

# ROBERT E. FORD, MPH, PhD

## CONTACT

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## SPECIALTY AREAS

**Cultural ecology and sustainability science:** development and area studies: focusing on Africa (see [more](#)), and Latin America (see [more](#)); human dimensions of global change (sustainability science); population-environment interactions, agroforestry and farming systems; ecosystem services in natural resource management; biodiversity conservation, climate change and adaptation, rural food security and global health.

**Regional expertise:** Sahel of West Africa, Great Lakes Region of Central Africa (Rwanda, DR Congo, Kenya, Uganda), Honduras, Belize, Nicaragua (Mosquito Coast); Haiti/DR; drylands management (Africa/US Southwest, e.g. Utah/Arizona/Nevada); environment and sustainability in coastal drylands of Abu Dhabi/UAE, Middle East.

**Research methods:** Social research methods and analysis (Rapid Rural Appraisal); participatory planning/evaluation research; GIS/remote sensing in sustainable development, e.g. Land use/Land Cover Change (LULC); coastal zone management; SDI (Spatial Data Infrastructure), agroecosystem & farming systems analysis.

## EDUCATION

<u>Institution</u>	<u>Degree</u>	<u>Date</u>
University of California Riverside, CA 92505	Ph.D. Earth Science/Geography	1982
Loma Linda University Loma Linda, CA 92350	M.P.H. Health Education	1973
Loma Linda University Loma Linda, CA 92350	M.A. Social Anthropology	1971
Pacific Union College Angwin, Ca 94508)	B.A. History & Religion	1968

## ACADEMIC and PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- **Interim Program Director, Grauer's Gorilla Landscape Conservation and Development Program** for [Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International](#) (DFGFI) Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Goma.
- **Research Professor and Advisor**, Centre for GIS and Remote Sensing Training and Research, National University of Rwanda, PO Box 212, Huye, Rwanda. Webpage: <http://www.cgisnur.org/> and Email: [geobobford@gmail.com](mailto:geobobford@gmail.com)
- **Senior Development Consultant, GPCI (Geographic Planning Collaborative, Inc.)** Running springs, CA. (freelance and semi-retired) – March to November 2008. Helped reorganize the Environment Agency (Abu

Dhabi) and design of a strategic EPI system (Environmental Performance Index); implementation of a sustainability planning system for the emirate and adaptation for use in other Arab Gulf states—part of AGEDI-II Project (Abu Dhabi Global Environmental Data Initiative)—see <http://www.ead.ae/>. AGEDI Phase 2 Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi (EAD) address: Old Municipal Public Works Building, Corner of Delma and Electra, Front Building, 4th Floor Tel: 02-6934 777 Fax: 02-681 4262

- **Professor of International Sustainable Development and Social Policy**, 2003-2008: Doctoral program in [Social Policy and Social Research](#), Department of [Social Work and Social Ecology](#) and Department of [Earth and Biological Sciences](#), [School of Science and Technology](#), [Loma Linda University](#), Loma Linda, CA 92350. Tel. 909-558-7507 Fax 909-558-0450 – consultant and specialist on biodiversity and sustainability Honduras.
- **Senior Natural Resources Planner and Policy Advisor**, 1999-2003: U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), Bureau for Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade (EGAT), Office of Natural Resources Management (NRM), **Land Resource Management Team (LRMT)**.
- **Associate Professor and Kim T. Adamson Chair**, 1994-1999. Westminster College of Salt Lake City, 1840 South 1300 East, Salt Lake City, UT 84105 (Director of International Studies).
- **Adjunct Professor**, 1994-1999. Department of Geography and Earth Resources, College of Natural Resources, Utah State University, Logan, UT 84322-5240
- **Adjunct Professor of Environmental and International Health**, 1989–2003. Loma Linda University School of Public Health, Loma Linda, CA 92350
- **Assistant Professor**, Aug. 1992 - July 1994. Utah State University, Department of Geography and Earth Resources, College of Natural Resources, Logan, UT 84322-5240
- **Associate Professor**, Sep. 1988–Aug. 1992. Brigham Young University, Department of Geography, 690, SWKT, Provo, UT 84602
- **Consultant/Contract Instructor**, Sep. 1987–Mar. 1988. Utah State University, Department of Geography and History, Logan, Utah 84320-1790
- **Academic Dean and Associate Professor**, Jan. 1984–Aug. 1987. Adventist University of Central Africa, B.P. 118, Gisenyi, Rwanda, Africa
- **Assistant Professor**, Sep. 1974–Dec. 1983. Loma Linda University, School of Public Health, Departments of Health Administration and International Health, Loma Linda, CA 92350
- **Research Associate**, Jan. 1975–Dec. 1977. Department of Soils and Environmental Sciences, University of California, Riverside, California, 92505
- **Contract Instructor in Geography**, Sep. 1973–Dec. 1975. Crafton Hills College and San Bernardino Valley College, Yucaipa/San Bernardino, CA 92355
- **Contract Instructor**, Sep. 1973–Dec. 1975. Loma Linda University, School of Arts and Sciences and the School of Health, Loma Linda & Riverside, CA 92354 / 92505

## PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIPS

- Association of American Geographers
- American Geophysical Union

## ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

Lovich, Robert E., Thomas Akre, Mason Ryan, Sofia Nunes, Gustavo Cruz, Gerardo Borgas, Norman J. Scott, Saul Flores, Wifbirth del Cid, Adan Flores, Cesar Rodriguez, Ileana R. Luque-Montes, and **Robert E. Ford**. 2010. New Herpetofaunal Records from Southern Honduras, *Herpetological Review*, 2010, 41(1), 112–115. Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles.

D. Gonzalez-Socoloske, L. D. Olivera-Gomez, and **Robert E. Ford**, 2009. Detection of free-ranging West Indian manatees *Trichechus manatus* using side-scan sonar. *Endangered Species Research*. 8:249–257. Submitted: December 5, 2008; Accepted: August 28, 2009--Proofs received from author(s): October 12, 2009.

**Robert E. Ford**, 2006. *Learning Module-ESSE21 Project: Land use/Land Cover Change: Cases of Coastal Zone Change from Mesoamerica*. USRA/NASA. URL: <http://resweb.llu.edu/rford/ESSE21/LUCCModule/>

**Robert E. Ford and Daniel Gonzalez**, 2006. *Final Report: Manatee Aerial Surveys, North Coast of Honduras - March/April 2006*. Report prepared for the United States Agency for International Development. 31pp. [English version](#) (PDF), [Spanish version](#) (PDF).

Lovich, R.E., T.S. Akre, M. J. Ryan, N.J. Scott, and **R.E. Ford**. 2006. [Censo de Herpetofauna de las areas protegidas de Cerro Guanacaure, Montana La Botija, e isla del Tigre en el sur de Honduras](#). Informe preparado para United States Agency for International Development (USAID). 40pp.

Lovich, R.E., T.S. Akre, M. J. Ryan, N.J. Scott, and **Robert E. Ford**, 2006. [Herpetofaunal survey of Cerro Guanacaure, Montaña La Botija and Isla Del Tigre protected areas in southern Honduras](#). Report prepared for the United States Agency for International Development. 33pp.

**Ford, Robert E.** 2005. *Economic Geography*, Volume 81 No. 4, October 2005, Book review: Global Change and Local Places: Estimating, Understanding, and Reducing Greenhouse Gases, by the Association of American Geographers Global Change and Local Places.

Various **Publications** edited and released for the **World Summit on Sustainable Development**—see website = **GISD (Geographic Information for Sustainable Development)** = [http://www.eis-africa.org/EIS-Africa/GISD/about.htm/document\\_view?month:int=11&year:int=2008](http://www.eis-africa.org/EIS-Africa/GISD/about.htm/document_view?month:int=11&year:int=2008)

**Online publications:** virtual fieldtrips and active-learning teaching materials can be seen from my LLU research homepage: <http://resweb.llu.edu/rford/> or from <http://geobobford.com/resource1.html>

**Ford, Robert E. and James Hipple**. 1999. *GeoSystems Today: an Interactive Casebook*. John Wiley & Sons. 93 pages. URL: <http://www.wiley.com/college/geocases/>

**James M. Hurley, James D. Proctor, and Robert E. Ford**. 1999. Collaborative Inquiry at a Distance: Using the Internet in Geography Education. *Journal of Geography*, Vol 98(3): 128-140.

**Ford, Robert E. and James Hipple**. 1999. *GeoSystems Today: an Interactive Casebook*. John Wiley & Sons. Print publication—100 pages plus Internet web-based case materials.

**Ford, Robert E.** 1998. Settlement Structure and Landscape Ecology in the Sahel: the Case of Northern Yatenga, Burkina Faso. In *Rural Settlement Structure and African Development*. Edited by Marilyn Silberfein. Boulder: Westview Press. Pp. 129-165.

**Ford, Robert E. 1998.** Settlement Structure and Landscape Ecology in Humid Tropical Rwanda. In *Rural Settlement Structure and African Development*. Edited by Marilyn Silberfein. Boulder: Westview Press. Pp. 167-205.

**Ford, Robert E. 1996.** *The Greater Salt Lake Ecosystem: An Online Learning Module and Virtual Field Trip*. URL: <http://resweb.llu.edu/rford/docs/VGD/GSLVT/index.html>

**Robert E. 1996.** Geographies of Global Change: Re-mapping the World in the Late Twentieth Century. (Book Review) IN: *Journal of Geography*. 96(6): 287-289.

**Ford, Robert E. 1996.** The Rwanda Tragedy: A Personal Reflection. *Hunger Notes*. Summer 1996. Vol. 22, (1):12-14. Brown University, World Hunger Program Special Issue.

**Ford, Robert E. 1996.** Lessons Learned from using GIS/RS and as Integrative Tool for Interdisciplinary Learning. *Proceedings of IGARS '96*. Lincoln, NE May 27-31, 1996. Presentation No. 96.0891 (Hardbound and CD-ROM versions).

**Ford, Robert E. 1995.** The Population-Environment Nexus and Vulnerability Assessment in Africa. *GeoJournal*. 35(2): 207-216.

**Ford, Robert E. 1995.** The Population-Environment Nexus and Vulnerability Assessment in Africa: Focus on Rwanda, Zaire, Kenya, Burkina Faso. In *Population/Environment Equations: Implications for Future Security*. Conference of the International Consortium for the Study of Environmental Security. 31 May - June 4, 1994 Held at Tufts University, Medford, MA, USA. pp. 13. Funded and produced by UNFPA/United Nations.

**Ford, Robert E. 1994a.** A Geographer Comments on 'Sex and the Single Planet'. *Human Ecology Forum*. Summer/Autumn (1): 240-244.

**Ford, Robert E. 1994c.** Book Review: In *Professional Geographer*. 46(1): 118-119. *Rural Livelihoods: Crises and Responses*. (edited by Harry Bernstein, Ben Crow and Hazel Johnson.)

**Ford, Robert E. 1993.** Marginal coping in extreme land pressures: Ruhengeri, Rwanda. In *Population Growth and Agricultural Change in Sub-Saharan Africa*. Edited by B.L. Turner II, Robert Kates, and Goran Hyden. Center for African Studies, University Press of Florida. Gainesville, Florida.

**Ford, Robert E. 1992.** Humans and the Sahelian environment: human-environment interaction in Sahelian north Yatenga, Burkina Faso. *Research and Exploration*. National Geographic Society. **8(4):460-475.**

**Ford, Robert E. and Valerie Hudson. 1992.** The USA and Latin America at the end of the Columbian Age: how America 'cut the Atlantic umbilical cord' in 1992. *Third World Quarterly*. Vol. 13, No.3. pp. 441-462.

**Valerie M. Hudson, Robert E. Ford, and David Pack with Eric R. Giordano. 1991.** Why the Third World matters, why Europe probably won't; the geo-economics of circumscribed engagement. *Journal of Strategic Studies*. Vol. 14(3): 255-298.

**Ford, Robert E. 1991.** Toponymic generics, environment and culture history in Pre-Independence Belize. *Names*. Vol. 39 (1):1-25.

**Ford, Robert E. 1990.** The dynamics of human-environment interactions in the tropical montane agrosystems of Rwanda: implications for economic development and environmental stability. *Mountain Research and Development*. Vol 10(1):43-63.

**Ford, Robert E. 1988.** Demographic change in Rwanda: implications for economic and ecologic stability for tropical montane agro-ecosystems. *Culture and Agriculture*. Fall:5-9.

**Ford, Robert E. 1982.** *Subsistence Farming Systems in the Semi-arid Northern Yatenga (Upper Volta)*. University of California, Riverside.

**Abbey, D.E. & Ford, R.E. 1981.** *Health Survey Methods*. Loma Linda University.

**Ford, Robert E. 1981.** *Cultural Geography, a Correspondence Course*. Home Study International.

## ACADEMIC AWARDS AND SERVICE ACTIVITIES

- Graduated with honors 1968, Pacific Union College.
- University Fellowship, Department of Anthropology, Loma Linda University, 1969-1971.
- Outstanding Young Men of America Award, 1982.
- Post-doctoral study: Indiana University, Inner Asian--Uralic National Resource Center, summer, 1982.
- Fulbright Senior Scholar, January--August 1998 at the National Autonomous University, Honduras.
- SAG Award (Special Achievement Award in GIS) at ESRI User's Conference: July 2003, San Diego, CA. See = <http://www.esri.com/library/newsletters/federal-gisconnections/fedgis-fall03.pdf> Award received for efforts managing the GISD Initiative with USAID, State Department and others ([GISD](#)).

## Grants:

- Partner on a major [MacArthur Foundation grant](#) with the [Geography Department of Trinity College Dublin](#) and their [Master's in Environment and Development](#) as well as the new [MDP \(Master's in Development Practice\)](#) coordinated by the [Columbia University Earth Institute](#) (awarded in 2009 and program started in 2010) as partner with NUR (National University of Rwanda).
- Two grants/contracts with USAID/MIRA (Honduras)--value approximately \$30,000 each (cost reimbursement) to do biodiversity surveys and assessments of the status of manatees on the North Coast as well as distribution and status of herpetofauna on the Pacific Coast in select protected areas. See reports below and project websites with links to project reports, maps, photos.
- GEOBRAIN grant (\$20,000) over two years (2006-2008) via George Mason University. Purpose to integrate into our teaching modules on remote sensing the tools from GEOBRAIN = <http://geobrain.laits.gmu.edu/index.html>
- ESSE21 grant Supplement (\$17,500) to add to existing ESSE21 grant (\$70,000) to create an online LULC/RS (Land Use/Land Cover) Remote Sensing Learning Module = <http://resweb.llu.edu/rford/ESSE21/LUCCModule/>
- College and University Earth System Science Education in the 21st Century - Sponsored by NASA through the [Universities Space Research Association](#), ESSE 21 is a collaborative undergraduate/graduate education program offering small grants to colleges and universities to engage a diverse interdisciplinary community of faculty and scientists in the development of courses, curricula and degree programs and sharing of learning resources focused on the fundamental understanding and application of Earth system principles for the classroom and laboratory. I was the project PI at Loma Linda with other Co-PIs at SPH and SST (see project website at = [http://esse21.usra.edu/ESSE21/esse21\\_lomalinda.html](http://esse21.usra.edu/ESSE21/esse21_lomalinda.html) and <http://resweb.llu.edu/rford/ESSE21/> - externally funded ((\$90,000 over two years - \$70,000 direct grant support - \$20,000 joint support from central ESSE21 funding) – Started October 1, 2004 – 2006).
- Fulbright Scholar in Honduras, January - August 1998 at the National Autonomous University of Honduras Tegucigalpa. (\$27,000).
- USRA/ESSE/NASA Grant Recipient: *Cooperative University-Based Program in Earth System Science*

*Education.* USRA/NASA ESSE project. 1995-2000--(approx. \$75,000) to carryout innovative teaching and materials production for introductory and senior-level courses in ESS (Earth System Science) using instructional technology, e.g., the World Wide Web and multimedia.

- GORE Summer Grant (1995). Westminster College of Salt Lake City (\$3500). Release time to produce material for a new course on global change. Experimentation with the use of the World-Wide-Web and other multimedia techniques for teaching earth system science.
- EPAT Project (MUCIA / USAID) set-aside grant (\$6500.00+). Participated as outside consultant to a set-aside policy analysis project through the Environmental Policy Analysis and Training Project (EPAT) dealing with the population-environment nexus in Rwanda. Was done in conjunction with Robin Barlow and Scott Grosse, Department of Population Policy and International Health, School of Public Health, University of Michigan and USAID/Washington
- Travel grant (\$700+) to participate in NSF/AAG Workshop on Global Environmental Change, Atlanta, Georgia April 5-7, 1993.
- Recipient of a research grant (\$5,100) in 1991-1992 from the David M. Kennedy Center for International Relations. For field project entitled *Human Agency and Ecological Change in a Sahelian Agropastoral System: Yatenga, Northern Burkina Faso*.
- Grant (\$10,000+) from GATE (German Appropriate Technology Exchange) to test the production of cheap building materials using pumice and lava in the Virunga Volcano region of Rwanda. Three model houses built.
- Contract to DOE/Interior. Field data collection, analysis and report writing as part of a team from Loma Linda University preparing a comprehensive health plan for the Marshall Islands. Fall 1980.
- Expedition Member to the arid lands of north and western People's Republic of China sponsored by the National Geographic Society and the Academia Sinica (summer 1979).
- Two years agropastoral field research grant studying ethno ecology (\$60,000+) and desertification in semi-arid Sahelo-Sudanian Burkina Faso. 211-D/USAID Grant (1975-78)--cooperation with ICRISAT, IITA, ORSTOM, CILSS, ENGREF.

## **Academic/Professional Service:**

### **Major Tasks (2011-13):**

- From **April - July 2012** he is carrying out a contract with the Frankfurt Zoological Society (FZS) under the EU-funded Upemba National Park Conservation Project (with a colleague who is a senior scientist for The Nature Conservancy)--Steve Schill. The contract is providing technical assistance in building GIS/Remote Sensing/GPS-based tools to support a new General management Plan that will lay the groundwork for rehabilitation of the two parks in Katanga--Upemba and Kundelungu. You can read more about the project on our BLOG or see GeoBob's Consulting and Photography page.
- From **June 2010-March 2012** Robert Ford was taking time-off to [build a home near Zion National Park \(see BLOG\)](#) and to be with family, e.g. new granddaughter. See also [MY PLACE](#) online and my [Consulting and Photography](#) business page.

### **2008-20010 Activities\*\*:**

- From January-May 2010 he assumed the temporary role of **Interim Program Director**, Grauer's Gorilla Landscape Conservation and Development Program for [Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International](#) (DFGFI)

Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). The work focused on conservation, climate/carbon/REDD project management in the Landscape 10 region i.e. the Maiko-Tayna Kahuzi-Biega and UGADEC community preserves within the [CARPE project](#). He also collaborated with the [DFGFI, Karisoke Research Center](#) (Musanze, Rwanda) on ecosystem health/community development linkages and interactions with climate adaptation, biodiversity and forest conservation as well as other global environmental change topics.

- From November 1, 2008 to December 1, 2009 Dr. Robert Ford was Adviser and Research Professor for the CGIS-NUR ([Centre for GIS and Remote Sensing Training and Research](#)), National University of Rwanda, PO Box 212, Huye, Rwanda. In that position he initiated activities focused on health information systems as well as designing new field programs focused ecosystems management and climate change in collaboration with [Trinity College/Dublin \(Ireland\)](#), and other local partners such as [Karisoke Research Center](#), [The Great Ape Trust \(Gishwati Preserve\)](#) and many others who belong to the [Albertine Rift Conservation Society \(ARCOS\)](#).
- At NUR he was also involved in the implementation of the NUR Strategic Plan process as well as in the design and implementation of various efforts within the University to create new MSC degrees focused on Conservation Science and Geoinformation Science for Sustainable Development. These activities involved collaboration with partners such as the (IDRC) International Development Research Center (<http://www.idrc.ca/>) that work with the [MVP \(Millennium Village Project-Mayange Rwanda\)](#) and [Partners in Health \(PIH\)](#) and the [University of Redlands MSGIS Program](#) and others. See, for example the following project: [INTEGRATING GIS INTO eHEALTH INITIATIVES IN AFRICA](#) project with associated wiki, presentations and [FINAL REPORT](#) with IDRC/Canada.

#### 2004-2008 Activities:

- From February-October 2008 Robert Ford was a Senior Development Consultant with GPCI (Geographic Planning Collaborative, Inc.) Running springs, CA. The GPCI team helped implement the AGEDI project (Abu Dhabi Global Environmental Data Initiative) in Abu Dhabi and reorganized the Environment Agency.
- Assisted the University of Redlands and Loma Linda University (with backing from ESRI Inc.) to plan for start of summer research activities for students in Kenya and Rwanda. Went on consulting trip in November 2007 to plan and make arrangements; collaboration with the NUR (National University of Rwanda, Center for Geographic Information Science), the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International, the Earthwatch program in Conservation Biology at NUR, support to proposed collaboration between AHI (Adventist Health International) and the MVP (Millennium Village Project) run by Columbia University Earth Institute in Rwanda, and support to the *Greenbelt Movement* in Kenya.
- Continued biodiversity assessment, management, and monitoring ([Honduras field research](#)): focus on manatee, herpetofauna, and other flagship species at key protected areas on the North Coast of Honduras ([photo gallery July 2004](#)) as well as on the Pacific Coast (Gulf of Fonseca region). See more on implementation [HERE](#) – see webpage = <http://resweb.llu.edu/rford/courses/ESSC5xx/may99.html>
- Helped launched an interdisciplinary Ph.D. program focusing on [social policy and sustainable development](#) at Loma Linda University's, [School of Science and Technology](#) see faculty page = <http://resweb.llu.edu/rford/>

**\*\*See also online = <http://geobobford.com/resource1.html>**

#### 2003 Major Tasks:

- From August 2003 - February 2008 Dr. Robert E. Ford was a Professor of International Sustainable Development and Social Policy in the Department of Social Work, School of Science and Technology, Loma Linda University, Loma Linda, CA 92350.
- Keynote Speaker: [14th Annual Virginia GIS Conference](#). Presentation: *Left vs. Right Brain GIS: Reflections on the GISD Initiative* (PDF)

- Supervise graduate students in sustainable development: Gideon Mazinga (Malawi) and George Ndzimiri (Zimbabwe) and others.
- Symposium Chair and Presenter: [American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene 52nd Annual Meeting](#), Philadelphia, PA December 3-7, 2003. Panel entitled: *Medical Information Systems and the Spatial Data Infrastructure Initiative in Africa*. Robert Ford presented summary and state-of [GISD](#) project and initiative.
- Proposal Planning and submission--Title: *Health, Environment, Livestock and People: An International Learning Community* submitted December 12, 2003 for funding by the Fulbright Educational Partnerships Program (ECE/A/S/U-04-03), [Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Department of State](#).

### 2001-2003 (USAID) Major Tasks:

- Established [Geo-IT](#) (Geographic Information Technologies) forum for [USAID](#) which helped promote use of GIS and related technologies for sustainable development within the Agency and with its partners.
- Coordinated major MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) between the US government (USAID/State Department) and the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. MOU launches partnership focused on geospatial technologies and applications-focused capacity-building and joint donor efforts in Africa and other developing countries. June 17-18, 2003 bilateral US-Italy Science and Technology consultations and signing at the U.S. Department of State with John Turner, Assistant Secretary of State and the Science Adviser to the Secretary with high-level delegation from Italy.
- CSD-11 (Commission on Sustainable Development) Partnership Fair planning and event implementation. New York City, NY April 28-May 7. Joint CEOS+GISD+ISCGM event focused on geo-information capacity-building in Africa.
- Worked on Special Initiatives such as climate adaptability, land degradation in dry lands, ICT (Information and Communications Technology) focusing on Geospatial Information Systems (GIS), sustainable tree-crops, agricultural resource management, and policy analysis for key environmental conventions, e.g. [UNCCD](#), [UNFCCC](#); he was also within USAID a co-Manager of the [RAISE Project](#) (IQC).
- Helped organize and manage two projects which were part of an IWG (Interagency Working Group) focused on the World Summit on Sustainable Development ([WSSD](#)) held in Johannesburg, South Africa, August 14 - September 7, 2002--see:
  - [GISD](#) - Geographic Information for Sustainable Development
  - [MyCOE](#) (My Community, Our Earth)
- Some partners in the GISD collaboration included: OGC (OpenGIS Consortium) NRC/NAS (National Research Council), NASA, USDA, State Department, USGS, NOAA, WRI (World Resources Institute), FAO/Africover, UNEP-DEWA in Nairobi, and many other partners within the growing GISD alliance based both in the US, Europe and in Africa. Read more about it from the documents at the [GISD](#) portal, e.g. GISD Prospectus/Overview Documents, presentations, factsheets, etc.
- As part of the GISD planning process and alliance building endeavors, Dr. Ford organized and ran three overseas workshops in Asmara, Bamako, and Nairobi (Africa)--see workshops listed under [GISD](#) portal.
- Helped plan, fund, and manage a major international conference entitled: GASSIA (Geospatial Applications in Support of Sustainable International Agriculture)--held May 19-31, 2002 at EROS Data Center (USGS) in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Read more about it at [GASSIA Workshop](#).

### 1999-2000 Major tasks:

- Help design and implement a new Hillside Agriculture Program for Haiti ([HAP Project, USAID/Haiti](#)).
- Assisted in science and policy support activities focused on soil carbon sequestration and climate change. Helped plan, design and implement a major conference in Geneva Switzerland focused on Carbon Sequestration in Developing Countries in conjunction with the WMO (World Meteorological Association), IFAD (International Fund for Agricultural Development), the UNFCC, CCD, World Bank, and [USAID](#) as well as participation with a [World Federation of Scientists](#), Permanent Monitoring Panel (PMP) on Desertification and Soil Carbon Sequestration--see symposium in [Erice, Sicily \(August 2000\)](#) which was part of a conference on [Planetary Emergencies](#).
- Promotion and liaison with the specialty coffee, cocoa and other tree-crop sectors in Latin America involved with managing the "global smallholder coffee crisis" and related market and environmental/land management problems, e.g. developing an [MOU \(Memorandum of Understanding\)](#) with the Specialty Coffee Association of America ([SCAA](#)) and collaborating with related organizations such as the Consumer's Choice Council ([CCC](#)) for promotion of socially and environmentally sustainable production within the smallholder coffee sector. See the as well as the [Conservation Principles for Coffee Production of the CCC](#) and the USAID/Peru [Conservation or "Bird-Friendly" coffee project](#) (done in collaboration with [USGS-EDC "Sustainable Tree-Crop Program"](#)) focusing particularly on Guatemala, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic in USAID/LAC Bureau.
- Management of the [RAISE IQC](#) and promotion of two thematic groups focused on sustainable ecotourism and livestock production/range management.
- Planning and implementation of a new IAA (Inter-Agency Agreement) between [USAID/EGAT/AFS](#) and [USGS-EDC](#) (see - [GASSIA Workshop](#)) focused on capacity-building within the land-grant university CRSP community ([Collaborative Research Support Programs](#)), IARCs (International Agricultural Research Centers--[CGIAR Centers](#)) who utilize geospatial technologies in analysis, monitoring and development work within agriculture and natural resource management.
- October 1999 – September 2000. Five intensive trips to Haiti and Dominican Republic to develop, plan, and select new contractors for a new \$35 million Hillside Agriculture Program that will be one of largest new agricultural development programs ever implemented by USAID. It establishes several new approaches that focus on both being environmentally friendly as well as promoting economic growth.
- May 1999 - Leader of travel-study tour and reconstruction project in areas of Honduras affected by Hurricane Mitch.
- April 1999 - Participant in IAI/ESSE Workshop on Coastal Systems - Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil. Presentation on use of the Internet and other digital resources for teaching ESS (Earth System Science) and for research on coastal zone management in Latin America. This was part of a collaborative project between ESSE and IAI (Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research), which is part of START.

### Pre-1998 Major Tasks:

- Institute of International Education/Fulbright Selection Committee Member. Central America and the Caribbean. San Francisco, December 1997 and Denver 1998.
- Fulbright Fellowship. January - August 1998 in Honduras. Teaching/Research grant worth \$26,000. Started global change research study on the Mosquito Coast.
- Organizer/host: Utah Geographical Society, 1996 Meetings. Westminster College of Salt Lake City.

- Academic advisor to the Woodrow Wilson Foundation National Leadership Program Summer Workshop on Earth / Environmental Systems. June 1997 and 1998.
- Director, International Studies, Westminster College of Salt Lake City, Utah: First occupant of the Kim T. Adamson, Chair in International Studies. Organized new courses set up annual Adamson International Lecture Series, and planned/coordinated travel-study programs.
- Department Coordinator of NASA/ESSE Project at Utah State University (1993-1994) and (1995-2000) at Westminster College of Salt Lake City. This program coordinates faculty interchange and the teaching of special honors courses in Earth System Science. Works closely with global environmental change experts from a consortium of 45+ universities and NASA/USRA.
- AGU Presentation on *Using the Internet in the Geosciences*. Washington, D.C. November 1997.
- External Committee Member, Doctoral Dissertation Defense Committee (Geography) Simon Batterbury, Graduate School of Geography, Clark University, Worcester, MA. September 12, 1997. Topic: *The political ecology of environmental management in semi-arid West Africa: case studies from the Central Plateau, Burkina Faso*.
- Participant in IAI / Initial Startup Grant Workshop, IAI—Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research in conjunction with NSF-funded planning grant given to ESSE/USRA (Earth System Science Education / University Space Research Association). Workshop held early February 1997 at San Diego State University.
- Co-organizer and trainer/mentor. Academic Technology Training Workshop at Westminster College of Salt Lake City, Utah. July 1997. Provided training on image scanning and manipulation and creation of WWW-ready educational materials.
- Participant in Evaluation Workshop and Consultant to: Project ALERT/JPL joint program in Earth System Science Education between CSU system and JPL/NASA (CETP) - Center for Excellence in Teaching Program - March 1997.
- Organizer/host: Utah Geographic Alliance, Spring Conference at Westminster College of SLC and Spring Geographic Olympiad (February and April 1997). Invited guests: Daniel Edelson, Northwestern University and Rosanne Fortner, Ohio State University. Presenters on theme of *Global Environmental Change and K-12 Education*.
- Trainer/consultant: ADRA/International in Peru, Costa Rica, and Thailand. Trainer in course entitled: *Food Security Implementation*. February - May 1997 - 10 days each location.
- Director of the new AAG/HDGCSG (Association of American Geographers, Human Dimensions of Global Change Specialty Group). April 1996 at Annual AAG meetings in Charlotte, NC. Creator and manager of the SGs homepage at: <http://www.essc.psu.edu/hdgc/> In collaboration with James Hipple of the University of Utah Department of Geography from 1996-1998 (now with University of Missouri, Columbia).
- Participant in the VGD (Virtual Geography Department). Funded by NSF and coordinated by Kenneth Foote, Department of Geography, University of Texas, Austin. Coordinator and homepage manager for the EES (Earth's Environment and Society) working group: <http://www.colorado.edu/geography/virtdept/contents.html> see - <http://resweb.llu.edu/rford/docs/VGD/EES/index.html> The goal of this project is to publish and put online high quality courseware--using active learning approaches to pedagogy--for the geography and earth science community. Participant in the first two International Geography Virtual Department Workshops: 2 - 15 June, 1996 and June 1-7, 1997 in Austin, TX
- Member of the Innovative Advisory Committee of the Thrasher Research Fund, Salt Lake City. Reviewed and

evaluated proposals (scientific and humanitarian) to fund projects focused on improving child health around the world.

- Author and Evaluator for CCG2 Project (Commission on College Geography II Project/AAG). Creating Active Learning Modules on the Human Dimensions of Global Change. Clark University (1995 - 1997). Contact: Susan Hanson, Professor, Graduate School of Geography, Clark University, Worcester, MA. Writer of portions of module entitled: *Population Growth, Energy Use, and Pollution: Understanding the Driving Forces of Global Change*. Producer of online version of module on LULC—Land Use Land Cover Change: <http://resweb.illu.edu/rford/docs/VGD/LUCC/>
- Leader-organizer of travel-study tour to Mexico and Honduras: May-term, 1995 for Westminster College of Salt Lake City. Led twelve students and three faculty members on inter-disciplinary field-oriented course entitled: *Mexico and the Mosquito Coast* (22-day trip with three-day pre-course lecture sessions).
- Regional coordinator--Utah Geographic Olympiad (Salt Lake area): Organized all-day events and competition in geography and orienteering for teams coming from over 25 middle and high schools (1995--1997). Part of the National Geographic sponsored Utah Geographic Alliance program.
- Board of Directors: Rural Development and Africa Specialty Groups of the Association of American Geographers (1988-1991).
- Corresponding Member-IGU Commission on Critical Environmental Situations and Regions (Clark Univ.).
- Organized a series of faculty workshops during spring semester 1995: *How to Use the Internet in Teaching and Research*. More than ten sessions with 30+ faculties--Nursing, Arts and Sciences, and Business.
- Keynote Speaker: Utah Geographical Society, 1995 Annual Meetings. Weber State University.
- Participant/presenter: ICSE Conference/Tufts University, Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy. Theme: *The Population-Environment Equation: Implications for Environmental Security*. June 1994.
- Expert consultant: to Africa African-American Summit, Libreville, Gabon (May 23-29, 1993). Provided counsel at special Agricultural Development Workshop and Panel.
- Board Member/Institutional Representative to ICSE (International Consortium for the Study of Environmental Security); Secretariat based at the University of Laval, Quebec, Canada. Presenter at First ICSE International Conference held at Chantilly, France January 6-9, 1993.
- Organizer/Co-Chair special Theme Panel on Enterprise for the Americas at the ISA International Annual Meetings, March 23-28, 1993.
- Workshop presenter and creator of audio-visual material for Utah Geographic Alliance special Summer Workshops on the teaching of world regional geography at Utah State University, Logan, UT (c/o Clifford Craig), Summer 1988-1994. Also for International Studies Office, State of Utah Department of Education.
- External member--Ph.D. Dissertation public-oral defense at the University of Laval, Quebec City, June 1991: dissertation presented by Paule Simard: *Travail, autonomie et développement des femmes Bambara du Manghadie (Mali)*.
- Study Tour to Mexico. Utah Geographic Alliance and National Geographic Society. Led 15 Utah teachers on first foreign study tour done by the Alliance network (July-August 1992); in conjunction with Clifford Craig, Director of Utah Geographic Alliance.

- Presenter, *Columbus Quincentennial Lecture Series*, Brigham Young University, May 21, 1992:. Topic: *The new Middle Kingdom and the End of the Age of Columbus: How America 'Cut the Atlantic Apron Strings' in 1992.*
- Travel-Study Program Leader/Loma Linda University: from 1979-1983 (each summer) organized and led groups of 10-15 medical, public health, agriculture, and anthropology graduate students on experiential training programs (4-6 weeks each period) to Southern Mexico, Guatemala, Belize, and Honduras. The purpose was to expose students to the realities of integrated rural development in Latin America.

### **Selected Community Outreach Activities:**

- Invited Plenary Speaker-- Series on Building the Knowledge Economy in Rwanda, Kigali Institute of management, September 1-2, 2009 Kigali, Rwanda. Title: *Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI): it's Role in Building the Knowledge Economy in Rwanda.*
- Invited Plenary Speaker-- Kigali Institute of Management Lecture Series. Title: *Scholarly Writing for Journal Publication.* Robert E. Ford, by Research Professor and Adviser. CGIS-NUR. Kigali, Rwanda June 4, 2009.
- May 2-4, 2008: keynote speaker at the 10<sup>th</sup> annual retreat of the San Diego Chapter of the Adventist Forum with *Spectrum Magazine*. Presentations on *Global Sustainability and Creation Care*.
- Many community activities in Honduras along with my research including at Hospital Valle de Angeles (helping rebuild a rural hospital), assisting the [Guaruma Project](#) near La Ceiba, Honduras (an environmental education project), support of post-Hurricane Mitch reconstruction activities in the Bay Islands, support of community environmental research in the Drowned Cayes of Belize, etc...([Mesoamerica projects](#)).
- Thrasher Research Fund Standing Innovative Advisory Committee Member: screen / evaluate grant proposals in area of child health, rural development, appropriate technology, nutrition (term 1992-1996).
- Board Member: Ouelessebouougou-Utah Alliance. An NGO providing rural development services in Mali in conjunction with various citizen groups in Utah (1994-1996).
- Organizer of World Food Day Teleconference: Utah State University, October 15, 1993. Participated with over 2000 institutions around world on live-call-in teleconference entitled: *Seeds of Conflict: Biodiversity and Food Security*.
- TV expert commentator/panelist on local public affairs program during Operation Restore Hope during the Somalia intervention January 1993 (Channel 4 and on Fox News--Channel 13) also on KTALK radio in Nov/Oct 1994 during Haitian crisis period.
- Organizer/planner of several development projects--Rwanda (1984-1987); information on request.

### **GRADUATE STUDENTS SUPERVISED**

- Loma Linda University, School of Science and Technology (2003-2009):

#### **Qualifying Committees:**

Gideon Mazinga - PhD doctoral dissertation committee Chair and Research Supervisor / SWSE

Eddie McField - qualifying committee--PhD / SWSE (Social Work/Social Ecology)

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Adiel Uzabakiriho - qualifying committee--PhD / SWSE (Social Work/Social Ecology)

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Tom Rossi - continuing new graduate student / SWSE (Social Work/Social Ecology)

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PhD Committee member - Rob Lovich / EBS (Earth and Biological Sciences)

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Thesis member - Marie-Lys Bacchus / EBS (Earth and Biological Sciences)

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Thesis Chair - Daniel Gonzalez / EBS (Earth and Biological Sciences)

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➤ Loma Linda University, School of Public Health:

Supervisor/manager of field projects (during period 1979-82) for students in the off-campus M.P.H. program in Middle America--supervised and visited over 75 student projects from Mexico, to Haiti and Colombia. Supervisor for three public health students who were doing a health geoinformatics field practicum in Belize and Honduras during 2006-2008.

➤ David M. Kennedy Center for International Studies, Brigham Young University:

1) Melanie Stander (1990-91). M.A. Thesis: *The Rise and Demise of Socialism in Mozambique: What Effects on Gender Relations of Production?*

2) Alan Sumnall (1990-91). M.A. Thesis: *Migration Decision Making among Children of the FMLN.*

3) Jennifer Sumerhays (1991-92). M.A. Thesis: *Perceptions of Danish Officials toward African Asylum Seekers.*

4) Bruce K. Mair (1990-91). M.A. Thesis: *Magic Beans and Golden Eggs: an Analysis of the Failure of Early Green Revolution Technology in Africa.*

5) Deborah Johnston Cogswell (1990-91). M.A. Final Paper: *The Ethics of Caring: Personal Implications of Bottom-up or Grass-Roots Development for Practitioners Serving among Populations in Developing Countries.*

Note: For three years (1989-92) I served as one of the primary advisers to students in the International Development track in the International Studies (M.A. program) David M. Kennedy Center, BYU.

➤ Utah State University, College of Natural Resources:

1) Richard van-Carpenter Adkins, M.A. student in forestry. Research on agroforestry in Samoa and other South Pacific Islands.

2) Jeffrey Creque, Range Science doctoral student. Research on historical evolution of an Intermountain Basin rangeland area in central Utah.

3) Michelle J. Hunsicker, Rural Sociology. M.A. student working on gender relations in development.

4) Lita Buttolf, doctoral student in Range Science. Study of rural agropastoral sustainability in a Bolivian Altiplano community.

5) Warren Black, M.A. student in Geography. Doing research on GIS/RS applications for rural development in the Third World.

➤ Other Universities:

1) External member, Ph.D. Dissertation public-oral defense at the University of Laval, Quebec City, June 1991: dissertation presented by Paule Simard: *Travail, autonomie et développement des femmes*

*Bambara du Manghadie (Mali).*

- 2) External member, Ph.D. Dissertation defense at Clark University Worcester, Graduate School of Geography, and MA. September 1997: dissertation by Simon Batterbury, Brunel University, UK: *Political Ecology of Environmental Management: Case Studies from the Northern Mossi Plateau, Burkina Faso.*

## ACADEMIC COURSES TAUGHT

Current teaching (see online courses) = <http://geobobford.com/resource1.html>

### Graduate:

Biodiversity and Conservation	Cultural Ecology	Remote Sensing
Geography of Development	Integrated Development	Comparative Health Systems
Population Dynamics	Planning and Evaluation	Medical Geography
Survey Research	Environment, Resources & Development Policy	

### Undergraduate:

Political Geography	Cultural Ecology
Regional Geography	Natural Resource Management
Africa	Economic Geography
East Asia (Pacific Rim)	Physical Geography
Latin America	Human (Cultural) Geography
Earth Systems and Global Environmental Change	
Methods of Modeling and Visualizing Global Change	

## SELECT PRESENTATIONS\*\*\*\*:

\*\*\*See Presentations online = <http://geobobford.com/resource1.html>

- *eHealth + GISc Activities by CGIS-NUR/Africa & Misc. Partners.* AfricaGIS October 27, 2009 Kampala/Uganda by Robert E. Ford, PhD, MPH Research Professor, CGIS-NUR and [FINAL REPORT](#) with IDRC/Canada (**AfricaGIS Presentation = [Health GIS AfricaGIS Oct 09 short.ppt](#)**).
- *Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI): it's Role in Building the Knowledge Economy in Rwanda.* Special Invited Plenary Lecture – Series on Building the Knowledge Economy in Rwanda, Kigali Institute of management, September 1-2, 2009 Kigali, Rwanda
- *Scholarly Writing for Journal Publication.* Robert E. Ford, by Research Professor and Adviser. CGIS-NUR. Kigali, Rwanda June 4, 2009. Kigali Institute of Management Lecture Series.
- *Sustainability vs. Development: Oxymoron or Ideal for Today? Contemporary Definitions, Issues, Trends, and Challenges for SDA Christians.* Pine Springs Ranch SDA Forum Keynote Speech. May 2-4, 2008: keynote speaker at the 10<sup>th</sup> annual retreat of the San Diego Chapter of the Adventist Forum with *Spectrum Magazine*. Presentations on *Global Sustainability and Creation Care*.
- *Using GIS/RS/GPS for SDI Capacity-building, PA and CZ Management in Northern Mesoamerica: The Loma Linda University's (LLU) and University of Redlands (UR) Experience. (Powerpoint).* **GSDI\_10 St. Augustine,** Trinidad. February 2008.

- [SDI for CZM, Biodiversity, and Protected Area Management: Cases from Belize and Honduras](#). GSDI-9 (Global Spatial Data Infrastructure) special ETA Workshop, USAID, , Santiago Chile, November 6, 2006
- SCGIS ([Society Conservation GIS](#)) Presentation - June 25, 2006, San Jose, CA - in association with the SCB ([Society for Conservation Biology](#)): [PDF Report](#) (10MB) - [Powerpoint](#) (64MB) = *Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) for National Development and Biodiversity Conservation*. Presented by: Dr. Robert Ford, [Loma Linda University](#); Paul Burgess, [The Redlands Institute](#); Serene Ong, University of Redlands, [MS GIS Program](#)
- [Poster \(PDF 69 MB\): Society for Marine Mammalogy](#), Biennial Conference on the Biology of Marine Mammals 12-16 December, 2005, [Manchester Grand Hyatt San Diego](#) in San Diego, CA.: *The Use of Side Imaging Sonar to Study Manatees in Cuero y Salado Wildlife Refuge, Honduras*. Gonzalez-Socoloske, Daniel\*; Bacchus, Marie-Lys C.; Ford, Robert E.
- Presentation (PDF): SMBC, Society for Mesoamerican Biology and Conservation Congress, November 22, 2005, La Ceiba Honduras: USAID/ MIRA (Proyecto Manejo Integrado de Recursos Ambientales) Symposium: *Biodiversidad en las Areas Protegidas de Honduras: Resultados Preliminares de Estudios de Poblaciones de Flora y Fauna: Nuevas Observaciones de Manati Antillano, [Trichechus manatus manatus](#), en la Costa Norte de Honduras*.
- UNAH - LLU Health Geoinformatics & Environmental GIS/RS Workshop - Tegucigalpa Honduras (September 5-8, 2005): PPT Presentations ([Soret PPT 66 MB](#)- [Ford - PPT 68 MB](#) - [Foresman PPT 77MB](#) - [Greer PPT 15 MB](#)) - AGENDA ([Spanish - DOC](#)).
- ESSE21 Poster - Fairbanks, Alaska Aug. 3-7, 2005 ([PPT 7.9 MB](#)) and ESSE21 Annual Meeting PI-Report - Fairbanks, Alaska Aug. 3-7, 2005 ([PPT 35.9 MB](#)).
- [AGU \(American Geophysical Union\)](#) Annual Meeting Presentation, Dec. 15, 2004 - San Francisco, CA : *Launching an Undergraduate Earth System Science Curriculum with a Focus on Global Sustainability: The LLU Experience* ([PPT-85 MB](#)) ([PDF-10 MB](#))
- [Global Spatial Data and Information User Workshop](#), [SEDAC/CIESIN](#), Columbia University, [Lamont-Dahorty Earth Observatory](#). September 21-23, 2004. *Who Needs SDI?* ([PPT - 59MB](#))
- GSA (Geological Society of America) Annual Meeting, Denver, CO, November 2004. Poster session on *Launching an Undergraduate Earth System Science Curriculum with a Focus on Global Sustainability: The LLU Experience* ([PPT 9.65 MB](#))
- [ESSE21 Annual Meeting](#) June, 2004 (Monterey, CA): *LLUs Plans for Implementing a BS in Earth Systems Science: Partners and Plans* ([PPT](#))
- (December 2003) Panel Chair and keynote: Annual conference of the *American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene*, December 3-7, 2003, Philadelphia, PA. Title: *The GISD Initiative and Future Prospects for Building Spatial-data Infrastructure for Health and Environment*.
- (October 26-28, 2003) Keynote Speaker at Virginia GIS Conference, Richmond, VA. Presentation entitled: *Left-brain vs. Right-brain GIS: Reflections on the GIS Initiative Post-9/11*. Powerpoint available.
- (August 1999 – June 2003) – Many professional presentations while a Senior Natural Resources Advisor for USAID/EGAT—Washington, D.C. AAG (New Orleans), WSSD (Johannesburg), New York (Columbia Earth Institute/World Bank Poverty Mapping Conference), AAAS Annual Meetings, ESRI User's conferences, Carbon Sequestration Conference (Geneva, Switzerland at Climate Negotiations), etc.
- (1999 - April) - Presentation at the IAI/ESSE Workshop on Coastal Systems - Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil. Presentation at a workshop on use of the Internet and other digital resources for teaching ESS (Earth System Science) for research on coastal zone management in Latin America. This was part of a collaborative project

between ESSE and IAI (Interamerican Institute for Global Change Research), which is part of START.

- Presentations as guest speaker and workshop organizer: University of Oklahoma, College of Geosciences - October 30-31, 1997: Three presentations: (a) a workshop on the use of *Internet Technology in the Geosciences*, (b) a formal presentation on upcoming research on *Global Environmental Change in Honduras*, and (c) a presentation on the *Regional Geography of the Pacific Islands* (Marshall and Hawaiian Islands) - to a World Regional Geography course. Part of ESSE/USRA consortium university faculty interchange.
- Presentation November 8, 1997 - Washington, D.C.: *New Approaches to Undergraduate Education in the Geosciences*. Presentation to the AGU (American Geophysical Union) fall special session of academic heads and department chairs. Focus on role of the Internet and other electronic tools for teaching undergraduate interdisciplinary courses in earth systems science.
- Presentation: *The ESSE Project: Distance Learning Technology for Teaching Geography and Global Change*. NCGE Conference, Santa Barbara, November 13-16, 1996.
- Presentation: *Lessons Learned from Using GIS/RS as an Integrative Tool for Interdisciplinary Learning*. Paper No. 96.0891, presented at the IGARSS'96 meetings, Lincoln, NB May 27-31, 1996. Published in Proceedings and on CD-ROM version. Geoscience and Remote Sensing Society.
- Co-organizer--two special sessions on *Developing Active Learning Modules on the Human Dimensions of Global Change*. In Association with Susan Hanson, Clark University NSF/CCG2 Project. Charlotte, NC April 8 - 14, 1996.
- Society for Human Ecology, Annual Meetings / Lake Tahoe, October 20-21, 1995. Panelist and paper presenter at special session on: "What can Human Ecology contribute to the Population Debate." Paper presented: *The Population-Environment Nexus and Vulnerability Assessment in Africa*.
- ASA Annual Meetings 1994, Toronto. Paper presented: *Settlement Structure Change in Burkina Faso: the Case of Northern Yatenga*. November 3, 1994 (African Studies Association).
- AAG/Annual Meetings 1994/San Francisco. Member of panel, which discussed the role of fieldwork in geography (Organizer: Martin Kenzer).
- ICSE Conference/Tufts University: Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy; Theme: The Population-Environment Equation: Implications for Environmental Security. I presented paper on: *The population-environment crisis in Africa: Rwanda, Zaire, Kenya, and Burkina Faso*. June 1994.
- ESSE/USRA/NASA Mid-Year Conference: I presented report on work on an electronic textbook module covering a topic entitled: *Water and Life in the Dry World (Middle East)*. June 1994.
- ICSE/SORISTEC Conference (International Consortium for the Study of Environmental Security). Held January 6-9, 1993 in Chantilly, France. Geopolitics of the Environment and the New World Order: Limits, Conflicts, and Insecurity. Presented paper: *Analysis of Famine Vulnerability in Sahelian Africa: is 'Environmental Security' the right paradigm?*
- Association American Geographers, Annual Meetings in San Diego, CA April 18-23, 1992. Presenter-special session: *Environment and Agrarian Change in the Third World*. My paper was entitled: *Coping with drought in Yatenga (Burkina Faso): from local adaptation to global interaction*.
- International Studies Association, Annual Meetings in Atlanta, GA March 31-April 4, 1992. Presenter/panel: *Why the Third World Matters, Why Europe Probably Won't*.
- Association of American Geographers, Annual Meetings in Miami, Florida April 12-18, 1991. a) Co-organizer

of Workshop: *The Deterioration of the Environment and the Food Position of Haiti*. With: Edward C. Britton (LSU), Vincent P. Miller, and Indiana University of Pennsylvania. April 13, 1991, 1:00-4:00. b) Special Session Organizer: Food Security in Africa: Local and Regional Perspectives. 1:00 - 2:50 pm April 15, 1991. c) Presenter of paper: *Ethnobotany, Desertification, and Food Security in Northern Yatenga, Burkina Faso: the case of the Kurumba, and Fulbe*.

- Association of American Geographers, Annual Meetings in Toronto, Canada, April 19-22, 1990. a) Chair: session on Historical environments. b) Discussant: Donald Innis Memorial Session on the Status of Rural Development Geography: Case Studies and Panel Discussion; c) Presenter: Paper: *Toponymic generics in Belize: indicator of cultural and environmental history*.
- Great Plains/Mountain States Regional Meetings of the AAG: Ogden, Utah October 13, 1989, *Toponymic generic place names in Belize: indicators of culture history*.
- Association of American Geographers, Meetings in Baltimore, Maryland March 19-22, 1989: Paper: *Population density and agricultural intensity in Yatenga (Burkina Faso) and Ruhengeri (Rwanda)*.
- Utah Geographical Society, Annual Meetings, Weber State College, Ogden, Utah, November 4, 1988: *Pastoralist Movements in Northern Yatenga, Burkina Faso: a Tentative Classification*.
- Special Conference on Agriculture and Population Change in Africa (May 1988, Univ. Florida). Presented case study--Ruhengeri, Rwanda (Organizers: Robert Kates, B.L. Turner, and Goran Hyden).
- International Range Management Seminars, Range Science Department, College of Natural Resources, Utah State University, Logan, Utah. February 19, 1988: Title: *An assessment of the future of pastoralism in the tropical montane ecosystems of Rwanda*.
- Association of American Geographers, Annual Meetings, Tucson, Arizona, April, 1988: Paper: *Cultural and ecological complexity in Sahelian subsistence systems: a key factor in agricultural development success or failure*.
- African Studies Association, Annual Meetings, Denver, Colorado, November 21, 1987: *Human-environment interactions in the tropical montane ecosystems of Rwanda: is it a case of involution?*
- Utah Geographical Society, Annual Meetings, Provo, Utah, November 13, 1987: *Spatial and socioeconomic models of mountain development: the Case of Rwanda*.

## POPULAR AND PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS:

- Current Publications – see online = <http://resweb.llu.edu/rford/index.html#documents>
- Audio-visual scripts/productions for Health Productions, Inc., Loma Linda University School of Health. Each a half hour length multimedia health education program:
  - 1) *The Spider's Web*.
  - 2) *The Great Grain Robbery*.
  - 3) *Sunlight*.
  - 4) *Just a Little Out of Shape*.
- Ford, Robert E. and Boyer, Gregory: The International Health Resource Room, Loma Linda University, Adventist *Health Ministry Journal*, Sept.-Oct., 1981 (2 pages).
- Ford, Robert E. and Boyer, Gregory. *Series of 25 lessons for non-formal educational training in nutrition*,

*primary care.* Prepared for: Inter-American Division of SDA, 1982-1983.

- High School Geography Study Guides. Utah Geographic Alliance, summer, 1988 (slides and script/resource guide). Utah State University, Dept. of Geography, by request of Clifford Craig.
  - *The Geographical Roots of Environmental Degradation in East and West Africa.*
  - *Human-Environment Relationships in the Central American Region.*
- *Field Assessment Manual: Preparing a Country Profile.* Under contract to ADRA/International, Washington, D.C. Fall, 1988: a manual for assessment of country-development needs.

### **FREELANCE PHOTOGRAPHY & CONSULTING:**

BPS / TERRAPHOTOGRAPHICS. This is a stock photo company that provides scientific illustrations in the earth sciences to textbook publishers and audio-visual producers. Over two thousand of my photos are on file--many have been published. CONTACT: Carl May, Photo Agent, TERRAPHOTOGRAPHICS, Biological Photo Service, P.O. Box 490, Moss Beach, CA 94038. Tel. (650) 359-6219 Email: [Bpsterra@aol.com](mailto:Bpsterra@aol.com)

I also now have my own photo business - **GEOBOB'S PHOTOGRAPHY & CONSULTING (GPS)** = <http://geobobford.com/myphotography.html>

### **CONSULTING AND MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE:**

- July –September 2009 Robert Ford organized a major conference on **eHealth and GIS with the IDRC/Acacia program (Canada)** which presented a planning workshop on September 17, 2009 in South Africa in conjunction with the OASIS--*Open Architecture Standards and Information Systems (OASIS) II - Developing Capacity, Sharing Knowledge and Good Principles Across eHealth Projects in Africa* ([http://www.idrc.ca/en/ev-116782-201-1-DO\\_TOPIC.html](http://www.idrc.ca/en/ev-116782-201-1-DO_TOPIC.html)) project. A final report and many other resources are available via a GIS workshop wiki (<http://idrc-gisworkshop.pbworks.com/>)--see [INTEGRATING GIS INTO eHEALTH INITIATIVES IN AFRICA](#) project with associated wiki, presentations and [FINAL REPORT](#) with IDRC/Canada.
- March –October 2008 Robert Ford was a Senior Development Consultant with **GPCI (Geographic Planning Collaborative, Inc.)** Running Springs, CA. The GPCI team helped implement the AGEDI (Abu Dhabi Global Environmental Data Initiative) project in Abu Dhabi, UAE which including assisting in the reorganization of the Environment Agency of Abu Dhabi – see <http://www.ead.ae/>
- Assisted the University of Redlands and Loma Linda University (with backing from ESRI Inc.) to plan for start of summer research activities for students in Kenya and Rwanda. Went on consulting trip in November 2007 to plan and make arrangements; collaboration with the NUR (National University of Rwanda, Center for Geographic Information Science), the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International, the Earthwatch program in Conservation Biology at NUR, support to proposed collaboration between AHI (Adventist Health International) and the MVP (Millennium Village Project) run by Columbia University in Rwanda, and support to the Greenbelt Movement in Kenya.
- Biodiversity assessment, management, and monitoring ([Honduras field research](#)): focus on Manatee, herpetofauna, and other flagship species at key protected areas on the North Coast of Honduras ([photo gallery July 2004](#)) as well as on the Pacific Coast (Gulf of Fonseca region). See more on implementation [HERE](#) – see webpage = <http://resweb.llu.edu/rford/courses/ESSC5xx/may99.html>
- Trainer / consultant: ADRA/International in Peru, Costa Rica, Thailand - trainer in course entitled: "Food Security Implementation" (February - May 1997 - 10 days each location). Contract rate: \$332/day.

- Consultant to EPAT/MUCIA/USAID: set-aside grant #62: *Population-environment relations in Africa with focus on Rwanda*. Work in conjunction with PPIH Dept., School of Public Health, University of Michigan, (Scott Grosse, George Honadle, etc.). December 1993-July 1994. Contract amount: \$5680.00
- Consultant to Catholic Relief Services under contract through IDA (Institute of Development Anthropology), 99 Collier Street, P.O. Box 2207, Binghamton, New York, NY 13902. Supervisor: Vera Beers-Tyler. Evaluated Institutional Support Grant of PL-480 program by USAID in Ghana and Burkina Faso; October 20 - November 10, 1992.
- Supervisor/manager of field projects (during period 1979-82) for students in the off-campus M.P.H. program in Middle America at Loma Linda University, School of Public Health, International Health Program. Supervised and visited over 75 student projects from Mexico, to Haiti and Colombia.
- Consultant to ADRA/Peru and Bolivia, ADRA/International: April-May 1992; evaluation of Institutional Support Grant activities (five-year review) in Peru and Bolivia and PL-480-related program activities.
- Consultant to ADRA/Haiti ISG mid-term Evaluation (Institutional Support Grant) from USAID for Title II PL-480 food aid country program; May 1991, Port-au-Prince, Haiti.
- Duties: Evaluate and give technical input to strategic plan focusing on food-for-work as applied to natural resource (reforestation) and health development program interventions.
- Team-Leader for an End-of-Project Enhancement Grant Evaluation for PL-480 Food-for-Peace/USAID grant to ADRA/I in Ghana and Rwanda (March to June 1990).
- Activities/duties: evaluated a sample of projects funded under Enhancement Grant funds by ADRA/Ghana (+20 projects visited over entire country) and ADRA/Rwanda (over 35 projects).
- Supervisor/address/phone: Sharon Tobbing, Director of Evaluation, ADRA/International, 12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904 Tel. (301) 680-6374
- Team-leader for PL-480 Food-for-Peace country assessment/food security status - Malawi March 1990.
- Activities/duties: interview government officials, NGOs, multilateral donors, business community, and community organizations and assess potential role of NGOs in PL-480. Supervisor/Address/Phone: William Jensen, Director, and Commodity-Supported Development: Contact: Mario Ochoa, Executive Vice-President, ADRA/International, 12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904 Tel. (301) 680-6362.
- Trainer in intercultural relations at a *Seminar in Inter-Cultural Relations*; designed for prospective cross-cultural workers from Australia and New Zealand being sent to various Pacific Island areas. Held January 3-11, 1990 Avondale College, Cooranbong, New South Wales, Australia.
- Activities/duties: Provided cross-cultural/social science training and consultation to a specialized workshop being held at Avondale College (see above) by the Institute of World Missions, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, and MI. Supervisor/Contractor: Dr. Gottfried Oosterval, Director, Institute for World Mission, Sutherland House, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI 49104 Tel.(616) 471-2522
- Consultant to ADRA/International (Washington, D.C.) on Food-for-Peace programs in Haiti (August 1988 January 1989); evaluation of program administration and project management, design of administrative systems.
- Activities/duties: Researched and wrote a manual (workbook style) to be used by ADRA/International for the evaluation and assessment of a country's development needs and resources (particularly in the private voluntary

sector). Was also the team-leader of an ADRA-Haiti evaluation team that performed a complete audit of program implementation as well as administrative and management functions of the ADRA/Haiti country program in PL-480 (Food-for-Work, Mother/Child Feeding, Child Survival).

- Supervisor/Address/Phone: William Jensen, Director, Commodity-Supported Development and Mario Ochoa, Executive Vice-President, ADRA/International, 12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904 Tel. (301) 680-6362 Director: David Taylor (same address as above).
- Trainer: in external MPH Degree program carried out in Haiti, Puerto Rico, Costa Rica, Mexico and Colombia by the School of Public Health, Department of International Health, Loma Linda University, Loma Linda, CA 92350 Tel. (714) 824-4546 Supervisor: Dr. Richard Hart, Dean, School of Public Health.
- Activities/duties: Trained about 35-40 physicians, clergy, educators, nurses and other professionals during intensive 7-10 all-day sessions in specific topics of: integrated development--appropriate technology, project planning and evaluation, development theory and social science concepts relating to community change and communications, sectoral issues in agriculture, health, technology. Supervised field projects in various development agencies. Returned later to evaluate projects (visited over ten countries and +100 students) over several years 1979-1989.
- Coordinator of the extension and development activities *l'Université Adventiste de l'Afrique Centrale*, Gisenyi, Rwanda (1984-1987). Contact/Supervisor: Ted Wilson, Associate Secretary, Secretariat of the General Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists, 12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904 Tel. (301) 680-6662. During my tenure I did the following:
  - a) Wrote and received a grant from GATE (German Appropriate Technology Exchange) to test the production of cheap building materials using pumice and lava in the Virunga Volcano region of Rwanda. Three model houses built.
  - b) Organized an All-Africa Development Training Workshop (September 1986-six weeks) for all Africa-based personnel of ADRA/International; taught integrated development.
  - c) Coordinated two summer training periods for 30 Rwanda CERAI teachers in rural appropriate technology and vocational training. Funding--USAID/Rwanda government.
  - d) Supervised a French translation of the book *Helping Health Workers Learn* by David Werner with funding from OXFAM International.
  - e) Organized a major Child Survival Grant project funded through USAID/ADRA International for the Commune of Mutura, Rwanda (40,000 underserved population).
  - f) Participated in a Rwanda Government/NGO Conference sponsored by the Ministry of Plan; designed to facilitate involvement of NGO's in the planning of development projects throughout the country.
  - g) Participant/presenter--Natural Resources Conservation and Tourism Conference, Akagera National Park (1985), Rwanda.
  - h) Aided in the organization and planning of two new rural dispensaries run by the AUCA/ASSAR (SDA Health System) for rural communities in Mutura and Kanama, communes, Rwanda.
- Academic Dean (1983-1987) *l'Université Adventiste de l'Afrique Centrale* Gisenyi, Rwanda. I performed all management and administrative functions: budgeting, personnel, equipment ordering, planning, designing academic facilities (labs, library, and classrooms), recruitment of students, and preparing documents--bulletins, manuals, marketing. The most significant challenge was managing a highly diverse staff from sixteen countries. In was also the principal negotiator with government for legal recognition, statutes approval, and

academic accreditation. My job also involved being the principal academic advisor to students from all over Francophone Africa. Contact/supervisor: Ted Wilson, Associate Secretary, Secretariat of the General Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists, 12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904 Tel. (301) 680-6662.

- Consultant to World Vision International (WVI), Evaluation Department, Judy Hutchinson, Director (1982-1983). Designed a continuous evaluation and project monitoring system (including project taxonomy).
- Professional/Management Activities, Loma Linda University, School of Public Health:
  - a) Writer of grant for ADRA/International-Haiti (1979); extension education trainer (1981, 1986-89).
  - b) Supervisor of field practicum for off-campus M.P.H. extension degree in Haiti, Puerto Rico, Columbia, Costa Rica, Mexico (1978-1981). Over 100 student field projects' supervised.
  - c) Founder and first Director: International Resource Room, a specialty library and information dissemination service International Health Department, School of Public Health.
  - d) Organizer and coordinator of four special summer field-training programs in Central America and Mexico for medical, agriculture, and public health (1979-1983).
  - e) Internal consultant to the Survey Research Service, School of Public Health; geographic methods in sample survey techniques, family planning KAP surveys, cross-cultural questionnaire design.

## CAREER REFERENCES:

**Michael McBride**, Emeritus Board Member Smithsonian and The Nature Conservatory; founder of the Alaskan Center for Coastal Studies and [Kachemak Bay Wilderness Lodge](#), co-founder Bateleurs International and with LightHawk International etc. See [BIO](#): Contact: **Kachemak Bay Wilderness Lodge**, China Poot Bay, Box 956, Homer, Alaska 99603 Phone 907-235-8910 Email: [michael@alaskawildernesslodge.com](mailto:michael@alaskawildernesslodge.com)

**Katie Fawcett, PhD, & Glenn Bush**, [Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International](#), [Karisoke Research Center](#), Ruhengeri (Musanze), Rwanda. Tel. +250-788307526 Email: [kfawcett@gorillafund.org](mailto:kfawcett@gorillafund.org). See also **Glenn Bush** (formerly at DFGFI and now with Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution): email: [glenn\\_bush@yahoo.com](mailto:glenn_bush@yahoo.com). Glenn is husband to Katie Fawcett - they are both now based in Massachusetts.

**Felicia Akinyemi, PhD, (formerly): Deputy Director:** *Centre for Geographical Information Science and Remote Sensing Training and Research*, National University of Rwanda. Currently Associate Prof. of Geo-Information Science and Head, Department of Estate Management and Valuation & now **Dean Faculty of Architecture and Environmental Sciences, Kigali Institute of Science and Technology, Faculty of Architecture and Environmental Design, Kigali**). Webpage: <http://www.kist.ac.rw/index.php/staff/94> Phone: 0727111060 - Email: [felicia.akinyemi@gmail.com](mailto:felicia.akinyemi@gmail.com)

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**Emmy Simmons**, Former Assistant Administrator, USAID, EGAT, Bureau for Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade, Washington, D.C. E-mail: [Emmybsimmons@aol.com](mailto:Emmybsimmons@aol.com)

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**Valerie Hudson**, Director of Graduate Studies, David M. Kennedy Center for International Studies, 237 HRCB, Brigham Young University Provo, UT 84602 Tel. (801) 378-3378. E-Mail: [hudsonv@yvax.byu.edu](mailto:hudsonv@yvax.byu.edu)

## PERSONAL INFORMATION

Date: May 8, 2012

- Languages: Spanish (FSI-4) and French (FSI-4); Japanese (minimal).
- Computer Skills: graphics packages (Freehand, Photoshop, SmartDraw) spreadsheets, word-processing, database software, basic GIS/RS (Geographical Information Systems & Remote Sensing), e.g. IDRISI, ERDAS Imagine, ArcGIS, HTML Web Publishing.
- Leisure Pursuits: camping, photography, travel, and community-church activities.
- Family Status: married to Karen E. Ford (interior decorator); children (boys ages 38 and 24).

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

**Robert E. Ford** was born in Puerto Castilla, Honduras to expatriate Americans. He was raised in [Honduras](#) (see [travel](#), [geology](#), [Bay Islands/Roatan](#)) and then later moved during his teen-age years to Belize, Costa Rica, and Nicaragua. At the age of eighteen he came to Healdsburg, California for the last year of high school and then went on for a B.A. in History, Religion, and Spanish at Pacific Union College, in Angwin, California. Subsequently he began study toward double master's degrees in Social Anthropology and Public Health at [Loma Linda University](#) (1969-73)--see more about my family history and [my ancestry](#) on my online album. During his professional life Dr. Ford has functioned often as the key social science member in multidisciplinary teams, integrating applied and research personnel from, e.g. medicine, public health, agriculture, natural resource management, anthropology, education, demography, political science. In all, Dr. Ford has over 35 years of experience working and living (short and long term for various periods) in Latin America, Asia, and Africa.

His training is broad, including public health, history, physical, cultural and political geography, social anthropology, and management. His research specialty is cultural/political ecology, the study of nature-society

relationships and their policy/political implications for development. His regional interest has been the arid/semi-arid and tropical montane regions of Sub-Saharan Africa and Middle America and the focus of his research has been population-natural resource relationships and the human dimensions of global environmental change (HDGC).

### **Summary of Professional and Academic Work History:**

In 1973 he joined the Loma Linda University School of Public Health, first as a script-writer/producer in its Health Productions Unit and then later the faculty. While at LLU he completed a Ph.D. in Geography/earth Science at the nearby University of California, Riverside. During 1975-1977 he was on leave from LLU and worked for the University of California as a Research Associate for a USAID funded 211-D grant project in then Upper Volta (Burkina Faso). There he carried out farming systems and drought adaptation/desertification (drylands degradation) research. During his first period with Loma Linda University (1973-1983) he was most heavily involved in administration and teaching in a new program in International Health. While at LLU he also consulted for World Vision International and other international agencies such as ADRA and Catholic Relief Services. This took him to the Marshall Islands, Pakistan, Burkina Faso, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central America.

In 1983 Dr. Ford returned to Africa to help plan, build, and manage a new francophone university--*l'Université Adventiste de l'Afrique Centrale* (AUCA) in Mudende, Rwanda (near Gisenyi). He became the institution's first academic dean as well as coordinator of its extension and development activities. While there he continued field research on rural development and resource management issues in the humid montane regions of East Africa. Upon his return to the U.S. in 1987 he entered academic and research posts at Utah State University (USU), Brigham Young University (BYU), and Westminster College of Salt Lake City (WCSLC). Between 1994 until August 1999 Dr. Ford was the first occupant of the Kim T. Adamson Chair in International Studies at [Westminster College of Salt Lake City](#) (WCSLC). His role was to internationalize the curriculum and develop global consciousness among students and the faculty and to serve as a catalyst and resource to all programs and colleges--he was particularly involved in the environmental studies and honors program. From 1993-1999 he was an active member of the [ESSE21](#) (Earth System Science Education for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century) network, first at USU ([College of Natural Resources](#)) and then at WCSLC. During most of that time he helped manage a grant from NASA/USRA which helped design and implement integrated web-based *Earth System Science* (ESS) learning materials--see [ESSC 400-401 Earth Systems and Global Change](#).

From August 1999 to July 2003 he was a Senior Natural Resources Planner and Policy Advisor for the U.S. Agency for International Development ([USAID](#)), Bureau for Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade ([EGAT](#)), Office of Natural Resources Management (NRM), Land Resource Management Team ([LRMT](#)); during part of his tenure at USAID he was co-manager of the [RAISE Project](#) (IQC). At USAID he worked on many initiatives including climate adaptability, land degradation in drylands, ICT (Information and Communications Technology) focusing on Geospatial Information Systems (GIS) and other application areas such as sustainable tree-crops, agricultural resource management, and policy analysis for key global environmental conventions, e.g. [UNCCD](#), [UNFCCC](#). Over 2001-2003 he helped organize and manage three special initiatives which are part of an IWG (Interagency Working Group) which were focused on the World Summit on Sustainable Development ([WSSD](#)) held in Johannesburg, South Africa, August 14 - September 7, 2002--see some of the results of those initiatives below:

- [GISD](#) - Geographic Information for Sustainable Development
- [MyCOE-GLSD](#) - My Community, Our Earth

From August 2003 to February 2008 Dr. Ford was a [Professor of International Sustainable Development and Social Policy](#) in the Department of [Social Work and Social Ecology](#), and Department of [Earth and Biological Sciences, School of Science and Technology, Loma Linda University](#), Loma Linda, CA 92350. During much of that period focused on interdisciplinary research projects working on biodiversity, health, hazards, sustainability, and protected-area management funded partially through grants from NASA/USRA ([ESSE21 Project](#)) and the [USAID/MIRA Project](#) which focuses on coastal zone management (CZM) and conservation of critical Mesoamerican Barrier Reef protected-areas in Belize and Honduras.

From February to October 2008 Robert Ford was a Senior Development Consultant with Geographic Planning Collaborative, Inc of Running Springs, CA. The GPCI team was assisting in the reorganization of the Environment Agency of Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates and implementing the [AGEDI project](#). In collaboration with [CIESIN](#) (Earth Institute, Columbia University) and partners Marc Levy, Alex de Sherbinin, and Valentina Mara he also helped design an [EPI \(Environmental Performance Index\)](#) for the Environment Agency of Abu Dhabi that was to be adapted later for the GCC states of the Arabian Gulf.

From November 1, 2008 to December 2009 Dr. Robert Ford was Advisor and Research Professor for the [Centre for GIS and Remote Sensing Training and Research, National University of Rwanda](#) (CGIS-NUR), PO Box 512, Huye (Butare). In that position he began projects focused on implementation of a national eHealth initiative with partners including the [MVP \(Millennium Village Project/\)](#), [Partners in Health](#) (PIH), and the [Loma Linda University School of Public Health, Health Geoinformatics](#) program among many others. Several of these programs received direct support from the [IDRC/Acacia Program](#) which through its OASIS-II network (*[Open Architecture Standards and Information Systems: Developing Capacity, Sharing Knowledge and Good Principles Across eHealth Projects in Africa](#)*) supports [ICT4D](#) initiatives (Information and Communications Technologies for Development) including some specifically targeting development of EMR (Electronic Medical Record Systems) via the [OpenMRS or Open Medical Record network](#). See the [INTEGRATING GIS INTO eHEALTH INITIATIVES IN AFRICA](#) project with associated wiki, presentations and [FINAL REPORT](#) with IDRC/Canada.

In Rwanda he also helped launch new collaborative field programs in ecosystems services management, conservation of biodiversity, and mitigation of climate change in collaboration with groups belonging to the [Albertine Rift Conservation Society \(ARCOS\)](#) including the [Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International, Karisoke Research Center](#), the [Great Ape Trust \(Gishwati Preserve\)](#) and the [University of Redlands MSGIS Program](#). He also collaborated locally with an EU-funded interdisciplinary research endeavor on the human dimensions of global change in association with a program entitled the [CREATING7 Project](#); a leading partner for this is the [Geography Department of Trinity College Dublin](#) and their [Master's in Environment and Development](#) as well as the new [MDP \(Master's in Development Practice\)](#) coordinated by the [Columbia University Earth Institute](#). On the NUR campus he was also involved in the implementation of the NUR Strategic Plan with their partner--the [Christie Company](#). And he was a member of teams designing and implementing new MSC degrees focused on conservation biology and geo-information science for sustainable development.

From January to May 2010 (after official retirement in January 2010) he assumed the temporary role of Interim Program Director, Grauer's Gorilla Landscape Conservation and Development Program for [Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International](#) (DFGFI) Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). The work focused on conservation, community development, and climate/carbon/REDD project management in the Landscape 10 region i.e. the Maiko-Tayna Kahuzi-Biega and UGADEC community preserves within the [CARPE project](#). He also collaborated closely with the [DFGFI, Karisoke Research Center](#) (Musanze, Rwanda) on ecosystem health/community development linkages and interactions with climate adaptation, biodiversity and forest conservation as well as other global environmental change topics.

From **April - July 2012** he is carrying out a contract with the Frankfurt Zoological Society (FZS) under the EU-funded Upemba National Park Conservation Project (with a colleague who is a senior scientist for The Nature Conservancy)--Steve Schill. The contract is providing technical assistance in building GIS/Remote Sensing/GPS-based tools to support a new General management Plan that will lay the groundwork for rehabilitation of the two parks in Katanga--Upemba and Kundelungu. You can read more about the project on our [BLOG](#) or see [GeoBob's Consulting and Photography](#) page.

From **June 2010-March 2012** Robert Ford was taking time-off to [build a home near Zion National Park \(see BLOG\)](#) and to be with family, e.g. new granddaughter. See also [MY PLACE](#) online and my [Consulting and Photography](#) business page.

See more information on his [personal homepage](#) where you can link to [Internet-based educational materials](#) he prepared such as a the [Greater Salt Lake Ecosystem--a Hands-on](#) module on [Human Impacts on LULC](#) (Land Use / Land Cover Change). See also materials prepared for the [ESSE21](#) project and the [Virtual Geography](#)

[Department - Earth's Environment and Society](#) via his casebook [GeoSystems Today: An Interactive Casebook](#) and the research materials from work in [Mesoamerica](#) on [Manatees](#), [herpetofauna](#), [conservation GIS/NRM](#), [water resources](#), landscape ecology and the [ESSE21 - LULC Module](#): *Cases of Coastal Zone Change from Mesoamerica*.