

ISNAD-Africa Mentorship Experience

Mentor: Dr Kirsten Davies of Macquarie University's Law School, Australia

Mentee: Harrington Chuma, National University of Science and Technology, Zimbabwe.

Topic: Exploring use of stakeholder responsibilities' sharing strategy for Human Wildlife Conflict management in Hwange District, Zimbabwe.

This short report gives an account of my mentorship experience under the Mentoring for Research Programme (MRP) 2018.

I am humbled by this amazing opportunity awarded to me by ISNAD-Africa to be part of a programme that fosters quality research among young African learners. It has been quite an interesting time doing my research under the wings of an expert in the environment and community engagement field, Dr Davies.

Dr Davies dedicated her time and expertise despite her busy schedule to my work. She found me journeying with my thesis but upon sending her my chapter 1 and 2 she was able to review by work and give me thesis writing tips that improved how my thesis was presented. Our communication was mainly through email. We had our first contact through Skype and from time to time we would discuss on skype but mainly it was email. Her email response turn around was always great such that I was able to increase the pace of writing of my thesis.

My thesis was focused on managing human wildlife conflict, Dr Davies was able to link me up with practitioners in the field to share their experiences with me broadening my knowledge on the subject matter. She went further to send me links to conferences to present my work post the ISNAD engagement period. I am still in touch with her as she assists me in publishing my work that would be my spring board to undertaking my PhD studies.

My heartfelt gratitude goes to Dr Davies for her special guidance and to the organizers of the Mentoring for Research Programme (MRP), ISNAD-Africa for their tireless efforts to make this programme a success.