

# THE ENGAGED SCHOLAR *Speaker Series*

**NCSUE**  
NATIONAL COLLABORATIVE FOR THE  
STUDY OF UNIVERSITY ENGAGEMENT

**Wednesday, May 5, 2010**

*Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center  
Michigan State University*

**10:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon • Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center • Heritage Room**

Issues of

## **Engaged Scholarship in South Africa** with particular reference to university-civil society research relationships



### **David Cooper**

**Head of Sociology Department  
University of Cape Town, South Africa**

Dr. Cooper's presentation will consider issues of engaged scholarship, utilizing some of the concepts developed at Michigan State University in recent years. His empirical focus, linked to his current research as a Fulbright New Century Scholar, will be on certain case studies at South African universities which he is examining, past and present. As a sociologist, he will refer in particular to the idea of "organic public sociologists," which the president of the American Sociological Association introduced in 2004.



Dr. David M. Cooper has been in the Sociology Department of the University of Cape Town in South Africa since 1981 and has served as head of the department since 2005. Currently he is a Fulbright New Century Scholar (2009-2010) under the theme, "The University as Innovation Driver and Knowledge Centre."

Prior to his appointment at Cape Town Dr. Cooper undertook a nationwide migration study for the Central Statistics Office of Botswana (1978-1980). While undertaking postgraduate studies in Britain, he was also a tutor (1973-1975) and research associate (1976-1977) in sociology at the University of Birmingham and before that a high school physics teacher at Kensington High School, Cape Town (1971-1972). He received his Ph.D. in sociology from the University of Birmingham (1982) and a bachelor's in electrical engineering from University of Cape Town (1970).

Dr. Cooper's forthcoming book is titled, *The University in Development: The Role of Use-Inspired Research* (case studies of research centers and units at universities of the Western Cape). Recent publications include also several journal articles and book chapters.

In addition to his current Fulbright award, Dr. Cooper's funded research has included projects on research groupings at higher education institutions (2000-2004), student and staff trends at South African universities (1988-1998), research program enhancement at historically Black universities (1994-1997), and comparative labour union movements in Western Europe and South Africa (1986-1990).

**! Please register by Monday, May 3, 2010 online at:  
[outreach.msu.edu/events/cooper](http://outreach.msu.edu/events/cooper)**

This event is free and open to the public. Seating is limited.

Michigan State University is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services, and activities. Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested as part of the registration by May 3, 2010. Requests received after this date will be honored whenever possible.

**Web: [ncsue.msu.edu](http://ncsue.msu.edu)**

**E-mail: [ncsue@msu.edu](mailto:ncsue@msu.edu) • Phone: (517) 353-8977**

This NCSUE event is **co-sponsored** by:

- Global Institute for Higher Education
- MSU African Studies Center
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