

# Global Engagement



## SPEAKER SERIES

This guest lecture series brings individuals of distinction from higher education, global organizations, and philanthropies who have had profound experience in university outreach and engagement to share their thoughts, research, and practice with the MSU community. Advancing fundamental human rights and meeting basic human needs are the primary foci for the MSU Global Engagement Speaker Series.

**Live Streaming** at [gess.msu.edu](https://gess.msu.edu)

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2020** 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. | Talk and Reception: International Center



### Sandra D. Rodríguez Cotto

Journalist, newspaper *NotiCel*  
Radio Show Host, Puerto Rico Information Network  
Analyst, WPAB Ponce

Sandra D. Rodríguez Cotto is a journalist with decades of experience in Puerto Rico, the United States, and several Latin American countries. She works as a news and policy analyst, radio commentator, television producer, columnist, and blogger.

She conducts her syndicated radio program on a series of regional stations that make up the Puerto Rico Information Network, is an analyst at radio station WPAB Ponce, and publishes a weekly column in the cyber newspaper *NotiCel*. She is also a contributor to several media outlets in the U.S. (*El Diario La Prensa*, *All Digitocracy*, *Huffington Post*, *USA Today*, *Politico Magazine*) and the Public Relations Portal of Latin America, based in Argentina.

She has authored several books on communication and journalism, most recently *Bitácora de una Transmisión Radial* (Log of a Radio Transmission; Tróbalis Editores, 2018), chronicled during the passage of Hurricane Maria.

She received the Bolívar Pagán National Literature and Journalism Award, granted by the Institute of Puerto Rican Literature, for her opinion columns published in *NotiCel* and in her book *En Blanco y Negro con Sandra* (In Black and White with Sandra, 2016).

She is a founding member of the Autonomous Movement of the Deaf and collaborates with the March of the Deaf, San Gabriel College, and others. She was a member of the Board of Directors of the Puerto Rico Community Foundation and of the Association of Parents of Children with Disabilities. She is the proud mother of a special 16-year-old girl.

Cotto is pursuing graduate studies at both the University of Puerto Rico and the University of Barcelona. She holds a bachelor's degree from Rutgers University.

*Please see other side for more information*

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**TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2020** 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. | Talk and Reception: Kellogg Center



### Cosmas Milton Obote Ochieng

Director, African Natural Resources Centre  
African Development Bank

Cosmas Milton Obote Ochieng is the director of the African Natural Resources Centre (ANRC) at the African Development Bank in Abidjan, Ivory Coast. He is an expert in global development policy with particular interests in natural resources governance; agriculture and rural development; climate change and green growth; and science, technology, and society. Prior to his appointment at the African Development Bank, he was professor of the practice of global development policy at the Pardee School of Global Studies at Boston University. He is also a former executive director of the African Centre for Technology Studies (ACTS) in Nairobi, Kenya, and a former technical coordinator for business, economics and biodiversity at the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) in Pretoria, South Africa. Dr. Ochieng has also worked with the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) in Washington, DC and Addis Ababa, Ethiopia as a research fellow, and at Lancaster University in the UK as a lecturer in sustainable land, water and agriculture.

He sits on the advisory panel of the independent review of the economics of biodiversity led by Prof. Sir Partha Dasgupta. He also sits on the advisory board of the African Research Universities Alliance Centre of Excellence on Climate and Development (ARUA-CD). He was the lead author of the *African Data Revolution Report 2015*. His works have been published in peer-reviewed journals including *World Development*, *Journal of International Economic Law*, *Journal of Modern African Studies*, and *Natural Resources Forum*.

Ochieng holds a doctor of philosophy degree in development studies from Oxford University, a master's in development studies from Cambridge University, and a bachelor of arts from Kenyatta University.

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