

### **Emmanuel Orkoh, PhD graduation**

Emmanuel Orkoh, who has been working under the supervision of Prof Derick Blaauw (promoter) and Dr Carike Claassen (co-promoter), graduated with his PhD in Economics on 22 May 2019.

In his thesis titled 'Essays on trade openness, wage, poverty and intra-household time allocation in Ghana', Emmanuel analysed the interrelationships between trade, poverty, labour market outcomes and household production, with a special focus on gender and spatial differences. One of his findings was that trade openness significantly narrows the gender wage gap among urban residents, but not in the rural areas where the gap is higher. In addition, wages and poverty have heterogeneous effects on inequality in hours of labour supply and household production – with females, the poor and rural residents being the most severely affected. Among his recommendations was that policies should be geared towards ensuring that Ghana participates more fully in global trade, including devising appropriate labour market policies at the domestic level. An article based on Emmanuel's thesis has been accepted for publication in an accredited international journal, with three more articles currently under review.

Emmanuel has worked as a researcher at both national and international organisations, including Ghana's University of Cape Coast, where he obtained his Master's and Bachelor's degrees, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the Institute of African Leadership for Sustainable Development (UONGOZI Institute), Global Reach at the University of Michigan and the World Trade Organization (WTO). He is currently employed by the International Organization for Migration (IMO) in Geneva, Switzerland. He is an affiliate of the African Growth and Development Policy Modelling Consortium (AGRODEP) and the Berkeley Initiative for Transparency in the Social Sciences (BITSS).



From left to right: Dr C Claassen, Dr E Orkoh, Prof W Viveirs and Prof D Blaauw