

***Title: M.Sc. student Connor Cavanagh granted scholarship at the Nordic Africa Institute in Uppsala, Sweden***

**Connor Cavanagh is the most recent Noragric M.Sc. student to hold a study scholarship at the Nordic Africa Institute (NAI) in Uppsala, Sweden. NAI offers scholarships for students wishing to make use of the institute's substantial literature and resources to research topics of relevance to both North- and Sub-Saharan Africa. Presently, Connor is working on a thesis project that examines the intersection of biodiversity conservation, carbon-offset forestry, and violent conflict at Mount Elgon, Uganda. In what follows, he provides an account of his experience at NAI, and encourages other Noragric students to apply for this scholarship as well.**

Between 15 February and 15 March 2011, I held a study scholarship at the Nordic Africa Institute in Uppsala. In short, the experience was excellent. NAI covered transport, accommodation, and living expenses, but the most valuable aspect of the scholarship was likely access to the institute's staff and resources. NAI researchers generously provided feedback on my ongoing M.Sc. thesis work, and I greatly benefited from the opportunity to present some of my findings at an internal seminar. Likewise, the institute's library provided access to government documents and archival material that I would be hard-pressed to find elsewhere.

In addition to NAI's own substantial resources, scholarship holders also gain access to online and print material from Uppsala University, the Dag Hammarskjöld Library, and the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences. Likewise, Stockholm is only forty minutes away by train, where one can attend seminars and events at Stockholm University, the Stockholm Environment Institute, or the Stockholm Resilience Centre – three institutions that might be of interest to Noragric students.

Both NAI and Uppsala offer a variety of social and touristic opportunities as well – scholarship holders are invited to participate in floorball and Chi Gong sessions

organized by the institute, as well as collective breakfasts every Wednesday. Uppsala itself is also quite charming, with plenty of sights, museums, cafes, and restaurants to explore with your fellow scholarship holders.

In sum, this experience was both highly enjoyable and highly productive. Accordingly, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to both Liv Ellingsen for advertising the call for scholarship applications last autumn, and to everyone at NAI for being such gracious hosts. Further, I absolutely recommend that other Noragric students (both M.Sc. and PhD) apply for a study scholarship at the institute. Applications are generally accepted in the fall for positions in the spring. For more information about this process and other opportunities at NAI, please visit <http://www.nai.uu.se/scholarships/>.