

Jason Owens, Ph.D.

Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures
The Ohio State University
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Areas of Specialization

Teaching and research in German language; global studies; African studies; Afro-German culture and history; the effects of human displacement on culture, identity, and assimilation; popular culture in television, film and other media.

Highlights

Education

Ph.D., German Linguistics and Cultural Studies (2001)
Georgetown University

M.A., German and European Studies (1995)
Georgetown University

Teaching

- Typical teaching load of 3 classes per semester
- Courses in German language, culture, and Global Studies

Research Highlights

- Germans in Africa
- African-Americans in Germany
- Cultural media in the European Union and former Eastern Bloc
- Effects of human displacement on cultural identity and assimilation

Professional Experience

Senior Lecturer, The Ohio State University, Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures 2016

- *Taught courses on German literature and culture (in English) and promoted becoming a German major/minor to Northeast Ohio high school and middle school students*

Associate Professor, formerly Assistant Professor, South Dakota State University, Department of Modern Languages and Global Studies, Brookings SD 2003 – 2015

- *Typical teaching assignment of 3 courses per semester, with responsibilities for teaching German language, German cultural classes, and Global Studies (detailed below)*

Visiting Assistant Professor, Whitman College, Department of Foreign Languages and Literature, Walla Walla WA 2002-2003

Professorial Lecturer, George Washington University, Department of German and Slavic Languages and Literature, Washington DC 2001-2002

Instructor, Montgomery College, Department of English as a Second Language and Foreign Languages, Tacoma Park MD 2001-2002



Education

Ph.D., German (2001) Georgetown University, Washington DC

Director: Jeffrey M. Peck

Committee: Friederike Eigler, Meredith McKittrick

*Dissertation title: Changing Constructions of Germanness in Namibia:
The "GDR-Kids"*

M.A., German and European Studies (1995) Georgetown University, Washington DC

Final paper title: The Disintegration of Czechoslovakia vs. the Devolution of the Belgian State

B.S., French and German double major (1990) Georgetown University, Washington DC

Bachelors Thesis: German Influence in its Erstwhile Colonies since the Treaty of Versailles

Certificate: African Studies

Teaching

The Ohio State University (2016-)

Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures

Courses Taught:

German 4350: Africans and African Americans in Germany

German 2251: Vienna and Berlin as Cultural Capitals

South Dakota State University (2003 to 2015)

Department of Modern Languages & Global Studies

Courses Taught: (each course taught from 1 up to 12 semesters)

Global Studies 201: Introduction to Global Studies

German 492: East & West German Literature & Film

German 434: German Civilization II: Contemporary Germany

German 411 & 412: Advanced Composition & Conversation I & II

- **All 3 taught face-to-face and via video link with
University of South Dakota and Northern State University**

German 492 Language Learning via Dubbing, Subtitles & Pop Lyrics
German 491 Independent Study: Grimm's Fairy Tales
German 492 Detective Fiction
German 330 Reading/Writing: Communication
German 491 Deutschland heute
German 311 & 312: Composition & Conversation I & II
German 310: Practical Language Skills
German 201 & 202: Intermediate German I & II
German 101 & 102: Introductory German I & II

Whitman College (2002 to 2003)

Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures

German 343: East & West German Literature and Film
German 306: Composition – Conversation
German 305: Composition – Conversation
German 212: *Geistesgeschichte*

World Literature 279: African Film
World Literature 188: Vienna-Berlin 1880-1930
Independent Study
Senior Thesis Consultation

The George Washington University (2001 to 2002)

Department of German & Slavic Languages & Literatures

Second Year German 004
Second Year German 003

Montgomery College (2001 to 2002)

Department of English as Second Language & Foreign Languages

Intermediate German 202
Intermediate German 201
Elementary German 101

The George Washington University (1998)

Department of German & Slavic Languages & Literatures

Intensive German 006
First Year German 002

Georgetown University (1994)
Department of German

Intensive Basic German I & II
Introductory German I & II

Georgetown University (1993)
School of Continuing and Summer Education

Intermediate German I

Rosario Center for Adult Education (1991)
Washington, DC
Volunteer Assistant Instructor

Beginning English as a Second Language

Studentska Unia
Bratislava, Czechoslovakia
English as a Foreign Language Instructor

Intensive Intermediate English
Intensive Advanced English

PUBLICATIONS

The Autobiography of Misheke Matongo. Edited, annotated, translated and with an introduction by Jason Owens. University of Namibia Press. In Process.

“Misheke –the Forgotten Child of Namibia: An analysis of Misheke Matongo’s Autobiography” with Sarala Krishnamurthy. In *Writing Namibia: Literature in Transition*. Sarala Kirshnamurthy & Helen Vale, editors. University of Namibia Press. Anticipated publication in 2016.

“Namibia’s ‘GDR Kids:’ From Cadres to Catalysts.” *Remapping Black Germany. New Perspectives on Afro-German History, Politics, and Culture*. Sara Lennox and Tobias Nagl (ed’s). Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press. Currently being revised by editors.

“Das Programm hat aus mir einen Germanisten gemacht.” P A D aktuell. Setz it. Richert GmbH. Sankt Augustin, Germany. Volume 6, Issue 1. April 2013. pages 6-7.

“Can’t Namibia’s Ex-GDR (Ex-)Kids Be Called Adults In This, The Year Namibia Itself Has Turned 18 Years Old?” (coauthored with Monica Nambalela) in the volume: *Heritage and Cultures in Modern Namibia: A TUCSIN Festschrift*. Cornelia Limpricht and Megan Biesele (ed’s). Windhoek Namibia and Göttingen, Germany: Klaus Hess Verlag (Publishers). November 2008.

“Blood Ties and Tongue Ties: The Role of Children in Shifting the Boundaries of Namibia's German-Speaking Community” in *The Journal of the History of Childhood and Youth*, Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press. Volume 1, issue 2, pages 232-249. Spring 2008.

“Henri Pichette (24 January 1924 - 30 Oct 2000)” in Mary Anne O’Neil (ed.). *Dictionary of Literary Biography: Twentieth-Century French Dramatists*. Detroit: Thomson Gale. 2006.

Review of Mazón, Patricia, and Reinhild Steingröver, eds. *Not So Plain as Black and White: Afro-German Culture and History, 1890-2000*. In *The German Quarterly* Cherry Hill, New Jersey: The American Association of Teachers of German. pages 277-278. Volume 79, Issue 2. May 2006.

Namibias “DDR-Kinder”: *Heimat und Identität*. Macintosh CD-ROM for German language and cultural instruction. Authored with Karen Eng at the Georgetown University Language Learning Technology Center. Distributed by FIPSE-supported LIBRA instructional authoring software grant via Southwest Texas State University. San Marcos, Texas. 2001.

“‘Von hier, aber Deutsche?’ - Die DDR-Kinder und die deutschsprachige Bevölkerung.” pages 192-200. In Constance Kenna (ed.). *Die „DDR-Kinder” von Namibia: Heimkehrer in ein fremdes Land*. Göttingen, Germany: Klaus Heß Verlag. 1999.

“The GDR Kids and Namibia’s German Speakers.” In Constance Kenna (ed.). *Homecoming: The GDR Kids of Namibia*. Windhoek, Namibia: New Namibia Books. pages 144-151. 1999.

“Namibia's ‘GDR Kids’: Multiple Displacement, Identity, and Assimilation in a Post-apartheid State.” *Bookbird: A Journal of International Children’s Literature*. Vol. 37, No. 2. pages 24-29. Summer 1999.

“The Circle of the Greek Children’s Book.” Translation of article by Walter Puchner. *Bookbird: A Journal of International Children’s Literature*. Volume 36, No. 4. pages 21-25. Winter 1998.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Dad's Deutschland: Veterans' Memories and GI German for (Non-Military) Recruiting.” Central States Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (CSCTFL/OFLA Fostering Connections, Empowering Communities, Celebrating the World. Columbus, Ohio. March 10-12, 2016.

“Dubbing and ‘Subbing’ as gateways to Cinema and Synonyms: Innovative (mis-)translations” Midwest Modern Languages Association conference, the theme of which is Arts and Sciences. Columbus, Ohio. November 12-15, 2015.

“Political Activism in the Black European Diaspora” seminar at the German Studies Association national convention. More intensive than giving a paper at a conference, the seminar involves all 15 participants reading the papers that each one writes and submits, reviewing them in the following months, contextualizing them and discussing them over the course of 3 days face-to-face, then moving them towards publication. Washington, D.C. October 1-4, 2015.

"Using Sex and Violence to Promote Civic Responsibility? A Comparison of Promotional/Motivational Videos throughout the European Union" with Stephanie Anderson (University of Wyoming). The International Studies Association Conference. New Orleans, February 18-21, 2015.

"Goodbye, Lennon: East and West Germany in International Popular Song Contests." 65th Kentucky Foreign Language Conference. Department of Modern and Classical Languages, Literatures and Cultures at the University of Kentucky. Lexington. April 19-21, 2012.

"Backward Design: Background and Demonstrations" with Marsha Klein and Elke Kuegle. 2011 South Dakota World Languages Conference. Black Hills State University. Spearfish, SD. September 30-October 1, 2011.

"The Long Journey of African Refugees to Europe and the US." The Elkton Library and The Brookings Public Library (both with SDSU Associate Professor Emerita Mary Haug) for "One Book South Dakota," July and August 2010, and (as moderator) for Peter Orner's discussion of his novel "The Second Coming of Mavala Shikongo" at The South Dakota Festival of the Book in Sioux Falls. Both sponsored by The South Dakota Humanities Council. September 24-26, 2010.

"Teaching Foreignness and Foreigners across the Wall" on the American Association of Teachers of German/ Women in German panel: "Gender, Class and Power: Teaching the German Democratic Republic to Today's Students" at the Annual Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. Boston. November 19-21, 2010.

"The Fruits of Exile, Unpredicted and Bittersweet: The Life/Writings of Namibia's "DDR-Kinder" on the panel Childhood in Exile and the Creative Product" at the German Studies Association in St. Paul. October 4, 2008 with decanal and vice-presidential support.

"German Identities in Southern Africa" on the panel "Fluid Identities" at the Red River Conference on World Literature, North Dakota State University at Fargo. April 4, 2008.

"Blacks in Germany: Before and After the Fall" on the panel "*Retrospective Views on Germany*" at the University of Nebraska at Omaha European Studies Conference. October 7, 2006.

"Namibia's 'GDR Kids: From Cadres to Catalysts'" on the panel "Blackness in Two Germanys" invited presentation at the conference "Remapping Black Germany. New Perspectives on Afro-German History, Politics, and Culture" at University of Massachusetts in Amherst. April 22, 2006.

"The Use of English in Teaching Other Cultures While Holding a Mirror up to Our Own" on the panel "A Captive Audience: Teaching Culture in Basic Language Courses. Presentation at "Diversity Here and Now: Holistic and Sustainable Approaches to Multicultural Learning" at the annual Collaboration for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning conference. Bloomington, MN. November 19, 2005.

“Adoption and Adaptation: Namibia’s GDR Kids.” On the panel “Adopting Identities: Race, Nationality, and the Transethnic Adoption Narrative.” Presentation at the Modern Language Association. San Diego. December 29, 2003.

“Namibian Choices: Maintaining Bonds to the Site of Interrupted Migration.” On the panel “The Missing Piece: Linkages between Forced Migrants in Africa and in the Diaspora.” Presentation at the American Anthropological Association. Chicago. November 23, 2003.

“Malleable Truth, Refracted Youth: Namibia's Post-traumatic, Post-modern, Post-apartheid Poster Children.” On the Committee on Refugees and Immigrants panel “Refractions of Reality: Displacement, Integration and the Negotiation of ‘Truth.’” Presentation at the American Anthropological Association. Chicago. November 17, 1999.

“Surviving between the Fall of the Berlin Wall and the Slide of the Apartheid Color Bar: Namibia’s (Ex-) GDR Kids.” Presentation at the Second International Cultural Conference on Africa and the African Diaspora. University of the District of Columbia. October 7, 1999.

“The GDR Kids’: Effects of a Triple Displacement on Identity and Assimilation in a Post-*Apartheid* State.” On the panel “Diasporic Children: Deracination or Assimilation?” arranged by the Children’s Literature Association. Presentation at the Modern Language Association. San Francisco. December 27, 1998.

“Deaf People in Hitler’s Europe.” International Conference by Gallaudet University and US Holocaust Memorial Museum. Interpretation of Jochen Muhs and Horst Biesold. Washington. June 21-24, 1998.

“The Mask as Passport to Domestic Exile in John Howard Griffin’s *Black Like Me* and Günter Wallraff’s *Ganz unten*.” Presentation and Closing Plenary Session Commentary at *Strangers in Paradise: Voices in Exile* Literature and Linguistics Conference. California State University, San Bernardino. April 7, 1995.

“Language Proficiency Testing Mechanisms Available for non-U.S. Students: American Cultural Centers.” Presentation at International Student Exchange Program Conference. Arlington, Virginia. November 12, 1990.

GRANTS & AWARDS

25 Years Fall of the Berlin Wall

2013

Funded by the Embassy of Germany for \$4788, for campus events and displays commemorating the fall of the Berlin Wall. [Grant awarded to Drs. Jason Owens and George White; South Dakota State University refused to accept the award for administrative reasons]. Three events occurred with alternative funding.

Super Sabado/ Super Samedi/ Super Samstag

2013

Granted the \$500 maximum by The American Association of Teachers of German. Brookings Schools/ SDSU for elementary school children to learn vocabulary via hands-on activities.

Neuer Blick, Neue Stimmen: Interkulturelles Leben und Wirken 2011
Funded from the Transatlantik-Programm der Bundesrepublik Deutschland through funds of the European Recovery Program (ERP) of the Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Technologie. Seminar on Diversity. Berlin. With subsequent research in Arnhem, Netherlands.

Germans in Africa 2008

Funded by the South Dakota State University Research/Scholarship Support Fund. Office of Research & Sponsored Programs.

Project: Recipient of a \$2500 competitive grant to conduct research interviews as part of a continuing research project in South Africa and Namibia.

J. William Fulbright German Studies Summer Seminar on Visual Culture 2004

Jointly funded by the United States Department of State, the German Auswärtiges Amt (German Department of State) and the Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung via The German-American Fulbright Commission.

Project: “Visual Culture in Germany: Television, Film, and the Internet.”
Met leading German creators, producers, and administrators; discussed theory and practice in Berlin, Cologne, Karlsruhe and Munich, Germany.

Germans in Namibia / Namibians in Germany CD-ROM 1999, 2001

United States Department of Education Fund for the Improvement of Post Secondary Education (FIPSE).

Using LIBRA software, with three grants, authored a multimedia German language learning program with Karen Eng. Digitized and didacticized texts, photographs, audio and video for CD-ROM and website on Germans in Africa and Africans in Germany for use in German courses at area universities. Attended workshop by LIBRA developer Robert Fischer.

Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Seminar “Issues in Interpretation: *Digne de foi*” 1998

“Issues in Interpretation: *Digne de foi*: Questioning the Source.” Georgetown University Department of History. Stipend Recipient. Presented manuscript for dissertation, reviewed sources, methods and materials of other participants.

J. William Fulbright Academic Exchange Program Fellowship 1995

Conducted dissertation research in Namibia and Mozambique via The University Centre for Studies in Namibia.

Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst / German Acad. Exchange Service 1995

Graduate Student Fellowship. Planned study of the sites in Eastern Germany where Namibians had grown up. Declined this non-deferrable grant in order to accept the Fulbright to study the same issue in Namibia.

American Association of Teachers of German/ Pädagogischer Austauschdienst 1984

Scholarship Winner, Representing the State of Kentucky. Scored in upper 10% on written National German Exam. Chosen at interview for one month of study at Neues Gymnasium Nürnberg and cultural excursions around Bavaria and Berlin.

INVITED LECTURES & SPECIAL PROJECTS

“The Wall is Down; You Will Have to Leave” Invited public lecture co-sponsored by The Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany’s 25 Years Fall of the Berlin Wall series and the Departments of Modern Languages and African American Diaspora Studies of the University of Wyoming. Laramie, Wyoming, October 30, 2014.

“The Rise and Fall of the Berlin Wall 1961-1989” An exhibit at Briggs Library with cooperation from The University of New England, Laramie County Community College, SDSU Visual Art faculty Peter Reichardt and Cable Hardin. November 9-December 11, 2014.

“The European Green Belt: From ‘Death Strip’ to Lifeline: a very, very long, but not at all broad, Trans-European Park.” Invited talk sponsored by the Department of Global & Area Studies of the University of Wyoming. Laramie, Wyoming, October 31, 2014.

“Africans in East Germany: a Talk on an Odd Cold War Refuge.” Sponsored by the SDSU Political Science Club. October 21, 2014.

“The Fall of the Berlin Wall and its Echoes” Invited Talk, SDSU Political Science Club. November 13, 2014.

“The European Green Belt: Borders divide, nature connects” public lecture with Kristin Kuchenbecker PhD. Sponsored by the Environmental Stewardship & Sustainability Council of SDSU. May 2, 2014.

“Can’t The Ex-GDR (Ex-)Kids Be Called Adults in this, the Year Namibia itself Has Turned 18” an invited public lecture promoted to the public in nationwide media in German and English at the *Goethe Zentrum*. Windhoek, Namibia. July 26, 2008.

“Immigration in Germany.” Invited Lecture at Eastern Washington University in Cheney. March 9, 2006.

“Vestiges of German Colonialism in Namibia.” Invited Lecture at San Diego State University organized by the European Studies Program’s Prof. Mary Wauchope. April 11, 2005.

“Black Speakers of German in Namibia.” Invited Lecture for German Cultures course of Prof. Yvonne Poser. Howard University. Washington D.C. April 30, 1998.

“The ‘GDR Kids’: Between Groups, Between Worlds?” Invited Lectures for Prof. Wade C. Pendleton’s Sociology 3383: Sociology of Contemporary Namibian Society. University of Namibia. Windhoek, Namibia. September 30 and October 3, 1997.

“Wat ‘n Amerikaner dink oor Afrikaans en die taalsituasie in Namibië” Invited lecture for the *Afrikaanse Taalunie van Namibië* at the *Namibisch-Deutsche Stiftung*. Windhoek, Namibia. September 29, 1997.

Consulted on *Namibia: Rückkehr in ein neues Land*, a film by Christoph and Thomas Schuch. Avanti-Film. Schlangenbad, Germany. 1997.

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

- Goethe Institut** **June 22-29, 2014**
Restructuring workshop: Teacher training design
Washington, D.C.
- Washington University German Studies Department** **March 20-22, 2014**
22nd St. Louis Symposium on German Literature & Culture:
- Crossing the Disciplinary Divide** **March 20-22, 2014**
Professional development St. Louis, MO
- Goethe Institut** **February 12-14, 2014**
West Trainernetz teacher training seminar, Technologie für die drei Kommunikationsmodi" (Technology for the 3 Modes of Communication) San Francisco, CA
Trainer/catalyst and curriculum development
- Goethe Institut** **September 20-21, 2013**
Zentral Trainernetz teacher training seminar, Das Grüne Band Chicago, IL
Trainer/catalyst and curriculum development
- Goethe Institut** **April 12-14, 2013**
Zentral Trainernetz teacher training seminar, Der Deutsche Wald
Trainer/catalyst and curriculum development
- Goethe Institut** with Beth Kautz, Charlotte Melin **September 21-23, 2012**
Trainerseminar: Green Germany Chicago
Elected by the SD chapter of the American Association of Teachers of German as delegate to Trainer Network Workshops of the *Goethe Institut* (German Cultural Institute) to learn techniques of teaching and promoting German. Developed units comparing ecological programs and attitudes in the US and Germany. Visited a green building. Shared knowledge, material with K-16 teachers from across SD.
- American Assoc. of Teachers of German Alle Lernen Deutsch Comm.** **June-July 2011**
Neuer Blick, Neue Stimmen: Interkulturelles Leben und Wirken Berlin, Germany
Seminar on Diversity. funded from the Transatlantik-Programm der Bundesrepublik Deutschland through funds of the European Recovery Program (ERP) of the Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Technologie.
- Goethe Institut** with film critic Martin Lechner of Berlin. **May 13-15, 2011**
Trainerseminar: Youth as Reflected in Film, Literature and Magazines Chicago
Delegate to Trainer Network Workshops of the *Goethe Institut* (German Cultural Institute) to learn techniques of teaching and promoting German. Developed units placed online. Shared knowledge, material with K-16 teachers from across SD.

Goethe Institut

February 25-27, 2011

Trainerseminar: German and Science

Chicago

Bringing German/y into Math/Science classes and vice versa, as well as Moodle for distance education). Shared this knowledge and material with K-16 teachers from across SD.

Georgetown University

Fall 1999 - Spring 2001

Language Learning Technology Program

Washington, D.C.

Via FIPSE (Fund for the Improvement of Post-secondary Education), with Karen Eng, digitized and didacticized texts, photographs, audio and video for CD-ROM and website on Germans in Africa and Africans and African-Americans in Germany for use in German courses at universities. Tested materials to update from LIBRA software to GEMINI. Used in District of Columbia., Maryland, State of Washington.

ADVISING

Note: The Department of Modern Languages and Global Studies at South Dakota State University does not have a graduate program.

Graduate Faculty Representative for PhD. in Agricultural and Biosystems Candidate Keliang Wang. Defense 2015.

Graduate Faculty Representative for Master's in Education Candidate Merrilee Miller. Defense November 10, 2014.

Graduate Faculty Representative for PhD. in Hydrology Candidate Govinda Kharki. Defense August 13, 2014

Graduate Faculty Representative for Master's in Journalism Candidate Curt Nickisch. Defense April 9, 2009. Thesis: Images of the USA in East German Radio Dramas.

Undergraduate students (as advisor)

Advise 6 to 12 German, Spanish and/or Global Studies majors per year.

INTERNATIONAL STUDY

American Association of Teachers of German Alle Lernen Deutsch Committee

2011

Neuer Blick, Neue Stimmen: Interkulturelles Leben und Wirken

Berlin, Germany

Seminar on Diversity. Funded from the Transatlantik-Programm der Bundesrepublik Deutschland through funds of the European Recovery Program (ERP) of the Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Technologie.

Office of Research & Sponsored Programs **2008**

South Dakota State University Pietermaritzburg, South Africa
& Windhoek, Namibia
Research/Scholarship Support Fund
Project: Recipient of a \$2500 competitive grant to conduct research interviews as part of a continuing research project in Southern Africa.

J. William Fulbright Program **2004**

German Studies Summer Seminar Berlin, Cologne, Karlsruhe
& Munich, Germany
Topic: "Visual Culture in Germany: Television, Film, and the Internet."

J. William Fulbright Program **1995 - 1997**

The University Centre for Studies in Namibia Windhoek, Namibia
Project: The integration of young black Namibians who grew up in East Germany.

International Student Exchange Program **1988 - 1989**

Université du Bénin Lomé, Togo
Focus: French, West African history, international relations.

The Educational Foundation for Foreign Study **1985 - 1986**

Gymnasium Ernestinum Celle, Germany
Focus: German literature, history, social studies.

Pädagogischer Austauschdienst/ American Assoc. of Teachers of German **1984**

Neues Gymnasium Nürnberg Nuremberg, Germany
Focus: German history and politics, including the East-West divide.

INTERNATIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE

International Conference on the History of Language Sciences **Summer 1993, Fall 1994**

Conference Planning Committee Washington, D.C.
Program/ Organized with chairman Prof. Kurt R. Jankowsky correspondence, travel, food,
Research lodging and program publication for 93 participants from 29 countries at ICHoLS
Assistant: VI. Assisted in preparing papers for publication.

Kulturamt der Stadt Chemnitz **Summer 1992**

Government of Saxony Chemnitz, Germany
Intern: Worked in gallery, theatre, orchestra, museum administration, traffic planning.

Crédit Lyonnais / Société Générale (SOGEA) **Summer 1998, 1989**

Sister Cities International/ University of Louisville Montpellier, France
Intern: Worked in foreign exchange section / directed customer satisfaction survey.

CAMPUS & PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- American Association of Teachers of German** **Spring 2014-date**
President (& Secretary/Treasurer 2003-2008 & 2012-2014
& Acting Secretary/Treasurer 2009-2011) South Dakota Chapter
- South Dakota World Affairs Council** **2013 - date**
Board member & Promotion Sub-committee member Brookings, SD-based
- Council on Higher Education (Faculty Union)** **2013 - date**
President, South Dakota State University Chapter (& Treasurer 2006-2008) Pierre, SD-based org.
Leading faculty membership's interaction with Provost, Faculty Senate, State Union Officials and Board of Regents on the role of contract in new proposals re: (inter alia) evaluation, teaching, procedures.
- South Dakota State University Foundation** **Fall 2008 - date**
It Starts With STATE 5-Year Development Campaign Brookings, South Dakota
Vice Chair
- International Arid Lands Consortium** **Summer 2008 - 2011**
Consultant Tucson, Arizona
Working with SDSU's Plant Science Professor Thomas Schumacher, liaised with, and presented to, The NamibRand Nature Reserve and The University Centre for Studies in Namibia concerning SDSU's cooperating on a US \$313.5 million Millennium Challenge Corporation research and educational project in Namibia.
- German Section, Modern Languages Department , SDSU** **Fall 2005 - Spring 2008**
Section Leader Brookings, South Dakota
Planned schedules and other aspects of the German program with other SDSU, USD and NSU faculty.
- Global Studies Program, South Dakota State University** **Fall 2011 – date**
Curriculum Committee Member & Student Advisor Brookings, South Dakota
- KSDJ 90.7 FM University Radio Station weekly broadcast of** **Fall 2011 - Fall 2012**
WALC-Talk (World Affairs & Languages Club) talk/music show Brookings, South Dakota
alternating Spanish, French and German (& world affairs in English)
Co-Founder / Faculty Advisor
- Cultural Anthropology. Journal of the Association of Cultural Anthropology** **Fall 2004**
Submission Reviewer Seattle, Washington
- SD Board of Regents Foreign Language Discipline Council** **Fall 2003 - Spring 2004**
Council Member Pierre, South Dakota
- Modern Languages Department, South Dakota State University** **Fall 2004 - Spring 2007,**
New Faculty Search Committee Chair/ Search Committee Member **Fall 2008-Spring 2009**
for positions in German, French and several in Spanish Brookings, South Dakota

Junior Day, South Dakota State University
Department Representative/ Recruiter

Spring 2004-date
Brookings, South Dakota

European Studies Committee, South Dakota State University
Committee Member

Fall 2003 – Fall 2007
Brookings, South Dakota

German Club, South Dakota State University
Faculty Advisor

Fall 2003 - Spring 2005
Brookings, South Dakota

Delta Phi Alpha National German Honors Society
Faculty Advisor, Theta Tau Chapter
Organize *Stammtische* (German language tables) each semester

Fall 2003 - date
Brookings, South Dakota

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

Society for the History of Childhood and Youth, since 2008

South Dakota World Affairs Council, 2005-2015

South Dakota World Language Association, 2003-2015

American Anthropological Association, periodically since 1999

American Association of Teachers of German, since 1991

Modern Language Association, since 1994

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, periodically since 1995

National Association of Railroad Passengers, since 1988

LANGUAGE ABILITY

An informal self-assessment of language familiarity

	Speaking	Listening Comprehension (e.g. newscasts)	Reading Comprehension (e.g. academic articles)
German	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
<i>BS in German, MA in German and European Studies. PhD. in German. Coursework through Ph.D. level with most texts and discussion in German. Spoke German daily for three school years and seven summers. Daily listener of German and Austrian radio via smartphone. Interpreter for USIA contract, Gallaudet University/ Holocaust Museum conference. Translator of materials for various articles and books.</i>			
French	Very good	Excellent	Excellent
<i>BS in French. Academic year at the Université du Bénin, Togo, in French and history. Internships in Montpellier, France and at Alliance Française, Washington D.C. Traveled in Quebec and West Africa.</i>			
Afrikaans	Good	Very good	Very good
<i>Received tutoring, read and heard media daily while living in Namibia 1995-1997 and visiting for research 2008. Functioned in Afrikaans-speaking office. Gave speech in Afrikaans to the Afrikanse Taalunie van Namibië.</i>			
Spanish	Good	Good	Very good
<i>Coursework in Kentucky, Togo, DC, Maryland. Lived in bilingual neighborhood Mount Pleasant, D.C. Reader, viewer of Hispanic media. Interviewed Namibians who had grown up in Cuba.</i>			
Dutch	Fair	Good	Good
<i>Studied the evolution and dialects of the Dutch language through linguistic course work. Researched Belgian newspapers, other media in Flemish and French for MA final paper. Organized monthly informal language table. Regular viewer of BVN Dutch/Flemish satellite TV broadcasts.</i>			
Italian	Fair	Good	Fair
<i>Learned about the origin and evolution of the language's forms via linguistics and the colloquial language through travel, refreshed through conversation with fellow students, academics, and travelers</i>			
Swedish	Limited	Limited	Limited
<i>Coursework while in graduate school. Travel to Scandinavia with limited linguistic preparation.</i>			
Slovak	Limited	Limited	Limited
<i>Taught ESL in Czechoslovakia. Tutored by students. Continued language in Maryland at evening classes primarily for Americans of Slovak ancestry.</i>			