

## SARAH R. OSTERHOUDT, Ph.D.

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### ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2014 – Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, Indiana University

*Affiliations:* African Studies Program; Center for the Analysis of Social-Ecological Landscapes (CASEL); Indiana University Food Institute (IUFI); Integrated Program on the Environment (IPE); School of Public Health, Department of Recreation, Parks & Tourism (Adjunct Faculty appointment)

### EDUCATION

- 2014 Ph.D., Yale University  
Combined Doctoral Degree, School of Forestry & Environmental Studies and Dept. of Anthropology; Joint Doctoral Degree, New York Botanical Garden
- 2010 M.Phil. Yale University  
School of Forestry & Environmental Studies; Department of Anthropology
- 2002 M.E.M, Yale University School of Forestry and Environmental Studies  
Masters Environmental Management; Concentration: Social Ecology
- 1997 B.S., Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT  
Biology; Certificate Science in Society Program, *Phi Beta Kappa*

### PUBLICATIONS

#### Books

- 2017 *Vanilla Landscapes: Meaning, Memory, and the Cultivation of Place in Madagascar*.  
Bronx, NY: Advances in Economic Botany Series, New York Botanical Garden Press.

*Reviewed:* *Journal of Peasant Studies* (2019); *Journal of Political Ecology* (2018);  
*Ethnobiology Letters* (2018); *Economic Botany* (2019); featured in *New York Review of Books*, academic supplement (2017).

#### Journal Articles

- 2019 A New Sustainability Model for Measuring Changes in Power and Access in Global Commodity Chains: Through a Smallholder Lens. With Benjamin Neimark, Hayley Alter, and Adrian Gradinar. *Palgrave Communications* 5(1).  
<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41599-018-0199-0>

- 2018 Community conservation and the (Mis)appropriation of taboo. *Development and Change* 49(5): 1248-1267. <https://doi.org/10.1111/dech.12413>
- 2018 Remembered Resilience: Oral History Narratives and Community Resilience in Agroforestry Systems. *Renewable Agriculture and Food Systems, special issue: Agriculture, Food Systems, and Climate Change*. 33(3): 252-255. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1742170517000679>
- 2018 Land of no taboo: The agrarian politics of neglect and care in Madagascar. *Journal of Peasant Studies* 45(7): 1297-1313. <https://doi.org/10.1080/03066150.2017.1337001>
- 2016 Written with seed: The political ecology of memory in Madagascar. *Journal of Political Ecology* 23(1): 263-278. <https://journals.uair.arizona.edu/index.php/JPE/article/view/20215>
- 2013 Baker, Lauren, Michael Dove, Dana Graef, Alder Keleman, David Kneas, Sarah Osterhoudt, and Jeffrey Stoike. Whose diversity counts? The politics and paradoxes of modern diversity. *Sustainability* 5(6): 2495-2518. doi:[10.3390/su5062495](https://doi.org/10.3390/su5062495)
- 2012 Sense and sensibilities: Negotiating meanings within agriculture in northeastern Madagascar. *Ethnology* 49(4): 283-301. <http://ethnology.pitt.edu/ojs/index.php/Ethnology/article/viewFile/6087/6295>
- 2010 The field as labyrinth: Exploring ethnographic practices through the works of Jorge Luis Borges. *Anthropology Matters* 12(1). [https://anthropologymatters.com/index.php/anth\\_matters/article/viewFile/190/313](https://anthropologymatters.com/index.php/anth_matters/article/viewFile/190/313)

### **Book chapters**

- 2015 Claus, Catherine, Sarah Osterhoudt, Michael Dove, Lauren Baker, Luisa Cortesi, Chris Hebdon and Amy Zhang. Disaster, degradation, dystopia: A political ecology approach to disaster research. In: *A Handbook of Political Ecology*, eds. Raymond Bryant and Soyeun Kim. Edward Elgar Publishers. pp.291–304.

### **Book reviews**

- 2018 Review of *Corridors of Power: The Politics of Environmental Aid to Madagascar*, by Catherine A. Corson. *Journal of Peasant Studies* 45(2): 477 – 480. DOI: [10.1080/03066150.2017.1420596](https://doi.org/10.1080/03066150.2017.1420596).
- 2016 “Living with parks: Real and imagined.” Review of *Beyond the Lens of conservation: Malagasy and Swiss Imaginations of One Another*, by Eva Keller. *Current Anthropology* 57(1): 126—127.
- 2016 Review of *Forest and Labor in Madagascar: From Colonial Concession to Global Biosphere*, by Genese Marie Sodikoff. *American Ethnologist* 43(1): 198—199.
- 2014 "Missionary as Plagiarist." Review of *David Griffiths and the Missionary 'History of Madagascar,'* by Gwyn Campbell. *The Journal of African History* 55(01): 107-109.

## FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS & GRANTS

### External

- 2017-19 National Science Foundation, Cultural Anthropology Senior Research Grant. "The Social and Environmental Dynamics of an Agricultural Boom." (\$42,119)
- 2015 Wenner-Gren Foundation Engaged Anthropology Grant. "Engaging Landscapes: Cultural Meanings, Community Management, and Agro-Biodiversity in Madagascar Vanilla Gardens." (\$4,870)
- 2012 Roy A. Rappaport Prize in Environmental Anthropology. Awarded to paper submission, "Clear Souls | Clear Fields: Environmental Imaginations and Christian Conversions in Northeastern Madagascar." American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting. San Francisco, CA.
- 2009 Wenner-Gren Foundation Dissertation Fieldwork Grant. "Vanilla for the Ancestors: Landscapes, Trade and the Cultivation of place in Madagascar." GR 8057. (\$6,290)
- 2009 Wenner-Gren Foundation Osmundsen Initiative for Applied Anthropological Research. "Vanilla for the Ancestors: Landscapes, Trade and the Cultivation of place in Madagascar." GR 8057. (\$2,000)
- 2009 Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Fellowship. "Knowing Vanilla: Re-articulations of meaning, knowledge, and identity among small-scale vanilla farmers in Madagascar." P022A090065 (\$17,433)
- 2007 Lewis B. Cullman Fellowship, Tropical Ecologies and Environments (Doctoral tuition / stipend)
- 2006 U.N. / FAO Telefoods Grant, Agroforestry Development in Madagascar, Community Food Security and Income Generation (\$8,000)
- 2001 Doris Duke Foundation Environmental Leadership Fellowship (\$25,000)
- 1997 Thomas J. Watson Foundation Fellowship, *Interface of Knowledge: Biotechnology and Local Practice*. Independent Research Mexico, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Chile, Bolivia, and Peru. (\$18,000)
- 1997 *Phi Beta Kappa*, Wesleyan University

### Indiana University

- 2018-22 Emerging Areas of Research: Sustainable Food System Science for the 21st Century, team co-leader (Project budget ~ 2,500,000)
- 2018-19 College of Arts and Humanities Institute (CAHI) grant, workshop support for "Critical Approaches to Superfoods" (\$3,000)
- 2017-20 Grand Challenges Grant, Prepared for Environmental Change, Human Communities research group member

- 2017-18 External Funding Supplement Award, College of Arts and Sciences, "The Social and Environmental Dynamics of an Agricultural Boom" (course release)
- 2017 Course Development Fellowship, Office of Sustainability, "Sustainable Trade and Culture" (\$5,000)
- 2017 Emerging Areas of Research Planning Grant, Sustainable Food Systems, team member. (\$28,617)
- 2016 Indiana University Women in Science Provost's Travel Award (\$250)
- 2015 Indiana University Women in Science Provost's Travel Award (\$250)

### **Yale University**

- 2011 Institutional Reciprocity Fellowship, Program for Agrarian Studies (\$1,500)
- 2010 MacMillan Center Dissertation Research Fellowship (\$15,000)
- 2009 Yale Institute for Biospheric Studies (YIBS) Dissertation Research Grant (\$4,225)
- 2009 Tropical Resources Institute Pre-Dissertation Research Fellowship (\$9,500)
- 2008 MacMillan Center Pre-Dissertation Research Fellowship (\$4,000)
- 2008 Lindsey Center for African Research Pre-Dissertation Research (\$500)
- 2008 Program for Agrarian Studies Pre-Dissertation Research Fellowship (\$500)

## **CONFERENCES, TALKS & PRESENTATIONS**

### **Invited Talks and Panels**

- 2019 'Naturally Artificial: Value and Labor in Biosynthetic Vanilla.' Guest speaker, American University, February 7.
- 2018 'Nobody Wants to Kill: Anxiety, Security and Self-Surveillance in Madagascar's Vanilla Boom.' Invited talk for AnthoSeminar, Purdue University, February 21.
- 2017 'Vanilla for the Ancestors: Land, Power and Place in Madagascar.' Taft lecture series, Charles Phelps Taft Research Center. University of Cincinnati, November 16.
- 2017 'Ethno-biology and landscape memories.' Guest lecture, Ethnobiology seminar, Professor Susan Allen. University of Cincinnati, November 17.
- 2017 'Boom and Bust: Cultural Dimensions of Commodity Cycles.' Panel co-organizer, American Anthropological Association, Society for Economic Anthropology Divisions, Washington, D.C. December 2.
- 2015 'From Deep Ecologies to Economies of Survival' panel discussant. American Ethnological Society Spring Meeting. San Diego, CA. March 12 – 14.

- 2013 'Paradoxes of Property: The Rockefeller Foundation and Biotechnology for the Poor.' by Rachel Shurman. Discussant, Agrarian Studies Colloquium, Yale University.
- 2011 'Zimbabwe's Land Reform: Challenging the Myths.' by Ian Scoones. Discussant, Agrarian Studies Colloquium, Yale University. New Haven, CT.

### Conference Presentations

- 2018 'When does vanilla become natural? Placing the 'bio' in 'biosynthetic' flavors.' Co-sponsored panel, American Anthropological Association, San Jose, CA. November 16.
- 2017 'The Tension Inherent in Two Oranges: Security & Anxiety in Madagascar's Vanilla Boom.' American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting. Washington, D.C. December 2.
- 2016 'Written with Seed: The Political Ecology of Memory in Madagascar.' African Studies Association Annual Meeting. Washington, D.C., December 1 - 3.
- 2016 'On Chaos, Order and the Cultural Work of the Fallow.' American Ethnological Society Spring Meeting. Washington D.C., March 31 – April 2.
- 2015 'Abandoned Knowledge: The Life Cycle of a Vanilla Laboratory in Madagascar.' NGO Interest Group Invited Panel, American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Denver, CO. Nov. 18 - 22.
- 2015 'The Land of No Taboo: Emerging Landscapes of Exile in Madagascar.' American Ethnological Society Spring Meeting. San Diego, CA, March 12 – 14.
- 2013 'Guiding Practice: Eco-tourism and the Recalibration of Cultural and Environmental Landscapes.' American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting. Chicago, IL, November 20-24.
- 2013 'Food, Forest, Markets, Meanings: Vanilla and Clove Agroforestry Systems in Madagascar.' 19th Conference of the International Society for Tropical Foresters: Food and Forests: Cultivating Resilient Landscapes. Yale University, New Haven, CT. January 24-26.
- 2012 'Clear Souls | Clear Fields: Environmental Imaginations and Christian Conversions in Northeastern Madagascar.' American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting. San Francisco, CA. *Paper presentation.*  
*Awarded the Rappaport Prize in Environmental Anthropology.*
- 2011 'Cultivating Meanings: Biological and Social Dimensions of Agroforestry Systems in Madagascar.' 28th Annual Doctoral Student Research Conference. Yale University, New Haven, CT, October 7.
- 2011 'The Sense & Sensibilities of Landscape: Negotiating Knowledge and Meaning within Agroforestry Systems of Northeastern Madagascar.' American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting. Montreal, November 17.

- 2009 'Becoming Certifiable: Re-articulating Knowledges of Vanilla Production in Madagascar.' American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting. Philadelphia, PA, December 2.
- 2009 'The Richest and Most Fruitful Island in the World: Colonial Narratives of Nature in Madagascar, 1638 – 1646.' Nature in International History: The Ninth Annual Harvard Graduate Student Conference on International History. Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, March 13-14.
- 2008 'Footsteps and Marks.' by Graeme Barker. Agrarian Studies Colloquium, Yale University. New Haven, CT.
- 2008 'The Field as Labyrinth: Exploring Ethnography through the Works of Jorge Luis Borges.' Exploring and Expanding the Boundaries of Research Methods. School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), London, October 31.
- 2008 'The Cultural Politics of Sustaining Diversity.' With Dana Graef, Adrian Cerezo, Michael R. Dove, Cassie Hays, Jonathan Padwe, Jeff Stoike. Sustaining Diversity in a Rapidly Changing World. American Museum of Natural History. New York, April 2-5.

**Panels and presentations, Indiana University**

- 2018 'Vigilant states: Security, anxiety, and self-surveillance in Madagascar's vanilla boom.' Indiana University Food Institute, February 1.
- 2017 'Approaches to Diverse Environmentalisms.' Panel chair, Diverse Environmentalisms: Expressive Culture at the Crux of Ecological Change. Bloomington, IN. March 3 - 5.
- 2016 'Community Conservation and the (Mis)appropriation of Taboo.' Department of Geography Colloquium Series, Indiana University. September 9.
- 2016 'Cultivating Spirits: The Otherworldly Dimensions of Agricultural Fields in Madagascar.' Wonder and the Natural World, Indiana University Consortium for the Study of Religion, Ethics, and Society. Bloomington, IN, June 20 - 23.
- 2015 'Fair Trade in Practice: Reflections on the Anthropology of Development.' Undergraduate Anthropology Association Research Colloquia, April 20.
- 2018 'Sustainable Leadership: Inspiring action across disciplines.' Pangelist, Net Impact Seminar on Sustainable Leadership & Governance, Kelley School of Business, Indiana University. November 17.
- 2016 'Revisiting the 'Moral Economy of the Peasant.'" State, Resistance, Landscape: A panel discussion with James C. Scott. Patten Lecture Series, Indiana University, March 9.
- 2016 'Wonder in Human / Other-than-Human Encounters.' Discussant, Wonder and the Natural World, IU Consortium for the Study of Religion, Ethics, and Society. Bloomington, IN. June 20 - 23.

- 2016 'A Discussion with Wayne Pacelle, CEO of the Humane Society of the United States.' Panelist, Kelley School of Business, Institute for Social Impact. Indiana University, November 3.
- 2016 'Working Together: Research and Water Governance on Mount Kenya.' Panelist, The Integrated Program in the Environment, the Workshop in Political Theory and Policy Analysis, and the IU Office of Sustainability, Indiana University. February 26.
- 2016 'Methodological Challenges and Theory.' Discussant, Anthropology Graduate Student Association Conference, Indiana University, February 20. *Discussant*.
- 2014 'Written with Seed: Ecologies of Memory in Madagascar.' African Studies Evening Seminar, Indiana University, Bloomington. October 14.

### **Invited Workshop Facilitator / Participant**

- 2019 *Forthcoming*. Critical Approaches to Superfoods Workshop. Co-organized with Emma McDonell, Richard Wilk. Bloomington, Indiana. March 21-23.
- 2019 *Forthcoming*. Transparency: Qualities and Technologies of the Global Gemstone Industry. Invited workshop participant, funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation. Invited participant. Geneva, Switzerland. May 31 – June 1.
- 2017 Faculty Facilitator, International Dissertation Research Fellowship (IDRF) Workshop, Social Science Research Council. Seattle, Washington, March 9 - 12.
- 2015 Co-Chair and Facilitator, Anthropology & Environment Society Dissertation Workshop, American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Denver, CO. Nov 18-22.

## **TEACHING & STUDENT SUPERVISION**

### **Indiana University**

E101: Sustainability & Society

A205: Sustainable Agriculture and Trade

E318: Nature & Culture: Global Perspectives in Environmental Anthropology

E366: Sustainable Trade and Culture

E444/644: People and Protected Areas: Conservation in Theory & Practice

E606: Research Methods in Cultural Anthropology

Independent Graduate Study: Ethnographies of Global Food Networks

Independent Undergraduate Study: Ethnobotany: Intro to Theory and Methods

Independent Undergraduate Study: Fair Trade in Cultural Perspective

### **Teaching Fellow, Yale University**

Disaster, Degradation, Dystopia

Society & Environment: Introduction to Theory and Method  
Environmental Writing  
Conservation & Development: Advanced Readings

**Directed Independent Language Study Program (DILS), Yale University**

Malagasy Language Instructor

**Doctoral Student Supervision, current**

Dissertation Committee co-chair

Aaron Ellis (Anthropology / Food Studies)

Claire Wright (Anthropology / Ethnomusicology)

Dissertation Committee member

Megan Betz (Geography)

Mackenzie Cory (Anthropology)

Colleen Friedly (Anthropology)

Emma McDonell (Anthropology / Food Studies)

Lucy Miller (Anthropology)

Dan Qaurooni (Human Computer Interaction / Design)

Emily Van Alst (Anthropology)

Julie Wasserman (Geography)

**Doctoral Student Supervision, to completion**

2018 Evan Marks Dennis, Anthropology. "Adaptation to Social Ecological System Shocks: Transformation in San Diego's Water Institutions and Culture Between 1990 and 2010." 274 pp.

2017 Xinxin Yang, Media Studies. "Contemporary Chinese Ethnic Media in Boston: Production and Consumption." 309 pp.

**Undergraduate Student Supervision, to completion**

2017 Mariel Rico, co-advisor (Independent Major Program, Communicating Fair Trade)

2015 Madeline McDonough, co-advisor (Independent Major Program, Ethnobotany)

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES, RESEARCH & CONSULTANCIES**

2018 Director of Studies, Madagascar. UNICEF / Rift Valley Institute. Three-day workshop on placing development work in Madagascar's cultural, historical, and political context.



- 2012 Co-PI, General Mills Sustainability Challenge 'The Vanilla Sustainability Project: An International Collaboration for Genomic Research, Crop Improvement, Community Production, and International Market Linkages for Improved Vanilla Bean Cultivation.' (\$100,000)
- 2011 Consultant, La Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ). Concept paper, 'Developing Integrated Commodity Chain Approaches for Madagascar.'
- 2007 -- Co-founder & Board Member, From the Field Trading / Lafaza Foods. Organization facilitating equitable trade relationships with small-scale vanilla growers in Madagascar.  
*Funding and support:* USAID, Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, Wildlife Conservation Society, Conservation International; Food & Agriculture Organization (FAO), United Nations.
- 2005-07 Peace Corps Environment Volunteer, Madagascar

## **SERVICE & OUTREACH**

### **Grant review**

- 2017 National Science Foundation (NSF), Geography and Spatial Sciences Program (GSS), CAREER proposal review
- 2016 -- National Science Foundation (NSF), Cultural Anthropology Program, Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant (DDIG) Review Panel, Washington, D.C.
- 2015 -- Social Science Research Council (SSRC) Mellon International Dissertation Research Fellowship (IDRF), External Reviewer

### **Book manuscript reviews**

- 2018 University of Arizona Press
- 2018 University of Washington Press, Culture, Place and Nature series

### **Journal referee**

*Africa Today; American Ethnologist; Anthropological Forum; Culture, Agriculture, Food and Environment (CAFE); Current Anthropology; Economic Anthropology; Ethnos; Human Organization; Journal of African History; Journal of Material Culture; Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute (JRAI); Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture; Political and Legal Anthropology Review (PoLAR)*

### **Indiana University, Campus and Department Service**

- 2018 - Phi Beta Kappa Executive Committee

- 2017 - Faculty Advisory Committee, Mathers Museum “800 Seasons: Bloomington through Continuity and Change.”
- 2017 - Graduate Affairs and Admission Committee, Anthropology
- 2016 - Faculty Executive Committee, Integrated Program in the Environment
- 2016-17 Curriculum Committee, Anthropology
- 2015 - IU Sustainability Communities of Practice, Bloomington Campus
- 2015 - *Phi Beta Kappa* Faculty Elector, Indiana University Bloomington
- 2015-16 Academic Initiatives Committee, African Studies
- 2015-16 Admissions Committee, Masters Degree, African Studies
- 2014-16 Undergraduate Affairs Committee, Anthropology

### **Community Service and Outreach**

- 2018 Cultural exchange discussions, visits to Madagascar elementary school classrooms, Mananara Nord, Madagascar.
- 2009-11 Volunteer ESL Instructor for NGO employees in Madagascar
- 2009-11 Farmer trainings in economic botany survey methodologies
- 2007 - Co-Founder, Madagascar Community Library Project
- 2007 Peace Corps Trainer: Designing equitable trade projects in Madagascar
- 2006 Volunteer trainer for park guides, UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, Mananara Nord

### **Media Coverage**

- 2018 "Bare Knuckle Bouts in Madagascar? It is about more than just fighting." By Finbarr O'Reilly, *The New York Times*. November 5, 2018.
- 2017 "Does Madagascar's Vanilla Industry Have a Sweet future?" by Olivia Miltner, Ozy on-line magazine, November 20, 2017. <https://www.ozy.com/fast-forward/does-madagascars-vanilla-industry-have-a-sweet-future/82005>
- 2017 "An interview with author Sarah Osterhoudt." New York Botanical Garden, April 2, 2017. <http://www.nybgpress.org/Author/Default.aspx?AuthorId=135462>
- 2016 "Catholic Relief Services Announces First-ever Impact Investment Loan in Madagascar." Kim Pozniak, December 19. <https://www.crs.org/media-center/news-release/catholic-relief-services-announces-first-ever-impact-investment-loan>

- 2016 "Engaged Anthropology Grant - Sarah Osterhoudt." The Wenner-Gren Blog, the Wenner-Gren Foundation. October 28. [http://blog.wennergren.org/2016/10/eag\\_osterhoudt](http://blog.wennergren.org/2016/10/eag_osterhoudt)
- 2016 "Visiting Madagascar? Leave Red Swimsuits and Lemur Recipes at Home." by Bryant Rousseau. *The New York Times*. July 18, 2016. [http://www.nytimes.com/2016/07/19/world/what-in-the-world/madagascar-culture-taboo-fady.html?\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2016/07/19/world/what-in-the-world/madagascar-culture-taboo-fady.html?_r=0)
- 2015 "Lafaza and WCS Announce New Partnership for Sustainable Vanilla and Clove Production around Madagascar's Makira National Park." Wildlife Conservation Society Newsroom, May 5, 2015. <https://newsroom.wcs.org>
- 2015 "Madagascar's vanilla: the 'Gold Standard' from Farming to Flavor." by Meghan Gieber. *Edible Silicon Valley*, April 13. <http://ediblesiliconvalley.ediblecommunities.com/food-thought/lafaza-madagascar-vanilla>
- 2013 "The Junior Scholar Prize Winner Shaylih Muehlmann interviews the 2012 Rappaport Prize Winner, Sarah R. Osterhoudt." Anthropology & Environment Newsletter. January.
- 2011 "Peace Corps 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: Profiles of Five Hudson Valley Peace Corps Volunteers." by Wyatt Olson, Hudson Valley Magazine, June 2011. <http://www.hvmag.com/Hudson-Valley-Magazine/June-2011/Peace-Corps-50th-Anniversary-Profiles-of-Five-Hudson-Valley-Peace-Corps-Volunteers/>
- 2008 "Nathaniel Delafield and Sarah Osterhoudt: Working in Imorona, Madagascar." Food and Agriculture Organization, United Nations.

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

African Studies Association  
 American Anthropological Association  
 American Ethnological Society  
 Anthropology & Environment Society  
 Culture & Agriculture  
 Society Economic Botany  
 Political Ecology Society  
 Society for Economic Botany

## LANGUAGES

Malagasy: advanced Betsimisaraka (East Coast) and official (Merina) dialects  
 French: intermediate reading / basic comprehension  
 Spanish: working knowledge