Journal of Geography* (co-authors Michael Longan, and Curtis Roseman) Vol. 107 No.1 2008, pp20-26
- “Post-9/11 U.S. Foreign Aid, the Millennium Challenge Account and Africa: How many Birds can one stone kill?” *Africa Today* Vol. 54, No.1, Fall 2007, pp.1-26

- “Conceptualizing Livelihood Strategies in African Cities: Planning and Development Implications of Multiple Livelihood Strategies.” *Journal of Planning Education and Research* Vol. 26 No.4 2007, pp450-463
- “Competing Hegemons? Chinese versus American Geo-Economic Strategies in Africa.” *Political Geography* Vol. 26 No.5, 2007, pp504-524, (co-author: Pádraig Carmody)
- “On Public Organizations in Ghana: What Differentiates Good Performers from Poor Performers?” *African Development Review* Vol.18 No.3 2006, pp471-485
- “Differences in the performance of Public Organizations in Ghana: Implications for Public Sector Reform Policy” *Development Policy Review* Vol.24 No.6, 2006 pp675-687
- “Livelihood Strategies and Performance of Ghana’s Health and Education Sectors: Exploring the Connections” *Public Administration and Development* Vol. 25 No.2, 2005, pp157-174
- “Introduction” *GeoJournal: An International Journal of Human Geography and Environmental Sciences* Vol. 62, No.1-2, pp115-116, 2005 (Special Topics Editor; theme: “Opportunities and Challenges for Development in Africa”)
- "Pragmatism and the Gradual Shift from Dependency to Neoliberalism: The World Bank, African Leaders and Development Policy in Africa" *World Development* Vol.31, No.10, 2003, pp1655-1672
- “Impoverishment and Multiple Modes of Livelihood in Ghana” *The Canadian Geographer* Vol. 45, No.3, Fall, 2001, pp387-403,
- “Industrial Strategy and the State: The Botswana Experience” *Canadian Journal of African Studies* Vol.31, No.2, 1997, pp268-299, (co-author: Abdi Samatar)

Journal Articles – Under Review (Refereed)

- “The Socioeconomic Determinants of HIV/AIDS Infection Rates in Lesotho, Malawi, Swaziland and Zimbabwe” (with Christobel Asiedu and Elizabeth Asiedu) *Development Policy Review*
- “Implementing a Revenue Authority Model of Tax Administration in Ghana: An Organizational Learning Perspective” (with Frank Ohemeng) to be submitted to *Public Management Review*
- “Implementing Performance-Based Management System in Ghana: One Step Forward, Two Steps Back?” (with Frank Ohemeng) to be submitted to *International Journal of Productivity and Performance Management*
- “Making Governance Indicators Useful in Poor Countries: A Case for Governance Indicators to Promote Change” to be submitted to *Development in Practice*

Book Chapters

- “Chinese and US Interests in Africa.” In *Globalization in Africa: Recolonization or Renaissance?* Pádraig Carmody, 2010, Lynne Rienner Publishers: Boulder, CO. (with Pádraig R. Carmody)
- “World Bank” in *Encyclopedia of Geography*, Barney Warf (ed), 2010, Sage Publication
- “Livelihoods”. In Kitchin R, Thrift N (eds) *International Encyclopedia of Human Geography*, Vol. 6, 2009, pp. 219–224. Oxford: Elsevier.
- “Is Increasing Chinese Investment Good for African Development?” In William G. Moseley (ed) *Taking Sides: Clashing Views on African Issues*, Third Edition, 2008, McGraw Hill (with Pádraig R. Carmody)
- “Cities of Sub-Sahara Africa” in *Cities of the World: World Regional Urban Development*, (4th Ed), Stantley Brunn, Donglei Zeigler, and Maureen Hays-Mitchell (eds), Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc, 2008 (Garth Myers, co-author)

- “Discourses on African Development from Dependency to Neoliberalism.” In Malinda Smith, (ed) *Beyond the ‘African Tragedy’ Development and the Global Economy* Aldershot: Ashgate, 2006, Chap 2, pp 25-47

Professional Reports

- “Improving the Effectiveness of the Public Sector in Africa through the Quality of Public Administration”. Operations & Thematic Research Studies, Knowledge & Learning Unit, African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF), Zimbabwe, 2011 (with Frank Ohemeng)
- “Socio-Economic Implications of Urbanization in Africa”...
- *Increasing Public-Sector Effectiveness by Changing Organizational Culture* Report on workshop on the Effectiveness of Public Organizations, December 3, 2003 Coconut Grove Regency Hotel, Accra, Ghana, 2004. Submitted to the World Bank-Netherlands Governance Knowledge Sharing Program
- *Organizational Culture and the Performance of Public Organizations in Ghana: Learning from “Good Performers”* submitted to the World Bank-Netherlands Governance Knowledge Sharing Program, 2004
- *Smart Signals: Economics for Lasting Progress*. Report prepared for the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources, Sustainable Development Initiative, Minnesota Planning, 1999 (with six co-authors)
- *Small-Scale Manufacturing and Repair Activities in the urban area of Techiman, Ghana*. Prepared for the IFO-Institute for Economic Research, University of Munich, Department of Development Studies, Munich- Germany, 1988 (with seven co-authors)

Invited Book Reviews

- Review of “Tradition, Culture and Development in Africa: Historical Lesson for Modern Development Planning” by Ambe J. Njoh. Ashgate Publishing Limited, Burlington, VT. 2006. *Cultural Geographies* (forthcoming)
- Review of “Looting Africa: The Economics of Exploitation” by Bond, Patrick. 2006. Scottsville: University of KwaZulu-Natal Press, 2006 *Africa Today*, Jun 2008, Vol. 54, No. 4: 88–91.
- Review of “Labour and Globalization: Results and Prospects”, by R. Munck (Ed), Liverpool: Liverpool University Press, 2004. *Regional Studies* Vol.39, No.7 pp1003-1004, 2005
- Review of “Rough Waters: Nature and Development in an East African Marine Park”, by Christine J. Walley, Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press, 2004. *Choice: Current Reviews for Academic Libraries* Vol. 42, No.1, 2005
- Review of “Making services work for poor people. World Development Report 2004”, by The World Bank. World Bank/Oxford, 2003. *Choice: Current Reviews for Academic Libraries* Vol. 41 No. 9, 2004
- Review of “Verandahs of Power: Colonialism and Space in Urban Africa”, by Garth Andrew Myers. Syracuse, NY: Syracuse University Press, 2003. *Choice: Current Reviews for Academic Libraries* Vol.41, No.10, 2003
- Review of “Social Problems in Africa: New Visions”, Apollo Rwomire (Ed), Westport, Connecticut: Praeger, 2001. *Choice: Current Reviews for Academic Libraries* Vol.39, No.8, 2002

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

Invited Lectures and Presentations

- Guest speaker, “US-China-Africa Relationship: New Scramble for Africa?” On Common Ground Conference, organized by the Forum For American/Chinese Exchange at Stanford (FACES), Stanford University, April 12-16, 2010

- Guest speaker, “Christian Faith and International Development in Practice: How US Christians can help achieve the Millennium Development Goals?” Part of Christian Faith and International Development in Practice series, Collegiate Presbyterian Church, Ames, May 2, 2010
- Guest speaker, “Deepening Democracy in Ghana: Some Observations from the 2008 Elections” presentation at 52nd Anniversary of Ghana’s Independence, Ghana Association of Iowa, March, 2009, Des Moines, IA
- Guest speaker, "Planning for Changing Livelihood Strategies in African Cities: Challenges and Opportunities" Cities in Africa seminar series, Kansas African Studies Center, The University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS, March 15, 2007
- Guest speaker, “Recounting Ghana's independence from British colonialism” presentation at a symposium on “Celebrating 50 years as a beacon of Hope in Africa” Ghana Association of Iowa, March, 2007, Des Moines, IA
- Guest speaker, “The African Woman in Perspective” Presentation at the 3rd Annual Umoja Conference, organized by the Grinnell College African Students Union, Grinnell College, April, 2006
- Guest Speaker, "Measuring what counts for a Healthy Economy in Minnesota" Presentation at the Graduate Program in Sustainable Agriculture Research Forum, Iowa State University, March, 2006
- Guest Speaker, "The World Bank, African Leaders and Development Policy in Africa" Presentation at International Seminar, Graduate Program in Urban and Regional Planning, University of Iowa, February, 2006
- Keynote speaker, “Empowering Future Generations,” Kenyan Night, organized by the Kenyan Students Association, Iowa State University, November, 2005
- Guest Speaker, “Iowa in Ghana: Dr. Michael Warren and the Bono – Techiman of Ghana” Presentation at the Octagon Center for the Arts, Ames, as part of Iowa in Ghana Exhibition, August, 2005.
- Guest Speaker, “Changing Realities, Static Theories, and Conceptual Dead-Ends: Theoretical and Development Implications of Changing Livelihood Strategies in African Cities.” Seminar honoring the retirement of Professor Michael McNulty, organized by the Department of Geography and African Studies Program, University of Iowa, IA, April, 2005
- Guest Speaker, “A Ghanaian Perspective on Slavery and Slave Trade” at the African American Historical & Cultural Museum, Waterloo, IA, April, 2005
- Guest Speaker, "Attacking Terrorism at its Roots? U.S. Millennium Challenge Account and Poverty Reduction in Africa” African Studies Colloquia, Iowa State University, IA, February, 2005
- Guest speaker, “Events and Things we’d rather forget: A Ghanaian Perspective on Slavery and Slave Trade” at the African American Historical Museum & Cultural Center of Iowa (AAHMCCI), Cedar Rapids, IA, November, 2004
- Keynote address, “Development in Africa: Beyond Afro-Pessimism” African Night, organized by the African Students Association, Iowa State University, April, 2004
- Guest Speaker, “The International Community and the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD): Pragmatism or Post-9/11 Reality?” Presentation at the Department of Geography Seminar Series, Miami University, Ohio, January, 2004

- Speaker, “Organizational Culture and Performance of Public Organizations in Ghana: Some Preliminary Findings” presentation at the Workshop on Public Sector Effectiveness, Accra, Ghana, December, 2003
- “Economic Development Issues in Africa” Presentation at the African Studies Colloquia, Iowa State University, IA, October, 2003
- “Geography and (under)development: Africans as Prisoners of Geography?” Presentation at the Fall 2003 College for Seniors course on African Mosaic, Iowa State University, September, 2003
- Guest speaker, “Livelihood Strategies and Public Organizations in Ghana” Catholic University of Ghana, Ghana, July, 2003
- Speaker, “Adventures in Planning: Doing Development in Africa” Department of Community & Regional Planning Coffee Talk, Iowa State University, IA, March, 2003
- Guest speaker, “What United States citizenship means to me” Naturalization Ceremony, Iowa Federal Court, Des Moines, September, 2002
- Guest speaker, “Globalization: What on Earth is it about?” Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Ames, February, 2002
- Guest speaker, “Development of Community Indicators for Council Bluffs” Community Enhancement Committee of the Iowa West Foundation, December, 2001
- Guest speaker, “How Ghana’s Public Health Employees make a Living and Why it Leads to Low Productivity” Forum on Health and Human Rights in Africa organized by the Program on Africa, University of Washington, WA, December, 2000
- Speaker “Social and Economic Impacts of Structural Adjustment in Africa” at the Department of Geography Coffee hour Series, University of Minnesota, MN, April, 1997

Peer-Reviewed Lectures and Presentations

- “The Politics of Tax Administration Reforms in Developing Countries: A Critical Examination of the Ghanaian Case” Annual meeting of the International Research Society for Public Management, (IRSPM), Dublin, Ireland, 11th – 13th April, 2011, Panel Track on The Politics and Governance of Public Services in Developing Countries (with Frank Ohemeng)
- “Implementing Performance-Based Management System in Ghana: One Step Forward, Two Steps Back?” Annual meeting of the International Research Society for Public Management, (IRSPM), Dublin, Ireland, 11th – 13th April, 2011, Panel Track on The Praxis of Performance Management in Public Services (with Frank Ohemeng)
- “Making Governance Indicators Useful in Poor Countries: A Case for Governance Indicators to Promote Change” Annual conference of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP), October 6-9, 2010 Minneapolis, MN
- “Post-Washington Consensus & Developmental Public Service: Organizational Culture as a Framework for Public Sector Reform in Africa” Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, Las Vegas, Nevada, March, 2009
- “Effects of HIV/AIDS on Poverty in Sub-Saharan African Cities” 51st Annual Meeting of the Africa Studies Association in Chicago, IL, November 13-16, 2008

- “Why Do Ethanol Plants Locate Where They Do? Locational Choices of Ethanol Refineries in the American Midwest” (Monica Haddad and Gary Taylor) Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, Boston, Massachusetts, April 15-19, 2008
- “Neoliberalism and the Changing Nature of Formal Sector Work in Urban Ghana” Annual conference of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP), October 18-21 2007 Milwaukee, Wisconsin
- “Rethinking Public Sector Reforms in Ghana: The case for Greater Empiricism and Understanding of Organizational Cultures” Presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, Chicago, Illinois, March, 2006
- “Competing Hegemons: American versus Chinese Geo-economic Strategies in Africa” Presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, Chicago, Illinois, March, 2006 (with Pádraig Carmody)
- “Geography and Public Sector Reforms in Ghana: The case for Greater Empiricism in Policy Design” Presentation at 57th Annual Meeting of the West Lakes Division of the Association of American Geographers and the International Geographical Union’s Commission on Geography and Public Policy, University of Iowa, Iowa City, November, 2005
- “Planning for Changing Livelihood Strategies in African Cities” Presentation at the 46th Annual Conference of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning, Kansas City, MO, October, 2005
- “Organizational Culture, Performance and Public Sector Reforms in Africa: The Ghanaian Case” Presentation at the “International Conference on Shared Growth in Africa” organized by Institute for Statistical, Social and Economic Research (ISSER) of the University of Ghana, Cornell University, World Bank, United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID) and United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in Accra, Ghana, July, 2005
- “Multiple Livelihood Strategies in African Cities: Implications for Planning and Development” Presentation at the 101st Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, Denver, April, 2005
- “Organizational Culture and the Performance of Public Organizations in Ghana: Learning from “Good Performers” Presented at the 45th Annual Conference of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning, Portland, Oregon, October, 2004
- “Student Learning Outcomes Assessment in the Planning Curriculum” Presented at the 45th Annual Conference of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning, Portland, Oregon, October, 2004 (with 4 others)
- “Falling through the cracks? Poverty Reduction in Africa and the US War on Terrorism” Presented at the 100th Annual Meeting of Association of American Geographers, Philadelphia, PA, March, 2004
- “The International Community and the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD): Pragmatism or Post-9/11 Reality?” Presented at the 99th annual meeting of the Association of American Geographers, New Orleans, LA, March, 2003
- “Livelihood Strategies & Public Institutions: Explaining the poor performance of Schools and hospitals in Ghana” Presented at the 98th Annual Meeting of Association of American Geographers, Los Angeles, CA, March, 2002

- “Structural Adjustment, Urban Impoverishment and Multiple Modes of Livelihood in Ghana” Presented at the 95th Annual Meeting of Association of American Geographers, Honolulu, Hawaii, March, 1999
- “Structural Adjustment, Urban Livelihood and Service Provision in Ghana” Presented at the MacArthur Consortium on International Peace and Cooperation, Spring Symposium entitled “The Challenge of Urban Sustainability”, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN, May, 1998
- “States and Industrial Development: The case of Botswana” Presented at the 94th Annual Meeting of Association of American Geographers, Boston, MA, March, 1998 (with Abdi Samatar)
- “Ghana’s Structural Adjustment and the Burden of Survival” Presented at the 93rd Annual Meeting of Association of American Geographers, Fort Worth, TX, April, 1997
- “Liberal Democracy versus Social Justice in Botswana: A Model for Africa?” Presented at the 91st Annual Meeting of Association of American Geographers, Chicago, IL, March, 1995 (with Abdi Samatar)
- “Unequal Regional Development in Ghana: The Root Causes and their Implications for Current Development Policies” Presented at the 90th Annual Meeting of Association of American Geographers, San Francisco, CA, March/April, 1994
- “Spatial Implications of Ghana's Structural Adjustment Program” Presented at the 21st Annual Canadian Association of African Studies Conference, University of Quebec, Montreal Canada, May, 1992
- "Migration and Regional Development in Africa: Evidence from the Brong Ahafo Region of Ghana" Presented at 1991 Annual Meeting and 40th Anniversary of the Canadian Association of Geographers, Queens University, Kingston, Canada, June, 1991 (with Joseph Mensah)
- “Migration and Agricultural Production in Ghana: Evidence from Brong Ahafo Region” Presented at the 20th Annual Canadian Association of African Studies Conference, Toronto, Canada, May, 1991

Other Conference Activities

- Conference Organizer, “Influence of Agriculture on Global Health” Heartland Global Health Consortium (HGHC) 2nd Annual Conference, October 13, 2010, Des Moines University, Des Moines
- Discussant, session on “Planning, Housing and Urban Livelihoods” Annual conference of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP), October 6-9, 2010 Minneapolis, MN
- Co-organizer and Chair, three sessions on “Beyond the “Post” and Revisionist Discourses in African Development: Exploring Real Solutions to Africa’s Problems” Annual meeting of the Association of American Geographers, Las Vegas, Nevada, March, 2009
- Participant, Biofuels and the Rural Economy Roundtable, Town/Craft ISU Extension, Perry, IA, May 2008.
- Program Organizer, “Poverty, Food Security, Health, Education & Governance in Africa – Conversations with African Ambassadors and Leaders”, Iowa State University, October 17, 2007;
- Session Organizer, “Urban Work/Labour: The Politics and Ethics of the Changing Development Debate”, Annual conference of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning ACSP, October 18-2, 2007 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin

- Poster, “Geographic Analysis of Foreclosure Trends and Patterns in a Small Town America” (with Abigail Amisssah-Arthur and Brittany Ryhal of Slippery Rock University) Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, Boston, Massachusetts, April 15-19, 2008;
- Panel Organizer and Panelist, “Opportunities, Expectations and Challenges of Organizing Trans-Atlantic Conferences and Workshops in Africa”, Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, Boston, Massachusetts, April 15-19, 2008
- Session Organizer and Chair, “Africa’s Economic Recovery: Opportunities and Challenges: In Memory of Professor Konadu-Agyemang”, Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, Boston, Massachusetts, April 15-19, 2008
- Discussant, paper session on “Religion in Transnational Migration and Development” Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, April 17-21 2007, San Francisco, CA
- Panelist, “Global Climatic Change and its impact on Africa” part of the 2007 Pesek Colloquium for Sustainable Agriculture, organized by the Wallace Chair for Sustainable Agriculture, on February 28, 2007 at Iowa State University
- Panelist, “How to Spend \$50 Billion to Make the World a Better Place” World Affairs Series, University Lectures Program on November 13, 2006
- Panelist, “One Foot In: Geographers Working in Other Disciplines: Interdisciplinary Methodologies and Applications” Panel discussion at the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, Chicago, Illinois, March, 2006
- Organizer and Chair, session on “Changing Livelihoods in Africa: Development and Planning Implications” at the 101st Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, Denver, April, 2005
- Co-organizer, session on “Africa in the Post-911 World” at the 100th annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, Philadelphia, PA, March, 2004
- Co-organizer, four sessions on “Africa’s Development in the 21st Century: Pertinent issues, Opportunities and Challenges” at the 99th annual meeting of the Association of American Geographers, New Orleans, LA, March, 2003
- Chair, session on “Homelessness and Planning in a Comparative Perspective: India, Africa and the East in a Historical and Contemporary Approach” at the 98th Annual Meeting of Association of American Geographers, Los Angeles, CA, March, 2002
- Co-Organizer, two sessions on “Economic Reform and Change in Africa and Latin America” at the 95th Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, Honolulu, Hawaii, March, 1999
- Co-Organizer, session on “Global Restructuring and the Third World” at the 94th Annual Meeting of Association of American Geographers, Boston, MA, March, 1998
- Co-Organizer, session on “Social and Economic impacts of Structural Adjustment Programs in Africa” at the 93rd Annual Meeting of Association of American Geographers, Fort Worth, TX, April, 1997
- Panelist “Religion and Politics Today” Panel discussion at the Conference on “Africa toward the 21st Century: Developing with our Soul” Minneapolis, MN, March, 1995

Professional Affiliations

- Member, American Planning Association
- Member, Association of American Geographers

- Member, Heartland Global Health Consortium, Des Moines University
- Member, Planners of Color Interest Group (POCIG)
- Member, International Institute for Human Factor Development
- Member, African Studies Association
- Member, Ghana Studies Association
- Member, Canadian Association of Geographers

Refereeing Activities

External Reviewer for Appointment, Tenure & Promotion

- Howard University, Department of History & Geography
- University of Ghana, Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research (ISSER)

Grant Proposals Reviewed (selected)

- Seed Grants for Collaborative Work, Center for Excellence in the Arts and the Humanities (CEAH), Iowa State University, 2010
- National Science Foundation, Geography & Regional Science Program, 2006, 2010
- Faculty Senate Grant for Research and Scholarship, West Virginia University, 2004
- Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant College Program, University of Illinois and Purdue University, Spring, 2004
- Faculty Research Incentive Grant, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio, 2003
- Faculty Research Incentive Grant, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio, 2002

Journals (selected)

- | | |
|--|---|
| • <i>Africa Today</i> | • <i>Professional Geographer</i> |
| • <i>African Studies Quarterly</i> | • <i>Singapore Journal of Tropical Geography</i> |
| • <i>African Studies Review</i> | • <i>Societies Without Borders</i> |
| • <i>Environment and Planning A</i> | • <i>The Canadian Geographer</i> |
| • <i>Geoforum</i> | • <i>The Geographical Journal</i> |
| • <i>Geojournal: An International Journal on Human Geography</i> | • <i>The Social Science Journal</i> |
| • <i>International Migration</i> | • <i>Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers</i> |
| • <i>Journal of Environmental Management</i> | |
| • <i>Journal of Third World Studies</i> | |