

CURRICULUM VITAE

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DATE OF BIRTH: July 19, 1965

MARITAL STATUS: married, three children

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION AND INTEREST

Sufism, Islam and Modernity, Islam and Politics, Islamism, Islamic Education, Islamic Knowledge

EDUCATION

2004	Habilitation	University of Bayreuth, Germany (Islamic Studies)
1993	Ph.D.	University of Mainz, Germany (Islamic Studies)
1988-1989	Arabic Language	Damascus, Syria
1986-1991	M.A. Studies	University of Mainz, Germany (Islamic Studies and Anthropology)
1984-1985	Undergrad. Studies	Philipps University Marburg, Germany (Archeology, Prehistory, Ancient Oriental Studies)

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2019-2017	Spokesperson, Cluster of Excellence “Africa Multiple”, University of Bayreuth
2017-	Chair of Islamic Studies, Faculty of Language and Literature, University of Bayreuth, Germany
2011-2017	Heisenberg Professor of Islamic Studies, Faculty of Language and Literature, University of Bayreuth, Germany
2005-2011	Assistant Professor, Department of Religious Studies, Northwestern University Evanston, IL (received tenure and promotion to Associate Professor in March 2011)
May 2010	Visiting Professor, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris
2000-2004	Research Fellow, University of Bayreuth, Special Research Unit (SFB) “Local Agency in Africa in the Context of Global Influences”; Project Title: “Islamic Education in East Africa”
1997-2004	Adjunct Lecturer, Chair of Islamic Studies, Bayreuth University
1996	Research Fellow, University of Bayreuth, Special Research Unit (SFB) “Identity in Africa”; Project Title: “Islam and Work Ethics in Africa”
1994-1995	Adjunct Lecturer, Faculty of Economic and Social Studies, University of Khartoum (Sudan)

COURSES TAUGHT (since 1997; details available on request)

Introduction to Islam; Early History and Teachings of Islam; The Qur'ân; Muslim Saints; Sufism: Doctrines, Beliefs, Practices; The Sufi Orders in Africa; The Evolution of Islamic Political Thought; Islam and the Clash of Civilizations; Converts and Apostates; Theories and Practices of Islamic Knowledge; Knowledge in Africa; Muslim Festivals; *Jihâd*: Wars and Concepts; Radical Muslim Intellectuals and Militant Islamic Movements; The Salafiyya; Muhammad b. Abd al-Wahhab: Kitab al-Tawhid; Islam in the Sudan; The Origins of Sufism; Sufi Literature in Translation; Arabic Sufi Texts from North and West Africa; Political Islam in Africa South of the Sahara; Islam as Text, Islam in Context; "Popular" and "Orthodox" Islam: Approaches to the Study of Islam and Muslim Societies; The Study of Muslim Cultures

ACADEMIC HONORS/FELLOWSHIPS/GRANTS

- 2018 Conference Grant (ca. € 50,000), Programme Point Sud (Frankfurt/Bamako), "Intersections of Moralities and Higher Education", Dakar, December 2018
- 2017-2018 Spokesperson of the Application for a Cluster of Excellence, "Africa Multiple: Reconfiguring African Studies", Excellence Strategy of the German Federal and State Governments (approved, September 27, 2018; duration 2019-2025)
- 2017- Affiliated Investigator, "The Presence of the Prophet: Muhammad in the mirror of his community in early and modern Islam," joint DFG-ANR project (Stefan Reichmuth, Ruhr-Universität Bochum; Rachida Chih, CNRS Paris)
- 2014- Heisenberg Professorship (second term), German Research Foundation
- 2011- Co-Principal Investigator, Bayreuth International School of African Studies (BIGSAS), funded by the Excellence Initiative of the German government
- 2011-2014 Recipient of a research grant from the German Research Foundation (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, DFG; € 250,000) for the project "Epistemological Foundations of Differences within Sunni Islam: Traditionalists, Reformers, and Islamists in Contemporary Africa" (University of Bayreuth, Germany)
- 2011-2014 Heisenberg Professorship (first term), German Research Foundation
- 2009-2012 Co-Principal Investigator, Ford Foundation grant (\$430,000) to the conclude work on the project "Constituting Bodies of Islamic Knowledge," Institute for the Study of Islamic Thought in Africa (ISITA), Northwestern University
- 2007-2008 Faculty Fellow, Kaplan Institute for the Humanities, Northwestern University
- 2006-2007 URGC Faculty Research Grant (\$ 5,000), The Graduate School, Northwestern University, for the project "Sufism and Society in 20th-Century West Africa"
- 2005-2008 Co-Principal Investigator, Ford Foundation grant (\$430,000) to the project "Constituting Bodies of Islamic Knowledge," Institute for the Study of Islamic Thought in Africa (ISITA), Northwestern University
- 2003 Conference grant (€ 17,000), International Conference on "The Global Worlds of the Swahili" in Zanzibar (Prince Claus Fund, The Netherlands)
- 1999-2000 Habilitation fellowship and research grant from the German Research Foundation for the project "Ibrahim Niassa and the Tijaniyya Sufi Order" (University of Bayreuth)
- 1997-1998 Research fellowship from the German Research Foundation for the project "The Niyasiyya Branch of the Tijaniyya Sufi Order" (University of Bayreuth)
- 1998-1999 Fellow, Summer Institute "The Islamic World and Modernity" (Social Science Research Council, New York, and Institute of Advanced Studies, Berlin)

- 1993-1995 Postdoctoral fellowship and research grant, Graduate College “Intercultural Relations in Africa” (University of Bayreuth)
 1990-1991 M.A. thesis completion fellowship (University of Mainz, Germany)

LANGUAGES

German (native); Arabic, English, French (all fluent); Persian, Turkish, Kiswahili (research proficiency); *Graecum, Latinum*

STUDIES AND RESEARCH ABROAD

- 2014 Sudan, Kenya: research on Islamic knowledge practices (two months)
 2014 Senegal: research on Islamic knowledge practices (three weeks)
 2013 Mauritania: research on Islamic knowledge practices (one month)
 2012 Sudan: research on Islamic knowledge practices (one month)
 2011 South Africa: research on Tijani literature (two weeks)
 2010 Senegal: research on Tijani literature (two weeks)
 2009 Kenya: restudy of the impact of the “war on terror” (one month)
 2009 Sudan: research on Tijani literature (two weeks)
 2008 Mauritania, Senegal: research on Tijani authors and writings (two months)
 2007 Egypt, Sudan: research on Tijani authors and writings (two months)
 2006 Kenya: research on popular religious literature (two months)
 2005 Kenya: research on impact of the “war on terror” on Muslims (two months)
 2003 Zanzibar: complementing research on Islamic education in Kenya (two weeks)
 2001-2004 Kenya: research on Islamic education (four trips of two months each)
 1999 Senegal: completing data collection on the Tijaniyya (one month)
 1999 Sudan: completing data collection on the Tijaniyya (one month)
 1997 Sudan, Chad, Nigeria, Egypt: research on Tijaniyya Sufi order (five months)
 1996 Senegal: research on the Tijaniyya Sufi order (two months)
 1994-1995 Sudan: field work in Darfur focusing on Islam and work ethics, Qur’anic education, and the Tijaniyya Sufi order (twelve months)
 1994 Senegal: research on the Tijaniyya Sufi order (two months)
 1994 Sudan: preparatory trip for long-term field research in Darfur (two months)
 1988-1989 Syria: study of Arabic language in Damascus (nine months)
 1988 Senegal: research on the Muridiyya Sufi order (three months)

PUBLICATIONS

a) Monographs

- *The Divine Flood: Ibrahim Niassé and the Roots of a Twentieth-Century Sufi Revival*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2011.

Reviews:

- Yusuf Hilliard, Floodplains@blog 2011 <http://floodplains.tumblr.com/post/8583770998/inundated-with-god>
 Cleo Cantone, *The Muslim World Book Review* 33/1, 2012, pp. 27-30
 John Glover, *International Journal of African Historical Studies* 45/1, 2012, pp. 122-123
 Stanisław Grodz, *Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations* 24/1, 2013, pp. 148-150
 Nile Green, *Islamic Africa* 4/1, 2013, pp. 132-134
 Robert Rozehnal, *Religion* 43/2, 2013, pp. 288-291
 Peter Valentyne, *Sufi Journal* 84, 2013

Jennifer Woodhull, *The Annual Review of Islam in Africa* 12/2, 2013-2014, pp. 109-114

Cheikh Anta Babou, *Journal of Sufi Studies* 3/1, 2014, 96-99

Waleed Ziad, *Comparative Islamic Studies* 9/1, 2014, pp. 122-125

Amidu Sanni, *Journal of Islamic Studies* 27/2, 2016, pp. 225-227

- *Nach der «Flut»: Ibrâhîm Niasse (1900-1975), Sufik und Gesellschaft in Westafrika* [After the «Flood»: Ibrâhîm Niasse, Sufism and Society in West Africa]. Habilitation Thesis, University of Bayreuth, 2004.
- *Ahmadu Bamba und die Entstehung der Murîdîya* [Ahmadu Bamba and the Origins of the Murîdiyya]. Berlin: Klaus Schwarz Verlag, 1993.

b) Edited Volumes

- *Arabic Literature of Africa, Vol VII: The Tijānī Corpus and Its Authors*. Leiden: Brill, under contract.
- *Trajectories of Islamic Knowledge in Africa*, co-edited with Britta Frede and Noah Salomon. Leiden: Brill, in preparation.
- *Sufism and Literary Production in the Nineteenth Century*, co-edited with Rachida Chih and Catherine Mayeur-Jaouen. Würzburg: Ergon Verlag, 2015.
- *The Global Worlds of the Swahili. Interfaces of Islam, Identity and Space in 19th and 20th-Century East Africa*, co-edited with Roman Loimeier. Berlin: LIT, 2006.

c) Articles in Peer-Reviewed Journals

- Epistemology or Ideology? Toward a Relational Perspective on Islamic Knowledge in Africa. *Journal of Africana Religions* 6/2, 2018 (pp. 232-268).
- Plurality and Relationality: New Directions in African Studies“ (co-author with Eva Spies). *Africa Today* 63/2, 2016 (pp. 132-139).
- Embodied knowledge and ‘The Walking Qur’an’: Lessons for the study of Islam and Africa. *Journal of Africana Religions* 3/2, 2015 (pp. 201-209).
- Sufism in West Africa. *Religion Compass* 4/10, 2010 (pp. 606-614).
- Three Ibrahims: Literary production and the remaking of the Tijaniyya Sufi order in twentieth-century Sudanic Africa. *Die Welt des Islams* 49, 2009 (pp. 299-333).
- “Being as good Muslims as Frenchmen”: On marabouts, colonial modernity, and the Islamic sphere in French West Africa (co-author with Benjamin F. Soares). *Journal of Religion in Africa* 39, 2009 (pp. 91-120).
- Between Sufism and Islamism: The Tijâniyya and Islamist rule in the Sudan. *Princeton Papers. Interdisciplinary Journal for Middle Eastern Studies* 15 (Sufism and Politics, ed. Paul Heck), 2006 (pp. 23-57).
- *Ziyâra*: Funktionen und Bedeutungen in der Tijânîya (Westafrika) [*Ziyâra*: Its functions and meanings within the Tijâniyya Sufi order in West Africa]. *Der Islam* 83, 2006 (pp. 157-169).
- Islamism and the paradox of secularization. The case of Islamist ideas on women in the Sudan. *Sociologus. Journal for Empirical Social Anthropology* 55, 2005 (pp. 89-118).
- “Ein Dialog der Taubstummen”: Französische vs. britische Wahrnehmungen des Islam im spätkolonialen Westafrika [“A dialogue of the deaf”: French versus British perceptions of Islam in late colonial West Africa]. *Afrika Spectrum* 37 (2), 2002 (pp. 109-139).
- The writings of the Sudanese Tijânî *shaykh* Ibrâhîm Sîdî (1949-1999), with notes on the writings of his grandfather, *shaykh* Muhammad Salmâ (d. 1918), and his brother, *shaykh* Muhammad al-Ghâlî (b. c. 1947). *Sudanica Africa* 11, 2000 (pp. 107-124).
- “Where East Meets West”: Islamic educational institutions in Darfur / Sudan. *Islam et sociétés au Sud du Sahara* 13, 1999 (pp. 41-61).
- The *takfîr* debate. Part II: The Sudanese arena. *Sudanica Africa* 10, 1999 (pp. 65-110).

- The *takfir* debate. Sources for the study of a contemporary dispute among African Sufis, Part I: The Nigerian arena. *Sudanic Africa* 9, 1998 (pp. 39-70).

d) Articles in Collective Volumes

- *‘Ilm and Adab Revisited. Knowledge Transmission and Character Formation in Islamic Africa.* In: *The Piety of Learning: Islamic Studies in Honor of Stefan Reichmuth*, ed. Ralf Elger and Michael Kemper. Leiden: Brill, 2017 (pp. 15-37).
- Changes in Islamic Knowledge Practices in Twentieth-Century Kenya. In: *Islamic Education in Africa. Writing Boards and Blackboards*, ed. Robert Launay. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2016 (pp. 212-233).
- Sufismus und Volksreligion [Sufism and popular religion]. In: *Einführung in den Islam*, ed. Rainer Brunner. Stuttgart: Kohlhammer, 2016 (pp. 294-309).
- The nineteenth century: A Sufi century? (co-authored with Rachida Chih and Catherine Mayeur-Jaouen). In: *Sufism, Literary Production, and Printing in the Nineteenth Century*, ed. Rachida Chih, Catherine Mayeur-Jaouen, and Rüdiger Seesemann. Würzburg, Ergon Verlag, 2015 (pp. 3-22).
- A new dawn for Sufism? Spiritual Training in the mirror of nineteenth-century Tijani literature. In: *Sufism, Literary Production, and Printing in the Nineteenth Century*, ed. Rachida Chih, Catherine Mayeur-Jaouen, and Rüdiger Seesemann. Würzburg, Ergon Verlag, 2015 (pp. 279-298).
- Musulmans kényans, les suites du 11 septembre et la ‘guerre contre le terrorisme.’ In: *Islam, état et société en Afrique*, ed. Benjamin F. Soares and René Otayek. Paris: Karthala, 2009 (pp. 243-273).
- Kenyan Muslims, the aftermath of 9/11 and the “war on terror.” In: *Islam and Muslim Politics in Africa*, ed. Benjamin F. Soares and René Otayek. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2007 (pp. 157-176).
- Introduction: Interfaces of Islam, identity and space in 19th and 20th-century East Africa (co-authored with Roman Loimeier). In: *The Global Worlds of the Swahili. Interfaces of Islam, Identity and Space in 19th and 20th-Century East Africa*, ed. Roman Loimeier and Rüdiger Seesemann. Berlin: LIT, 2006 (pp. 1-14).
- African Islam or Islam in Africa? Evidence from Kenya. In: *The Global Worlds of the Swahili. Interfaces of Islam, Identity and Space in 19th and 20th-Century East Africa*, ed. Roman Loimeier and Rüdiger Seesemann. Berlin: LIT, 2006 (pp. 229-250).
- Sub-Saharan Africa. In: *Anti-Americanism in the Islamic World*, ed. Sigrid Faath. London: Hurst, 2006 (pp. 197-208).
- The quotidian dimension of Islamic reformism in Wadai (Chad). In: *L’Islam politique au sud du Sahara. Identités, discours et enjeux*, ed. Muriel Gomez-Perez. Paris: Karthala, 2005 (pp. 327-346).
- The *shurafâ*’ and the “blacksmith”: The role of the Idaw ‘Alî of Mauritania in the career of the Senegalese Tijânî *shaykh* Ibrâhim Niassé. In: *The Transmission of Learning in Islamic Africa*, ed. Scott S. Reese. Leiden: Brill, 2004 (pp. 72-98).
- Verfall des Sufismus? [Decay of Sufism?]. In: *Geschichte und Erinnerung im Islam*, ed. Angelika Hartmann. Göttingen: Vandenhoeck und Ruprecht, 2004 (pp. 171-193).
- Antiamerikanismus in Afrika südlich der Sahara [Anti-Americanism in Africa south of the Sahara]. In: *Antiamerikanismus in Nordafrika, Nah- und Mittelost. Formen, Dimensionen und Folgen für Europa und Deutschland*, ed. Sigrid Faath. Hamburg: Deutsches Orient-Institut, 2003 (pp. 279-294).
- Sufi leaders and social welfare: Two examples from the Sudan. In: *Social Welfare in Muslim Societies in Africa*, ed. Holger Weiss. Uppsala: Nordiska Afrikainstitutet, 2002 (pp. 98-117).

- The history of the Tijâniyya and the issue of *tarbiya* in Darfur (Sudan). In: *La Tijâniyya. Une confrérie musulmane à la conquête de l'Afrique*, ed. David Robinson & Jean Louis Triaud. Paris: Karthala, 2000 (pp. 393-437).
 - Der lange Arm des Ibrâhîm Sâlih. Erfahrungen eines deutschen Forschers mit dem Netzwerk eines nigerianischen Gelehrten [The long arm of Ibrâhîm Sâlih. A German researcher's encounter with the network of a Nigerian religious scholar]. In: *Die islamische Welt als Netzwerk*, ed. Roman Loimeier. Würzburg: Ergon, 2000 (pp. 135-161).
 - Islam, Arbeit und Arbeitsethik: Die zâwiya der Tijâniyya in el-Fasher / Sudan [Islam, work and work ethics: The zâwiya of the Tijâniyya in el-Fasher / Sudan]. In: *Arbeit in Afrika*, ed. Kurt Beck and Gerd Spittler. Hamburg: LIT, 1996 (pp. 141-160).
- e) Other Published Works (including contributions to encyclopedias)
- Work ethics among Sufis in sub-Saharan Africa. *Adyan/Religions* 7, 2015 (pp. 66-73).
 - Dschihad. *Welt am Sonntag*, February 8, 2015 (p. 46).
 - Senegals Sufi-Orden: Stabilitätsfaktor in der nationalen Politik [The Sufi orders of Senegal: a factor providing stability in national politics]. *Afrika Bulletin* 157, 2015 (pp. 8-9).
 - Ist der Islam in Afrika auf dem Vormarsch? [Is Islam on the rise in Africa?]. *Neue Gesellschaft / Frankfurter Hefte* 12, 2013 (pp. 59-61).
 - Islamic scholarship in Senegal. *Oxford Islamic Scholarship Online*, Spotlight: West Africa, 2013. URL: www.oxfordislamicstudies.com
 - Niasse, Ibrahim. *Oxford Islamic Scholarship Online*, Spotlight: West Africa, 2012. URL: www.oxfordislamicstudies.com
 - Ahmadu Bamba. In: *Encyclopaedia of Islam Three*. Leiden: Brill, 2013.
 - Turabi, Hasan al-. In: *Encyclopedia of Islamic Political Thought*, ed. Gerhard Böwering, Patricia Crone, Wadad Kadi, Devin J. Stewart und Muhammad Qasim Zaman. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2012 (pp. 144-145).
 - Lesson Plan: Islam in East Africa. *Oxford Islamic Studies Online*, 2011. URL: <http://www.oxfordislamicstudies.com>
 - Thematic Guide: Islam outside the Arab world. *Oxford Islamic Studies Online*, 2011. URL: <http://www.oxfordislamicstudies.com>
 - Alfa Hashim. In: *Encyclopaedia of Islam Three*. Leiden: Brill, 2010 (vol. 1, pp. 77-79).
 - Islam in sub-Saharan Africa. In: *The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Islamic World*, ed. John Esposito. New York: Oxford University Press 2009 (vol. 3, pp. 87-98).
 - Between tradition and reform: The Hadrami model of Islamic learning in 20th-century Kenya. *Orientalwissenschaftliche Hefte* 22 (Bildungsformen und Bildungsträger zwischen Tradition und Moderne, ed. Stefan Leder & Hanne Schönig), 2007 (pp. 37-59).
 - "Thinking in terms of black and white is dangerous." Interview with Rüdiger Seesemann. *Development and Cooperation* 48 (10), 2007 (pp. 372-375).
 - Competing approaches to Islamic education in Kenya. In: *Proceedings of the International Symposium on Islamic Civilisation in Eastern Africa* (Kampala, 15-17 Dec. 2003), ed. Abdu B. Kasozi and Sadik Ünay. Istanbul: IRCICA, 2006 (pp. 171-179).
 - Kenia – Muslime im politischen Wandel [Kenya – Muslims and Political Change]. *INAMO* (Berlin) 41, 2005 (pp. 9-12).
 - East African Muslims after 9/11. *Bayreuth African Studies Working Papers* No. 3, July 2005 (12 pp.); <http://opus.ub.uni-bayreuth.de/volltexte/2005/169/>
 - Vom Gesang der Wale, oder: Warum man einen Marabout alimentiert [The whales' song, or why to give gifts to a Marabout]. In: *Blick nach vorn. Festgabe für Gerd Spittler zum*

65. *Geburtstag* [Essays in honor of Gerd Spittler on the occasion of his 65th birthday], ed. Kurt Beck, Till Förster, and Hans Peter Hahn. Köln: Köppe, 2004 (pp. 186-199).
- Senegambia I: The Niassene tradition (co-author with John Hunwick and Ousmane Kane). In: *Arabic literature of Africa, Vol. IV: The Writings of Western Sudanic Africa*, ed. John Hunwick. Leiden: Brill, 2003 (pp. 272-307).
 - Murîdiyya. In: *Religions of the World: A Comprehensive Encyclopedia of Beliefs and Practices*. Santa Barbara/Ca.: ABC-Clio, 2002.
 - Tijâniyya. In: *Religions of the World: A Comprehensive Encyclopedia of Beliefs and Practices*. Santa Barbara/Ca.: ABC-Clio, 2002.
 - Ziyâra (West and Central Africa). In: *Encyclopaedia of Islam*. Leiden: Brill, 2001.
 - Der Sudan und die islamistische Verfassung [The Sudan and the Islamists' constitution]. *INAMO* (Berlin) 17, 1999 (pp. 42-45).
 - Internationalisierung des "afrikanischen Islam"? Das Beispiel von Ibrâhîm Sâlih (Maiduguri / Nigeria) [Internationalization of "African Islam"? The case of Ibrâhîm Sâlih]. In: *Afrika und die Globalisierung*, ed. Hans Peter Hahn & Gerd Spittler. Hamburg: LIT, 1999 (pp. 325-36).
 - Origins and consequences of the expansion of the Niyâsiyya branch of the Tijâniyya. *Saharan Studies Association Newsletter* 5 (1), 1997 (pp. 9-13). Available on the Internet: <http://ssa.sri.com:8002/news/newsletters/v5n1.pdf>
 - Die jihâd-Ideologie im islamistischen Sudan [The ideology of jihâd in Islamist Sudan]. In: *Forschungen im Sudan. Ergebnisse der interdisziplinären Sudantagung im Februar 1996 in Erfurt*, ed. K.-H. Pörtge. Erfurt: Institut für Geographie der Pädagogischen Hochschule, 1997 (pp. 203-208).
 - *Ba'd malâmih al-ta'lim al-dînî wa-l-khalâwî fi Dârfûr* [Some aspects of religious education and Koranic schools in Darfur]. *Dirâsât Ifrîqiyya* (Khartoum) 13, 1995 (pp. 93-116).
 - Zwischen Verklärung und Erbfeindschaft: Das westliche Islambild als abendländisches Konstrukt [Between idealisation and enmity: The Western image of Islam as an occidental construct]. *Umbrüche* (Berlin) 7, August 1993 (pp. 10-18).

f) Book Reviews

- Ousmane Kane, *Beyond Timbuktu. An Intellectual History of Muslim West Africa*. *Research Africa Reviews* 1/2 (pp. 8-11).
- Ousmane Kane, The Homeland is the Arena: Religion, Transnationalism, and the Integration of Senegalese Immigrants in America. *Journal of African History* 53, 2012 (pp. 127-129).
- Gabriel Warburg, Islam, Sectarianism, and Politics in Sudan since the Mahdiyya. *Die Welt des Islams* 49, 2009 (pp. 280-282).
- Scott Kugle, Sufis and Saints' Bodies. Mysticism, Corporeality, and Sacred Power in Islam. *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 76, 2008 (pp. 514-521).
- Ian Richard Netton, Sufi Ritual. *Journal of Semitic Studies* 47, 2002 (pp. 166-169).
- Abdel Salam Sidahmed, Politics and Islam in Contemporary Sudan. *Die Welt des Islams* 41, 2001 (pp. 130-132).
- David Westerlund & Eva Evers Rosander (eds.), African Islam and Islam in Africa. *Die Welt des Islams* 40, 2000 (pp. 129-131).
- Peter Nyot Kok, Governance and Conflict in the Sudan 1985-1995. *Zeitschrift der Deutschen Morgenländischen Gesellschaft* 148, 1998 (pp. 218-219).
- Urs-Peter Ruf, Mobile Selbsthafte. Sedentarisierung und Geschichte der Nomaden in Mauretanien. *INAMO* (Berlin) 10, 1997 (pp. 49-50).

CONFERENCES AND PAPER PRESENTATIONS

a) Panels, Workshops, and Conferences Organized and Convened

- Panel on *Religion Multiple: Continuities, Flows, and "Religious Diversity"*, European Conference of African Studies, Edinburgh, June 11-14, 2019 (co-convener with Benjamin Soares and Eva Spies).
- International Conference "Intersections of Moralities and Higher Education", Programme Point Sud (Frankfurt/Bamako), Dakar, December 9-12, 2018.
- International Conference "African Studies: Multiple and Relational", University of Bayreuth, December 7-10, 2017.
- Panel on *The Plural and Relational in Religious Practices, Concepts, and Spaces in Africa*, European Conference of African Studies, Basel, June 29-July 1, 2017 (co-convener with Benjamin Soares and Eva Spies).
- Panel on *Muslims and Media Landscapes in Africa: Contestation, Subversion, Revolt*, European Conference of African Studies, Paris, July 8-10, 2015 (co-convener with Benjamin Soares).
- Panel on *The Role of Knowledge in Contestation*, European Conference of African Studies, Paris, July 8-10, 2015 (co-convener with Erdmute Alber and Elisio Macamo).
- International Workshop *Focus on Knowledge: Africa-Centered Perspectives*, Institute of African Studies, University of Bayreuth, June 26-27, 2015.
- Panel on *Transformations of Islamic Knowledge in Africa: Media, Agents, and Institutions*, Biennial Meeting of the African Studies Association in Germany (Vereinigung der Afrikanisten Deutschlands, VAD) on "Future Africa," June 11-14, 2014 (co-convener with Britta Frede).
- International Summer School *(Re-)Configurations of Islam in Africa*, jointly convened by the Bayreuth International Graduate School of African Studies and the Berlin Graduate School Muslim Cultures and Society, Berlin, August 12-17, 2013 (co-convener with Hansjörg Dilger).
- Three-part panel on *Rethinking Islam and Islamic Militancy in Contemporary Africa*, European Conference of African Studies, Lisbon, June 27-29, 2013 (co-convener with Roman Loimeier and Benjamin Soares).
- International Conference on *Sufism and Nineteenth-Century Literary Production*, Institut Français d'Archéologie Orientale, Cairo, March 2010 (co-sponsored by the Institute for the Study of Islamic Thought in Africa, Northwestern University, and the Centre National de Recherche Scientifique, Paris; co-convener with Rachida Chih and Catherine Mayeur-Jaouen).
- Meeting of the International Working Group *The Tijani Corpus and Its Authors*, Institute for the Study of Islamic Thought in Africa, Fez (Morocco), June 2009.
- Conference on *Islam and Muslim Youth in Africa*, Institute for the Study of Islamic Thought in Africa, Northwestern University, April 2009 (co-convener with Benjamin Soares).
- Conference on *Constituting Bodies of Islamic Knowledge*, Institute for the Study of Islamic Thought in Africa, Northwestern University, November 2008 (co-convener with Butch Ware).
- Workshop on *Texts, Words, Images: New Media and Islam in Africa*, Institute for the Study of Islamic Thought in Africa, Northwestern University, October 2007 (co-convener with Butch Ware).

- Workshop on *Sufi Texts, Sufi Contexts*, Institute for the Study of Islamic Thought in Africa, Northwestern University, May 2007.
- Panel on *Patterns of Religious Authority and Reform among African Muslims*, Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Washington D.C., November 2006.
- Workshop on *The Tijani Corpus and Its Authors*, Institute for the Study of Islamic Thought in Africa, Northwestern University, May 2006.
- Panel on *The Legacies of 'Islam Noir'*, Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association, Washington D.C., November 2005.
- Workshop on *Local Perspectives on the Global: Islam and Taarab in East Africa*, University of Bayreuth, May 2003 (co-convener with Roman Loimeier).
- International Conference on *The Global Worlds of the Swahili*, Palace Museum Zanzibar (Tanzania), February 2003 (co-convener with Roman Loimeier).
- Workshop on *The East African Coast in Times of Globalization*, University of Bayreuth, May 2001 (co-convener with Roman Loimeier).

b) Academic Papers Presented (selection, since 2005; complete list available on request)

Zum Status des geschriebenen Wortes in sufischen Vorstellungen und Praktiken.

Ringvorlesung zum Thema „Verstehst du auch, was du liest? Debatten über Heilige Texte in Orient und Okzident“, Universität Göttingen, January 22, 2019.

- On the History of Moralities in Education: Knowledge Transmission and Character Formation in Islamic Africa. International Conference “Intersections of Moralities and Higher Education”, Dakar, December 9-12, 2018.
- The Splendid Jewel in Praise of the Most Eminent Beloved”: Glimpses from the Diwan of Shaykh Ibrahim b. Sidi Muhammad al-Tijani (d. 1999, Darfur, Sudan). Conference on “Between God and Man: Representations of the Prophet in Literature, Arts, and Media,” Ruhr-Universität Bochum, November 9-10, 2017.
- *‘Ilm and adab*: Observations on Islamic knowledge practices in Sudanic Africa, Plenary Lecture, Cadbury Conference 2016, Birmingham (UK), June 30, 2016.
- Islamwissenschaft und islamische Wissenskulturen in der digitalen Transformation, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Fakultät für Philologie, June 13, 2016.
- Transformationen und neue Ausdrucksformen des Sufismus. Lecture Series “Der Sufismus: Gnostische, mystische und spirituelle Dimensionen des Islam,” Österreichische Orient-Gesellschaft Hammer-Purgstall, Vienna, November 26, 2015.
- Contemporary religious ideas among African Muslims. Conference on “Religion and Radicalisation in Africa,” Ministry of Foreign Affairs, The Hague (Netherlands), September 10-11, 2015.
- *‘Ilm and adab* revisited: Observations on Islamic scholarly culture in Africa. International Workshop on “Muslim scholars in Africa, Past and Present,” Leiden University, April 23, 2015.
- Trajectories of Islam and meanings of being Muslim in Africa. CAS – Certificate in Advanced Studies, Zentrum für Afrikastudien, University of Basel, September 20, 2014.
- Post-Islamism, post-secularism, and the politics of Islamic knowledge. Insights from Africa. Conference on “Islamism versus Post-Islamism? Mapping Topographies of Islamic Political and Cultural Practices and Discourses,” Excellence Cluster “Formation of Normative Orders,” Goethe University Frankfurt am Main, December 14, 2013.
- Epistemologie als Ideologie: Islamische Zugänge zu Wissen in Afrika. Lecture Series “Die islamische Welt heute: Mehr als Islamismus und Arabellionen,” Freiburg University, November 7, 2013.
- Theories and practices of Islamic knowledge. Keynote given at the International Summer School “(Re-)Configurations of Islam in Africa” convened by the Bayreuth International

Graduate School of African Studies and the Berlin Graduate School Muslim Cultures and Society, Berlin, August 12, 2013.

- *Mafhum al-tarbiya fi l-tasawwuf* [The understanding of spiritual training in Sufism; in Arabic], Invited lecture, Département d'Histoire, Université de Nouakchott, May 9, 2013.
- *Mafahim al-'ilm fi l-islam* [Concepts of knowledge in Islam; in Arabic], Invited lecture Département d'Histoire, Université de Nouakchott, May 7, 2013.
- Das 14. islamische Jahrhundert in Afrika: Skizze einer Forschungsagenda. Lecture held as a search candidate for the professorship in African History, Humboldt University Berlin, April 29, 2013.
- Islam und Arbeitsethik. *Hofgeismarer Islamtagung* on "Islamische Sozial- und Wirtschaftsethik," Evangelische Akademie Hofgeismar, January 25, 2013.
- Sufism, secrecy, and the public sphere in late colonial West Africa: Lessons for the anthropology of Islam. Workshop on "Habitats and Habitus: Politics and Aesthetics of Religious World-Making," Centre of Modern Oriental Studies, Berlin, January 12-13, 2013.
- Taking knowledge back to the Islamic roots: Recent intellectual trends in the Sudan. Workshop on "Dynamics of Religious Reform Movements In Contemporary Africa," Bayreuth International Graduate School of African Studies, University of Bayreuth, June 27, 2012.
- Charisma und Sufismus. Invited Lecture, Religionswissenschaftliches Kolloquium, University of Bayreuth, May 30, 2012.
- The Hadhrami model of Islamic learning in 20th-century Kenya. International Conference on "The Revival of the Islamic Tradition in Africa," Qatar Faculty of Islamic Studies and Qatar Foundation, Doha, May 12-13, 2012.
- Le cru et le cuit revisité: Ibrâhîm Niasse (1900- 1975) et la renaissance de la Tijâniyya en XXe siècle. Table Ronde "Islam (Tijâniyya, salafisme), catégories subordonnées et transnationalisme (Afrique de l'Ouest)," École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris, March 8-9, 2012.
- „When meat fails to cook“: A new approach to the study of Sufism in West Africa. Invited Lecture, SMES/LUCIS (School of Middle Eastern Studies/Leiden University Center for the Study of Islam and Society) Lecture Series, Leiden University, March 1, 2012.
- The fourteenth Islamic century: Millenarian thought and movements in sub-Saharan Africa. Lecture held as Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Chair in Contemporary Islamic Religion and Society Search Candidate, Harvard University, February 13, 2012.
- Das 14. islamische Jahrhundert. Millenaristische Erwartungen und Bewegungen in Afrika. Inaugural Lecture at the Faculty of Language and Literature, University of Bayreuth, December 7, 2011.
- Sufism, Islamic reform, and the public sphere in late colonial West Africa. International Conference on "Islamic Reform and Public Life in Africa," University of Cape Town, October 12-14, 2011.
- "Wenn Fleisch nicht gar wird": Sufismus und "Volksislam" in West Africa. Invited Lecture, Kölner Ethnologisches Kolloquium, University of Cologne, November 22, 2011.
- East and west in transnational Sufi networks. Invited Lecture, Centre for Civilisational Dialogue, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, July 22, 2011.
- Understanding Islam in Africa through the lens of Islamic knowledge. Keynote at the International Conference "Islam in Africa: Intellectual Trends, Historical Sources, Research Methods," International Islamic University Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, July 19, 2011.

- *al-Tarbiya al-ruhiyya fi mir'at mu'allafat al-tariqa al-Tijaniyya* [Spiritual training in the mirror of writings of the Tijaniyya Sufi order; in Arabic]. Atelier International “La littérature Soufie de la Sénégal: Textes et Contextes,” Dakar, December 15, 2010.
- Primacy of the master or primacy of the evidence? Competing approaches to Islamic knowledge in Africa. Invited Lecture, Center of Modern Oriental Studies, Berlin, December 9, 2010.
- Transformations of Sufism in Africa. Buffett Center Faculty & Fellows Colloquium, Northwestern University Evanston, October 22, 2010.
- “Let the cup make its round”: Popularizing mystical knowledge in twentieth-century West Africa. Invited Lecture, Centre d’Études Africaines, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris, June 14, 2010.
- Theories and practices of Islamic knowledge in Africa. Invited Lecture, Centre d’Études Africaines, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris, June 1, 2010.
- Murid work ethics revisited: New light on its roots and formulation. Invited Lecture, Centre d’Études Africaines, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris, May 26, 2010.
- Les marabouts comme autorités religieuses et politiques au Sénégal dans les années cinquante: le cas d’Ibrahima Niassé. Journée d’étude “Imam, pasteur, prophète, chef de culte. Grammaires sociales de l’autorité religieuse en Afrique contemporaine,” École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris, May 21, 2010.
- On the cultural history of Islamic knowledge and its contemporary relevance. Invited Lecture, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, April 14, 2010.
- African Islam, Arab Islam, and the colonial crucible: The Tijaniyya Sufi Order in late colonial West Africa. Lecture Series “Africa and the Middle East Intertwined,” Council on Middle East Studies and Council on African Studies, Yale University, March 31, 2010.
- A new dawn for Sufism? Spiritual training (*tarbiya*) in the mirror of Tijani literature, 1800-1930. International Conference on “Sufism and Nineteenth-Century Literary Production,” Cairo, March 17, 2010.
- 9/11 and Muslim politics in Kenya. Conference on “9/11 in Popular Culture and Art in Africa,” University of Cologne, November 21, 2009 (paper read in absence).
- Zur Kulturgeschichte islamischen Wissens und ihrer gegenwärtigen Relevanz. Invited Lecture, University of Basel, October 13, 2009.
- New expressions and transformations of Sufism. Invited Lecture, Faculty of Economic and Social Studies, University of Khartoum, August 19, 2009.
- Islamism and the paradox of secularization. Invited Lecture, Center for the Study of Islam and the Contemporary World, Khartoum, August 12, 2009.
- Three Ibrahims: Literary production and the remaking of the Tijaniyya Sufi order in 20th-century Africa. European Conference of African Studies, Leipzig, June 5, 2009.
- “Let the cup make its round.” Popularizing mystical knowledge in twentieth-century West Africa. Conference on “Constituting Bodies of Islamic Knowledge,” Northwestern University Evanston, November 17-18, 2008.
- States within the state? The Sufi orders in West Africa. Lecture Series, Bayreuth International Graduate School for African Studies, University of Bayreuth, July 8, 2008.
- “What time is it?” Time as an element of order in African Muslim societies. Summer School “Religion and Order in Africa,” University of Bayreuth, July 7, 2008.
- The role of Islam in the Darfur conflict and its resolution. Conference on “Failed and Failing States in Africa: Lessons from Darfur and Beyond,” Cornell University, April 18-19, 2008.

- Studying Sufism: Lessons from West Africa. Lunch Colloquium, Alice B. Kaplan Institute for the Humanities, Northwestern University Evanston, April 9, 2008.
- “Fight the idolaters wherever you find them.” Violence and politics in the Sudan. Conference on “Violence: Political and Sacred,” Northwestern University Evanston, April 2-3, 2008.
- Three Ibrahims and their writings: A comparative analysis of Sufi literature from twentieth-century West Africa. Invited Lecture, University of Wisconsin-Madison, February 19, 2008.
- Sufis zwischen Diesseits und Jenseits: Arbeitsethik und soziales Engagement in westafrikanischen Bruderschaften [Sufis between this world and the next: Work ethics and social activity in West African Sufi orders]. Invited Lecture, Freiburg University, December 5, 2007.
- Work, service, and social welfare. Engaged Sufism in sub-Saharan Africa. Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, San Diego, November 2007.
- The dialectics of tradition and reform: Islamic learning and religious authority in 20th-century Kenya. Conference on “Islam, Contested Authority, and the Making of Everyday Lives in Africa,” Indiana University, Bloomington, October 2007.
- Multiple Zeitordnungen in islamischen Kontexten: Entwicklungen und Debatten in Ostafrika [Multiple concepts of time in Islamic contexts: Developments and debates in East Africa; with Roman Loimeier]. Lecture Series “Local Agency in Africa,” University of Bayreuth, July 5, 2007.
- Apostasy, blasphemy, and Muslim-Christian relations in Africa and beyond. Invited lecture, University of Bayreuth, June 2007.
- Three Ibrahims and their writings: A comparative look at twentieth-century Tijani literature. Workshop on “Sufi Texts, Sufi Contexts,” Institute for the Study of Islamic Thought in Africa, Northwestern University Evanston, May 2007.
- Constituting bodies of knowledge: Towards a new archive for the study of Islamic thought in Africa (with Butch Ware). Workshop on “Rethinking the Islamic Library: African Archives, Scholars and the Public,” Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Stanford University, May 2007.
- Patterns of Islamic learning in 20th-century Kenya. Invited lecture, Department of Religion and Program of African Studies, Northwestern University Evanston, May 2007.
- The Tijâniyya: Its Origin and Movement across the Western Sahara. Colloquium on “Islam and Arabic in the Western Sahara,” Institute for the Study of Islamic Thought in Africa, Northwestern University Evanston, February 9, 2007.
- The constitution of bodies of Islamic knowledge in Africa (with Butch Ware). Monday Night Lecture, Program of African Studies, Northwestern University Evanston, January 2007.
- Between tradition and reform: The Hadhrami model of Islamic learning and religious authority in 20th-century Kenya. Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Washington D.C., November 2006.
- Islam, identity and space in sub-Saharan Africa. Invited lecture, Geography Awareness Week, Eastern Illinois University Charleston, November 2006.
- Changing paradigms of Islamic learning in contemporary Kenya. Biennial Meeting of the African Studies Association in Germany (Vereinigung der Afrikanisten Deutschlands) on “Knowledge and Science in Africa,” Goethe University Frankfurt am Main, July 2006.
- Tijani Sufis, the sharia question, and the changing configuration of Muslim societies in sub-Saharan Africa. Invited lecture, University of Bayreuth, July 2006.

- “A dialogue of the deaf.” French versus British perceptions of Islam in late colonial West Africa. Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association, Washington D.C., November 2005.
- Teaching Islam: A European perspective. Conference on “Teaching Islam in the Undergraduate Curriculum,” University of North Carolina at Asheville, June 2005.
- Islam and work ethics: The Sufi orders in sub-Saharan Africa reconsidered. Annual Meeting of the Society for the Anthropology of Religion, Vancouver, April 2005.
- “Does God sit on the Throne?” The quotidian dimension of Islamic reformism, Wednesday Bag Lunch Series, Program of African Studies, Northwestern University Evanston, February 2005.

OTHER LECTURES AND PANEL APPEARANCES (selection; complete list available on request)

- Der Islam – Religion des Friedens oder Religion der Gewalt? Lions Club Kempten-Müßiggengl, November 2, 2015.
- Convener and panelist at the Roundtable Discussion “Muslime in Deutschland zwischen Islamkritik und Integration”, as part of the series “Bayreuther Stadtgespräch(e)”, University of Bayreuth, October 7, 2015.
- Panelist at the Roundtable Discussion “Beyond Jihad in Africa – Muslim Youths, Violence, and Visions of the Future,” Bayreuth Academy of Advanced African Studies, University of Bayreuth, May 21, 2015.
- Discussant at the panel “The Politics of Religious Schooling: Christian and Muslim Engagements with Education in Africa,” 4th European Conference of African Studies, Uppsala, June 15-18, 2011.
- Presider at the panel “The Arab World: Case Studies,” International Conference on “The Middle East in the 1950s,” Northwestern University, April 25-27, 2010.
- Presider at the panel “Inside and Outside the Mystic Text,” Islamic Mysticism Group, Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Montreal, November 10, 2009.
- Workshop “The Anthropology of Islam” for Graduate Students, University of Khartoum (Sudan), August 17-18, 2009.
- Presider at the panel “Tijani Literature,” 7th Annual Conference of the Cercle des Souffles, Fez (Morocco), June 20, 2009.
- Presider at the panel “Islamic Theology and Sufism,” Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Chicago, November 13-16, 2008.
- Discussant at the panel “Muslims in Colonial and Postcolonial Kenya,” Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association, Chicago, October 31-November 3, 2008.
- Panelist at the panel discussion “Fostering Global Harmony not Conflict: An Interfaith Dialogue,” Center for Global Studies, Purdue University Calumet, April 19, 2007.
- Discussant at the panel “Traditions of Reform, Reforms of Tradition: African Muslim Societies in Contemporary Times,” European Conference of African Studies, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, July 1, 2005.
- Panelist and presenter (“The Role of Islam in the Current Conflicts”) in the panel discussion “Sudan – A Political Conversation,” jointly convened by Africa Vision International and Orientwissenschaftliches Zentrum, Universität Halle (Germany), June 20, 2005.

- Panelist and presenter at the Darfur Panel Discussion, convened by SHOAH (Students Helping to Organize Awareness about the Holocaust), STAND (Students Taking Action Now: Darfur) and Amnesty International, Northwestern University, April 6, 2005.
- Moderator of the panel discussion “Encounter Jesus and Muhammad,” convened by the Muslim Dialogue Platform, Northwestern University, April 5, 2005.

EDITING, PEER-REVIEW

a) Editing

- 2018- Member of the Editorial Advisory Board, *African Studies Review*, Cambridge University Press
- 2016- Member of the Editorial Board, *Journal of Africana Religions*, University of Pennsylvania Press
- 2015- Member of the Advisory Board, *Islamic Africa* (bi-annual peer reviewed journal published by E.J. Brill Academic Publishers, Leiden)
- 2012-2015 Deputy Editor, *Islamic Africa* (bi-annual peer reviewed journal published by Northwestern University Press)
- 2009-2012 Member of the Editorial Board, *Islamic Africa* (bi-annual peer reviewed journal published by Northwestern University Press)
- 2009- Member of the Advisory Board, Muslim-Christian Relations in Africa (online publication; <http://www.sharia-in-africa.net/pages/publications.php>)
- 2004- Editor of the Series “Islam in Africa” (E.J. Brill Academic Publishers, Leiden; with Knut Vikor)

b) Reviewing

- 2009- Reviewer of grant proposals for the German Research Foundation and the German Academic Exchange Service (Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst, DAAD)
- 2007- Reviewer of grant proposals for the American Academy in Berlin, Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies
- 2005- Reviewer of book manuscripts for Cambridge University Press, Notre Dame University Press, Oxford University Press, Princeton University Press, Routledge
- 2003- Reviewer of articles for *Africa*, *Africa Today*, *Africa Spectrum*, *Journal of Religion in Africa*, *Journal of Islamic Studies*, *Islamic Law and Society*, *Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations*

CONSULTANCIES

- 2011 Consultant for the Project IRP (Islam Research Programme), Leiden, The Netherlands
- 2006-2009 Consultant for the project *Sharia debates and their perception by Christians and Muslims in selected African countries*, Bayreuth University, funded by the Volkswagen Foundation program *Knowledge for Tomorrow*
- 2004 ISITA advisory board (Institute for the Study of Islamic Thought in Africa, Northwestern University Evanston)
- 2003 Consultant for the *German-African Medical Academy* (German Academic Exchange Service), member of the fact-finding mission to East Africa

DEPARTMENT, COLLEGE, AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- 2019- Search Committee, Professorship Epistemologies of the Global South, University of Bayreuth
- 2019- Search Committee, Professorship Culture and Technology in Africa, University of Bayreuth
- 2018- Search Committee, Chair of African Legal Studies, University of Bayreuth
- 2017- Director, Institute of African Studies, University of Bayreuth
- 2017- Faculty Board (“Fakultätsrat”), Faculty of Language and Literary Studies, University of Bayreuth
- 2017- Search Committee, Chair of Sociology of Africa, University of Bayreuth
- 2017- Search Committee, Professorship Ethnology of Africa, University of Bayreuth
- 2015-2017 Deputy Director, Institute of African Studies, University of Bayreuth
- 2015-2017 Search Committee, Chair of Development Sociology, University of Bayreuth
- 2015-2016 Search Committee, Junior Professorship Medieval History with a Focus on the Near East, University of Bayreuth
- 2014-2015 Faculty Advisory Board, Institute of African Studies, University of Bayreuth
- 2012-2014 Vice Dean, Bayreuth International Graduate School of African Studies (BIGSAS)
- 2013 Search Committee, Junior Professorship Religion in Africa, University of Bayreuth
- 2012 Search Committee, Professorship Contemporary Islamic Religious Culture, University of Bayreuth
- 2011-2017 Committee for conferring PhD degrees, Faculty of Language and Literary Studies, University of Bayreuth
- 2010-2011 Graduate Program Committee, Department of Religious Studies, Northwestern University
- 2009-2011 Selection Committee for the Panofsky Pre-Dissertation Research Award, Program of African Studies, Northwestern University
- 2009-2010 Search Committee, Professorship Modern Middle Eastern Literature, Kaplan Institute for the Humanities, Northwestern University
- 2008-2011 Selection Committee for the African Studies Cluster Graduate Fellowship, Program of African Studies, Northwestern University
- 2008-2009 Search Committee, Professorship Turkish/Ottoman History, History Department, Northwestern University
- 2008 Search Committee, Position of the Director of the Program of African Studies, Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences, Northwestern University
- 2007-2008 Search Committee, Professorship Middle East/North Africa, Department of Anthropology, Northwestern University
- 2006-2011 Faculty Fellow, International Studies Residential College, Northwestern University
- 2005-2007 Member of the Faculty Advisory Board, Program of African Studies, Northwestern University
- 2005-2006 Member of the Committee for the Undergraduate Program in African Studies, Northwestern University
- 2005-2007 Member of the Honors Committee, Department of Religion, Northwestern University
- 2001-2003 Coordinator of the Guest Lecture Series of the Special Research Unit (SFB) “Local agency in Africa in the context of global influences,” Bayreuth University

2000-2004 Member of the Executive Committee within the Special Research Unit (SFB) "Local agency in Africa in the context of global influences," Bayreuth University

TEACHING AWARDS, ADVISING (PhD Level)

2016- Benjamin Weineck, "Kızılbaş-Aleviten im Osmanischen Staat zwischen Verfolgung und Integration," University of Bayreuth (primary advisor)

2015- Abdifatah Shafat, "Upgrading Muslims: How Kenyan Somalis Educated in Saudi Arabia are Transforming Islamic Discourses Back at Home," University of Bayreuth (primary advisor)

2013-2018 Muhammed Ajmal Hanif, "Debating Sufism: Tijani Responses to Their Opponents," Bayreuth International Graduate School of African Studies (BIGSAS; primary advisor)

2013-2018 Fulera Issaka, "Islamic Constructions of Gender in Accra: The Role of Islamic Religious Authorities in Mediating Marital Conflicts," BIGSAS (primary advisor)

2012-2017 Ahmed Khalid Ayong, "Traditional Islamic Scholarly Culture in Northern Cameroon," BIGSAS (primary advisor)

2011-2014 Georg Leube, "Die Kinditen in der frühen islamischen Historiographie," University of Bayreuth (primary advisor)

2010 Associated Student Government Faculty Honor Roll, Northwestern University

2009-2013 Alexander Thurston, "Muslim Nigerian Graduates from Higher Educational Institutions in the Arab World and their Impact on Islamic Reformism," Religious Studies, Northwestern University (co-advisor)

2007-2012 Justine Howe Clites, "The Construction of American Islam: Gender, Authority, and Tradition in Suburban Chicago," Religious Studies, Northwestern University (primary advisor)

2007-2011 Abdoulaye Sounaye, "Mediating Islam: Preaching, Media, and Moral Economy in Niger," Religious Studies, Northwestern University (co-advisor)

2005-2010 Zachary Wright, "Embodied Knowledge in West African Islam," History, Northwestern University (co-advisor)

2003-2009 Hassan Juma Ndzovu, "The Politicization of Kenyan Muslims," Islamic Studies, University of KwaZulu Natal (mentor, external examiner)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS AND SERVICE

2008-2012 Member of the Steering Committee, Islamic Mysticism Group, American Academy of Religion

2005-2012 American Academy of Religion

2004- African Studies Association

1996-2004 Deutsche Arbeitsgemeinschaft Vorderer Orient (DAVO)