

## Academic Travel: Travelling for Work

Vivian Besem Ojong

*School of Social Sciences, University of KwaZulu-Natal, Howard College,  
Private Bag X54001, Durban, 4001, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa  
E-mail: [ojong@ukzn.ac.za](mailto:ojong@ukzn.ac.za)*

**KEYWORDS** Mobility. Circuits. Travel. Academics. Circulation

**ABSTRACT** This paper endeavours to show how academics become part of cross-cultural production, cultural circulation and ideological circulation. The stand-point of analysis of this paper is the individualised process of academic participation in tourism and the by-product of their participation. This paper is not intended to make academics that travel to conferences look opportunistic, yet the difference from mainstream tourism is that it is part of academic portfolio. Other tourists travel to places to unwind and rest but with an academic tourist, that point of disconnection is not there. This is part of valuable experience. Once an academic is highly connected that academic becomes highly successful. Attending a conference is not only about presenting a paper but also about connecting with people.