

TARA WEINBERG

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EDUCATION

University of Michigan

September, 2015-expected 2021
Ann Arbor, MI

- PhD Candidate in History
- * Visiting Scholar, Wits History Workshop, University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg (January-December, 2019)

University of Chicago

September, 2010-August, 2011
Chicago, IL

- Master of Arts in Social Science; Fulbright scholar
- Masters Thesis, 'Colonial Officials' Squatter Debacle - The State's Failure To Control Rural Squatters on Kenya's Southern Coast, 1900-1960', advised by Associate Professor Emily Osborn

University of Cape Town (UCT)

January, 2006-December, 2009
Cape Town, South Africa

- Honors degree in History, *with distinction* (2009)
- Honors Thesis, 'Fighting to Land on Their Feet: Gendered Struggles Over Access to Land in Fort Beaufort, Keiskammahoek and Peddie, 1930s-1960s', advised by Professor Anne Mager
- Arnold Wynne Prize for best essay at UCT in the field of South African social/political relations (2009)
- Bachelor of Arts in History and English Literature (2008)

AWARDS

- International Dissertation Research Fellowship, Social Science Research Council, 2018-2019
- Fulbright scholarship for study in the United States, 2010-2012
- Race, Law and History fellowship, University of Michigan, 2016-2017
- South African Initiatives Fellowship, Department of Afroamerican & African Studies, University of Michigan and African Studies Center Funding for Research Support, University of Michigan, 2015-2018
- Winner of Junior Scholars Essay Competition, Law and Society Association, 2014

PUBLICATIONS

T. Weinberg, *Review of Legal Strategies for the Development and Protection of Communal Property* by Tin Xu and Alison Clarke (Eds), *South African Law Journal* (August, 2019)

T. Weinberg, 'Pushing the boundaries of customary law jurisprudence in Botswana: social science and the law in the case of *Ramantele v. Mmusi*' *The Journal of Legal Pluralism and Unofficial Law* 48, 2 (2016) (peer-reviewed)

T. Weinberg et al (Ed.s), *The People's Law Journal: Special Issue on Rural Land Justice* (Cape Town: Siber Ink Publishers/Ndifuna Ukwazi, April 2016)

T. Weinberg, 'The Status of Communal Tenure after 20 years of Democracy in South Africa' *SADC Law Journal* (June 2015)

T. Weinberg, *Review of Settler Colonialism and Land Rights in South Africa* and *The Griqua Past and the Limits of South African History* both by Edward Cavanagh, *Journal of Southern African Studies* (January, 2015)

T. Weinberg, 'Contesting Customary Law in the Eastern Cape: Gender, Place & Land Tenure' in Aninka Claassens & Dee Smythe (Ed.s) *Acta Juridica: Marriage Land & Custom* (Juta, 2013) (peer-reviewed)

Published numerous newspaper articles on land reform, customary law, gender issues, and immigrant issues in the South African, United States, and international media, including Oxford Human Rights Hub Blog (<http://ohrh.law.ox.ac.uk/blog/>), Custom Contested (www.customcontested.co.za), Global Chicago Blog (www.globalpressinstitute.org).

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

'Buying Land on Credit: Networks of Debt, Risk and Investment among Black Land Purchasers in early 20th Century Transvaal', at Wits Institute for Social and Economic Research, University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg (October 2019)

'Court Records and Political Imagination in African and South-Asian Legal History: a Reappraisal', at Asia-Africa Conference in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania (September 2018)

'Land, law and apartheid's legacy: the role of Communal Property Associations in South Africa', at Law & Society Association in Toronto, Canada (June 2018), African Studies Association Conference, Chicago, IL (November 2017)

‘Contesting borders: foreign farmworkers and labor recruitment in South Africa’s Mpumalanga area, 1930s-1960s’, *European Conference on African Studies*, Basel, Switzerland (June 2017)

‘The Status of Communal Tenure after 20 years of Democracy in South Africa’ *Workshop in Honour of Professor Bill McClain: The Interplay of Customary Law Rights in Land and Legal Pluralism*, University of Cape Town, South Africa (October 2014)

‘Customary Law and Women’s Inheritance Rights in Southern Africa: the Case of Edith Mmusi’ *Law & Society Association Conference* in Minneapolis, USA (May, 2014)

‘Strengthening scholarship on Africa and by Africans within the Law & Society Association’, 1 of 6 papers from young scholars from around the world presented at *Law & Society Association Conference* in Minneapolis, USA (May, 2014)

TEACHING

Seminars on 'Rethinking Property in South Africa' for Professors Dee Smythe and Kelley Moul's Graduate Teaching block 'Law and Society in Africa' in the Faculty of Law, University of Cape Town (March 2019)

Graduate student instructor for Gabrielle Hecht’s course ‘Global Nuclear Proliferation’ (Fall 2016), Amanda Alexander’s course ‘Law and Social Justice’ (Winter 2017), Kelly Askew and Paul Johnson’s course ‘Introduction to Africa and its Diaspora’ (Fall 2017), and Derek Peterson's course 'Modern Africa' (Winter 2018), all at University of Michigan

Guest seminar, ‘Contesting ‘African Communal Tenure’ Histories of dispossession and struggle’ for Dr. Agostino Ignacio’s *Economic History Masters Seminar*, University of Cape Town (March 2015)

EMPLOYMENT

Department of Public Law, University of Cape Town February, 2013-June 2015
Researcher, Rural Women’s Action Research Program (now Land & Accountability Research Centre) Cape Town, South Africa

- Sharpened interview skills through fieldwork with 7+ community groups; strengthened ability to write for variety of audiences through writing 10+ academic and popular articles; developed teaching skills by organizing and presenting at training workshops for community delegates and members of parliament.
- Deepened research experience through extensive research work using a combination of sources including court records, legislation, state policies and historical/anthropological literature; gained broad familiarity with doctoral research sites; built networks with international scholars including across Africa and the United States.
- Co-authored funding proposals, including a successful proposal for R1.2 million per year for three years for research and advocacy work on security of land tenure of people living in South Africa’s former Bantustans.

Research and Policy Associate, United African Organization June 2011-October, 2012
Chicago, IL

- Developed digital history skills; engaged with oral history research methodologies; grappled with question of how to present and write history in a way that encourages engagement and promotes the sharing of knowledge.
- Led research on oral history project; conceived of website as public history tool; organized public symposia.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR / SERVICE

Co-coordinator, Africa History and Anthropology workshop (Rackham Interdisciplinary Workshop), University of Michigan, 2016-2017.

Co-organizer, ‘Political Subjectivities and Popular Protest’ conference (University of Witwatersrand-University of Michigan collaboration), November 2016, Ann Arbor, Michigan. Speakers included Achille Mbembe, Nandini Sundar, Keeanga-Yamattha Taylor, Barbara Ransby, Kidada Williams, Julian Brown and Stuart Wilson.

Law & Society Association Student Award Committee (2014-2015), which gives awards for best undergraduate and graduate papers in the Law and Society field.

Executive Committee Member, Students for Law and Social Justice Seminar (2009), Cape Town, South Africa.

LANGUAGES

Afrikaans (Proficient), Xhosa (Proficient), Spanish (Proficient)