

Enabling Local Knowledge in Africa: A Pathway toward Social Resilience?

January 24-25, 2008

Baker Center, Ohio University

Symposium website: <http://www.ohio.edu/african/lksymposium>

Sponsored by:

[The Institute for the African Child](#)
[Department of Geography](#)

Thursday, January 24

Baker Center, Room 240/242

Keynote lecture
7:00pm

*Resilience, Reworking, Resistance:
Local Knowledge across Space and Time*

Cindi Katz, City University of New York (CUNY)

Friday, January 25

**All sessions will take place in Baker Center,
Room 240/242**

Morning Session I
9-10:20

Local Knowledge amidst Cultural and Linguistic Change
(chair, Ghirmai Negash)

*Tapping into Indigenous Knowledge through Language:
A Snapshot of Experiences Studying Dagaree*
Francis Godwyll, Education, Ohio University

*Outside the Box: Localizing the Global through Linguistic
Hybridity*
Peter Githinji, Linguistics, Ohio University

Poor But Worldly Connected Music in Morocco
Sandra Carter, Communication and Humanities,
Penn State–Harrisburg

*Beyond the Template of Literary Modernity: Research
Methodologies and Local Literary Practices in South
Africa*
T. Spreelin Macdonald, African Arts and Literatures, Ohio
University

*Towards an African Philosophy Developed from African
Languages*
Nick Creary, History, Ohio University

Morning Session II
10:40-12:00

Local Knowledge, Rural Livelihoods, and Resilience to Environmental Change

(chair, Dan Weiner, West Virginia University)

Gendered Livelihoods, Gendered Knowledge: Insights into Pastoralist Resilience in Kajiado District, Kenya

Elizabeth Edna Wangui, Geography, Ohio University

Local People, Local Voices: Evaluating the Representation of Local Knowledge in Ghanaian Forest Conservation Policies

Kim Carvey, Geography, Ohio University

The Need for Evaluating the Persistent Use of Local Knowledge in Areas of Stress in Modern Tanzania

Adolfo Mascarenhas, LiNKS Trust, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

Is Banana-Finger Millet Beer the Solution to Climate Change?

Ben Wisner, Environmental Studies, Oberlin College

Afternoon session
1:20 - 2:40

Local Knowledge at the Intersection of Health and Culture

(chair, Mandi Chikombero, Telecommunications)

Ethno-cognitive Connection between AIDS and Agriculture among the Bahaya of Northwestern Tanzania

Valerie Foster, Anthropology, Wageningen University, Netherlands

Local Knowledge and the Social Basis of Healing in a Mijikenda Community

Diane Ciekawy, Anthropology, Ohio University

Racial Identity in a Post-Apartheid South Africa

Yegan Pillay, Counseling and Higher Education, Ohio University

Closing Panel
3:00-4:20

***Wither Local Knowledge? Hybrid, Synthetic, and Local
Knowledge in a Globalized World***

(chair, Tom Smucker, Geography, Ohio University)

Ghirmai Negash, English, Ohio University

Margaret Pearce, Geography, Ohio University

Brad Jokisch, Geography, Ohio University

Beatrice Selotlegeng, Management Systems, Ohio
University

Steve Howard, African Studies and School of
Telecommunications, Ohio University