

**Guest Speaker:** Dr. Utiang P. Ugbe

**Date:** Wednesday June 25, 2008

**Time:** 13:30 – 15:00

**Location:** Room 344

**Presentation Title:** The Importance of Community in Restoring the Balance between Humans and Nature

Communities in Japan and beyond are beginning to recognize that setbacks in their local economy are strongly related to environmental problems. However with consciousness-raising and a change of values, communities are beginning to restore nature by revitalizing cultural institutions and practices. This presentation focuses on the research currently being conducted by Dr. Ugbe, based on Japan's rural communities and their efforts at sustainable development. Comparisons will be made to communities in Nigeria, Dr. Ugbe's native country. This presentation is open to all students.

Dr. Utiang P. Ugbe is currently a Postdoctoral Fellow at the United Nations University, Institute of Advanced Studies, Tokyo, Japan. Dr. Ugbe previously served as project consultant for Ford Foundation (Office for West Africa), senior program advisor for TechnoServe-Nigeria, program officer for CUSO, and consultant on a major UK Department for International Development (DFID) funded project in Nigeria.