

## Rachel DeMotts

Assistant Professor  
Department of Regional Economic and Social Development  
University of Massachusetts-Lowell  
61 Wilder Street  
Lowell, MA 01854  
978.934.4371  
Rachel\_demotts@uml.edu

### Education

Ph.D., Political Science, University of Wisconsin-Madison, August 2005  
Thesis: *Democratic Environments? Conservation and Development Across Southern African Borders*  
Minor in Geography, Certificate in African Studies  
M.A., Political Science, University of Wisconsin-Madison, December 2000  
Coursework, Graduate School of Public Affairs, University of Washington-Seattle, 1998  
B.A. (Honors Degree, Magna cum laude), Political Science/History, Marquette University, 1995

### Current Positions

Assistant Professor  
Department of Regional Economic and Social Development  
University of Massachusetts-Lowell; Lowell, MA (from September 2007)

### Research Fellow

Harry Oppenheimer Okavango Research Centre; University of Botswana  
Maun, Botswana (June 2006-June 2008)

### Publications

Forthcoming paper on linkages between HIV and conservation policy

"Placing the Local in the Transnational? Communities and Conservation Across Borders in Southern Africa," pp 189-212, in B. Logan and W.G. Moseley, eds, African Environment and Development: Rhetoric, Programs, Realities. 2004. Aldershot: Ashgate Press.

### Conference Presentations and Papers

"A Park the Size of Italy: Room for Residents in KAZA?" with Brian Child. Paper to be presented at the Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association, New York, NY, 18-21 October 2007  
"Examining HIV: An Elephantine Epidemic in the Caprivi," invited talk at World Wildlife Fund's (WWF) symposium on HIV and Conservation, Meeting of the Society for Conservation Biology, Port Elizabeth, South Africa, 1-5 July 2007  
"The Role of Universities in Community Development and Empowerment: The Case of the Okavango Delta Management Plan," paper coauthored with Lapologang Magole, presented to the University of Massachusetts-Lowell CITA Conference on Community-University Partnerships, Lowell, MA, 26-27 April 2007  
"Gendered Nature? Women's Participation in Community Conservancies," VW Foundation Workshop on Resources, Livelihood Management, Reforms, and Processes of Structural Change, Gobabeb, Namibia, 18 September – 23 September 2006  
" 'The Kruger is Coming Here': Local Perspectives on Internationalizing Conservation in Southern Africa," African Studies Association, San Francisco, CA, 18-21 October 2006  
"New Divisions 'Beyond Borders': Living in a Southern African Ecotourism Paradise," paper presented to the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, Chicago, IL, 11 March 2006

- "Creating Participation: Local Roles in the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park," paper presented to the International Studies Association Annual Meeting, Honolulu, HI, 3 March 2005
- "Conserving Conflict: Living in the Limpopo National Park, Mozambique," paper presented to the African Studies Association Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA, 12 November 2004
- "'Participating' in Parks Across Borders: Conservation, Development, and Local Communities in Southern Africa," poster presented to the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, 3 September 2004
- "Framing the Epidemic: The Case of UNAIDS," paper to be presented with Lawrence Markowitz to the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, 4 September 2004
- "Participating in Conservation? Local Consultations and Conflicts in the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park," presented to the Berlin Roundtables on Transnationality, Potsdam, Germany, 6 January 2004
- "Communities and the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park," talk given to faculty and residents at Wits Rural Facility, University of the Witwatersrand, Acornhoek, South Africa, 26 November 2003
- "Living in the Park: Communities and Conflict in the Limpopo National Park, Mozambique," presentation given to the Forced Migration Studies Programme, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa, 30 September 2003.
- "Framing the Epidemic: UNAIDS in Russia and South Africa," with Lawrence Markowitz at the International Studies Association, New Orleans, LA, March 2002
- "Shifting Strategies: Transfrontier Conservation in Southern Africa," African Studies Association, Houston, TX, November 2001

### **Research Experience**

Dr. DeMotts is currently conducting research on women's participation in community conservation in the Caprivi Strip of Namibia, the interaction between HIV/AIDS and conservation programmes in Namibia, community-based conservation in the Okavango Delta and in the Chobe National Park, and the local effects of transboundary conservation in the KAZA (Kavango-Zambezi) area. She has been cooperating with local and international NGOs on participatory research since 2002.

### **Teaching Experience**

Assistant Professor, Lake Forest College, Lake Forest, IL, 2005-06

Courses taught: Introduction to Politics, African Politics, Politics of the Environment in Developing Countries

Teaching Assistant, University of Wisconsin-Madison Political Science Department

Introduction to American Politics, Spring 2000; Introduction to Latin America, Spring 2005

Gender Equity Coordinator, Green River/Highline Community Colleges, Auburn/Des Moines, WA, 1997-98

### **Selected Awards**

International Studies Association Environmental Section Award for Best Graduate Student Paper at Annual Meeting, 2005

Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad (DDRA), United States Department of Education, January 2003 – December 2003 (South Africa)

Scott Kloeck-Jenson Memorial International Internship Fellowship, University of Wisconsin-Madison, September-December 2002

Foreign Language Enrichment Fellowship (FLEP), Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC), Big Ten Conference, Summer 2002 (Intermediate Zulu, Michigan State University)

MacArthur Foundation Global Studies Scholar, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2001-2002

Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship (FLAS), University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 (Swahili and African Studies) and summers 2001 and 2002 (Zulu)