

Forrest Stagner
The Pennsylvania State University
fws11@psu.edu
<https://forreststagner.com>

EDUCATION

2023

PhD, Rural Sociology/International Agriculture & Development (dual-title), The Pennsylvania State University

- Dissertation: Shifting smallholder livestock ownership for climate change resilience in Sub-Saharan Africa

2012

Master of International Studies, North Carolina State University

- Capstone: The effect of microfinance and the informal economy on governance in developing countries

2010

B.A., Political Science, North Carolina State University

- Minors in Philosophy and Russian Studies

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

- Morris, C., **Stagner, F.**, Arbuckle, J., Montabon, F., Helbing, M., Hinrichs, C., & Fowler., L. (2025). Growing gas? Stakeholder perspectives on divergent models of biogas production. *Energy Research and Social Science*, 127. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.erss.2025.104255>
- **Stagner, F.** (2025). Effects of temperature and precipitation stress on livestock ownership in Sub-Saharan Africa. *Journal of Agriculture and Environment for International Development*, 119(1): 303-326. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.36253/jaeid-16776>
- **Stagner, F.** & Mulundano, J. (2024). Toward a critical theory of social-ecological resilience: Maize and cattle in Southern Province, Zambia. *Ambio*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13280-024-02013-8>
- Korkut, E., Helbing, M. D., Fowler, L., Schulte, L.A., Arbuckle, J.G., **Stagner, F.**, & Montabon, F. (2023). The regulatory landscape of livestock anaerobic digesters and renewable natural gas (RNG). *Journal of Animal and Environmental Law*, 15(1).
- **Stagner, F.** (2023). Climate change effects on socio-demographic outcomes as mediated by bride price practices: A review. *Human Ecology*, 51(6). DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10745-023-00470-5>
- Lindemann, J., Alter, T., **Stagner, F.**, Palacios, E., Banuna, L., & Muldoon, M. (2022). “Building urban community resilience through university extension: Community engagement and the politics of knowledge.” *Socio-Ecological Practice Research*, 4(4), 325-337. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s42532-022-00126-6>
- Ransom, E. & **Stagner, F.** (2020). “Gender and Livestock Production.” in C. E. Sachs, K. Sexsmith, and L. Jensen (Eds.) *Routledge Handbook of Gender and Agriculture*. Routledge.

TECHNICAL REPORTS AND PROCEEDINGS

- **Stagner, F.**, Akingbasote, M., Ciolkosz, D., Cook, V... & Schulte Moore, L. (2024). Responses to Outstanding Stakeholder Questions. Consortium for Cultivating Human And Naturally reGenerative Enterprises (C-CHANGE) Grass2Gas. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.31274/usp-20240717-0>

- Morris, C., **Stagner, F.**, & Arbuckle, J. (2024). Proceedings Summary Report: National Stakeholder Workshop. Consortium for Cultivating Human And Naturally reGenerative Enterprises (C-CHANGE) Grass2Gas. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.31274/usp-20240523-0>
- **Stagner, F.**, Morris, C., & Arbuckle, J. (2023). Proceedings Summary Report: Pennsylvania Stakeholder Workshop. Consortium for Cultivating Human And Naturally reGenerative Enterprises (C-CHANGE) Grass2Gas. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.31274/dr-20240131-0>
- Morris, C., **Stagner, F.**, & Arbuckle, J. (2023). Proceedings Summary Report: Iowa Stakeholder Workshop. Consortium for Cultivating Human And Naturally reGenerative Enterprises (C-CHANGE) Grass2Gas. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.31274/dr-20240131-1>

MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS

- **Stagner, F.**, Morris, C., Helbing, M., Montabon, F., Costello, C., & Fowler, L. (Forthcoming). Bioproduct policy: An overview and case study of farm-based biogas production in the United States. In B.R. Vijayendran (Ed.) *BioProducts: Green materials for an emerging circular and sustainable economy*, 2nd Ed. De Gruyter Brill.

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Rural Sociological Society Dissertation Award (2020) - \$4,500
- Paul D. Coverdell Fellowship, Penn State College of Agricultural Sciences (2019) - \$5,000

PROFESSIONAL TRAININGS

- Sustainability Consulting Certificate, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (2025)
- Fundamentals of GIS Certificate, Coursera (2024)
- Certification received through Quality Matters workshop on teaching online college courses (2023)
- Certification received through course in college teaching at the Pennsylvania State University's Schreyer Institute for Teaching Excellence (2022)
- Workshop in anti-racism pedagogy led by Durham, NC-based nonprofit "We Are" (2018)

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

- **Forrest Stagner** et al. August 2025. On-farm anaerobic digestion in the media. A quantitative content analysis of media sentiment, 1979-2023. Annual meeting of the Rural Sociological Society. Salt Lake City, UT.
- **Forrest Stagner** et al. July 2024. Grass to gas? Multi-stakeholder perspectives on the development of a grass-based biogas production value chain. Annual meeting of the Rural Sociological Society. Madison, WI.
- **Forrest Stagner** et al. June 2024. C-CHANGE Grass2Gas: Stakeholder Questions. Penn State Extension webinar. https://psu.mediaspace.kaltura.com/media/C-CHANGE/1_gl08ckuc
- **Forrest Stagner** et al. November 2023. On-farm anaerobic digestion in the media. Anaerobic Digestion on the Farm Conference. Ames, IA.
- **Forrest Stagner** et al. June 2023. Establishing the legitimacy of "Grass-to-Gas": Preliminary findings from a national-level workshop. International Symposium on Sustainable Systems and Technology Conference, Fort Collins, CO.
- **Forrest Stagner**. June 2023. Our wealth is maize and cattle: Toward a critical theory of socio-ecological resilience. Annual meeting of the Agriculture, Food, and Human Values Society, Boston, MA.
- **Forrest Stagner** et al. May 2023. Technology legitimacy in energy transitions: Grass-to-Gas. Climate Solutions Symposium. The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA. (poster session)

- **Forrest Stagner**. March 2022. The effects of climate stress on livestock ownership in sub-Saharan Africa. 37th Annual Graduate Exhibition. The Pennsylvania State University (virtual).
- **Forrest Stagner**. February 2022. The effects of climate stress on livestock ownership in sub-Saharan Africa. Departmental presentation. The Pennsylvania State University (virtual).
- **Forrest Stagner**. March 2021. Edible insects for sustainable futures: Assessing the evidence. Feast Down East local food conference (virtual).
- **Forrest Stagner**. November 2019. Insects as animal feed in the circular economy. 7th Annual Rural Studies Conference. The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania.
- **Forrest Stagner**. November 2019. White boys in Zambia: Navigating morality and representation in development research. Departmental presentation. The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania.
- **Forrest Stagner** and Elizabeth Ransom. August 2019. Gender and livestock production in sub-Saharan Africa. Annual meeting of the Rural Sociological Society. Richmond, Virginia
- Clare Hinrichs and **Forrest Stagner**. August 2019. Edible insect imaginaries and the future of food systems in a hot, hungry world. Annual meeting of the Rural Sociological Society. Richmond, Virginia.

RESEARCH APPOINTMENTS

August 2023 – Present

Postdoctoral Scholar, C-CHANGE, The Pennsylvania State University
University Park, Pennsylvania

- Conducting interviews and facilitating workshops for the Grass2Gas project
- Researching and writing papers for publication
- Presenting research via posters, webinars, and oral presentations at academic and professional conferences

June 2022 – August 2022

Intern, COLANDS Project of the Center for International Forestry Research
Kalomo, Zambia

- Conducted community resource mapping exercises and semi-structured interviews with community members and government officers to inform landscape and natural resource management in Kalomo District, Zambia

January 2019 – August 2023

Graduate Research Assistant, The Pennsylvania State University
University Park, Pennsylvania

- Conducted research for use in literature and systematic reviews
- Contributed to research and writing for grant applications
- Created interview guides, conducted interviews, analyzed data, and presented findings for the USDA-NIFA funded Grass2Gas project

TEACHING APPOINTMENTS

August 2024 – Present

Adjunct Professor of Anthropology & Sociology, The Pennsylvania State University – Altoona
Altoona, Pennsylvania

- Teaching and developing course materials for undergraduate courses (Social Problems, Cultural Anthropology, Biological Anthropology)
- 2:2 teaching load

August 2023 – December 2023

Adjunct Professor of Sociology, The University of Southern Mississippi
Hattiesburg, Mississippi (remote)

- Taught an asynchronous, online undergraduate course (Social Problems) to 50 students
- Developed course materials including lectures and guided notes

August 2018 – December 2018

Graduate Teaching Assistant, The Pennsylvania State University
University Park, PA

- Teaching assistant for writing-intensive undergraduate course in environmental sociology. Responsibilities included guest lecturing, facilitating in-class activities, and grading papers.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

August 2017 – July 2018

Americorps Service Member, FoodCorps
Laurinburg, North Carolina

- Connected 130 students in two schools in low-income, rural areas to healthy food through weekly hands-on classroom lessons, garden-based lessons, and taste tests
- Built and maintained school gardens

August 2016 – July 2017

Teacher Trainer, Peace Corps Response
Makeni, Sierra Leone

- Lectured in education, communication, and international studies at the University of Makeni
- Assisted in redesigning the communications curriculum to better meet the academic and professional needs of university students

March 2016 – August 2016

Educator at Heifer Farm, Heifer Project International
Rutland, Massachusetts

- Led educational programs for youth and adults about hunger, poverty, culture, and sustainable agriculture
- Performed routine farm work

June 2013 – August 2015

Education Volunteer, Peace Corps
Luapula Province, Zambia

- Taught English in a rural school for grades 8 and 10
- Conducted workshops for teachers and Peace Corps Volunteers in English language instruction, gender-based violence, and child-friendly schools
- Gathered survey data on insecticide-treated bed net longevity
- Constructed a school garden and led a youth gardening club to explore principles of permaculture and environmental sustainability
- Obtained conversational proficiency in local language, IciBemba