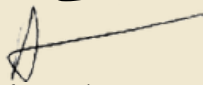
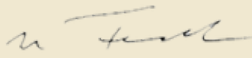


# Annual New Year Lecture

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. For the 2023 New Year Lecture, we are very pleased that the event can once again be held in presence. However, for those who are not able to join us in Bayreuth, the lecture will be streamed online. May the New Year Lecture 2023 be the start of what we hope will be another fruitful and interesting year of exchange within our Cluster community and beyond.

*Best wishes for 2023*

  
Prof. Dr. Rüdiger Seesemann

  
Prof. Dr. Ute Fendler



*Africa Multiple Cluster of Excellence  
University of Bayreuth*

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## NEW YEAR LECTURE

12  
01  
23  
6-8 PM

**PROF. DR. SABELO J.  
NDLOVU-GATSHENI**

TEN CHALLENGES IN  
RECONFIGURING  
AFRICAN STUDIES

## FOURTH ANNUAL NEW YEAR LECTURE

### Welcome Address

#### **PROF. DR. NINA NESTLER**

*Vice President for Internationalization,  
Gender Equality & Diversity,  
Chair of Criminal Law,  
University of Bayreuth*

### Introduction

#### **DR. CHRISTINE VOGT- WILLIAM**

*Director, Gender & Diversity Office,  
Africa Multiple Cluster of Excellence,  
University of Bayreuth*

### Lecture

#### **PROF. DR. SABELO J. NDLOVU-GATSHENI**

*Chair of Epistemologies of the Global South,  
Vice Dean of Research,  
Africa Multiple Cluster of Excellence,  
University of Bayreuth*



### TEN CHALLENGES IN RECONFIGURING AFRICAN STUDIES

This lecture distils ten challenges in reconfiguring African Studies, an agenda that animates and drives the work of the Africa Multiple Cluster of Excellence at the University of Bayreuth. The ten challenges range from the genealogical, epistemic, linguistic, chronological, theoretical, country-study, androcentric, disciplinary, canonical to how to deal with colonial library in African Studies. While these challenges are not new, they continue to haunt the field of African Studies and to inhibit initiatives aimed at reconfiguring African Studies. At the centre of reconfiguring African is the imperative of decolonization, the taking Africa as a legitimate site of knowledge production as well as the rethinking of thinking in African Studies. At a practical level, reconfiguring African Studies includes a shift from African Studies conceived as an Africanist enterprise, which privileges researching Africa from the outside to centring African thought, African knowledge, and privileging of researching Africa from the inside. This means that at the centre of reconfiguring African Studies there is a search of finding a new intellectual and academic working relationship between Africanists and African scholars. Therefore, the ten challenges speak to the complex politics of knowledge and problematic intellectual/academic practices that currently underpin and drive knowledge generation in African Studies.



THURSDAY, 12.01.2023 / 6-8 PM (CET) / H24 RWI / More info: [www.africamultiple.uni-bayreuth.de](http://www.africamultiple.uni-bayreuth.de) or