

# Annual New Year Lecture

Each year, the Africa Multiple Cluster of Excellence starts its line of annual activities and events with the New Year Lecture open to the interested public, featuring prominent speakers who address questions and concepts central to the Cluster's agenda.

Whether you join us in person or online for the 2024 New Year Lecture, we sincerely hope that it will be the start of yet another fruitful and interesting year of exchange, research and debate within our Cluster community and beyond.

*Best wishes for 2024*

Prof. Dr. Rüdiger Seesemann

Prof. Dr. Ute Fendler



*Africa Multiple Cluster of Excellence  
University of Bayreuth*

[www.africa-multiple.uni-bayreuth.de](http://www.africa-multiple.uni-bayreuth.de)  
Mail: [africamultiple-international@uni-bayreuth.de](mailto:africamultiple-international@uni-bayreuth.de)

#### Find us on social media:

Facebook:	@AfricaMultiple
Twitter	@ClusterAfrica
Instagram	@africanclusterbt
LinkedIn	Excellence Cluster Africa Multiple
YouTube	Africa Multiple Cluster of Excellence



UNIVERSITÄT  
BAYREUTH

**DFG** Deutsche  
Forschungsgemeinschaft

NEW YEAR LECTURE

18  
01  
24  
6-8 PM

**PROF. DR. AKOSUA  
ADOMAKO AMPOFO**

**CRAZY THINGS: CAN WE  
BE TRUE TO AN  
AFRICAN AGENDA AND  
SURVIVE IN TODAY'S  
ACADEMY?**

FIFTH ANNUAL  
NEW YEAR LECTURE

Introduction

**DR. FULERA ISSAKA-TOURE**

Africa Multiple Cluster of Excellence,  
*University of Bayreuth*

Respondent

**PROF. DR. GRACE MUSILA**

*Associate Professor of African Literature,  
University of the Witwatersrand*

Lecture

**PROF. DR.**

**AKOSUA ADOMAKO AMPOFO**

*Professor of African and Gender Studies,  
University of Ghana*



**CRAZY THINGS: CAN WE BE TRUE TO AN  
AFRICAN AGENDA AND SURVIVE IN  
TODAY'S ACADEMY?**

Music is experienced and understood as an integral part of our self identity; it is closely linked with personal memories and significant moments of history; it is a form of self-expression of who we are, and how we feel. Taking a slice out of Nigerian singer Tems' book, I employ her song, *Crazy Things*, as a metaphor to evoke the image of the multiple crazy things that abound in the academy, which is situated in a crazy world. More importantly, however, I reflect on how we might seek an intellectual engagement that serves Global Africa's interests while ensuring that we are not destroyed in the process, and how, hopefully, we can even thrive?

