ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS

**VICTORIA BERNAL**'s research has addressed a range of issues relating to gender, migration, war, transnationalism, development, cyberspace, and Islam. She has carried out ethnographic research in Eritrea, Tanzania, and the Sudan. Her first book, *Cultivating Workers: Peasants and Capitalism in a Sudanese Village*, analyzed rural transformations and the complex interplay of development policies, labor migration and peasant households. She is currently completing a book, *Nation as Network: Diaspora, Cyberspace, and Citizenship*, analyzing the Eritrean diaspora’s use of cyberspace to participate in Eritrean politics. Her current projects include co-editing (with Inderpal Grewal) an anthology of feminist research on NGOS, *Theorizing NGOs: Feminist Struggles, States and Neoliberalism* (under review) and editing an anthology for use in teaching anthropology, *Contemporary Cultures, Global Views: Anthropology for the 21st Century*.

**Carinna Friesen** is a first-year PhD student in ethnomusicology at Indiana University, planning to do her dissertation work on music and religion in Burkina Faso. She received her MA in ethnomusicology from the University of Alberta, in Edmonton, (Canada). The paper she is presenting at the symposium draws on fieldwork she conducted for her master’s thesis, entitled "Music and Identity among West Africans in Canada."

**John Hames** is a second-year PhD student in Anthropology at the University of Florida. He graduated from Suffolk University in Boston with a BA in International Affairs in 2005 and served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in The Gambia from 2005-2007. John is fluent in Pulaar.

**Rudo Mudiwa** is a graduate student in the Department of Communication and Culture at Indiana University. Originally from Zimbabwe, she is interested in rhetorics of citizenship, particularly the ways in which certain groups are excluded from citizenship or are marked as flawed citizens. Consequently, her interests include the civil rights and feminist movements, in addition to decolonization movements across Africa. She has a B.A. in Communication and Political Science from Wesleyan College.

**Kristofer Olsen** is a second-year PhD student at Ohio University in Interdisciplinary Arts, studying African Arts and Music, supported by a FLAS Fellowship in Akan (Twi). He received his BA in Music Education and Mathematics Education from St. Olaf College, and his MM in Percussion Performance and World Music from West Virginia University. His research interests include both performance and education of music and dance from Africa, steel pan and he has been a member of Azaguno since 2008, a multi-ethnic performance ensemble based in Athens, Ohio.

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**Indiana University Bloomington**

Graduate Students in African Studies (GSAS) Spring Research Symposium

**Cultural Traces, Places, and Cyberspaces: African Modernity & Identity in the Era of New Media**

Saturday, April 2, 2011
Woodburn Hall 200
Political Science Library

**Keynote Speaker: Dr. Victoria Bernal**
Associate Professor, University of California at Irvine

The GSAS Spring Research Symposium is a multidisciplinary forum for expanding ideas about the reach of the diverse discipline of African studies.
MORNING SESSION
All events located at Woodburn Hall 200, Political Science Library, unless otherwise noted

8:45-9:30am  Registration & Breakfast
Woodburn Hall 200, Political Science Library lobby

9:45-10:00am  Welcome
Steffan Horowitz
President, Graduate Students in African Studies (GSAS)
Dr. Samuel Obeng
Director, African Studies Program, Indiana University

Panel 1

10:00-10:30am  Rudo Mudiwa, Indiana University, Communication and Culture

10:30-11:00am  Kristofer Olsen, Ohio University, Interdisciplinary Arts
“Takai on YouTube: What Effect Does New Media Have on Traditional Ghanaian Musical Creativity?”

11:00-11:30am  Panel Discussion
Moderated by Dr. Daniel Reed
Associate Professor of Folklore and Ethnomusicology, Indiana University

12:00-1:00pm  Lunch, School of Fine Arts (SOFA) Gallery located on the second floor of the Henry Radford Hope School of Fine Arts (across from Woodburn Hall)

AFTERNOON SESSION

Panel 2

1:30-2:00pm  Carinna Friesen, Indiana University, Ethnomusicology
“Internet, iTunes and Rap: The role of music, globalization and technology in the construction of identity among West African Canadians”

2:00-2:30pm  John Hames, University of Florida, Anthropology
“Pulaar Online: Language Promotion, the Internet, and the Creation of a Common Front”

2:30-3:00pm  Panel Discussion
Moderated by Dr. Beverly Stoeltje
Professor of Anthropology, Indiana University

3:10-4:25pm  Keynote Lecture: Dr. Victoria Bernal, Associate Professor of Anthropology, University of California at Irvine
“The Social Network and The Postcolony: New Media in an African Context”

followed by Closing Remarks by Dr. Akin Adesokan, GSAS Symposium Faculty Advisor and Assistant Professor, Comparative Literature, Indiana University

4:30-5:30pm  Reception
Woodburn Hall 200, Political Science Library lobby
With Music by The Bernard Woma Trio

Special thanks to the following Departments & Programs at Indiana University Bloomington for their sponsorship:

- African Studies Program
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