

Forum för Afrikastudier

Friday Research Seminar in African Studies

"I am so so very not sure"

University Students in Ghana and Their International Migration Aspirations

with **Kajsa Hallberg Adu**

Ashesi University College, Ghana

Time: Friday 2 February 2018, 10.15-11.30 Venue: House 3, room 2028, Engelska Parken,

Thunsbergsvägen 3H, Uppsala

Before anyone migrates, one aspires to migrate. Research on migration aspirations among youth in Africa shows that marginalized individuals engage in aspirations for future mobility. However, an increasing share of youth in Africa and the Global South as a whole are university students, hence it is important to know more about the mobility of this group. While academic mobility/migration is receiving growing scholarly attention, students from the Global South are rarely the objects of analysis and this study aims to address this gap. The paper addresses student voices highlighting agency, the role of the family at home and abroad, as well as their thoughts about the Global North, transnationalism, and identity. Interviews also revealed that migration aspirations were volatile and that in a year, a majority of students had changed their minds, about migrating and staying.

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