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Education

PhD, Politics and International Studies

Trinity College, University of Cambridge, June 2016

Thesis: *The politics of land, conservation and the state in postcolonial Botswana*
Committee: Dr. Sharath Srinivasan (chair), Professor Christopher Clapham, Professor Jocelyn Alexander, Dr. Elizabeth Watson
Cambridge Overseas Trust Scholar

MSc, African Studies with Distinction

St Anne's College, University of Oxford, July 2011

Supervisor: Professor William Beinart, Grade: First Class, Distinction
Clarendon Scholar

BA, Political Science and English

Barnard College, Columbia University, May 2010

Supervisor: Dr. Séverine Autesserre, GPA: 4.02, Summa cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa

Academic Positions

Florida Atlantic University, Department of Political Science

Assistant Professor, August 2016-present

Publications

Refereed Journal Articles

LaRocco, A. A. and Mogende, E. (2022) "Fall from Grace or Back Down to Earth? Conservation and Political Conflict in Africa's 'Miracle' State" special issue, 'Fallen from Grace? Debating the legacy and state of Southern African conservation' *Environment and Planning E: Nature and Space*. DOI: [10.1177/25148486221101553](https://doi.org/10.1177/25148486221101553)

LaRocco, A. A. (2020a). "Botswana's Hunting Ban and the Transformation of Game-Meat Cultures, Economies and Ecologies" *Journal of Southern African Studies*, 46(4): 723-741. DOI: [10.1080/03057070.2020.1773083](https://doi.org/10.1080/03057070.2020.1773083)

LaRocco, A. A. (2020b). "Infrastructure, wildlife tourism, (il)legible populations: A comparative study of two districts in contemporary Botswana" *Environment and Planning E: Nature and Space*, 3(4):1074-1095. DOI: [10.1177/2514848619877083](https://doi.org/10.1177/2514848619877083)

Refereed Journal Articles (Continued)

LaRocco, A. A., Shinn, J. E., Madise, K. (2019). “Reflections on Positionalities on Social Science Fieldwork in Northern Botswana: A call for Decolonizing research” *Politics and Gender*, 16(3): 845-873.
DOI: [10.1017/S1743923X19000059](https://doi.org/10.1017/S1743923X19000059)

Refereed Book Chapters

LaRocco, A. A. (2019). “The Biodiversity for Life (B4L) flagship initiative: The EU, Africa, and biodiversity conservation” in Thiel, M., Maier, S., and Beringer, S. L. (eds.) *EU Development Policies: Between Norms and Geopolitics*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, pp. 55-77.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-01307-3>

LaRocco, A. A. (2016). “The comprehensive hunting ban: strengthening the state through participatory conservation in contemporary Botswana” in Ramutsindela, M., Miescher, G., and Boehi, M. (eds.) *The Politics of Nature and Science in Southern Africa*. Basel: Basler Afrika Bibliographien, pp. 179-207.

Invited Publications

LaRocco, A. A. (2018). “Memory as claim-making in Kalahari socio-environments” in Lakhani, V. and de Smalen, E. (eds.), *Sites of Remembering: Landscapes, Lessons, Policies, RCC Perspectives: Transformations in Environment and Society*, no. 3, pp. 27-32. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5282/rcc/8483>

Works in Press

Book Review

Solicited review of Ramutsindela, Matose, and Mashunga (2022) *The Violence of Conservation in Africa: State, Militarization and Alternatives* for the *Journal of Human Development and Capabilities*, November 2022 issue

Works Under Review

Book Manuscript

The Nature of Politics: State-building and the Conservation Estate in Postcolonial Botswana

Under review at the Ohio University Press

Works In Progress

Journal Articles

“Mother’s Nature?: A Preliminary Analysis of All-Female Conservation Initiatives in Eastern and Southern Africa”

“‘These Elephants Belong to the World’: The impact of the global conservation movement on conservation policy in Botswana

Refereed Presentations and Proceedings

International

“Fall from Grace or Back Down to Earth?: Conservation and Political Conflict in Africa’s ‘Miracle’ State”, with Emmanuel Mogende, Political Ecology Network (POLLEN) Biennial Conference, Remote due to COVID-19, September 2020

****Resulted in publication of refereed journal article, “Fall from Grace or Back Down to Earth? Conservation and Political Conflict in Africa’s ‘Miracle’ State” *Environment and Planning E: Nature and Space*.**

“Walking on Eggshells: Tensions between Conservation and Development in rural Botswana” European Conference on African Studies (ECAS), University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom, June 2019

“The hunting ban and the transformation of game meat cultures, economies, and ecologies in contemporary Botswana” Political Ecology Network (POLLEN) Biennial Conference, Oslo Metropolitan University, Oslo, Norway, June 2018
****Resulted in publication of refereed journal article, “Botswana’s Hunting Ban and the Transformation of Game-Meat Cultures, Economies and Ecologies” *Journal of Southern African Studies*.**

“Memory as claim-making in Kalahari socio-environments” Sites of Remembering: Landscapes – Lessons – Policies, ENHANCE ITN, Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, Ludwig Maximilian University, Munich, Germany, April 2018.

****Resulted in publication of invited journal article, “Memory as claim-making in Kalahari socio-environments” *Sites of Remembering: Landscapes, Lessons, Policies, RCC Perspectives: Transformations in Environment and Society*, no. 3, pp. 27-32.**

“We’ve stopped this killing’: The Hunting Ban and Postcolonial Shifts in Botswana’s Wildlife Regime” Decolonization and the Politics of Wildlife in Africa, Point Sud Programme, Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Studies, Stellenbosch, South Africa, September 2017.

“State infrastructure provision across Botswana’s rural tourism areas – a study in contradictions” European Conference on African Studies, University of Basel, Basel, Switzerland, July 2017.

****Resulted in publication of refereed journal article, “Infrastructure, Wildlife Tourism, (Il)legible Populations: A Comparative Study of Two Districts in Contemporary Botswana” *Environment and Planning E: Nature and Space*.**

“The Politics of Nature: Conservation as State-Building in Postcolonial Botswana” European Conference on African Studies, Paris Sorbonne University, Paris, France, July 2015.

International (Continued)

“The comprehensive hunting ban: the reassertion of the State in the processes of ‘participatory’ conservation in contemporary Botswana” African History Workshop – The Politics of Nature and Science in African History, Centre for African Studies, University of Basel, Basel, Switzerland, May 2014.

****Resulted in publication of refereed book chapter “The comprehensive hunting ban: strengthening the state through participatory conservation in contemporary Botswana” The Politics of Nature and Science in Southern Africa. Basel: Basler Afrika Bibliographien, pp. 179-207.**

National

“Mother’s Nature?: A Preliminary Analysis of All-Female Conservation Initiatives in Eastern and Southern Africa” African Studies Association of the US Annual Meeting, Remote Conference, November 2021.

“Conservation and Political Conflict in Africa’s ‘Miracle’ State” African Studies Association of the US Annual Meeting, Remote Conference, November 2020.

****Resulted in publication of refereed journal article, “Fall from Grace or Back Down to Earth? Conservation and Political Conflict in Africa’s ‘Miracle’ State” *Environment and Planning E: Nature and Space*.**

“Elephants and Accountability in Botswana: Making Sense of the Hunting Ban and the 2019 Elections” African Studies Association of the US Annual Meeting, Boston, Massachusetts, November 2019.

“Race, Gender and Class Positionalities in Social Science Fieldwork in Northern Botswana” African Studies Association of the US Annual Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia, November 2018.

****Resulted in publication of refereed journal article “Reflections on Positionalities on Social Science Fieldwork in Northern Botswana: A call for Decolonizing research” *Politics and Gender***

“Shifting Global Representations of African Landscapes and Wildlife: The Case of Environmental Politics in Botswana” African Studies Association of the US Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., November 2016.

“The Comprehensive Hunting Ban: Conservation as State-Building in Postcolonial Botswana” African Studies Association of the US Annual Meeting, Indianapolis, Indiana, November 2014.

“Rural incorporation, neglect and contestation: An examination of the strategic use of conservation policy in postcolonial Botswana” African Studies Association of the United Kingdom Biennial Conference, University of Sussex, Brighton, United Kingdom, September 2014.

Regional/Local

“The Politics of Land, Conservation, and the State in Postcolonial Botswana: Doctoral Research Findings” Research Seminar, Department of Political and Administrative Studies, University of Botswana, Gaborone, June 2017.

“The Politics of Land, Conservation, and the State in Postcolonial Botswana: Doctoral Research Findings” Research Seminar, Okavango Research Institute, Maun, Botswana, May 2017.

“Is there welfare in conservation? Locating everyday lives in a global movement” Researching Africa Day, African Studies Centre, University of Oxford, Oxford, United Kingdom, March 2015.

“Authority and rural space: Conservation as State-Building in Postcolonial Botswana” Africa Research Forum PhD Students’ Workshop, Centre for African Studies, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, United Kingdom, February 2015.

“Conservation Politics in Botswana: Presentation of Preliminary Findings” Research Seminar, Department of Political and Administrative Studies, University of Botswana, Gaborone, Botswana, August 2014.

“Conservation Politics in Botswana: Presentation of Preliminary Findings” Research Seminar, Okavango Research Institute, Maun, Botswana, August 2014.

“The comprehensive hunting ban: conservation, resource-use, and contestation in postcolonial Botswana” Resources of Resistance: The Postcolonial Studies Association Postgraduate Conference, University of York, York, United Kingdom, July 2014.

“Postcolonial conservation—crisis of opportunity?: resource rights, state-building and rural contestation in Botswana” POLIS Annual PhD Conference, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, United Kingdom, June 2014.

Non-Refereed Presentations and Proceedings

Invited Talks

“Women, Conflict and Inequality in the World” *Current Topics 2019 – A Series of Panel Lectures Presented by FAU Faculty*
Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, FL, February 2019

“The Nature of Politics: State-building and the Conservation Estate in Postcolonial Botswana” *Turning a Doctoral Dissertation into a Book*
ENHANCE ITN and the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, Ludwig Maximilian University, Munich, Germany, October 2018.

“EU Securitization of Conservation Policy in Africa” *Transatlantic Security Coordination in a New International Order*

Invited Talks (Continued)

Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence, Florida International University,
Miami, FL, February 2018.

“American Perceptions of African Wildlife” *Speaker Series*
Myrtle Beach Humanists and Freethinkers, Myrtle Beach, SC, February 2018.

Grants and Funding

External – Pending

NSF CAREER Grant – Division of Social and Economic Sciences, Directorate of Social,
Behavioral, and Economic Sciences, \$575,591, Applied July 2022
Project title: “*CAREER: Gender, Conservation, and Power in an Epoch of Change and
Crisis*”

External – Funded

2022-2023 Fulbright Africa Regional Research Program
Botswana and Zimbabwe (Host countries)
Project title: “*Mothers’ Nature?: What All-Female Conservation Initiatives Can Tell Us
About Gender, the Environment, and Power*”

****Major Competitive Award**

Dissertation-into-Book ENHANCE ITN Workshop Participant, Rachel Carson Center
for Environment and Society, €1,500, October 2018
Munich, Germany

Sites of Remembering ENHANCE ITN Conference Participant, Rachel Carson Center
for Environment and Society, €2,000, April 2018
Munich, Germany

Decolonization and the Politics of Wildlife Point Sud Programme Conference Participant,
Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG), €4,500, September 2017
Stellenbosch, South Africa

External – Not Funded

Fulbright Africa Regional Research Program – Botswana and Zimbabwe
Applied September 2020
Project title: “*Mothers’ Nature?: What All-Female Conservation Initiatives Can Tell Us
About Gender, the Environment, and Power*”

****Alternate Candidate**

Andrew Carnegie Fellows Program – FAU Junior Scholar Nominee, Carnegie
Corporation of New York, \$200,000, Applied November 2019
Project title: “*Mothers’ Nature?: What All-Female Conservation Initiatives Can Tell Us
About Gender, the Environment, and Power*”

****Rated as Finalist**

External – Not Funded (Continued)

NSF CAREER Grant – Division of Social and Economic Sciences, Directorate of Social and Political Sciences, \$386,987, Applied July 2019

Project title: *"CAREER: Social Environments and Identities in an Era of Biodiversity Crisis – Generating Knowledge from the Kavango Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area"*

Crisis Conservation Writeshop, Applied March 2019

Project Title: *"Elephant Poaching in Botswana – Crisis of Just 'Fake News'?"*

Rachel Carson Center Residential Fellowship, Applied January 2019

Project Title: *"Buying Wilderness, Saving Nature? Locating Competing Notions of Conservation in the Ecotourism Industry in Southern Africa"*

Andrew Carnegie Fellows Program – FAU Junior Scholar Nominee, Carnegie Corporation of New York, \$200,000, Applied November 2018

Project title: *"The elephants are political refugees": Human and animal rights in southern African biodiversity conservation"*

Internal – Funded

Morrow Fund Research Grant, College of Arts and Letters, Florida Atlantic University, \$1,750, 2021-2022

Peace, Justice and Human Rights (PJHR) Research/Creative Activity Grant, Florida Atlantic University, \$4,600, 2020 [unable to use due to COVID-19]

Bob Male Research Fellowship, Florida Atlantic University, \$6,000, 2019-2020

Distinguished Lecture Series Faculty Research Support Award, College of Arts and Letters, Florida Atlantic University, \$1,500, 2019-2020

Morrow Fund Travel Grant, College of Arts and Letters, Florida Atlantic University, \$1,700, 2019-2020

Scholarly and Creative Achievement Fellowship, College of Arts and Letters, Florida Atlantic University, two-course release, PI, Spring 2019

Project title: *The Nature of Politics: State-building and the Conservation Estate in Postcolonial Botswana* (Book Manuscript)

Morrow Fund Travel Grant, College of Arts and Letters, Florida Atlantic University, \$1,200, 2018-2019

Distinguished Lecture Series Faculty Research Support Award, College of Arts and Letters, Florida Atlantic University, \$1,000, 2017-2018

Internal – Funded (Continued)

Morrow Fund Travel Grant, College of Arts and Letters, Florida Atlantic University,
\$1,200, 2017-2018

Morrow Fund Travel Grant, College of Arts and Letters, Florida Atlantic University,
\$1,200, 2016-2017

Courses Taught at FAU

Undergraduate

INR 2002: Introduction to World Politics
(Spring & Fall 2017; Spring, Summer, & Fall 2018; Summer & Fall 2019; Summer &
Fall 2020; Spring & Fall 2021; Summer 2022)
CPO 4033: Global Development and Inequality of Nations (Spring 2020; Spring,
Summer, and Fall 2021)

Developed and taught the following new courses:

CPO 4204: African Politics (Fall 2016, Fall 2017, Fall 2018, Fall 2020, Spring 2022)
CPO 4932: Environmental Politics (Fall 2016, Spring 2017, Fall 2017, Fall 2018)
INR 4054: Comparative Environmental Politics (Spring & Fall 2020, Spring 2022)

Graduate

Developed and taught the following new course:

POS 6934: African Politics (Spring 2018, Spring 2020)
Directed Independent Study: Marx's *Capital* (Summer 2020)

Supervision of Undergraduate Students

Morton Research Fellow Supervision, Johann Cifuentes, Spring 2022
Honors Compact Supervision, Daniela Diaz, Global Development, Fall 2021
Morton Research Fellow Supervision, Rishiraj Bandi, Spring 2021
Honors Compact Supervision, Megan Gastineau, Environmental Politics, Spring 2017

Service to the Institution

Department

Faculty Assembly Representative, 2016-present.

Member, Honors Program Committee, 2018-present

Morrow Committee Chair, 2019-present

Writing Enriched Curriculum Committee, 2019-2021

Undergraduate Curriculum Review Committee, 2020-2022

Department Document Review Committee, 2020-2021

Department (Continued)

Political Science/WGSS Joint Hire Search Committee, 2021-2022

Department Representative, Prospective Students' Open Houses/ChooseFAU Days, Spring 2017, Fall 2017, Fall 2018, Spring 2019, Summer 2020, Fall 2021

College

Faculty Affiliate, Center for Peace, Justice, and Human Rights, 2017-present

Faculty Affiliate, Center for Women, Gender, Sexuality Studies, 2021-present

Member, Faculty Learning Community: Advocating Across the Disciplines, 2018-2019

Undergraduate Marshal, College of Arts and Letter Commencement Ceremonies, Fall 2017, Fall 2018, Fall 2019

University

Senior Associate Director, Leon Charney Diplomacy Program, 2022-present

Associate Director, Leon Charney Diplomacy Program, 2018-2021

Participant, Decolonial Pedagogies Project, Summer 2022

Guest Lecturer, College CLASS 101, First Year SOAR New Student Orientation, Spring 2019, Spring 2020

Service to the Discipline / Profession

Peer Reviewer

Society and Natural Resources, Conservation and Society, Millennium: Journal of International Studies, Ethnography, Critical African Studies, Cambridge Review of International Affairs, Human Rights Review, Edward Elgar Publishing

Conference Participation – National and International

Panel Chair, "Critical Conservation Studies" African Studies Association Annual Meeting, Remote conference, November 2020

Panel Co-Organizer, "Decolonization and Pedagogy – Disruptions and Connections in the Classroom" European Conference on African Studies, Edinburgh, United Kingdom, June 2019

Panel Co-Organizer, "Exploring Researcher Positionality in Social Science Fieldwork in Africa" African Studies Association of the US, Atlanta, Georgia, USA, November 2018

Conference Participation – National and International (Continued)

Panel Co-Organizer and Discussant, “Futures of nature in African rural and urban spaces in the post-independence era” European Conference on African Studies, Basel, Switzerland, July 2017

Panel Co-Organizer, “Experiencing the State: Constructing the Post-Colonial State in Non-Dominant Spaces” African Studies Association of the United Kingdom Biennial Conference, Brighton, United Kingdom, September 2014

Other Professional Experience

Department of Politics and International Studies, University of Cambridge

Associate Editor, *Cambridge Review of International Affairs*, 2012-2016
Research Assistant for Dr. Mette Eilstrup-Sangiovanni, 2014-2015

Centre of Governance and Human Rights, University of Cambridge

Convenor, CGHR Research Group, 2014-2016
Coordinator, CGHR Student Group, 2012-2013

Professional Organization Memberships

African Studies Association of the United States
African Studies Association of the United Kingdom

Research Skills

Qualitative data analysis (MaxQDA and NVivo); fieldwork experience in rural settings; focus groups; elite interviews; management of team of research assistants

Honors and Awards

Scholarly Awards and Research Funding

Cambridge International Trust Scholarship and Trinity College Overseas Bursary, University of Cambridge, approximately £27,000 annually, 2012-2016

***Major Competitive Award**

Clarendon Scholarship, University of Oxford, approximately £33,000, 2010-2011

***Major Competitive Award**

Research Grant, Cambridge Political Economy Society Trust, £2,000, 2015

Institutional Visit Award, University of Cambridge Conservation Research Institute, £1,500, 2014

Research Grant, Smuts Commonwealth Fund, £1,500, 2014

Walter D. Head Graduate Fellowship, Rotary District 7490, \$10,000, 2013

Graduate Fellowship, Alumnae Association of Barnard College, \$5,000, 2013

Distinction Prize, St. Anne’s College, University of Oxford, 2011

George Welwood Murray Prize, Barnard College, Columbia University, \$4,200, 2010

W. Cabell Greet Prize for Excellence in English, Barnard College, Columbia Uni., 2010

Erica Mann Jong '63 Writing Fellows Award, Barnard College, Columbia Uni., 2010
Phi Beta Kappa Honors Society – Junior Election, Columbia University Chapter,
Barnard Section, 2009
Eleanor Thomas Elliot Prize, Barnard College, Columbia University, \$1,500, 2009

Travel and Conference Grants

Rouse Ball Conference Fund, Trinity College, Cambridge, £500, 2014
POLIS PhD Conference, University of Cambridge, £500, 2014
UAC of Nigeria Travel Grant, Centre for African Studies, University of Cambridge,
£450, 2014
Rouse Ball Research Fund, Trinity College, Cambridge, £1,300, 2013
POLIS PhD Travel Grant, University of Cambridge, £500, 2013
African Studies Graduate Research Grant, University of Oxford, £500, 2011
St. Anne's College Travel/Research Grant, University of Oxford, £250, 2011