

PIONEER WOMEN OF GEOPHYSICS

ESTELLA ATEKWANA

This poster was compiled by Rathana M. Sambath, Undergraduate student of Geology at California Polytechnic State University, Pomona



Education and First Job

Education: Ph.D., Geophysics, Dalhousie University
M.Sc., Geology, Howard University

Ph.D. Advisor: Dr. Mathew Salisbury

Dissertation Topic: Gravity and Magnetic Interpretation of the Kapuskasing Structural Zone in the Val Rita and Groundhog River Blocks, Northwestern Ontario, Canada

First job as a geoscientist: Assistant Professor at Western Michigan University, Department of Geosciences

Ways Estella makes an impact

- Pioneered Biogeophysics as a sub-discipline in Geophysics and expanded the science by gathering specialists in multi-disciplines to understand the biogeochemical interactions occurring at contaminated sites
- Provided innovative leadership to recruit diverse and excellent students—while increasing average student GPA and student representation from 30 states and 20 countries
- Mentored at least 34 grad students and 4 post-docs; with at least 10 “Best Paper” and/or “Best Poster” awards at national and regional conferences
- Increased student female diversity enrollment
- Serves as Research Director for one of the largest geoscience research project funded programs in sub-Saharan Africa
- Partnered with several international universities to promote international research and education with more than 20 students participating
- A member of several geophysics and geoscience associations and has served on the advisory boards, editorial boards, and other professional committees

IN ACTION



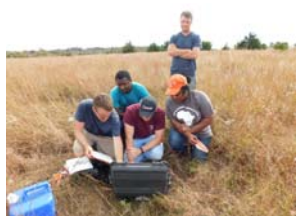
2011 Regents Distinguished Research Award at OSU



Research group, Botswana



Recipient of 2015 Eminent Faculty Award at OSU



Acquiring magnetotelluric data with students and collaborators after the 2016 Mw 5.8 earthquake in Pawnee, Oklahoma



Conducting fieldwork in Malawi

How Estella is employed

- Currently holds the position of Dean at the College of Earth, Ocean, & Environment, University of Delaware
- Current positions also include:
 - Adjunct Professor, Regents Distinguished Professor, and Sun Company Clyde Wheeler Endowed Chair Professor at Oklahoma State University, Boone Pickens School of Geology
 - Adjunct Professor at University of Waterloo, Department of Earth Sciences
 - Adjunct Professor at Missouri University of Science & Technology, Department of Geological Sciences and Engineering
- Previously the Head of Oklahoma State University, Boone Pickens School of Geology from 2013 to 2017