

## Ashley Fent

1255 Bunche Hall Box 951524 Los Angeles, CA 90095-1524

Telephone: (253) 686-6081

Email: [ashleyfent@ucla.edu](mailto:ashleyfent@ucla.edu)

### EDUCATION

- 2018 (expected) **Ph. D. Geography**  
University of California, Los Angeles  
Dissertation: *Overflow: The (Un)Governability of Sea, Sediments, and Heavy Mineral Sands in Senegal*  
Committee: Eric Sheppard (Chair), Lieba Faier, Judith Carney, Akhil Gupta, Hannah Appel  
Advancement to Candidacy: January 2015  
Anticipated Filing Date: June 2018
- 2012 **M. A. Anthropology & Certificate in African Studies**  
Columbia University in the City of New York  
Thesis: *Negotiating Exchange: Instability, Reciprocity, and Food Markets in Dakar, Senegal*
- 2008 **B. A. Geography, summa cum laude**  
University of Washington, Seattle

### FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

- 2017 Dissertation Year Fellowship, UCLA (\$20,000)
- 2017 Collegium of University Teaching Fellowship, UCLA
- 2016 Lemelson Grant for Innovative Digital Projects in Social Research, UCLA (\$30,000)
- 2015 Social Science Research Council International Dissertation Research Fellowship (\$9,600)
- 2014 Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad (\$31,081)
- 2013 Graduate Research Mentorship, UCLA (\$20,000, plus tuition and fees)
- 2013 APCG Larry Ford Fieldwork Scholarship in Cultural Geography (\$500)
- 2012 Graduate Dean's Scholar Award, UCLA (\$14,500)
- 2012—present University Graduate Fellowship, UCLA
- 2011 Foreign Language and Area Studies Summer Fellowship in Wolof (\$3,000)

### AWARDS

- 2017 Department of Geography Teaching Assistant Award (\$250)
- 2016 Association of Pacific Coast Geographers Tom McKnight and Joan Clemons Award for Outstanding Student Paper (\$500)
- 2015 Society of Woman Geographers Award (\$4,000)
- 2008 National Council for Geographic Education/Association of American Geographers Excellence in Scholarship Award
- 2008 Phi Beta Kappa
- 2008 Outstanding Contribution to Service Learning Award, University of Washington

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Extractive industry, political ecology, critical development studies, resource materiality, conservation, feminist and postcolonial theory, West Africa

## PUBLICATIONS

- Forthcoming Fent, A., Bardou, R., Carney, J. & Cavanaugh, K. Protected Forests, Plundered Forests: Environmental Governance of Mangroves across The Gambia's Borders with Senegal. In Saine, A., Ceesay, E., and Sall, E. (Eds.) *The Gambia: Perspectives on Contemporary Issues and Future Directions: 1965 – 2015*. Dakar: CODESRIA.
- Forthcoming Fent, A. Dreams of Eco-Dictatorship: Senegalese Democracy in the Age of Environmental Crisis. *Ufahamu: A Journal of African Studies*.
- Under Review Fent, A. Governing Alongside: Lateral State Spatiality and Unmet Expectations in Senegalese Mining Negotiations. Under review by *American Ethnologist*. (Submitted August 2017).
- In preparation Fent, A. "The Sea Will Crush Us" (*La mer va nous défoncer*): The Oppositional Life of an Environmental Impact Statement in a Senegalese Mining Controversy. In preparation for submission to *Antipode*. (October 2017).
- In preparation Fent, A. Economic and Ecological Dimensions of Women's Involvement in Commercial Trade in Baobab Leaves in Ségou, Mali. In preparation for submission to *Development and Change*. (December 2017).
- 2012 Fent, A. Philanthropy and Sovereignty: A Critical Feminist Exploration of the Gates Foundation's Approach to Gender and Agricultural Development. *Association of Concerned Africa Scholars Bulletin*, 88: 4-10.
- 2011 Fent, A. Gendering the Development Subject: A Critical Feminist Exploration of the Gates Foundation's Approach to Gender and Agricultural Development. *Praxis* 23(2): 1-12.

## SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2017 "The Sea Will Crush Us" (*La mer va nous défoncer*): The Oppositional Life of an Environmental Impact Statement in a Senegalese Mining Controversy  
Paper presentation at Political Sociology Graduate Student Conference, UCLA (May 5) & Society of Woman Geographers Triennial, Asilomar, CA (May 27)
- 2017 The "Affected Public" Effect: Scaling Resistance to a Mining Venture in Casamance, Senegal  
Paper presentation at Going Global Graduate Student Conference, UCLA (April 21)
- 2017 Dialogical Territoriality: State Logics of Accessibility, Kinship, and Accompaniment in the Mining Negotiations, Senegal  
Paper presentation at AAG Annual Meeting, Boston, MA (April 5-9)
- 2016 The Anti-Mine Mafia: Consent as Corruption in a Mining Controversy  
Paper presentation at African Studies Association Annual Meeting,

- Washington, D.C. (December 1-3)
- 2016 Visualizing the Socio-Economic Benefits of Mangroves in Senegal and The Gambia  
Poster presentation at Institute of the Environment and Sustainability, UCLA (October 19)
- 2016 The Politics of Defining the “Population” in the Niararang Mine Debate, Senegal  
Paper presentation at APCG Annual Meeting, Portland, OR (October 5-8)
- 2016 Lines in the Sand: Scale and Separation in a Mining Controversy in Casamance Paper presentation at AAG Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA (March 29—April 2)

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

- 2017 Teaching Fellow  
TA: Geography 3 Cultural Geography (Fall 2017)  
Instructor: Geography 135 African Ecology and Development (Summer Session A)  
Instructor: Global Studies 1 Introduction to Global Studies (Summer Session C)  
TA: Geography 3 Cultural Geography, Academic Advancement Program Freshman Student Program (Summer Session C)
- 2016—2017 Teaching Associate  
GE Cluster M1A-C Food: A Lens for Environment and Sustainability, UCLA (Fall 2016, Winter 2017, Spring 2017)
- 2015—2016 Teaching Assistant  
Geography 4 Globalization: Regional Development and World Economy, UCLA (Winter 2015, Spring 2016)
- 2014 Teaching Assistant  
Geography 132 Food and Environment, UCLA (Fall 2014)
- 2013—2014 Grader  
Geography 159C Food, Culture, and Environment, UCLA (Winter 2013, Winter 2014, Spring 2014)
- 2013 Grader  
Geography 141 Uneven Development Geographies, UCLA (Spring 2013, Fall 2013)
- 2013 Grader  
Anthropology 133F Anthropology of Food, UCLA (Winter 2013)

### **TEACHING INTERESTS**

Critical development studies, environment and society, food, extractive industries, environmental justice, cultural geography, community-based research

## **OTHER PAID AND VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE**

June—Aug 2012 Classroom Assistant  
Newcomer School Readiness Program of the International Rescue Committee—Tukwila, WA

Sept 2011—June 2012 English Tutor  
African Services Committee—New York, NY

Sept 2011—June 2012 Office Assistant  
Institute of African Studies, Columbia University—New York, NY

Sept 2009—Apr 2010 Assistant ESOL Teacher  
Refugee Women’s Alliance—Seattle, WA

Feb 2007—Aug 2010 Steering Committee Member & AGRA Watch Co-Chair  
Community Alliance for Global Justice—Seattle, WA

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

2016—present Centre de Suivi Ecologique, Dakar

2014—present West Africa Research Center, Dakar

2013—present Society of Woman Geographers

2013—present Association of Pacific Coast Geographers

2012—present American Association of Geographers

2011—present African Studies Association

2012—2013 International Association for Feminist Economics

## **DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE**

2016—present Geography Graduate Student Association (GGSA) Union Representative

2016—2017 GGSA Diversity and Inclusivity Working Group

2013—2014 GGSA Vice-President

## **FIELD EXPERIENCES**

Aug—Sept 2016 Dakar, Toubacouta, Foundiougne, Ziguinchor, Niafarang, & Abéné (Senegal); Banjul & Kartong (The Gambia)

Mar 2015—Mar 2016 Dakar, Ziguinchor, Niafarang, Abéné, & Kabadio (Senegal); Kartong & Sanyang (The Gambia); Varela (Guinea-Bissau)

July—Sept 2014 Dakar, Toubacouta, Ziguinchor, & Abéné (Senegal)

Aug 2011 Bamako & Ségou (Mali)

July 2011 Dakar & Toubacouta (Senegal)

June—July 2011 Dakar (Senegal)

June 2009 Accra & Bolgatanga (Ghana); Lomé & Sokodé (Togo)

Jan—May 2009 Thiès (Senegal)

**LANGUAGES**

English (*native*), French (*full professional proficiency*), Wolof (*full professional proficiency*), Mandinka (*conversational*), Jola-Fogny & Jola-Karonne (*conversational*), Portuguese (*conversational*)

**RESEARCH SKILLS**

Qualitative methods, ethnographic methods, Geographic Information Systems (*basic*), remote sensing (*basic*)

**REFERENCES**

Eric Sheppard (Doctoral Committee Chair)  
Professor, Department of Geography  
(310) 825-1912  
[esheppard@geog.ucla.edu](mailto:esheppard@geog.ucla.edu)

Judith Carney  
Professor, Department of Geography  
(310) 825-1216  
[carney@geog.ucla.edu](mailto:carney@geog.ucla.edu)

Lieba Faier  
Associate Professor, Department of Geography  
(310) 825-3525  
[lfaier@geog.ucla.edu](mailto:lfaier@geog.ucla.edu)