

emer. o. Prof. Karsten Legère, Dr. phil. habil.

Academic profile

Bantu languages, regional focus on Tanzania (University of Dar es Salaam – UoGothenburg and UoVienna cooperation) and Namibia (i. a. language consultant - NIED), sociolinguistics and language policy, language endangerment, language description (morphology and syntax of selected Tanzanian and Namibian languages from a descriptive perspective) and documentation, orature

On-going projects e.g. Vidunda text corpus and verb morphology, Kwere searchable database, wild plant names and ethnobotany (Vidunda, Kwangali, Ndonga/Kwanyama, Swahili), Mbukushu dictionary, subject glossaries (Kwangali, Lozi), orature of Tanzanian and Namibian minorities, language documentation (e.g. Southern Nilotic Akie, Dowe, Vidunda, Kwiva)

Professional career - i. a. Professor, African languages (University of Namibia 1994-2000), Associate Professor (University of Dar es Salaam, Swahili Dept. 1975-1979, 1983-1986), Visiting Professor (University of Vienna, 1992 -2001), Professor, African Languages, UoGothenburg (2001-2010, subsequently Prof. emeritus)

Distinctions - Leibniz Price (KMU Leipzig 1983), Humboldt Medal (Bronze, 1986), Honorary member (Linguistic Association for SADC Universities/LASU, since August 2001)

Biographee - “Who’s Who in the World” (New Providence, USA )

“Kürschners Deutscher Gelehrten-Kalender” (Munich), Festschrift 60th Birthday  
„Globalisation and African Languages“ by Bromber and Smieja (Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter 2004)

Convenor - 5th LASU Conference (Windhoek, UNAM, Aug. 1998), Para-session “Language Mapping in Africa” (of WOCAL Addis Ababa August 2006), Symposium “African Languages” (Göteborg April 2007), International Bantu Conference (Göteborg October 2007), Nordic Workshop “Nordic Contributions to African Languages” (Stavanger November 2008)

Keynote speaker - Conference "Kiswahili in Functional Literacy in Eastern Africa" 1990 (Nairobi, Kenya), 1st international LiCCA conference "Towards Language Planning for a Post Apartheid South Africa" 1991 (Pretoria), International workshop "Kiswahili in Primary Education in Eastern Africa" 1991 (Dar Es Salaam), 2nd International LiCCA Conference "Empowerment through Language" 1993 (Maseru, Lesotho), 5th LASU Conference, 1998 (Windhoek), World Congress of African Languages 2000 (Lomé,Togo), 6th LASU Conference, 2001 (Gaborone, Botswana), Conference “African Renaissance”, 2002 (Pretoria), Conference “Language and Empowerment”, 2004 (Koblenz-Landau), Third Conference of ADALEST “Making Multilingual Education a Reality for All”, 2004 (Mangochi, Malawi), WOCAL 5 Para-session on Language Mapping, 2006 (Addis Ababa), Symposium “Nordic contributions to African languages”, 2007 (Gothenburg), International conference Bantu Languages: Analysis, Description and Theory, 2007 (Gothenburg), 10th Conference of the Linguistics Association for SADC Universities, 2009 (Roma/Lesotho), First International

Conference on Heritage/Community Languages, 2010 (Panel convener, Los Angeles),  
Symposium Hommage à Beban Sammy Chumbow, 2010 (Yaoundé), Nordic Africa Days,  
Panel J: Language, society and culture in Africa, 2010 (Åbo), 9th World Congress of African  
Languages/WOCAL, 2012 (Buea)

Examiner - Ph. D. Ruth Basha (Dar es Salaam 1985), Katrin Bromber (Leipzig 1991), James  
Mdee (Leipzig 1991), Simon Sewangi (Helsinki 2001), Emmanuel Chabata (Oslo 2007),  
Langa Khumalo (Oslo 2007), Irmtraud Maral-Hanak and Katrin Bromber Habilitation (Wien  
2008), Wendworth Ross (Norwich, UK, 2009), Sarita Monjane (Roskilde, Denmark 2010),  
Koni Muluwa (Brussels 2010), Daniela Waldburger (Wien 2012), Professorship Assibi  
Amidu (Trondheim 2006), Abdulaziz Lodhi (Uppsala 2004, 2008)

External examiner (Swaziland 1996-1999)

Peer-reviewer, adjudicator – i.a. Journal of African Languages and Linguistics (Leiden),  
South African Journal of African Languages (Pretoria), Nordic Journal of African Studies  
(Helsinki), Language Policy (Berlin)  
Austrian Academic Foundation (Vienna), European Research Foundation (Brussels), Norges  
forskningsråd (Oslo), Endangered Languages Project (London)

Board Member – i. a. Standing Committee, World Congress of African Linguistics (co-opted  
2008, full member 2012), ADALEST, Language in Contact and Conflict (1991-1999), Vice-  
President, Linguistics Association for SADC Universities/LASU (1995-2001)