

MIRIAM S. CHAIKEN

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Dr. Chaiken has a long career as a nutritional anthropologist, combining professional activities in academia with research and consulting in international development. She builds on nearly a decade of field research in Southeast Asia and Africa in which she has focused on a wide variety of issues, including voluntary and involuntary resettlement, agricultural development, gender equity, poverty reduction, and design of culturally sensitive health care systems. Her recent work has examined means to incorporate participatory perspectives in planning emergency humanitarian response, and programs in nutrition, and maternal and child health in the age of chronic hunger and HIV/AIDS. Her professional experiences in academia include significant institutional leadership and evaluation of academic departments, and diverse and effective teaching. She has a strong record of publication and professional presentations on topics including complex humanitarian emergencies, development and food insecurity, and methodological issues in research.

PERMANENT POSITION:

Professor and Academic Department Head (January 2009-present)
New Mexico State University

Responsibilities: Administration and management of academic program, personnel, budgets, curriculum, and scheduling. Teaching advanced undergraduate and graduate courses. Effective collaboration with senior administration. Appointee to Institutional Review Board.

EDUCATION:

Ph.D. in Anthropology (December 1983) and M.A. in Anthropology (December 1979)
University of California
Santa Barbara, California

B.A. in Anthropology (June 1977, *Magna cum Laude*)
Arizona State University
Tempe, Arizona

SELECT CONSULTING POSITIONS:

Consultant (May 2010)

International Center for Research on Women/Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Responsibilities: Assessment of gender and nutritional feasibility of plan to introduce biofortified variety of maize in Zambia for Harvest Plus

Consultant (March 2010)

International Center for Research on Women/Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Responsibilities: Assessment of gender and nutritional feasibility of plan to introduce biofortified variety of beans in Rwanda for Harvest Plus

Consultant (Summer 2009)

Save the Children - Mozambique

Responsibilities: Training national staff on use of qualitative research methods for use in food security assessments and to examine intra-household resource allocation

Consultant (Fall 2008)

World Vision International - Washington, DC

Responsibilities: prepare training manual on conducting food security assessments in areas of chronic food insecurity for World Vision global staff, publishing training guide through World Vision

Consultant (Summer 2008)

World Vision International - Washington, DC

Responsibilities: field work in Mozambique to monitor new community-based hunger early warning program, collaboration with Mozambiquan and US staff about program design, preparation of training materials on implementation of community-based early warning systems, presentation on work to forum of NGOs in Washington

Consultant (July 2007)

Hunger and Malnutrition Program, Save the Children US
Malawi Program

Responsibilities: synthesize existing project documents, site visit reports, monitoring and evaluation documents to prepare final evaluation report to donor (Melinda and Bill Gates Foundation)

Consultant (January 2007)

Hunger and Malnutrition Program, Save the Children US
Mozambique Program

Responsibilities: conduct focus group interviews to determine indigenous perceptions of wealth and poverty, identify local social safety nets and sources of vulnerability, document coping strategies for economic, health, and agronomic shocks

Consultant (June 2004)
Food Security Program, Save the Children US
Mozambique Program

Responsibilities: Conduct field assessment of conditions of household food security, intra-household resource allocation patterns, and gender patterns. Prepare report outlining indicators of food scarcity and coping behavior, indigenous knowledge patterns, and resource allocation.

Consultant (March and April 2004)
Food Security Program, Save the Children US
Ethiopia Programs

Responsibilities: Document implementation of new community-based management strategies for distribution of emergency food aid. Consult with behavioral change program in arid, pastoralist area. Prepare vignettes for publicity on impact of Liben Area food security programming.

LANGUAGES:

English-native language
Tagalog (Philippines) - good speaking and comprehension, fair writing and reading
French - fair speaking, comprehension, reading, and writing.

FIELD AND ARCHIVAL RESEARCH:

Short term research in Mozambique on issues of food security, obstacles to program participation, gender equity, and foodways for NGOs (2004 - present)

"Death of Cooking" analysis of food and cooking patterns among young adults, Pennsylvania, USA (Summer and Fall 2000)

Archival Research, Rhodes House, Oxford University and at the Royal Commonwealth Society Holdings, Cambridge University and Interviewing and Oral History with Retired Colonial Officers, in various locations in England (Summer 1995)

Archival Research in the East Africa Archives
Syracuse University, New York (July 1994)

Food Security and Household Economics
Siaya and Kakamega, Kenya (1986- 1987 and June - July 1988)

Evaluation of the Effectiveness of the Improve Your Business Programme
Ten communities in Kenya (January - June 1987)

Nutritional Surveillance and Intervention in Mbita Division, South Nyanza
South Nyanza, Kenya (August 1984 - December 1985)

Spontaneous Resettlement in a Tropical Frontier
Palawan Island, Philippines (June 1980-Dec. 1981)

SELECT HONORS AND GRANTS:

Member (2010 - 2013) Advancing Leaders Steering Committee
New Mexico State University

Panel Reviewer (2010) National Endowment for the Humanities, Bridging Cultures through
Film Proposal and Documentary film submissions

Panel Reviewer (2010) School for Advanced Research Annual Fellowships. Santa Fe, NM.

Participant (2009-2010) Advancing Leaders Mentoring Program.
New Mexico State University

Elected Member (2008-2010)
American Anthropological Association Nominations Committee

Nutritional Anthropologist of the Year (2007)
Selected by the Society for the Anthropology of Food and Nutrition

President (2004 - 2006)
Society for the Anthropology of Food and Nutrition (formerly Council on Nutritional
Anthropology)
American Anthropological Association

Elected Member (1999 - 2002) and *Chair* (2001 - 2002)
Committee on the Status of Women in Anthropology
American Anthropological Association
Washington, DC

SELECT REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS:

(in press) Book Review of *Uncertain Tastes: Memory and the Politics of Eating among the Samburu, Northern Kenya*. By Jon Holtzman. University of California Press. To appear in *Journal of Anthropological Research*.

2010 *No Heads, No Feet, No Monkeys, No Dogs: The Evolution of Personal Food Taboos*. In *Adventures in Eating: Anthropological Tales of Dining Around the World*. Helen Haines and Clare Sammels, eds. Boulder: University of Colorado Press

2010 *Edibles and Ethnic Boundaries, Globalization and Guinea Pigs*. In *Adventures in Eating: Anthropological Tales of Dining Around the World*. Helen Haines and Clare Sammels, eds. Boulder: University of Colorado Press

2010 Book Review of *Bush Wives: Women's Lives through War and Peace in Sierra Leone*. by Chris Coulter (Cornell University Press). IN *Current Anthropology*. Volume 51, Issue 4, Page 566-568, Aug 2010

2010 Two photographs of African children, to appear in the Brookings, South Dakota Children's Museum (June 2010)

2009 Miriam S. Chaiken, J. Richard Dixon, Colette Powers and Erica Wetzler. *Asking the Right Questions: Community-Based Strategies to Combat Hunger*. National Association for the Practice of Anthropology Bulletin No. 32. The Global Food Crisis: New Insights into an Age-old Problem. David Himmelgreen, Editor.

2008 *Understanding and Implementing Community-based Early Warning Systems in the Context of Title II Programming*. A training guide for field staff. World Vision International: Washington, DC.

2008 A Practical Guide for Food Security Assessment: Learning the Critical Information to Prepare Effective Programming for Title II. Food Aid Projects A training guide for field staff. World Vision International: Washington, DC.

2008 Miriam S. Chaiken and J. Richard Dixon. Asking the Right Questions: Use of Qualitative Methods in Assessment of Food Security. In Specialized Programming and New Knowledge Development Newsletter. Washington, DC: World Vision International, Institutional Capacity Building Division

2008. Book Review. *Broccoli and Desire: Global Connections and Maya Struggles in Postwar Guatemala*. Edward F. Fischer and Peter Benson. Stanford University Press. Society for the Anthropology of Food and Nutrition. Published electronically at <http://www.nutritionalanthro.org/bookreviews.php>

2007 Barrett Brenton, Miriam S. Chaiken, and Leslie Sue Lieberman, eds. *Special Issue Tribute to Christine Shearer Wilson*. Part II. Ecology of Food and Nutrition. Volume 46, Numbers 5-6 (September - December) [includes an introductory chapter that I authored]

2007 *Agricultural Livelihoods and Nutritional Support to Drought Affected Populations in Mangochi, Malawi*. Final Project Report for The Melinda and Bill Gates Foundation prepared for Save the Children/US.

2007 Barrett Brenton, Miriam S. Chaiken, and Leslie Sue Lieberman, eds. *Special Issue Tribute to Christine Shearer Wilson*. Part I. Ecology of Food and Nutrition. Volume 46, Numbers 3 -4

2007 *Wealth, Inequality, Vulnerability, And Coping Strategies: Conditions of Hunger and Food Security in Nampula Province*. Consultancy Report for Save the Children/US

2007 Book Review. *Household Decisions, Gender, and Development: A Synthesis of Recent Research* Agnes. R. Quisumbing, ed. Washington, D.C.: IFPRI Publications. Culture and Agriculture 29(1): 47-48

2007 Book Review. *Grains from Grass: Aging, Gender, and Famine in Rural Africa* by Lisa Cliggett Africa Today. Vol. 53 (4): 109-110. June.

2007 Obituary: *Anja Olin-Fahle*. Anthropology News (February)

2006 Miriam S. Chaiken, Hedwig Deconinck, and Tedbabe Degeffie *The Promise of a Community Based Approach to Managing Severe Malnutrition: A Case Study from Ethiopia..* Food and Nutrition Bulletin. Vol 27, 2:95-104 [republished in 2007 in Emergency Nutrition Network FieldExchange and in Nutrition News for Africa]

2006 Book Review. *Why Some Like it Hot* by Gary Paul Nabhan. Nutritional Anthropology. Vol. 27-28, 1-2:48-49

2005 Obituary: *Christine Shearer Wilson*. Anthropology News

2004 W. Thomas Conelly and Miriam S. Chaiken "Intensive Farming, Agrodiversity and Food Security under Conditions of Extreme Population Pressure in Western Kenya" in Taking Sides: Issues in African Studies William G. Moseley, ed. McGraw-Hill/Duskin Press

SELECT PAPERS PRESENTED AT MEETINGS AND INVITED COLLOQUIA:

2010 *Community-Based Assessments of Risk and Vulnerability: Combatting Hunger in Africa with Local Knowledge*. Presented at the International Association for the Study of the Commons Meeting. Tempe, AZ

2010 *Panel Presentation: PHD Anthropologists Study the World, but MAs run it*. Presented at the Society for Applied Anthropology Meetings, Merida, Mexico

2009 *Community Based Hunger Early Warning Systems*. Presented at the Society for Applied Anthropology Meetings, Santa Fe, NM

2008 *"I have nothing else to feed them: Maternal Choices for Child Feeding in northern Mozambique*. Presented at the American Anthropological Association Meetings, San Francisco, CA

2008. *Plenty and Poverty: Addressing Food Security in the New Millennium*. Invited Public Lecture as part of the 2008-09 Public Lecture Series *The Anthropology of Food*. School for Advanced Research, Santa Fe, NM

2008 Miriam S. Chaiken and Sarah Wennogle. *The Death of Cooking among American College Students*. Presented at the Association for the Study of Food and Society meetings, New Orleans, LA

2007 "A Rose by any Other Name?: Anthropological Methods in Assessing Complex Humanitarian Emergencies." Presented at Society for Applied Anthropology meetings, Tampa, FL

2006 "Qualitative Assessment Tools" invited presentation at a workshop for international NGOs engaged in emergency humanitarian response. American University. Washington, DC

2006 “Food, Nutrition, and Policy in the News” in an invited session “A Tribute to Christine Wilson: Nutritional Anthropology, A Biocultural Approach to the Study of Human Foodways, Diet, and Nutrition” at the American Anthropological Association Meetings. San Jose, CA

2005 “Participatory Food Aid Management: The Promise of Community-Based Therapeutic Care” presented at the Society for Applied Anthropology meetings, Santa Fe, New Mexico

2005 “Famine Early Warning Systems vs. Ground Truth: Lessons from Mozambique” presented at the American Anthropological Association Meetings. Washington, DC.

MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:

American Anthropological Association
Society for Applied Anthropology (Fellow)
Society for the Anthropology of Food and Nutrition
Sigma Xi Scientific Honorary
Phi Kappa Phi Honorary

SELCECT PROFESSIONAL , UNIVERSITY AND COMMUNITY SERVICE AT NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY

Vice Chair, Institutional Review Board for the Protection of Human Subjects (2009-present)

Fulbright Candidate Review Panel (2010)

External Reviewer for Promotion, Dr. David Himmelgreen, University of South Florida (2010)

Senator, Faculty Senate (2009-10)

Member, University Affairs Committee, Faculty Senate (2009-2010)

Mentor, Advance Program to mentor junior faculty, New Mexico State University (2009-10)

Chair, Department Ad Hoc Committee to Propose Mission and Vision Statements and Annual Department Objectives (2009)

Chair, Department Standing Committee on Undergraduate Education (2009 - present)

Member, Department Standing Committee on Outcomes Assessment (2009-present)

External Tenure Reviewer for Dr. Mark Jenike, Lawrence University (2009)

External Tenure Reviewer for Dr. Kreg Ettenger, University of Southern Maine (2009)

External Preliminary Tenure Review for Dr. Satya Rao, College of Health and Human Services, NMSU (2009)

October 2010