Singing Wells:  
Social and Environmental History of  
Ancient Water Systems in Borana, Southern Ethiopia

Presented by:  
Waktole Tiki  
(Post-Doctoral Research Associate)

Wednesday, January 28, 2015  
12:15 p.m. — 1:15 p.m., Anthropology 206  
Light lunch provided

Waktole Tiki is currently a Post-Doctoral Research Associate for the Emory research project on "Climate-Induced Vulnerability and Pastoralist Livestock Marketing Chains in Southern Ethiopia and Northeastern Kenya," which is part of the Livestock-Climate Change Collaborative Research Support Program (LCC CRSP). He is currently at Emory University for 6 weeks to conduct collaborative research with project PI, Peter Little.

Waktole received his B.A. in Sociology and Social Administration from Addis Ababa University in 1998, his M.Sc. in Natural Resource Management from Egerton University, Kenya, in 2002, and his Ph.D. in Environment and Development Studies from the Norwegian University of Life Sciences in 2010. Previously, he was an Assistant Professor at Hawassa University, Ethiopia.

Born in the East Wallaga zone of the Oromia region, Ethiopia, Waktole has more than 14 years of research and consultancy experience in the southern, eastern and northern pastoral areas of Ethiopia, where he has worked with Borana, Afar and Somali herding communities. Prior to earning his graduate degrees, Waktole worked in the field of rural development in different government and non-governmental organizations from 1998 to 2000, conducting research and advising on land use management. His areas of research expertise include droughts and their impacts, local water systems, environmental history, range management, natural resource-based conflicts, human vulnerability to climate change, pastoral risk management, land use and land tenure changes, and the role of indigenous institutions in natural resource management. Since 2005, he has published in many peer-reviewed journals, including Historical Geography, The Geographical Journal, the Journal of East African Studies, and Food Policy. Waktole is fluent in Oromo language, Amharic, and English.