**EDUCATION**

**Ph.D. Geography**

Expected 2019 University of Iowa

**M.Sc. Environmental Hazards and Geographical Information Systems (GIS)**

2008 Coventry University, United Kingdom Awarded with Merit

**B.A. Geography (Minor: Environmental Studies)**

2007University of Guyana, Guyana Awarded with Distinction

**HONORS AND AWARDS**

2016 University of Iowa, Geoinformatics for Environmental and Energy Modelling and Prediction (GEEMAP) Travel Award

2016 University of Iowa, Center for Global and Regional Environmental Research (CGRER), Graduate Student Travel Award

2015-Present Geoinformatics for Environmental and Energy Modeling and Prediction (GEEMaP), University of Iowa. Awarded fellowship support from the National Science Foundation (NSF) and placement within the Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship (IGERT) GEEMaP program at the University of Iowa

2007 Geography Prize, University of Guyana. Awarded to the best graduating undergraduate with a major in Geography.

**PUBLICATIONS**

* **Drakes, O**. Map contributor in Oxford, P.; Bish, R.; Mena, B. (2016) *Undiscovered Guyana*, WWF Guianas and the Guyana Ministry of Natural Resources
* Williams P. Williams A., Charles, E., Bernard, C., **Drakes, O**., Prince, W., Edghill, S., Abraham, D., King, G., Maharaj, G., King, T. (2012) *Wetlands of Guyana*. World Wildlife Fund- Guiana
* **Drakes, O**. (2006) *Land Degradation, Desertification and Food Security*, Caribbean Youth Development Issue 2 September/October. Commonwealth Youth Programme

**PAST PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

Oct. 2014-Sept 2015 **Regional Risk Assessment Consultant:** *Guyana Civil Defence Commission,* Georgetown, Guyana

May 2009-Sept. 2015 **Consultant GIS Specialist:** *World Wildlife Fund Guianas (Guyana Office) (WWF),* Georgetown, Guyana

Sept. 2010-June 2014 **Lecturer:** *University of Guyana,* Turkeyen Greater Georgetown, Guyana

Nov. 2013-Feb. 2014 **GIS Disaster Risk Reduction Spatial Database Consultant:**

*United Nations Development Program & Guyana Civil Defence Commission* Georgetown, Guyana

June 2013- Oct. 2013 **Conservation Science Program GIS Intern:** *World Wildlife Fund United States,* Washington DC, United States

Jan. 2013- June 2013 **GIS Consultant:** *E & A Consultancy,* Georgetown, Guyana

May 2011 **Researcher:** *Conservation International (CI) Guyana,* Georgetown, Guyana

May 2009- June 2010 **GIS Specialist:** *Kaieteur National Park (KNP) Management Plan Team* Georgetown, Guyana

**VOLUNTARY SERVICE**

2015- Present **Fellow of Student Council:** William Averette Anderson Fund

Member Student Fellows Executive Board (2016-Present)

2003-2011 **President and Executive Member:**  *Rotaract Club of Georgetown Central* Georgetown, Guyana

**PRESENTATIONS**

2016 **Presenter: William Averette Anderson Fund Workshop For Graduate Students in Hazards and Disaster Management Fields**

2016 **Presenter: Natural Hazards Workshop**

2016 **Presenter: Association of American Geographers Annual General Meeting**

2015 **Presenter: GEEMaP Research Workshop, University of Iowa**

2013 **Contributor: *Guyana National Geographic Information System Policy***

2013 **Participant: *Actions de formation Transfrontalieres pour L'Integration du Plateau des Guyanes e Amazonie (Cross border training for the integration of the Guiana Shield in the Amazon) -ATIPA***

2012 **Participant: *REDD+ Forest Change Assessment***

2012 **Participant: *Early Childhood Development Technical Working Group***

2011 **Participant: *Regional Workshop on Disaster Risk Reduction and Emergency***

***Response in Early Childhood in Latin America and the Caribbean Panama City, Panama*.**

2011 **Participant: Paper Presented: *Considerations for Environmental Hazards in Early Childhood Development (ECD) Policy Development***

2010 **Participant: Paper Presented: *Climate Change and its Impact on Children (0-8 years)***