

REPORT ON ICEHO HARARE REGIONAL WORKSHOP HOSTED BY DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC HISTORY UNIVERSITY OF ZIMBABWE

Department head: Dr Ushehweu Kufakurinani

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT:

Subsequent to the decision of ICEHO to fund regional workshops where appropriate, the Department of Economic History at the University of Zimbabwe, Harare, put forward a proposal to hold a regional workshop in Harare with the support of the African Network of Environmental Humanities and its head, Dr John Agbonifo.

After various edits and improvements to the proposal (recorded in previous emails), ICEHO allocated \$5000 (USD) to this workshop.

- Date: 27 to 29 June 2019.
- Organisers: Dr Ushehweu Kufakurinani and his team; livestreaming via video, excellent handouts, technical support, and computer management; refreshments; all professionally very well done. The help of Ms Caroline Kaseke, the Administrator of the Department, was invaluable.
Venue: Venue: Llewellyn Lecture Theatre, University of Zimbabwe see: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/University_of_Zimbabwe
- Programme and keynote speakers: See attached PDF. It was a pleasure to have Prof. Vimbai Kwashirai in attendance, visiting from Europe and thus able to contribute to the gathering. On the programme there was a mix of university personnel, government agencies relating to the environment, keynote interventions, and student discussion. It was disappointing that, apart from members of the Gender Commission (Ms Sibongile Mauye and Ms Naome Chimbetete), the government invitees did not attend although they had accepted the invitation: Environmental Management Agency; Environment Lawyers Association; Ministry of Environment, Hospitality and Industry. Their views would have been very useful.
- The meeting benefited from the energetic contribution of Dr A.K.B. Chigwada of Zimplats who spoke about synergy and community-building in the mining industry – particularly in relation to safety and occupational health – and how these might be translated into academic action. The African philosophy of ubuntu was important in this regard. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ubuntu_philosophy
- Attendance: Owing to the doubling of taxi fares overnight, attendance at the workshop ranged from about 45 to 70 over the three days. 78 people had registered, and a list was maintained.
- Zimbabwe context: Zimbabwe is in economic crisis and Harare, the capital, is in dire straits. The economic growth rate is around minus 3%; total population c.15 million, Harare 1.5 million. Although figures are unreliable, unemployment is estimated to be as high as 90% and there are as many as 5 million Zimbabwean economic migrants in South Africa, let alone elsewhere in the world. At the time of the workshop, electricity blackouts were instituted for 18 hours every day (power was available

from 22:00 to 04:00 if at all); the currency was in free fall and foreign currency suddenly declared illegal and accounts in these currencies frozen immediately. Foreign currency, particularly ZAR and USD is widely in use for having real value in contrast to the Zimbabwe bond or dollar, which now has to be used in all transactions; prices doubled for goods and services overnight (taxi fares and conference dinner for example); municipal water is undrinkable. For many educated Zimbabweans the future seems bleak. Despite all, basic education in Zimbabwe remains very satisfactory and continues to follow the British pattern of O and A levels. Although the University of Zimbabwe is not highly ranked, it contains nodes of excellence in teaching and research. Many Zimbabwean academics with degrees from the University of Zimbabwe obtain important scholarships and positions abroad. Degrees are also composed along British lines of 3-year undergraduate Bachelors degree; 1 year Honours; MA/MSc; and PhD.

Funding for this workshop therefore energised many students and their lecturers at the University of Zimbabwe and they exhibited professionalism, a high degree of articulate contributions and suggestions, engagement with the material, and with the speakers. It was fun and interactive as well as intellectual, and the social side of the workshop worked well too. The organisation and structure of the programme is to be commended with its mix of academic input, formal and informal discussion, social time, and student participation. The students who acted as facilitators and MCs were absolutely terrific and there were many interventions from the students by way of questions and panels that were innovative, feasible, and interesting.

The initial proposal had suggested that two degrees in environmental history would be discussed and perhaps even finalised at the workshop: an undergraduate and post-graduate degree. However, in preliminary discussion with the Deans and the Vice-Chancellor of the University this was considered to be too ambitious and it seemed likely that instituting the Bachelors programme would not be approved by the university. Therefore, the workshop programme focussed on a feasible Masters programme in Environmental History, composed in the same flexible manner as an MBA.

The warm welcome from the Dean, Prof Itai Muhwati, who read a message from the Vice-Chancellor, indicated enormous support from the management structures of the University for this initiative. A Masters programme can be instituted as early as the start of the academic year in August 2020 and the university and the senate would approve it, provided it met the requisite administrative requirements. This is the plan.

A number of Departments within the University already engage with topics related to, or around, environmental history and it was extremely interesting – and rewarding – to witness the synergy that developed over the three days among colleagues who were in the same institution but had not appreciated the similarities of their work let alone the help they could be to one another. It was clear that although there were strong connections among the Economic History Department, the History Department (Dr Ivan Marowa) and its Archaeology Section, Dr Ancila Nhamo), the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences (Prof. Willis Gwenzi), the Institute of Environmental Studies (Prof. Sara Feresu) and the Faculty of Education (Mr Crispin Dirwai) these had never been exploited. During the course of the

workshop, a number of intra-university silos were broken or breached and friendships and partnerships developed quickly.

A major aim of the workshop was to discover the various nodes within the University that deal with environmental matters relevant to history. The Economic History Department is particularly strong in this regard, with 11 staff members, 15 special honours students and about 25 Masters students. However, as indicated above, there are other nodes of expertise within the university that can be tapped, and it was recognised that there might be more that could be brought on board, e.g. the Institute of Mining and the Department of Geography.

Although all partners are vital for the success of the programme, the contribution from Crispin Dirwai, environmental education specialist, will be indispensable in framing the educational value of the degree to the satisfaction of the university and its council. Issues such as the SDGs must be considered as well as the University's priorities.

SUGGESTIONS FOR THE CURRICULUM: MASTERS COURSE IN ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY

The vibrant discussions on the themes to be covered in the taught components and to be researched for dissertations concluded with the following preliminary suggestions:

Focus = Zimbabwe and Africa in global context. Dissertations would, of necessity (sources etc.) be on Zimbabwe and/or Africa/southern Africa. Precolonial period and IKS would be emphasised.

Taught courses would include historiography to give a sense of the contours and history of the discipline within and outside of Africa.

Overarching ideas that will infuse all aspects of the programme and its themes and need to be factored into the research dissertation:

- Historiography and history of science
- Environmental justice, values and ethics
- Decolonisation
- Environment and conflict
- Gender
- Change over time (history)
- Link between culture and nature
- Comparisons
- Research methodology

BROAD THEMES – these may well change, and sub-themes be elevated or vice versa (catchy titles are required):

- Environmental national and international geopolitics (e.g. policies, NGOs, IUCN, governance, unequal power relations etc.)
- Natural resource conservation and management (e.g. exploitation, land, agriculture, biodiversity, mining, energy, water, conservation/national parks etc.)
- Energy and industrialisation (e.g. justice, timber, minerals, labour)
- Urban (e.g. planning, labour, economics, waste management, public health)
- Rural (e.g. access to land; land-use changes; settlement; food and food security)

- Crisis and disaster (e.g. drought, floods, cyclones, climate change, adaptation, resilience)
- Human animal relations/conflict and environmental psychology (e.g. African psyche, attitudes to sacred sites; rock art)
- Environmental science (e.g. rise of ecology, use of GIS, information technology for environmental history; neuro-environmental/psychology and history)

WAY FORWARD:

Firm ideas for the Masters programme need to be taken further and refined. University administrators would have to approve the majors that permitted entry to this multi-disciplinary Masters in Environmental History.

- **Action:** Ushe Kufakurinani and team: A draft will be circulated for comment to the departments involved; to be finalised within 3 months.
- **Action:** Ushe Kufakurinani and team: An internal UZ Environmental History Working Group will be formed; students and lecturers to be involved.
- **Action:** all. A formal division/section of Environmental History will be negotiated within the AEHN or Southern African Historical Society. Partnerships will be investigated with the Water History Association etc.
- **Action:** Once ideas have crystallised, Vimbai Kwashirai, Willis Gwenzi and Jane Carruthers will form an advisory group to devise a reader of sources for students, e.g. RCC perspectives, journal articles, book lists etc. Ideas are welcome. Please send to wgwenzi@agric.uz.ac.zw; wgwenzi@yahoo.co.uk; j.carruthers@mweb.co.za;
- **Action:** Percy Madhuku (nee Muguti) and Taringana Takesure to host and edit the Alumni page and solicit comment and ideas. Please send ideas to percymadhuku@gmail.com; and ttaringana@gmail.com

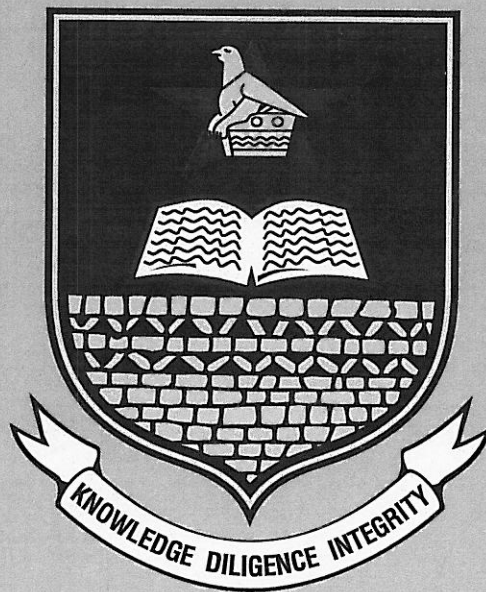
IDEAS FOR THE FUTURE : timelines will be needed

- Compile reading lists and literature sources for the themes.
- Welcome and request assistance from scholars, via H-Net lists, environmental history courses taught elsewhere and other avenues of communication.
- Obtain reading lists from all sources.
- Arrange visiting lecturers and contact the Zimbabwe academic diaspora for help.
- Source student funding.
- Form debating/reading groups.
- Debate case studies.
Arrange field trips (museums, sites etc.).
- Find and arrange attachments (internships).
- Consider podcasts and live streaming.
- Insert regular features and updates in the ICEHO Bulletin and ICEHO website.
- Incorporate theatre, drama and music.

It was an honour for me to be invited to this workshop and to appreciate so directly the wealth of talent, enthusiasm, and intellectual capacity in Zimbabwe. I thank all involved and am delighted that ICEHO has made a major contribution in Zimbabwe.

Jane Carruthers 5 July 2019.

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ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY WORKSHOP

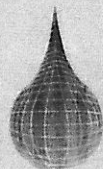
Date: 27 -29 July 2019

Venue: UZ

Llewellyn Lecture Theatre

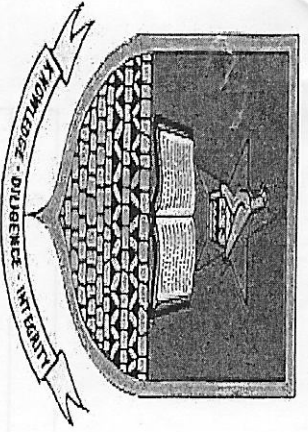
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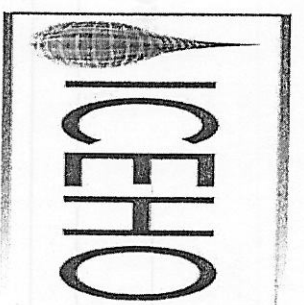
ICEHO

INTERNATIONAL CONSORTIUM OF
ENVIROMENTAL HISTORY
ORGANIZATIONS



UNIVERSITY OF ZIMBABWE
 FACULTY OF ARTS
 ECONOMIC HISTORY DEPARTMENT

FINAL



INTERNATIONAL CONSORTIUM OF
 ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY
 ORGANIZATIONS

Environmental History Workshop, Venue: Llewellyn Lecture Theatre
Date: 27 – 29 June 2019

TIME	ACTIVITY/THEME	PRESENTERS
27 June 2019	DAY ONE	DAY ONE
9:00-10:30	Welcome Remarks	Dean of Arts, Professor Muhwati, ✓
	Opening Remarks	Prof. P. Mapfumo ✓
	Objectives of the Workshop	Dr. U Kufakurinani (Chairperson, Economic history Department) ✓
10:30-11:00	BREAK	BREAK
11:00-11:45	Keynote 1	Prof. Jane Carruthers ✓
11:45-12:30	Environmental History: Navigating the African Anthropocene	Prof. Jane Carruthers ✓
12:30-13:00	Consumption-conservation nexus (indigenous systems and the environment)	Prof. Kwashirai ✓
12:30-13:00	Discussions	Prof. Kwashirai ✓
13:00-14:00	LUNCH BREAK	LUNCH BREAK
14:00-14:30	Environmental history: Perspectives from a non-historian	Prof. Willis Gwenzi (Department of Soil Science, University of Zimbabwe) ✓
14:30-15:00	Profit versus environmentalism: EMA and Zimbabwe's experience	Zimbabwe VERY GOOD
15:00-15:45	Discussions	Environment Management Agency "On his way" <i>how aware. Monks? hup?</i>
15:45-16:30	Panel Discussions (10 min presentations on the day, what to take forward and to emphasise)	Prof. Jane Carruthers, Professor Feresu and Prof. Kwashirai
DAY END	DAY END	Prof. Jane Carruthers, Professor Feresu and Prof. Kwashirai <i>How records: words.</i>
DAY END	DAY END	DAY END

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TIME	ACTIVITY	PRESENTER
28 June 2019	DAY 2	DAY 2
9:00-9:45 0930	Keynote 2	Professor Feresu, Institute of Environmental Studies / Sara
10:45-10:00	Discussions	
10:00-10:30	BREAK 11:15	BREAK <i>(Mufins / Sandwiches / guide)</i>
10:30-11:15 11:45	Second Speaker Environmental History: History in (or of) the Environment? Understanding the Complexities	Dr. I. Marowa, History Department, UZ
11:15-12:00	Third Speaker Health Safety and the Environment: Critical Themes	Dr. A. Chigwada (ZIMPLATS)
12:00-12:40	Reflections and Discussions followed by group reflections	Zimbabwe Environment Lawyers Association / Se there
12:30-14:00	LUNCH BREAK 13:00-14:30	LUNCH BREAK
14:00-14:45 14:30	Fourth Speaker A case for environmental history teaching	Mr. Dirwai, Department of Education, UZ
14:45-17:00 16:00	Discussions in groups People split into groups with lecturers to lead each groups in discussions Report back on possible masters and undergraduate courses	Anida Nhamo / <i>15:10 - 15:30</i> New speaker
17:00-18:00	NB Dinner only for registered participants	In transit to dinner
18:00-21:00	Dinner	Dinner
DAY END	DAY END	DAY END

Wah yeh (?)
Just changed hands.
Problems with money transfer to new owners

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29 June 2019		DAY 3	DAY 3
9:00-10:00	First Speaker Policy making for sustainable environment, the Zimbabwe experience.	Dr Samurimo (Director for Environment and Natural Resources, Ministry of Environment, Tourism and Hospitality)	
10:00-10:30	BREAK 11:30	BREAK	
10:30-11:15	Second Speaker Engendering the environment	Dr Kufakurinani and Sibongile Mauye	Good proposed course.
11:15-12:00	Third Speaker Discourses of Environmental Ethics, Politics and Environmentalism	Prof. Kwashirai	
12:00-12:15	Discussions		
12:15-13:00	Interactive panel discussions This and that on environmental discourses	Facilitator (Dr Kufakurinani) Discussant (Prof. Jane Carruthers) Panellists (Dr Misi, Dr Nyambara, Dr Nyakudya)	
13:00-14:00	Final feedback from groups Way Forward Vote of thanks	Way Forward by Dr Kufakurinani VOT by Pelatiah Choto	
14:00-18:00	Cocktail and Braai at Gava's (Everyone)	Cocktail and Braai at Mutongi Gava	
END OF WORKSHOP	END OF WORKSHOP	END OF WORKSHOP	

0945

10:15
11:05

Felous

Profiles of presenters for the Environmental history Workshop.
29 June 2019.

Professor J. Carruthers

Professor J. Carruthers is an Emeritus Professor in the Department of History at UNISA and a Research Associate of the Centre for Conservation Biology at the University of Stellenbosch. She is a Fellow of the Royal Society of South Africa, Member of the Academy of Science of South Africa, and Fellow of Clare Hall, Cambridge. She has held leadership positions in a number of societies and editorial boards and was founding President of the International Consortium of Environmental History Organizations based at Duke University, Chair of the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society in Munich and is past president of the Southern African Historical Society. In 2018 she was the recipient of the Distinguished Scholar Award of the American Society for Environmental History, the first non-American to be given this distinction.

She is internationally acknowledged for her work on the history of South African nature conservation, ornithology, botany and zoology, and has published widely on these topics, as well as on land reform and environmental justice. Her doctoral thesis, *The Kruger National Park: A Social and Political History* (1995), has become a standard reference work worldwide. Her most recent research project has resulted in a work entitled, *National Park Science: A Century of Research in South Africa* (Cambridge University Press, 2017). She has authored seven books, co-authored a further one, contributed chapters to 29 edited books and published 61 journal articles.

She has held various visiting Fellowships abroad and has been the recipient of numerous academic prizes, including runner-up lifetime achiever for the South African National Science and Technology Forum (2015) and for the Human Sciences Research Council medal (2017), the only person to have been recognized in this way by the sciences as well as the humanities.

Professor V. Kwashirai

Professor V. Kwashirai is a researcher and lecturer in modern African studies at Durham University in the United Kingdom. He holds an MPhil and a DPhil from Linacre College at Oxford University, as well as a BA (Hons.) and an MA from the University of Zimbabwe. Dr. Kwashirai is on the editorial board for the journal *Global Environment*, and he has published articles in various journals, such as the *Journal of Historical Geography*, *Conservation and Society*, and *Global Environment*.

Professor Kwashirai is a Zimbabwean and Oxonian scholar. His research interests are in economic and environmental issues, specifically in modern Zimbabwe, and Africa more generally. The author of *Green Colonialism in Zimbabwe, 1890–1980*, he has published extensively on these themes as well as on the social and political developments in Zimbabwe. He has taught at several universities in Zimbabwe and the United Kingdom, including Durham and Liverpool. Professor Kwashirai has been awarded many academic awards and fellowships in the UK and Germany. His forthcoming book with Cambridge University Press is called *Ballot or Bullet—Election Violence in Zimbabwe, 1980–2015*. He is also a leading expert on Zimbabwean human rights, land rights, poverty, and ecological transformations, he has successfully carried out wide-ranging consultancies with various governments, churches, private companies, and non-governmental organizations on the big questions regarding contemporary Zimbabwe. Currently, he is working on the corruption of the lobola culture and women's rights in Zimbabwe.

Marie Curie @ Univ. Basel. (Julie Tischer)

Professor W. Gwenzi

Professor W. Willis is an Associate Professor of Biosystems and Environmental Engineering in the Department of Soil Science & Agricultural Engineering, faculty of Agriculture. Willis earned the following qualifications: (1) PhD (Biosystems and Environmental Engineering, University of Western Australia, Perth), (2) M.Sc. (Water Resources Engineering and Management, University of Zimbabwe/UNESCO-IHE, Netherlands), (3) first class B. Sc. Honours (Soil Science, University of Zimbabwe), and (4) Postgraduate Certificate (Applied Groundwater Modelling, UNESCO-IHE, Netherlands). He majors in environmental hydrology, waste valorization, design of engineered systems for hazardous waste disposal, environmental modelling, and environmental remediation. He has published extensively in his areas of expertise as evidenced by over 50 articles in international journals, 5 book chapters and numerous conference papers. His expertise in the field of biosystems and environmental engineering is highly sought by various government agencies, funding agencies, private sector and international agencies, to whom he has provided expert advisory services. In this talk, Willis will present an overview of environmental history from a non-historian perspective.

Professor S. Feresu

Professor S. Feresu's core competencies include leading multi-disciplinary teams in carrying out baseline studies, monitoring and evaluations to generate knowledge for use in coming up with science based policies and programming. She has been team leader of research on the Zimbabwe Human Development Report 2017 whose theme is Climate Change Building a Resilient Nation; strategies, shocks and resilience (urban and rural) issues including development of Ward and District Resilience Plans; climate change where she led the development of the Zimbabwe Climate Change Response Strategy; poverty; environmental assessments

(being one of the lead authors of the Global Environmental Outlooks 4 and 5 Atmosphere Chapters and chief Author and Editor of Zimbabwe Environment Outlooks 3 and 4) and environmental policy formulation at local (National Environment Policy and Forest Policy) and international levels; environmental pollution including solid and liquid waste (Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan), and air pollution (World Bank and USEPA White Paper on Air Pollution in Developing Countries); energy needs assessment (UNICEF Sustainable Energy for Children Study), coordination of networks (e.g. the Air Pollution Information Network for Africa) as well as building the capacity of students, government and private sector personnel and communities. Professor Feresu quality controls the execution of all projects and the resultant outputs of the IES. She has been the team leader for all the projects carried out by IES since 2000. She also spent two years as a Research Officer at Veterinary Research Laboratory (1981-1982) and 37 years of experience at the University of Zimbabwe (1982 to date) as a Lecturer, Professor, Director of IES since 2000 and has been a researcher and team leader who has coordinated and directed many baseline assessments, monitoring and evaluation of projects similar to the GCF National Adaptation Plan (NAP) Readiness project as well as SADC level projects such as the Air Pollution Information Network (APINA) and the Southern African Network for Research and Training on the Environment (SANTREN) and Global assessments such as the Global Energy Assessment and Global Environment Outlooks. Academically, she has the following qualifications PhD in Microbiology (1980) from Leicester University (UK); Postgraduate Course in Development Policy, Planning and Management (2002) University of Birmingham (UK); and BSc (Hons) Biological Sciences from Wolverhampton Polytechnic (UK) (1977).

Dr U. Kufakurinani

Dr Kufa is a senior lecturer in, and current chairperson of, the Department of Economic History at the University of Zimbabwe. He did his DPhil in African Economic History at the same institution. He has published and presented papers on various themes and research areas which include gender; urban histories; migration; musical arts; political economy of development; and resource management and governance. Kufakurinani has co-edited a book on women and Zimbabwean music and another forthcoming on how institutions and individuals have negotiated and survived the Zimbabwean economic crisis. He has also published a monograph titled *Elasticity in Domesticity: White Women in Rhodesian Zimbabwe 1890 to 1979*.

Ms Sibongile Mauye — *In Gender Commission (is a Commission) as is colleague*

She is a Gender expert and development practitioner for over 17 years. She has written unpublished papers on Gender and service delivery: Gender based violence and Social Justice. She did her a masters her Masters in Gender and Development at the University of East Anglia UK, BA honours in Economic History (University of Zimbabwe). Currently she is a PHD student in the Department of Economic History at the University of Zimbabwe.

Dr A. Chigwada

Abednego. K. B. Chigwada is currently the Group Safety, Health, Environment and Quality (SHEQ) Manager for the largest mining company in Zimbabwe - Zimplats. Before joining Zimplats, he worked for several group of companies in the Mining Industry with underground and open pit mines, Concentrators and Smelter operations. Abednego is currently responsible for ensuring that the Zimplats Group operates according to vigilant SHEQ management practices.

As the Group SHEQ Manager, he is responsible for the development of a strong and well-informed SHEQ management culture within the company, enabling sound business decisions that balance risk and reward. More to that he assist management in complying with applicable statutory, regulatory and supervisory requirements and coordinating the overall operational risk management system. I am also a Global speaker at global international leaders' forums e.g. (Perth- Australia, LondonUK, Las Vegas- USA and African region. Academically, he has the following qualifications, PhD in Management of Technology, Innovation and People- emphasis on operational Risk management. Recommended for an excellence award, MSC in Strategic Management. Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science, National Diploma in Mining Engineering, Full Blasting Certificate: endorsed for Fiery Mines. Further qualifications include Project Risk Management, Enterprise Wide Risk Management, Accounting, Marketing, SHEQ Management Systems and Lead Auditing (ISO 14001, ISO 9001, ISO 45001 formerly OHSAS 18001 & NOSA).