



Special Edition  
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AWARD



## Indigenous mobilization and multi-local livelihood strategies in the Middle Rio Negro, northwestern Brazilian Amazon

Thaissa Sobreiro - Instituto Socioambiental, Brazil

### BIO

Dr. Thaissa Sobreiro works at the non-profit NGO Instituto Socioambiental as an analyst in research and development in the Rio Negro Program. She has been working with Amazon traditional communities' development and natural resource management since 2003. She received a master's degree in aquatic ecology from the Instituto de Pesquisas da Amazônia, Manaus, Brazil, in 2007, and certificate of specialization in Amazon Socioenvironmental Management (2012) from the Universidade do Estado de Mato Grosso, MT, Brazil. In 2016 she received a doctoral degree in Interdisciplinary Ecology with a Tropical Conservation and Development certificate from the School of Natural Resources and Environment at the University of Florida.

Dr. Sobreiro will be on campus as the recipient of the 2017 Marianne Schmink Award. This annual award, bestowed by UF's Tropical Conservation and Development (TCD) Program, recognizes the outstanding dissertation that promotes TCD's mission to bridge theory and practice to advance biodiversity conservation, sustainable resource use, and human well-being in the tropics.

### PRESENTATION SUMMARY

The presentation will address Dr. Sobreiro dissertation about how spatial mobility and increased rural-urban relations affect indigenous community political mobilization and sustainable livelihood strategies at different scales in the Brazilian Amazon. She focused on the municipality of Barcelos, in the middle Rio Negro area, Amazonas state. This is one of the most conserved regions in the Brazilian Amazon, and it is the territory of more than 23 indigenous ethnic groups. The work drawn on multiple literatures, including those on social movements and indigenous mobilization, as well as rural household livelihoods, natural resource management and rural-urban migration, to understand the interplay between indigenous mobility, political mobilization, and livelihood strategies. The results provided a new perspective on the importance of indigenous urban networks to strengthen their political organization, increasing sustainable livelihood options and driving management of key natural resources such as fishing. The capacity to be mobile provided community and household access to diverse resources for political mobilization to secure tenure rights, management of their natural resources, as well as access to urban amenities, all of which support their livelihoods and well-being. This study showed new ways in which indigenous households organize their lives across spaces beyond their traditional rural territories.



## TUE, OCT 23

### 12-45-1:45

### Grinter 376

Tropilunch is a weekly seminar run by graduate students from the Tropical Conservation and Development (TCD) Program. It provides a forum for a range of discussions and presentations related to TCD work and research. Special guests, visiting scholars and practitioners also participate. It happens every Tuesday @ 12:45 – 1:45 p.m. in Grinter 376.

Tropilunch presentations are recorded and posted weekly on TCD's YouTube Channel.

