



PARKS AND PEOPLE

Integrated Teaching, Research and Service
in Sub-Saharan Africa

Council on Institutional Cooperation
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Collaborative CIC/African educational and research programs that:

- ▣ Study abroad opportunities for U.S. students
- ▣ integrate education, research & service-learning in the parks and the communities
- ▣ global competency in U.S. & African students
- ▣ strengthen partnership among CIC and Africa institutions, NGOs and local communities.



Parks and People: South Africa

Spring 2010:

10 weeks

13 students (20 in 2011)



5-credits: Research and service projects

1-credit: Global citizenship

Three 3-credit courses:

- Societies and Environments in the New South Africa
- Fire, Biogeochemistry, and Landscape Change
- Learn to Live with Change: Livelihood Vulnerabilities and Resilience to Multiple Stressors

Partnerships

South Africa:

- University of Cape Town
- Rhodes University
- University of Fort Hare
- Eastern Cape Parks Board
- The Haven Hotel

Tanzania:

- University of Dar es Salaam
- Sokoine University of Agriculture
- Ardhi University
- Trento Museum of Natural Sciences (Italy)
- Tanzanian Park Service (TANAPA)
- WWF-Tanzania
- Tropical Ecosystem Assessment and Monitoring Network

CIC:

- Penn State
- Michigan State
- Wisconsin



Benefits of Collaboration

- ◆ Increase depth and breadth – rapid response to opportunity.
- ◆ Diversify offerings (topics/regions/programs)
- ◆ Leverage resources (expertise, best practices, language)
- ◆ Demonstrate combined strength and commitment (impress governments, funding agencies, NGOs, etc.)

Broadens networks and facilitates access to public and private sector institutions.

Increases visibility, influence, and engagement.

Increases impact (sum is greater than the parts).



What will be achieved?

For U.S. and African faculty & Grads:

- International collaboration
- Broadens scope for potential research projects, partners, and funding

For CIC Institutions:

- Increased visibility in Africa
- Enhanced opportunities for partnerships and recruiting

What will be achieved?



For the Parks:

- Public education and outreach
- Benefits of research & service projects
- Improved park-community relations



For the Communities:

- Improvements in health; education; food, water and energy security; poverty reduction; sense of ownership & capacity development (co-management); and more

Benefits to students:

Multi-disciplinary, immersive, hands-on learning experience

Integrates theory, practice, service and research

The background of the slide features a silhouette of a group of people standing on a hill or field, looking out over a sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a warm, golden glow that silhouettes the figures. The people are in various poses, some standing and some sitting, suggesting a collaborative and reflective environment. The overall mood is one of unity and shared experience.

Collaborative work across cultural and linguistic boundaries promotes global competency, exposure to major challenges, leadership and teamwork