

Fabián Espinosa Almeida

EDUCATION

UCSC University of California, Santa Cruz

Masters of Arts with Distinction in Anthropology, June 1993

Dissertation Title: *Chigatsu'afoe poenga – Cofan Mythology and Cultural Survival in Zabalo and Chandia'naen, Cuyabeno Wildlife Reserve, Ecuador*

UCSC University of California, Santa Cruz

Bachelor of Arts with Distinction in Anthropology, minor Marine Biology, June 1989

Universidad Católica del Ecuador, Quito

One term, Cultural Anthropology, June 1983

Lester B. Pearson College of the Pacific, Victoria, B.C., Canada

International Baccalaureate with Distinction in Anthropology and Marine Biology, June 1978

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Academic Director

August 1999 - currently

SIT Study Abroad

- Responsible for curriculum design, management, and delivery of academic program Ecuador Culture and Development.

Lecturer

June 2015 – currently

University of Pennsylvania

- Current Affairs in Ecuador

ISP Advisor and Lecturer

November 1997 – April 1999

SIT Study Abroad

- Independent Study Project Advisor on Indigenous Cultures of Ecuador, Archeology and Environmental Issues. Lecturer on Amazonian Ethno-History, Pre-Columbian and Natural History of Ecuador.

Freelance Naturalist Guide and Cultural Interpreter

April 1992 – May 1999

- Responsible for leading specialized programs in bird-watching, natural history, archeology, and traditional indigenous medicine in Ecuador.

Advisor to the President of Ecuador

August 1994 – August 1996

- Advisor to the President of Ecuador, Sixto Durán Ballén, on Indigenous and Environmental Affairs. Participated in peace negotiations with Peru and promoted bi-national integration projects. Facilitated the reunification of indigenous Shuar, Achuar, Shiwiar, and Kichwa families and communities after 50 years of border

disputes. Developed a project for the establishment of ecological reserves in the region.

Executive Director and Researcher February 1991 – March 1992
Ethnographic Museum, Cuyabeno Wildlife Reserve, Ecuador

- Responsible for design and implementation of ethnographic museum. Developed interpretive framework and trained indigenous guides.

Director of Communication and Information January 1990 – March 1991
Charles Darwin Research Station, Galapagos Islands, Ecuador

- Developed communication and information strategies in order to convey the institutional objectives of conservation, environmental education, and resource management. Responsible for welcoming visitors at the Interpretation Center, in addition to conducting sessions on Natural History and Human Ecology.

CONSULTANCIES AND ASSOCIATIONS

Curriculum and Program Consultant March 2006 – currently
Pluriversidad Intercultural Amawtay Wasi, Quito, Ecuador. Instituto Científico de Culturas Indígenas Amawtay Runakunapak Yachay ICCI ARY, Quito, Ecuador

- Participated in program development for the first indigenous university in Ecuador, associated to CONAIE, Ecuador's leading indigenous political organization. Developed fund raising strategies and alliances with higher education institutions in country and abroad.

Political Consultant and Associate May 2003 – currently
Movimiento Pachakutik, Ruptura 25, Participación Ciudadana

- Participated, assisted and led workshops, educational conferences and public debates on Democracy, Political Reform, Constituent Assembly, Human Rights, Intercultural Bilingual Education, Environmental Conservation and Alternatives to Development

PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

“El extractivismo como negación del Sumak Kawsay.” Latin American Congress on Political Ecology. Universidad de Chile, Facultad de Arquitectura, Santiago de Chile, October 2014.

“La construcción del Estado Plurinacional.” International Conference on Sumak Kawsay and Interculturalism in Latin America. Universidad de Otavalo, Imbabura, Ecuador, July 2014

“The Feminization of HIV: Patriarchy as a Threat to Public Health in Ecuador.” Fostering Multicultural Competence and Global Justice: An SIT Faculty Symposium, Brattleboro, Vermont, August 2010.

“*Reclaiming Sovereignty: An Attempt to Decolonize the Ecuadorian State.*” SIT Study Abroad. Conference on Identity, Arts, and Multiculturalism, Accra, Ghana, August 2008.

“*Ejerciendo poder a través de la educación intercultural bilingüe.*” *Exercising Power Through Bilingual Intercultural Education.* Organización de los Pueblos Indígenas de Pastaza (OPIP), Puyo, Ecuador, July 2007.

“*La política del conocimiento y saberes ancestrales indígenas.*” *The Politics of Knowledge and Ancient Indigenous Wisdom.* Universidad Intercultural Amawtay Wasi, Quito, Ecuador, January 2007.

“*Social Movements in Ecuador.*” EIL Ecuador, Quito, December 2006.

“*Las culturas precolombinas del Ecuador como culturas precursoras en América.*” *Pre-Columbian Cultures of Ecuador as Precursor Cultures in the Americas.* MAAC Museo de Antropología y Arte Contemporáneo, Guayaquil, Ecuador, November 2006.

Espinosa, Fabián (2005). *Runashimita yachashun. Guía para el aprendizaje de la lengua Kichwa. Guide for learning Kichwa.* Instituto Científico de Culturas Indígenas ICCI ARY. Quito, Ecuador. In press.

Espinosa, Fabián (1986). Ecuador: Tears Later. TWANAS and Revista Mujeres. University of California, Santa Cruz.

LANGUAGES

Spanish, English and Kichwa (fluent)

French, Portuguese and A'ingae (Cofan) (basic)