

Jessica Achberger

Southern African Institute for Policy and Research
 P.O. Box 36634 | Lusaka | Zambia
 jessica.achberger@saipar.org
 Cell: +260 973 707 729 | Worldwide Roaming: +1 239 344 9294

Education

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| 2016 (expected) | Florida State University , Masters in Library and Information Science (Information Leadership Certificate) |
| 2012 | University of Texas Austin , Doctor of Philosophy in History
“Forward with the nation: Zambia, China, and the West, 1960-1970”
Adviser: Toyin Falola |
| 2010 | University of Texas Austin , Master of Arts in History
“Strategic self-depreciation: The development of communist China’s foreign policy towards Africa, 1965-1964” Adviser: Toyin Falola |
| 2007 | University of Central Florida , Bachelor of Arts in History with Honors
“A legacy of instability: Western influences on the Democratic Republic of Congo” Adviser: Ezekiel Walker |
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Selected Professional Experience

Senior Research Fellow / Associate Director of Research and Programmes

Southern African Institute for Policy and Research

July 2013 – Present / July 2013 – July 2015

Develop, manage, and promote projects related to information preservation, access, and usage. Conceptualized, funded, and executed the development of the Economic Policy Resource Centre on the DuraSpace system using Dublin Core metadata standards. Developed the SAIPAR website on a private server; created technical, publication, and web/social media guidelines; and established the Occasional Papers’ Series, Research Guides, and Capacity Building Programme. Founder of the SAIPAR Research Reflection Workshop Series and local organizer for numerous workshops and conferences. Facilitator and mentor for the Cornell Summer Programme and the Affiliation Programme, as well as mentorship for writing workshops held in conjunction with the *Journal of Southern African Studies*. Current committees include the Affiliation Committee, Internship Committee, Lameck Goma Annual Lecture Committee (Chairperson: Organising Committee), and board membership for the *Zambia Social Science Journal* and the *Southern African Journal for Policy and Development*.

Cataloging/Digitization Consultant**Various**

June 2014 – Present

Specialization in working with endangered collections in Southern Africa. Specific projects include collaboration with the National Archives of Zambia as a historical and technical consultant, including past curatorial work on the exhibition “50 Years of Zambian Heroes” and the current digitizing and streamlining of finding aids. Adviser for the development of digital library projects using DuraSpace and Dublin Core metadata standards with the Zambia Governance Foundation and the Centre for Applied Social Sciences at the University of Zimbabwe. Unique local language cataloging and digitization program development and training for endangered manuscripts with the Zambian Heritage Library. Catalog training for Lubuto Library Partners.

Reviewer and Mentor**Social Science Research Council (SSRC)**

December 2014 – Present

Reviewer for the Next Generation of Social Scientists in Africa Program. Mentor for PhD fellows in the proposal writing stage, including continued remote mentorship after in-person workshops.

Supplemental Instructor/Teaching Assistant**University of Texas Austin, History Department**

September 2009 – December 2010

Teaching assistant for Modern Africa and East Asia to 1800. Supplemental Instructor and teaching assistant for U.S. History from 1895. Guest lectured for a variety of courses on Africa.

Assistant Archivist/Student Assistant**Special Collections and University Archives, University of Central Florida**

May 2006 – August 2007

Assisted the University Archivist and Senior Archivist in cataloging, arranging and describing materials, and creating EAD encoded finding aids. Assisted patrons in the reading room and aided in rare book and book art preservation exercises.

Recent Publications

2016 “Imagining Development, Confronting Reality: Domestic and International Constraints on Zambia’s First and Second National Development Plans,” with Erin Hern, *Under Review*.

- 2015 “Natural Resource Extraction and Inclusive Development (Zambia Case Study)”, co-author with Marja Hinfelaar. *Effective States and Inclusive Development*, University of Manchester.
- 2014 “Peace in a Time of War: Zambian Economic Development in the Cold War,” *Peripheries of the Cold War*, edited by Frank Jacob, vol. 3 of the series, *Comparative Studies from a Global Perspective*.
- 2013 *The Political Economy of Development and Underdevelopment in Africa*. New York: Routledge, 2013. Edited with Toyin Falola.
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Recent Conference and Workshop Participation

- 13 – 14 October 2016 **Endangered Archives in Eastern and Southern Africa**, Lusaka, Zambia, Presenting: The preservation of endangered material in Zambia: Best practices, challenges, and recommendations.
- 30 June – 1 July 2016 **4th Annual SAIPAR Reflection and Feedback Workshop**, Lusaka Africa, Presented: The digitised collection, preservation, and use of endangered archival materials: The case of the Genocide Museum of Rwanda.
- 24-26 November 2015 **Transforming Africa – Africa Transforming?**, Stellenbosch, South Africa, Presented: Everyday Encounters across Chinese agricultural value networks in Zambia.
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Professional Memberships

African Studies Association
 Association of Asian Studies in Africa
 China in Africa and Africa in China Research Network
 International Federation of Library Associations