



59th Annual Conference of the Center for Latin American Studies

26th Annual Center for African Studies Gwendolen M. Carter Lectures

Tropical Conservation and Development Program Conference

Bridging Conservation and Development in Latin America and Africa: Changing Contexts, Changing Strategies

University of Florida
Gainesville, FL
January 28-30, 2010

The conference brought together scholars and practitioners from Europe, Africa, and North and South America. Over 200 people from 45 different institutions attended the three-day event. The contrasting cultural, ecological, and institutional characteristics of African and Latin American realities have led to a range of development and conservation experiments at diverse scales, providing rich opportunities for analysis, comparison, and learning.

The Conference consisted of three sessions, focusing on the changing contexts and the changing strategies of conservation and development in Latin America and Africa and on training and capacity-building. Building on the dynamic discussions from the conference, the organizers will edit a special issue of the open-access journal *Ecology and Society* to share the emerging lessons and themes with a broad audience.

This conference was the 59th Annual Conference of the Center for Latin American Studies and the 26th Annual Center for African Studies Gwendolen M. Carter Lectures. It was organized by TCD faculty and students, with additional support from a Mellon-LASA (Latin American Studies Association) Seminars grant, the UF International Center, the UF Office of Research and the U.S. Department of Education's Title VI National Resource Center Program. Following the Conference, TCD students, faculty and alumni gathered at banquet held in honor of Marianne Schmink, who stepped down as Director of the TCD program at the end of spring 2010.

Please go to <http://tcdphotos.shutterfly.com/> to view the TCD Conference 2010 photos.

Article contributed by J.G. Collomb, 2009 Ph.D. alumnus, UF Interdisciplinary Ecology with concentration in Tropical Conservation and Development (TCD).