



Cornell University
College of Arts and Sciences

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Education

- PhD English (Postcolonial Theory)
University of Wisconsin-Madison, June 2012
- MA English Literature
University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2006
- MA Creative Writing (Poetry)
Boston University, 2001
- BA Political Science and English
Albright College, Reading, Pennsylvania, 1994

Teaching Positions

- 2018 – Associate Professor of English
Cornell University, Ithaca, New York
- 2012 – 2018 - Assistant Professor of English
Cornell University, Ithaca, New York
- 2008-11 - SAGES Lecturer, The World of African Literature
Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio
- 2009-10 - Adjunct Faculty, English Composition
Cuyahoga Community College, Cleveland, Ohio
- 2006-07 - Instructor, English Composition
University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 2002 -2005 Teaching Assistant, University of Wisconsin-Madison
Introduction to African Literature
Introduction to British and American Literature
Introduction to Literature of Native America

Visiting Positions

- September 8 – 18 2019. Visiting Fellow University of Nebraska – Lincoln
January 23 to February 24 2019. Visiting Professor St. Paul’s University, Limuru Kenya

Teaching and Research Interests: African Literatures and Theories, Global South Theories, Politics of Language, Afro-Diasporic Solidarities, Translation and African Literature, African Decolonization, Gender, Race and Class in the European Enlightenment, African Popular Literature.

Projects

- Board of Governors. The Ngugi Wa Thiong’o Foundation. 2019 to the Present
Co-Founder – Cornell Mabati Kiswahili Prize for African Literature, 2015 to Present
Co-Founder – Global South Project – Cornell – 2012 to 2019
“Drugs that Cure, Drugs that kill.” Eight Radio Drama episodes for Deutsche Welle, Germany. Airing throughout 2016. Translated into Portuguese, Lingala, Kiswahili, Hausa and French

Co-Editor, *Pambazuka News* 2007-09

Political Columnist, *BBC Focus on Africa Magazine*. June 2006 to December 2012.

Literary Prizes (Judging)

Toyin Falola Prize 2020

Sync City Nigeria Prize 209

Kalemba Short Story Prize 2018

The 2015 Neustadt International Prize for Literature

The 2015 Writivism Short Story Prize

Publications

A - Books

Unbury Our Dead With Song. Cassava Republic Publishers (Forthcoming, 2020)

'The Rise of the African Novel: Politics of Language, Identity and Ownership. University of Michigan Press (2018)

_____ University of Kwazulu Natal Press (South Africa, 2019),

_____ Mkuki Na Nyota Press (Tanzania, 2020)

_____ Cassava Republic Publishers, Nigeria 2020)

Logotherapy (poems). Africa Poetry Book Series/University of Nebraska Press, 2016

Mrs. Shaw. Ohio University/Swallow Press. June, 2015

■ **Shortlisted for the Penguin Prize for African Writing, April 2010.**

Black Star Nairobi (Novel). New York: Melville Publishing House and Kwela Books, 2013

■ French Translation Editions de L'Aube, 2019

■ German translation of *Black Star Nairobi* (Novel). Transit Verlag Press, Berlin 2015

Nairobi Heat (Novel). South Africa: Penguin Books 2009 & New York: Melville Publishing House 2011. East African Educational Publishers, 2012; Nigeria (Cassava Republic Press, 2012)

■ French Translation Editions de L'Aube, 2018

■ *Siyah Yıldız Nairobi* (Turkish Translation of Nairobi Heat) Ayrıntı Yayınları, 2016

■ German Translation of Nairobi Heat, February 2014

Hurling Words at Consciousness (Poems). Trenton NJ: Africa World Press 2006.

Edited volume with Laura Murphy. "African Literary Hustle" Special Issue New Orleans Review, 2017

Somewhere Between Black and African: A Biography of my Skin (in progress)

B – Scholarly Journals and Anthologies

"Decolonizing and Delinking African Literary Criticism: A Response to *The Rise of the African Novel. Politics of Language, Identity, and Ownership*" Roundtable.

Black Scholar Magazine, 2021

- “The Politics of Writing ‘Popular’ Fiction: Challenging the African Literary Tradition.”
Brave New Words: The Power of Writing Now. Myriad Editions, 2019.
- “Decolonising the Mind and the English Metaphysical Empire.” Afterword to the
German reissue of *Decolonising the Mind* by Ngũgĩ Wa Thiong’o. Unrast Verlag,
2017. Lithub 2018.
- “Building the African Literary Tradition on Quick Sand.” Ed. Toyin Falola. Palgrave
Handbook of African Colonial and Postcolonial History, Palgrave Books, 2018
- “The African Literary Tradition and the English Metaphysical Empire: Interview with
Ngũgĩ Wa Thiong’o.” *Global Africa*. Ed. Blyfield, Judith. University of
California Press, 2017
- Co-Editor. *Global South Project: Globalectics and World Literature*. Journal of
Contemporary Thought 35 (2013)
- Edited a Special section for the Global South Project on Globalectics, World Literature
Today, Summer, 2013 and 2014.
- Co-Editor. *Global South Cultural Dialogue Project: Indian Literature to World
Literature* Journal of Contemporary Thought 34 (2012)
- “Breaking Out of the Prison House of Hierarchy.” World Literature Today, Summer,
2013.
- “The Black Man's Nod.” (personal essay) Callaloo 36.1 (2013): 86-88.
- “Rethinking the Global South.” *Journal of Contemporary Thought* 35 (2012): 5-10.
- “Africa is not a Proverb.” *World Literature Today* 83.1 (Spring 2009): 48-53
- “The Task of the African Translator.” *Getting Heard: (Re)claiming Performance Space
in Kenya*. Ed. Kimani Njogu. Nairobi Kenya: Twaweza Communications, 2008:
97-110.
- “A Word, the Reader and Writer in Literary African Imagination: Whose Tongue?” *The
Quilt: Cultural Voices*. Ed. Andrea Patterson. Dubuque IA: Kendall/Hunt
Publishing 2007
- “History is Not Done with Us: Dreaming through the Past.” *Radical History Review* 91
(Winter 2005): 117-123. “Safe House” Poetry Daily Feature. 15, December 2016

C – Literary Journals: Short Fiction

- “Kidane-Diva “Come See the Other Me,” adapted from *Unbury Our Dead with Song*.
Absinthe, 2019
- “Walking the Wok.” *Cooked Up* (edited by Elaine Chiew). New Internationalist,
Oxford, June 2015.
- “Wounded Men of Limuru.” Fiction. *Kwani?* (2012).
- “Mrs. Shaw.” *St. Petersburg Review* 3 (Summer 2009): 25-29.
- “Return from Exile.” *Kenyon Review* 31:3 (Summer 2009): 100-104.
- “How Kamau wa Mwangi Escaped into Exile.” *Wasafiri* 23:2: 57-62.

■ **Shortlisted for the Caine Prize for African Writing, May 2009.**

D – Literary Journals: Poetry

- “Ten Poems for Michael Armitage.” Museum of Contemporary Art – Australia
Exhibition Catalogue, 2019.
- “Portraits of my Grandfather.” Poems for John Berger. Smokestack Books, 2016
- “No Ordinary Thing” Brittle Paper. July 8 2016

- "On Reading the Poem I Should Have Written." *Jam Tarts*. Jam Tarts, 22 Mar. 2015.
- "Apprentice: Hunting Words with my Father." *Mythium Journal* 3 (Summer 2011): 3-4.
- "I swear I see skulls coming." *New York Quarterly* 65 (Winter 2009): 78.
- "How to Become an Immigrant and an Exile." *Satellite Convulsions: Poems from Tin House*. Portland OR: Tin House Books, 2008. 217-219.
- "Bird in Flight." *New York Quarterly* 64 (Summer 2008): 85.
- "Letter to my Nephew." *Remembering Ken Saro-Wiwa*. London: Flipped Eye Press, 2006: 67.
- "Once they Lived Together." *Réflexions sur le Génocide Rwandais / Ten years later: Reflections on the Rwandan Genocide*. Paris: L'Harmattan Press, 2005: 28.
- "A Poem for Arthur Nortje." *Kwani Journal* 2. 2003: 116-118.
- "A Poem for Narcissus." *Wisconsin Academy Review* 48:4 (Summer 2002): 10.
- "African Revolutions." *Chimurenga* 4 (2003): 64.
- "The Night When Mukoma Told the Devil to go to Hell." *Step into a World: A Global Anthology of New Black Writing*. New York: John Wiley & Sons, 2001:348-349. Originally published in *Into the Teeth of the Wind* 1.4/5 (2000):64.
- "The Out of Inside." *Brick Magazine* 67 (Spring 2001):129.
- "Law of Averages." *One Hundred Days*. Ed. Andrea Brady. London: Barque Press, 2001:60.
- "Thoughts as we got Lost" and "Why I Became a Vegetarian." *Smartish Pace* 2 (Summer 2000):64.

E – Popular Magazines and Journals

- "Open Letter to African Leaders: Do Not Follow the West Into the Abyss." This is Africa. 4 December, 2016
- "It is no ordinary thing to be black." This is Africa. 5 October 2016
- "A Revolution in Many Tongues." Africa is a Country. 8 April 2016
- "The Real American Taliban speaks." This is Africa. 15 October 2015
- "Donald Trump is haunting the American Dream." This is Africa. 14 September 2015
- "Nairobi the foreign country of my childhood." *Kulturaustausch* (German Magazine). 2 August 2015.
- "Writing in African Languages: A Question for Our times." *Jalada*. Jalada, 15 Sept. 2015. Web
- "A Writer's Festival Manifesto." *Jam Tarts*. Jam Tarts, 22 Mar. 2015.
- "Can an African literature prize be inherently Pan-African?" Co-written with Lizzy Attree. Africa is a Country. 17 December 2014
- "Beauty, Mourning and Melancholy in Africa³⁹" *LA Review of Books*. Fall 2014
- "Don't tell African authors what they can and can't write about." *The World Today*, Volume 69, Number 8/9. October 2013. Print.
- "How Al-Shabaab Was Born." *Theguardian.com*. Guardian News and Media, 04 Oct. 2013. Web. 08 Feb. 2014.
- "For Young African Writers." *Africa in Words*. N.p., 19 Sept. 2013. Web. 8 Feb. 2014.
- "These Are the Days." *AFRICA IS A COUNTRY*. N.p., 3 Sept. 2013. Web. 08 Feb. 2014.
- "Mukoma Wa Ngugi, Author of 'Black Star Nairobi'" Web log post. *Kindle Daily Post*. Amazon Blogs, 12 Aug. 2013. Web. 8 Feb. 2013.

“What Is a Black Life Worth?” *EBONY.COM*. Ebony Magazine. 18 July 2013. Web. 08 Feb. 2014.

“Black Philanthropy.” *EBONY.COM*. Ebony Magazine, 26 June 2013. Web. 08 Feb. 2014.

“Kenyan Abroad: Long Distance Affair.” *Kenya Yetu Magazine*. May-June 2013.

“Learning Racism.” *EBONY.COM*. Ebony Magazine, 29 May 2013. Web. 08 Feb. 2014.

“Breaking Out of the Prison House of Hierarchy.” *World Literature Today*. May 2013.

“Black Americans Stand for Africa.” *EBONY.COM*. Ebony Magazine, 17 Apr. 2013. Web. 08 Feb. 2014.

“Bountiful Africa.” *EBONY.COM*. Ebony Magazine, 8 May 2013. Web. 08 Feb. 2013.

“Somewhere Between Black and African.” *EBONY*. Ebony Magazine, 4 Apr. 2013. Web. 08 Feb. 2014.

“Decolonisation by the Pen” Cape Times (South Africa) March 25, 2013.

“Kenya Vote: How the West Was Wrong.” *Theguardian.com*. Guardian News and Media, 12 Mar. 2013. Web. 08 Feb. 2014.

“Love vs. Fear.” *Kenyayetu.com*. 1 Mar. 2013. Web. 08 Feb. 2014.

“The Promised Land.” BBC Focus on Africa Magazine (December 2012)

“Food for thought.” Kenya Yetu Magazine (December 14, 2012)

“A Guide to Helping Africa.” *Pambazuka*. Fahamu, 19 July 2012. Web. 06 Feb. 2013.

“Wanted dead or alive: Happy African Writers!” *Africa Review*. July 19, 2011.

“The Africa That Pushes Back.” *Foreign Policy In Focus*. December 2008.

“John McCain’s Meddlers.” Cover Story, *The Progressive Magazine*. June 2008.

“What is Palestine to Me? An Interview with Fatima Hassan.” *Monthly Review*. July 25, 2008.

“Xenophobia is us.” Co-written with Firoze Manji. *Africa Positive Magazine*. July 2008.

“John McCain and the International Republican Institute.” *Foreign Policy in Focus*. July 2008.

“Bush Africa visit not so triumphant.” Op-Ed for The Progressive Media Project. March 2008.

“Behind the Violence in Kenya.” Op-Ed for The Progressive Media Project. February 2008.

“Understanding the Kenyan Opposition.” *Monthly Review*. February 2008.

“Let us not find revolutionaries where there are none.” *New Internationalist*. January 2008.

“Reflections on the Meaning of Peace.” *Wajibu Journal*. November 2007.

“Is Zimbabwe Africa’s Cuba?” *Zmag.org*. November 4, 2005.

“Home is Home.” *Kwani Journal* 3. January 2005.

“On Imagination and Politics of Change.” *Chimurenga* 2 (2003):65 – 67.

“Africa and the War on Terror.” *Zmag.org*. December 9, 2002.

“Elections in Kenya.” *Zmag.org*. October 16, 2002.

F – Newspaper Editorials and Op-Eds

“Al-Shabaab's Nairobi attack is a reminder that tit-for-tat terror never succeeds.” The Guardian. January 16th 2019

Chimamanda let Hillary off. But my father showed how to stand up to power.” The Guardian. 1 Dec 2018

- "I caught the Writing Bug in My Father's Home Office." *Daily Nation* [Nairobi] 14 Mar. 2014
- "Time Writers Who Went to Bed with Kanu Paid for Their Silence." *Daily Nation*. N.p., 11 Jan. 2014.
- "Calling for Kenya's first presidential Debates." *Daily Nation*. Kenya. September 6, 2011.
- "Obama and Chavez." *Rabble.ca*. March 15, 2010.
- "Myths of the Middle Class." *Guardian Newspapers*. United Kingdom. September 12, 2009.
- "Mau Mau's Ever-Present Past." *New African*. United Kingdom. September – October, 2009.
- "Obama to Africa: Tough Love or Tough Luck?" *Foreign Policy in Focus*. July 22, 2009.
- "Capitalism's self-destruction." *Guardian Newspapers*. United Kingdom. March 10, 2009.
- "For Africa, Obama is an unknown." *Charlotte Observer*. December 16, 2008.
- "Not the president from Kogelo." *Guardian Newspapers*. United Kingdom. December 5, 2008.
- "Caricature democracies: Zimbabwe's misguided talks." *International Herald Tribune*. July 26, 2008.
- "Kenya's Nightmare." *Independent*. United Kingdom. January 1, 2008.
- "Britain should pay for its Colonialism." *LA Times*. November 3, 2007.
- "Justice for Mau Mau War Veterans." *Pambazuka News*. October 2, 2007.
- "Control Foreign Funding of Political Parties to Nurture Democracy in Africa." *Business Daily Africa*. Kenya. September 28, 2007.
- "Reflections from South Africa." *Business Daily Africa*. Kenya. August 7, 2007.
- "Activism and the Almighty Dollar." *Mail and Guardian*. South Africa. May 9, 2007.
- "War, Silence and the Politics of Language." *Zmag.org*. August 9, 2006.
- "Fela Kuti: The Music that Would not be Disappeared." *Sunday Nation*. Kenya. April 16, 2006.
- "Hurricane Deaths: US Govt At Fault." *Daily Herald*. Zimbabwe. September 19, 2005.
- "Why we are Proud of Ngugi and Njeeri." *East African Standard*. Kenya. August 10, 2005.
- "Zimbabwe Under Siege." *Daily Herald*. Zimbabwe. August 12, 2005.
- "Kenya: Constitution as a Promissory Note." *Pambazuka News*. April 28, 2005.
- "Human Rights at the Zimbabwe Book Fair." *Daily Nation*. Kenya. August 14, 2005.

Conference Panels, Invited Lectures and Interviews

A – Conference Panels

(TBD) Centre for Integrative Anti-Racism Studies, University of Toronto, November 4th-7, 2020

- “AfroDiasporic Solidarities” Making African America: Immigration and the Changing Dynamics of Blackness Conference, University of Maryland, April 16-18, 2020
- “What does African Confessional Poetry Look Like?” (Room 222 and the Lineage of Confessional Poetry, panel) American Writers and Poets Conference, San Antonio, March 6, 2020
- “Writing and Publishing in African Literature.” African Literature Association Conference, Columbus Ohio. May 15, 2019
- “Decolonizing the Mind: Country, Campus, Canon” (Panel). Georgetown University, March 19, 2019
- “Panel on African Universities: Cultivating Sustainable Arts and Humanities Educational Partnerships.” UPenn, April 23 2019
- “The Rise of the African Novel.” University of Bristol. March 7, 2019
- “Mukoma Wa Ngugi: Lecture and in conversation” Exeter University, March 4 2019
- Introduction. Mabati-Cornell Kiswahili Prize for African Literature 2018 University of Dar es Salaam on February 15, 2019.
- “Futures: African Studies and the Racial Politics of Knowledge Production, 1998 to 2028 (Board Sponsored).” African Studies Association Conference. December 1, 2018
- “African Literary Criticism in Crisis: Politics of Language, Periodization, and Citizenship.” African Studies Association, Chicago, November 2017
- “African Languages and World Literature: The Center is nowhere or everywhere.” Vernacular Comparisons beyond the Europhone. MLA’s Executive Committee of the Comparative Literature and Cultural Studies Panel. Philadelphia, 5-8th, January 2017
- “The Global South and the Limits of Postcolonialism.” (Roundtable). Global South Colloquium at University of Virginia. 19 November 2016
- “The Makerere consensus and African literature - The Making of a Myth.” Global Anglophone? The View from Africa.” MLA Convention Roundtable: Global Anglophone? The View from Africa. MLA Conference, Austin Texas, 7 January, 2016
- “After the diaspora: Jamal Mahjoub and Mukoma wa Ngugi.” New World Literature and the Global South, LitProm, Frankfurt. 24 January 2016
- “Mapping the Global through Africans and African Americans – Solidarity and Contradictions.” Entanglements: Envisioning World Literature from the Global South. Goethe University, Frankfurt, January 20, 2016
- “Rethinking the “Global South“ in literature.” New World Literature and the Global South, LitProm, Frankfurt. 23 January 2016
- “Language and its changing relations to African experience and writing on the continent” (Moderator.” Kwani Lit Fest, Kenya National Theater November. 3 December, 2016
- “Mabati-Cornell Kiswahili Prize for African Literature winners in conversation with Mukoma wa Ngugi.” Kwani Lit Fest. December 4, 2016
- “The Manufacture and Rise of the African Novel: Language, Identity and The Politics of Ownership” African Studies Institute, Oklahoma University. 21 October 2015

- “African Literature and Global Novel: Language, audience and the Literary Amnesia.”
MLA Convention Roundtable on The Global Novel: Theories, Forms, Histories,
Controversies. 10 January 2015
- “Gender, Class, Violence and the Publishing and Reception of African Detective
Literature .” MLA Convention Roundtable on Genres of Violence in African
Writing. 10 January 2015.
- "Drama, Law and Justice: The Making of *The Trial of Dedan Kimathi* by Ngugi wa
Thiong’o and Micere Mugo." University of California- Irvine. March 13th 2014
- “*Introduced Keynote Speaker, Ngugi Wa Thiong’o*. The Trans-Atlantic, the Diaspora, and
Africa': 2013 Callaloo Conference. Oxford University, 29 November 2013
- Respondent*. The Trans-Atlantic, the Diaspora, and Africa': 2013 Callaloo Conference.
Oxford University, 29 November, 2013
- "Roundtable: Discussion paper title: Africa Rising and the rise of Afro-optimistic popular
literary criticism " *Paper presented at the annual meeting of the African Studies
Association, Baltimore, USA, November 23rd, 2013.*
- “Roundtable: Discussion paper title: Globalectics, Relation, and Creolization: New
Perspectives in African Literature.” *Paper presented at the annual meeting of the
African Studies Association, Baltimore, USA, November 22nd, 2013.*
- Respondent: CALLALOO CONFERENCE – “Love: Sacred & Secular” Center for
African American Studies, Princeton University, October 11-13, 2012.
- “Globalization in Literature” Unnameable Books September, Brooklyn, New York.
September 22nd 2012.
- “Édouard Glissant - Un monde en relation: Mukoma wa Ngugi and Manthia Diawara in
Conversation.” Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin. July, 26th, 2012.
- “Trafficking Languages and Cultures Through Translation.” Association of *Writers &
Writing Programs* Conference, Chicago. March 1, 2012.
- “The Politics of Language in John Clare, the Peasant Poet and Amos Tutuola, the African
Native Writer.” African Literature Association Conference, Ohio University,
April 14, 2011.

B – Invited Academic Lectures

- “The Rise of the African Novel and the English Metaphysical Empire.” University of
Cologne, November 7 2019
- Blackness, Africans, and African Americans: Complex Solidarities and Beauty” Charles
H. Wright Museum of African American History in Detroit on Tuesday
September 17 2019
- “Blackness, Africans, and African Americans: Complex Solidarities and Beauty”
University of Nebraska. September 11, 2019 “The Rise of the African Novel and
Decolonial Hierarchies: Politics of Language and Identity.” Boston University,
March 26, 2019
- “Decolonizing the Mind: Country, Campus, Canon” (Panel). Georgetown University,
March 19, 2019
- “Ngugi Wa Thiong’o, Mukoma Wa Ngugi in *Duel on the Ridges*.” St. Paul’s University,
Limuru Kenya. February 19, 2019
- Introduction. Mabati-Cornell Kiswahili Prize for African Literature 2018 University of
Dar es Salaam on February 15, 2019.

The Journey of African Literature Mukoma wa Ngugi Nana Brew-Hammond Jennifer Makumbi” Ake Festival, Lagos Oct 26, 2018

“Decolonizing the Mind” Berlin International Literature Festival. September 8th, 2018

Words and Wine: The Rise of the African Novel Africana Studies Center, Cornell. April 30, 2018

“Valuing the Liberal Arts — a thank you note to Albright” Albright College. October 29, 2018

(Keynote) “Africa into the 22nd Century: Toward a People Centered and People Powered Cultural and Economic Production.” Africa Interrupted Conference. McGill University, Montreal, 6 February, 2016.

Entanglements: Envisioning World Literature from the Global South International Symposium, Goethe University Frankfurt, 20 January, 2016

(Keynote) “Manufacturing the African Novel: Language, Identity and Politics of Ownership” Kampala National Theater, Uganda, June 21st, 2015.

(Keynote) “Global South Solidarity and Contradictions: Africans and African Americans.” Other spaces – Towards the Global South, Universität Tübingen, Germany. 6 October 2015

“Somewhere Between Black and African.” English Department. Loyola University. 2 November 2015

“The Manufacture and Rise of the African Novel: Language, Identity, and the Politics of Ownership.” African Studies Institute. University of Oklahoma. 21 October 2015

(Keynote). “Nelson Mandela in our Times: Saint, Revolutionary or World Citizen.” Albright College, April 9, 2014

“The Identity of African Literature and The English Metaphysical Empire.” Berlin International Book Festival. September 19th 2014

“The Rise of the African Novel: A Scholar-Writer Perspective.” Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut. April 24th, 2014

“The Rise of the African Novel: From Achebe to NoViolet Bulawayo.” Kenyon College Friday, April 4th, 2014.

“Globalized Identities: Being African in America.” Duke University. Fri, February 21, 2014

(Keynote speech). “History is never done with US: Political leadership through yesterday” Africa Week. Ithaca College.” Ithaca, March 31st, 2014

“Conversations with African Writers and Poets. Mukoma W. Ngugi.” Library of Congress, Washington, DC. 3 Dec. 2013.

“*Kofi Awoonor: A Pan-African death.*” Remembering Professor Kofi Awoonor. Harvard Club, New York. October 29 2013.

“Edouard Glissant and Ali Mazrui: rhizomes and triple heritage in the Global South.” 38th New York African Studies Association, Binghamton University, NY, April 6th, 2013.

“The African Intellectual Today: Where are the good guys?” Dialogue Deconstructing War Zones Symposium, Syracuse University, Feb 2nd, 2013.

“The Future of Pan-Africanism and The Pitfalls of Liberal Democracy in Africa.” University of Nouakchott – Mauritania Department of English, April 28, 2011.

- “Africans and African Americans: A Complex Beauty.” DePaul University African History Department, April 19, 2011 and Penn State University Department of Afro-American Studies, March 18, 2010.
- “Reading, Writing and Producing African Literature.” University of Wisconsin-Madison Humanities Center, April 21, 2010.
- “Prof. Daniel Kunene and Mukoma Wa Ngugi in conversation.” University of Wisconsin-Madison African Studies Center, March 21, 2010.
- “Teaching and Writing African Literature.” Madison Area Technical College English Department, Madison WI, March 4, 2010.
- “Language and Imagination in African Literature.” International Seminar on the Teaching of History of Africa, Guarulhos Municipality City Hall, Brazil, October 4, 2009.
- “Public Debate: The Changing Nature of African-American Identity and Attitudes towards Africa since the Election of President Obama.” Columbus University African History Department, Columbus GA, July 21, 2009.
- “Contemporary Issues in African Literature,” “Teaching Aesthetics and Culture in African Literature,” and “Africa and the Question of Foreign Aid.” Lerum Gymnasium English Department, Lerum, Sweden, May 19-20, 2009.
- “US Development Politics in Africa: Obama’s Turn.” Norwegian School of Management, Oslo, Norway, March 27, 2009.
- “The Kenya Crisis and the Pitfalls of a Second-Hand Mitumba Democracy.” University of Oregon African Studies Center, May 13, 2008.
- “Africa - Development versus Free Trade.” University of California-Berkeley and Food First Organization, Oakland CA, May 6, 2008.
- “African and African American Youth: Bridging the Gap.” Keynote Address: Annual Africa/Diaspora Conference: African Youth in America and Africa: Bridging the Gaps, California State University-Sacramento, May 3, 2008.
- “Pan-Africanism from Below.” University of Massachusetts-Boston African Students Association, April 4, 2008.
- “Pan-Africanism and Globalization.” Swansea University (Wales) African Students Association, December 6 2007.
- “The Ties from Below that Bind Africans and African Americans.” Southern Connecticut State University Center for Africana Studies, November 3, 2006.
- “Moving Toward an Africa Without Borders: Rethinking Politics of Change Through a Pan-African Framework.” LeMoyne College History Department, March 17, 2005.

C – Workshops

- “Creative Writing Workshop.” Goethe Institute, Nairobi Kenya. February, 9th 2019
- “Cultural Criticism for Journalists.” Designed and led workshop for Kenyan Journalists. Nairobi, December 6-7th, 2012
- “Writing Poetry.” Designed and led workshop for the Department of English, University of Nouakchott – Mauritania, April 28, 2011.
- “Aesthetics of Popular Fiction.” Designed and led workshop for the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Writer’s Festival, March 7, 2010.

“Aesthetics and Political Writing.” Designed and led workshop for Story Moja Hay Festival, Kenya, September 1, 2009 and for the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Writers Festival, March 10, 2007.

D – Public Lectures

- “Africans and African Americans”. A Complex Beauty” St Paul’s University, Limuru Kenya. February 7, 2019
- “Kenyan Americans as Rooted World Citizens.” Kenyan American Youth Association Conference.” Highline Community College, Seattle. June 30th, 2012.
- “Ngugi wa Thiong’o and Mukoma Wa Ngugi in literary conversation.” Kwani Lit Fest. Nairobi, Kenya. December 13, 2010.
- “Lessons from Africa to Palestine.” Charles H. Wright Museum, Detroit MI, October 27, 2010.
- “An Evening with Mukoma Wa Ngugi.” Luton Young Leaders Academy. United Kingdom. July 9, 2009.
- “Africa: New threats on Old Forms of Exploitation: AGRA, AFRICOM and the Struggle for African Civil Society.” Priority Africa Network at Niebyl-Proctor Library. Oakland CA. May 7, 2008.
- “Providing Networks for Social Justice in Africa.” Tides Foundation. Sacramento CA. May 5, 2008.
- “African Leadership in Crisis.” Left Forum, New York City, March 15, 2008.
- “Rethinking Pan-Africanism.” Zimbabwe International Book Festival. Harare, Zimbabwe, August 5, 2005.
- “Kenya Revisited.” University of California-Irvine International Center for Writing and Translation, March 10 2005.

E – Literary Readings and Conversations

- “Fifty Ways to Free Your Language” (conversation). Writers Unlimited, Amsterdam, January 17th, 2019
- “Book Of My Life” Writers Unlimited, Amsterdam, January 17th, 2019
- The Pitfalls of Symbolic Decolonization: Or Decolonization everywhere and not a bite to eat! (opening speech). Writers Unlimited, Amsterdam, January 16th, 2019
- “Decolonising the Mind: What Happened to You?” Writers Unlimited, Amsterdam. January 16th, 2019
- “Culture, Language Policy and Power.” African Voices Festival, Cologne. November 8 2019
- “Language as play.” African Voices Festival, Cologne. November 9 2019 “African Voices Festival” Cologne, Germany. November 6th to 9th 2019
- “Lisa Samuels and Mukoma Wa Ngugi Public Reading.” Buffalo Street Books, August 11 2019
- “Conversation with Ngugi Wa Thiong’o.” Harvard Bookstore, April 17, 2018
- “Ngugi Wa Thiong’o, Mukoma Wa Ngugi in Duel on the Ridges.” St. Paul’s University, Limuru Kenya. February 19, 2019
- “In Conversation.” Kamuguga Primary school February 21, 2019

“Duel On the Ridges: Ngugi Wa Thiongo and Mukoma Wa Ngugi In Conversation”. St. Paul’s University, Limuru Kenya.
 An Evening with Mukoma wa Ngugi” Writers Project of Ghana, Accra. 26th January 2019

“Why we write as we do.” South Africa Book Fair, 10 September, 2017

“Poetry Café.” South Africa Book Fair, 9 September, 2017

“Literary Access and Pleasure: access through language, genre and more.” South Africa Book Fair, 9 September, 2017

“One on One with Mukoma Wa Ngugi.” South Africa Book Fair, 8 September, 2017

“Publishing Contemporary African Poets.” AWP Conference. Washington DC, February 10, 2017

Poetry Reading with Kwame Dawes, Chris Abani, Ladan Osman, Safia Elhillo, Patricia Jabbeh Wesley, Titsti Jaji and Mukoma Wa Ngugi. Library of Congress, DC February 11 2017

The Importance of Prizes in the Promotion of Diverse Literature –with Elizabeth Elizabeth L. Hodges, Tope Folarin, Parselelo Kantai, and Kadija Sesay AWP Conference. February 10, 2017

An evening with Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o, Peter Kimani & Mukoma Wa Ngugi. Revolution Books, New York February 2, 2017

Reading with Ishion Hutchinson. Buffalo Books, Ithaca, NY 11 November 2016

“It Takes a Family.” AWP Conference, Los Angeles, April 1 2016.

“International Writers Series: Patrice Nganang and Mukoma wa Ngugi.” Brooklyn Public Library, Thursday, May 19, 2016

“New Voices Literary Festival: Bill Cheng, Hannah Gamble, Mukoma Wa Ngugi.” Ithaca College, April 22 2015

A poetry and fiction Reading.” 1718, Loyola University. 3 November 2015

“Reading and discussion with the author Mukoma wa Ngugi” Afrika Festival, Münster Germany March 17 2015

“Reading and discussion.” Leipzig, Haus des Buches, Germany. 23 March 2015

“Reading and discussion.” Stuttgart Crime nights. 20 March 2015

“Reading and discussion.” Weltenleser Bookstore. 19 March 2015

“Reading and discussion.” Transfer Bookstore. Dortmund Germany. 17 March 2015

“Mukoma wa Ngugi & Peter Lohmeyer” Lit Cologne Festival. 18 March 2015

“A Family Affair: Ngugi Wa Thiong’o, Wanjiku Wa Ngugi and Mukoma Wa Ngugi.” Calabash festival, Montego Bay, Jamaica, May 31st 2014.

(Moderator). “**African Writers Panel** Featuring Deji Olukotun, Chinelo Okparanta, Godfrey Mwampembwa, and Tope Folarin.” New York University, NY. April 4th, 2014

“Mukoma wa Ngugi, Ian Rankin and Michele Rowe talk to Megan Hitchin about their latest novels.” Open Book Festival. Cape Town, Africa. 11 September, 2013

“Book Club Morning with Mukoma Wa Ngugi, Ian Rankin and Michele Rowe.” Open Book Festival. Cape Town South Africa. 11 September, 2013

“Location Location Location with NoViolet Bulawayo, *Teju Cole*, Tope Folarin and Mukoma wa Ngugi.” Open Book Festival, Cape Town, South Africa. 11 September, 2013

“Crime Writers with Angela Makholwa, Mukoma wa Ngugi and Ian Rankin.” Open Book Festival. Cape Town South Africa. 9 September, 2013

“Conversation with Dennis Davis about Killing Sahara” Open Book Festival. Cape Town South Africa. 7 September 2013

Black Star Nairobi Book launch. Chaired by Dr Ranka Primorac. Africa Writes Festival, London. July 5th 2013.

Headline Event. Two Writers, Two Generations: Ngugi wa Thiong’o & Mukoma wa Ngugi. Africa Writes Festival, London. Jul 4th 2013

Publishing Black Authors (Panel Discussion). Yardstick Writers Festival, Bristol Central Library, Bristol, England. 30th June 2013

Translation (Panel Discussion). Yardstick Writers Festival. Bath Central Library, Bath, England. 29th June 2013

Rural Vs Urban (Panel Discussion). Yardstick Writers Festival. Bristol Central Library, Bristol, Britain. 28th June 2013

Perspectives from African Writers: “Who’s the Main Audience of the African Writer and What Effect Does This Audience Have on African Literature?” A Panel Discussion. Featuring: Igoni Barrett, Mukoma Wa Ngugi, NoViolet Bulawayo & Olufemi Terry. New York University, New York City. 3 May 2013

“Race in Your Face ... Powell Watts (We are Taking Only What We Need), and Mukoma Wa Ngugi (Nairobi Heat).” Boston Public Library, May 8th, 2013.

“Literary Perspectives from African Writers Speakers: Mukoma Wa Ngugi Kenya; Olufemi Terry, Sierra Leone; Igoni Barrertt, Nigeria.” New York University, May 3rd, 2013.

“An Evening with St. Petersburg Review: Ishion Hutchinson, Mukoma wa Ngugi and Kenneth Calhoun” KGB Bar, January 27, 2013

“Decolonizing the Mind: Two Generations in Conversation. Ngugi Wa Thiong’o and Mukoma Wa Ngugi.” Museum of the African Diaspora and Litquake, San Francisco. October 7th, 2012.

“The Urban Underbelly.” Brooklyn Book Festival. September 18, 2011.

“St. Petersburg Review presents Parselelo Kantai and Mukoma Wa Ngugi.” Shakespeare and Co. Bookstore, Paris. April 26, 2010.

“Presenting *Nairobi Heat*.” Rainbow Bookstore. Madison, Wisconsin. November 14, 2009.

“Poetry reading - In the Spirit of Ngugi.” University of California-Irvine. January 26, 2008.

“The Imagination and Political Poetry.” Wisconsin Book Festival. October 14, 2006.

Poetry from *Hurling Words at Consciousness*. Wisconsin Public Radio – Higher Ground with Jonathan Overby. April 23, 2006.

“Poets at Work.” Opening of The Overture Center, Madison WI. September 19, 2004.

Poetry reading. Wisconsin Public Radio – Higher Ground with Jonathan Overby. September 18, 2004.

“Dreaming Through the Past: Conversing with Africa.” Rainbow Bookstore, Madison WI. December 4, 2003.

F – Interviews

“The Books Café, KBC Radio – Kenya. March 9th 2019
 “One on One with Mukoma wa Ngugi on Politics of Language, Identity and Cultures” Y254 TV, Kenya. Feb 7, 2019
 “With Mukoma Wa Ngugi” KUTV – Kenya Feb 4, 2019
 The Books Café, KBC Radio – Kenya. March 9th 2019
 “Ruthiomi rwa gikuyu rucokererie cukuru-ini.” iNooroTV, Feb 20, 2019
 The non-confrontational question that helps men become feminists (interview).”Quartz, October 30, 2018. *Named one of 101 Notable Pieces of 2018 by Brittle Paper.
 “Chris Abani and Mukoma wa Ngugi in Berlin for WRITING IN MIGRATION” Deutsche Welle, Berlin. April 2018
 Interview: Mũkoma wa Ngũgi: On the (Un-) Making of Icons in Africa. This is Africa, December 15, 2017.
 Nancy Richards. SAfm Literature, Johannesburg. 10 November 2017
 Cole, Summer. “Mukoma wa Ngugi on Kenyan Heritage, Writing and his Father’s Great Influence.” Kenyan Vibe, July 2017
 Africa: Stories in the 55". “Radio France Internationale's English Africa service.” September 2016
 “The new world literature.” Deutschlandradio Kultur, Frankfurt. 24 January 2016
 Interview. Sema Nami with Ken Walibora. QTV – Nairobi, Kenya. 9 January 2016
 “Office Space: Mukoma Wa Ngugi.” Kitsch Magazine (Cornell). 1 December 2015
 “Jeff Koinange Live with renown author Prof. Ngugi wa Thiong'o and Mukoma wa Ngugi.” KTN News, Kenya 4 June, 2015
 “Ngugi wa Thiong'o and the first family of literature.” The Trend. NTV News, Kenya 5 June 2015
 “An Interview with Mũkoma wa Ngũgĩ.” Writivism. 17 April 2015
 “Kenyan Crime Fiction - Mukoma Wa Ngugi.” To the Best of Our Knowledge. January 23, 2014
 "South 2 North." *Crime writers: What Is the Universal Appeal of a Good Crime Novel?* Aljazeera. 13 Nov. 2013. Television.
 “Why We Forgave Our Brother's Killer." *Outlook*. BBC. London. 20 Aug. 2013. Radio.
 Moe, Doug. "An African Mystery's Madison Roots." *Madison.com*. N.p., 26 July 2013. Web. 08 Feb. 2014.
 "Searching For Clues In A Dangerous Nairobi." All Things Considered. *NPR*. NPR, 13 July 2013. Web. 08 Feb. 2014. Radio.
 Fatunla, Dele. "Catch Up With Mukoma Wa Ngugi." *Royal African Society*. RAS, 10 July 2013. Web.
 “Q&A: Novelist, poet and literary scholar Mukoma wa Ngugi.” Interview by Kate Haines. *Africa in Words*. N.p., 6 July 2013. Web. 08 Feb. 2014.
 <<http://africanwords.com/2013/07/06/qa-novelist-poet-and-literary-scholar-mukoma-wa-ngugi/>>.
 “Ngugi Wa Thiong'o, and His Son Mukoma on Family and Writing." *BBC News*. BBC, July 5 2013. TV
Africa Writes on Living the Life. Islam Channel. London, 2 July 2013. Television.
 “Mukoma Wa Ngugi Reflects On Achebe.” Sahara TV, London. March 25, 2013. Television.

- "PRI's The World." *International Media in Kenya Walk Fine Line*. NPR. 14 Mar. 2013. Radio.
- "Nairobi Heat Interview." BBC – The Strand. March 1, 2010.
- "African Writing." K24, Nairobi Kenya. July 31, 2009.
- "What does it mean to be an African living in America?" BBC Outlook. July 15, 2009.
- "African Americans and African identity." Make it Plain with Mark Thompson. SIRIUS Radio. July 9, 2009.
- "Obama and Africa." BBC Africa Have Your Say. November 5, 2008.
- "Will Obama be Good For Africa?" Radio Contact FM. Rwanda. November 5, 2008.
- "Obama and the African Agenda." Al Jazeera. November 4, 2008.
- "African Perspectives on US Presidential Elections." BBC World Service – Analysis. Oct 27, 2008.
- "Africom and AGA." KPFA (Oakland CA) – Africa Today. March 5, 2008.
- "The Kenya Crisis." Feature Stories Network. February 27, 2008.
- "The Kenya crisis and African democracies." Progressive Radio. February 15, 2008.
- "Pan-Africanism and Solidarity." WPFW 89.3FM (Washington DC) – Africa Now. February 10, 2008.
- "The Kenya Crisis." Democracy Now. January 19, 2008.
- "Kenya – A Love poem." Commissioned by the BBC World Service during the 2007-2008 Post Electoral violence. January 12, 2008.
- "The Kenya Crisis." BBC World Service. January 2, 2008.
- "The Kenya Electoral Crisis." Al Jazeera. December 31, 2007.
- "African and African American Ties that Bind." Hartford Community Television. Hartford, CT. Interview on World in Crisis with Chengiah Ragaven. January 11, 2007.
- "Philanthropy." BBC Africa Have Your Say. July 2, 2007.
- "Zimbabwe." WPFW 89.3FM (Washington DC) – Africa Now. June 10, 2007.
- "Obama Prospects." BBC Africa Have Your Say. February 27, 2007.
- "African Democracies." WORT 89.3FM (Madison WI) – Public Affairs with Esty Dinur. May 9, 2006.
- "The Zimbabwe Crisis." WNUR 89.3FM (Chicago IL) – This is Hell. November 26, 2005.
- "Pan-Africanism." CKUT 90.3FM (Montreal, Quebec) – Amandla. April 9, 2004.

G – Blurbs

20.35 Africa: An Anthology of Contemporary Poetry

A Woman's Body is a Country by Dami Ajayi

The Geography of Madness by Frank Bures, Melville Publishing House, 2016

How Fast Can You Run by Harriet Levin, Harvard Square Editions, 2016

Illuminations on Chinua Achebe edited by Professor Micere Mugo, Africa World Press, 2017

Academic Conferences/Symposia/Events Organized

Organizer. “The Barrel of a Pen: Politics and Struggle in African Writing - Kenyan writer Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o in conversation with journalist and documentarian Dr. Ndirangu Wachanga. Moderated by Cornell professor Dagmawi Woubshet. April 17, 2014.

Co-Organizer with Ishion Hutchinson “Celebrating Chinua Achebe: Marathon Reading of 'Things Fall Apart'”. Goldwin Smith, Cornell University. April, 11th 2013

Coordinator. *Third International Toward an Africa without Borders Conference: From Theory to Practice.* Durban, South Africa. July 2007. Keynote Speakers: Horace Campbell and Andile Mngxitama

Co-organizer. *A Week with Ngugi Wa Thiong'o.* University of Wisconsin-Madison. October 15-19, 2006.

Coordinator. *Toward an Africa without Borders Conference: Progress and Transformation.* University of Wisconsin-Madison. October 18-20, 2004. Keynote Speakers: Sonia Sanchez and Heena Brahmhatt

Coordinator. *Toward an Africa without Borders Conference: Unification and Fundamental Change.* University of Wisconsin-Madison. October 24-26, 2003. Keynote Speakers: Angela Davis, Ngugi Wa Thiong'o and Maina Wa Kinyatti

Organizer. *Collage of Artistic Genres.* Decatur GA. November 16, 2001.

Organizer (with Dr. Cege Wa Githiora). *Africa: Renaissance or Revolution? Symposium.* Boston University. March 18-20, 2001.

Cornell Service

A) Juror: 2017 Moses Coit Tyler Award for the best essay by a graduate or undergraduate student in the fields of American History, literature, or folklore

B) Thesis Advisor

“National Loss: Generational Trauma Captured in Zimbabwean Literature” Angelica-Ruth Wekwete, Fall 2015

A Reclamation: On The Manifestation Of Black Female Body Politics And Agency Rhetoric In African-American Literature by Sijuwade Falade, Spring 2016

Using the word in its definition: How NoViolet Bulawayo uses English as both medium and subject in *We Need New Names* by Yananisai Makuwa, Fall 2016

C) Thesis Reader

Loving Versus the World: An Exploration of the Radical Spaces of Interracial Relationships and Children by Leela Chantrelle, Spring 2014

The f***ing epic fate of novelistic subjectivity in twitter fiction by Emily Greenberg, Fall 2013

D) On campus guest lectures and seminars

“Mapping Radical Pan Africanism in The Global South.” Edmondson, Locksley– Retirement from Cornell Program 14 April 2017

“Life as a scholar and writer” Graduate Students Open House 22 March 2017

“Writing and Researching Africa” *The African Panel - Experiences With Work And Research In and On Africa.* The event will take place during Africa Week on Friday March 10th 2017 from 5:00-7:00pm, in 142 Goldwin Smith Hall.

“Keynote” - Teaching African Languages to Heritage Speakers. Cornell SCI Conference, 4 April 2016

African Reading Group - Africa’s Future as a Contested Concept (Law Students) - Tabboggan Lodge, Cornell University December 1 2016

“Nairobi Heat.” Class Visit Stuart Arrowsmith Davis. 20 November 2015

“Presenting Mrs. Shaw.” Wednesday’s Wine and Words – Africana. 18 November 2015

Keynote “Our greatness is in our in solidarity” Africa Ball Banquet, Nigerian Students Association, Cornell. 11 April 2015.

“Reading by NoViolet Bulawayo and Mukoma Wa Ngugi.” Barbara & David Zalaznick Reading Series. Goldwin Smith Hall, October 23rd, 2014

“Things Fall Apart and the Language Question.” (Riche Richardson’s class visit). April 17, 2014.

“Use of literary theories in writing *Black Star Nairobi*.” Sandwiched Seminars, Goldwin Smith Hall, November 13, 2013

“The politics of Language in African Literature.” Freedom Writes (Satya Mohanty’s class visit). November 5th 2013

“What are the intersections between scholarly and public work.” FGSS – Cornell University, Uris Hall. October 28th, 2013

“The Writer as a Reader: The Reader as a Writer” The Cornell Prison Education Program, Auburn Correctional Facility. January 30th, 2013.

“Manufacturing a Peasant and a Native Genius: Language and Aesthetics in the Works of John Clare and Amos Tutuola.” The Comparative Cultures and Literature Forum (CCLF) Speaker Series, Cornell University, November 12, 2012.

“Ishion Hutchinson and Mukoma Wa Ngugi.” A Literary and Creative Ideas, Africana Studies and Research Center. Cornell University, November 14, 2012

Course leader for a group of English graduate student instructors (2013-2014)

Reading A & S Undergraduate Admissions applications with Heather Struck (Spring, 2013)

Advising incoming first year students

Membership in Professional Organizations

- Modern Languages Association
- African Literature Association
- PEN America
- Elected to MLA Forum Executive Committee - LLC African to 1990
- Elected to Executive Council – African Literature Association - 2017

Language Proficiencies and Training

Gikuyu – Native Speaker; Kiswahili – Native Speaker (intermediate); IsiXhosa – Intermediate.

Summer 2005 FLAS Fellowship. Indiana University:

Summer Cooperative African Languages Institute. Intensive IsiXhosa Course.

Summer 2002 FLAS Fellowship. Michigan State

University: Summer Cooperative African Languages Institute. Intensive Advanced Kiswahili Course.

Courses Taught at Cornell

ENGL 6732-101 SEM
(Seminar)
ENGL 6730-101 SEM 16573
Literature ENGL 4570-101 SEM 14712
ENGL 3771-101 SEM 17182
ENGL 3742-101 SEM
Lit (Seminar)
ENGL 3340-001 LEC 15500
ENGL 2800-102 SEM 16596
ENGL 2771-001 LEC 15499
ENGL 2770-001 LEC
(Lecture)
ENGL 2550-101 SEM 16363
ENGL 1147-101 SEM 16848
ENGL 1270-101
Literature: All our Favorite Books

Global South Novel & World Lit

Standard English and Aesthetics in African
Africa Writes Back (Seminar)
The African Novel
Africans and African Americans in
Race, Class, Gender, Violence
Intro to Creative Writing (Seminar)
Africa in Hollywood (Lecture)
Representing Racial Encounters
Intro to African Literature
FWS: The Mystery In The Story
FWS: Writing About

Service –
Reader for Journal of African Literature