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IWU News Advisory

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February 9, 2005

Event: The African Studies Program, International Studies Program, and Sociology and Anthropology Department present Njeri Mbugua and the premiere of her new book *JOKI: When Elephants Fight, the Grass Suffers*

Date: February 11 (Friday)

Time: 3:30-5:00 p.m.

Location: Beckman Auditorium, The Ames Library, 1 Ames Plaza, Bloomington

Admission: Free and open to the public

Background: Njeri Mbugua recently published a novel, *JOKI: When Elephants Fight, the Grass Suffers*, about a poor orphan girl named Joki. This novel shows a modern African lifestyle that is rarely discussed in the media.

In addition to a discussion of the book by Mbugua, who is assistant professor of sociology at Illinois Wesleyan University, a brief talk about Somalia before and after the tsunami will be given by William Munro, associate professor of political science. Their presentation will be followed by questions from the audience and a book signing.

This event is also a fundraiser for children orphaned by the tsunami. Copies of *JOKI* will be available for sale for \$21 a copy, with \$7 per book to benefit the tsunami orphans.

For those unable to attend the premiere and fundraiser, the novel may be purchased by contacting Njeri Mbugua at (309)556-3432, or by e-mail at nmbugua@iwu.edu. The book also is available at the Illinois Wesleyan University bookstore in the Hansen Student Center, 300 Beecher St., Bloomington.

Contact: For more information, contact the Office of University Communications at (309)556-3181.