


Academic Staff Profile

Personal Profile

Personal Details

<p>Name: Peter Githinji Title/Qualification: PhD Department: Kiswahili Designation/Position: Associate Professor Email: peter.githinji@ku.ac.ke Contact Address: Kenyatta University, Nakuru Campus P.O. 17952 – 20100 Nakuru. Tel: 0725636086</p> <p>Area of Specialization: -Sociolinguistics -Dialectology Research Interests: -Folklinguistics, Language contact and multilingualism -Urban and Youth Languages Google Scholar: https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=lv_iagcAAAAJ&hl=en ORCID ID:</p>	
--	---

Academic & Professional Qualifications

- Jan. 2002 – Dec 2006 **PhD in Linguistics, Michigan State University**
Dissertation Title: Sheng and variation: The negotiation and construction of Layered Identities.
- Sept. 1999 - Dec. 2001 **MA in Linguistics, Michigan State University**
Thesis: Language Attitudes: Nairobi People and Sheng.
- Dec. 1990 - Mar. 1995 **BA in Kiswahili & Literature, Kenyatta University, Nairobi, Kenya**

Employment History

- Feb 2020-Present Associate Professor at Kenyatta University, Department of Kiswahili.
Teaching, Student supervision, Coordination amongst others.
- Mar. 2016-Feb 2020 Contractual Appointment as a full time Associate Professor at Kenyatta University, Department of Kiswahili. Teaching both graduate and undergraduate courses and Supervising MA students. I also serve as the Campus Post Graduate coordinator. I am involved in various Campus management activities such as the Campus Management team, Research and outreach, Member of Campus strategic planning committees, Coordinator of the Swahili program

	among others. I also serve as a member of the Curriculum Committee and Post Graduate studies in my home department.
June-August 2014.	In Country Director for the Intensive Swahili Fulbright-Hays Group Projects Abroad (GPA) summer Program in Arusha Tanzania
June –August 2015.	In Country Director for the Intensive Swahili Fulbright-Hays Group Projects Abroad (GPA) summer Program in Arusha, Tanzania
May 2011-Dec 2015	Promoted to Associate Professor with tenure with same responsibilities as below.
Sept 2005- May 2011	Assistant Professor, Department of Linguistics. Teaching Swahili and Linguistics courses. Coordinator of African Languages. I supervised all the instructors of African languages and ensured that they fulfilled their responsibilities. This also involved ensuring that all the logistics issues necessary to fulfill their responsibilities were in place. I also organized orientation and training workshops to promote instructors teaching capacities and ensure that are adequately prepared in their roles. Finally, I organized the annual African Languages Day to provide a forum for students to display skills they have acquired

Achievements

-
-

Publications

Referred Journals

- 2019: Sanaajadiiya Mtandaoni: Misimbo Ibuka Yaimarika ilhali Kiswahili Chaganda. Katika, Obuchi, S, M Mwita na M Noordin (Wah.). Toleo Maalum, *Mwanga wa Lugha: Makala Teule ya Kongamano la CHAKITA 2018*, kur. 149-161. Eldoret, Moi University Press.
- 2017: Folklinguistic perceptions and attitudes towards Kenyan varieties of Swahili. *Swahili Forum*, 24, 62-84. Co published with Martin Njoroge (United States International University)
- 2008 Ambivalent attitudes: Perception of Sheng and its speakers. *Nordic journal of African Studies* 17 (2) 113-136
- 2008 Sexism and (mis)representation of women in Sheng. *Journal of African Cultural Studies* 20 (1): 15-32
- 2006 Bazes and their shibboleths: Lexical variation and Sheng speakers' identity in Nairobi. *Nordic Journal of African Languages* 15 (4): 443-472
- 2006 The Asymmetric Nature of Bantu Applicative Constructions. Paper co-authored with Deo Ngonyani *Lingua* 116: 31-63

Books and Books Chapters

- 2014: Kwa miaka hamsini, Sheng imekitunza au imekiua Kiswahili? In Simala, I, L. Chacha & M. Osore (eds.) *Miaka Hamsini ya Kiswahili Nchini Kenya*. Twaweza Communications (pp 34-52). Nairobi, Twaweza Communications
- 2012 Utetezi wa Elimu ya Uwililugha Africa Mashariki. In Momanyi, C, K Njogu nd M Mukuthuria (Eds.) *Kiswahili na Utaifa Nchini Kenya* (pp 87-105) Chakita Kenya and Twaweza Communications Nairobi
- 2011: Translanguaging and negotiation of ethnicity: Reproduction of hegemonic structures in communication media. In N. Wachanga (Ed.) *Cultural Identity and New Communication Technologies: Political, Ethnic and Ideological Implications*. IGI Global. Hershey, Pa.
- 2009 *Sheng, Styleshifting and construction of Multifaceted Identities: Discursive Practices in the Social Negotiation of Meaning*. Sarbrucken: VDM Verlag Dr. Müller.
- 2007 Mchongoano verbal duels: Risky Discourse and sociocultural commentary. In Kimani Njogu and G. Oluoch Olunya 2007 *Cultural Productions and Social Change in Kenya: Building Bridges* vol 1: 89-109

Conference/Workshops/Seminar Papers

Conference Papers

-
-

Workshops Papers

Forthcoming: What Qualifies as Sheng? A workshop on Kenya Youth Language Practices held at Kenyatta University (July 19-20)

Seminar Papers

-
-

Student Co-authored Publications

-
-

Other Publications

- 2018: Sheng in Kenya's Informal Economy. *Jahazi*, Vol 7, 81-84
- 2012: The Usual Suspects: In defense of Urban Languages. In Sanneh, S, K. Wanjogu and O. Adesola (Eds.) *Language in African Performing and Visual Arts: Selected Papers from a Conference held at Yale University*. pp 110-116)
- 2011 Insults and folk humor: verbal transgression in Sheng's Mchongoano. Festschrift in honor of David Dwyer. Joy of Language, East Lansing, Michigan State University, <https://www.msu.edu/%7Edwyer/JOLIndex.htm>.

Research

-
-

Funded Projects

- 2019 Alliance For African Partnership (Co-PI) \$12000 with Dr Lucy Wathika and Dr Jonathan Choti. To conduct a 4 day workshop for early career faculty and Graduate students at Egerton University between December 8 and 13
- 2016 US department of Education grant (Swahili STARTALK) PI \$90,000. A 4-week intensive summer program that aims to teach Swahili to American students at Ohio University
2013. Fulbright Hays Group Projects Abroad hosted by Michigan State University and Ohio University with Prof. Deo Ngonyani (PI) \$362,128. A program that takes Advanced Swahili students for an intensive course during the summer. In-Country Director during the 2014 and 2015 at MS-TCDC in Arusha Tanzania.

Conferenced/Workshops/Seminars Attended

Conferences Attended

2018. Conference Presentation. Chama Cha Kiswahili cha Taifa (CHAKITA). Haja ya kuimarisha mikabala na mbinu za kuwafunza wageni lugha ya Kiswahili nchini Kenya. Jointly with collaboration Deo Ngonyani, Joachim Kisanji, and Yusta Mganga. At Moi University, Eldoret (August 9-10)
2018. Conference Presentation. Chama Cha Kiswahili cha Taifa (CHAKITA). Sanaajadiiya mtandaoni: Misimbo ibuka yaimarika ilhali Kiswahili chaganda. At Moi University, Eldoret
2017. Conference Presentation. Athari za lugha za Kienyeji katika leksia na sintaksia ya Kiswahili cha Kenya. At Kibabii University, Bungoma, (July 20-22)
2016. Conference Presentation. Ngazi za Kiswahili: Je kuna Kiswahili kimoja au "Viswahili" vingi? At catholic University of East Africa, Nairobi, Kenya, December 16-17, 2016.
2016. Conference Presentation. Isimuyahe: Haja ya kuzingatia maoni ya wazungumzaji wa Kiswahili. Swahili Cultural Centre, Mombasa Kenya (September 8th-10th 2016)
2014. Conference presentations. Kenyan Scholars and Studies (KESSA), Florence, Alabama, The mental maps of Swahili speakers (September 6, 2014).
- 2013 Seminar, Conference: Sheng Language in Kenya - Structure, Uses & Pedagogy, The French Institute of Research in Africa (IFRA), Nairobi, Kenya. (July 16, 2013).
- 2013 Seminar, Reflection on the future of Sheng in Kenya, Public Intellectual Forum on Sheng and Media in Kenya: Twaweza communications, Nairobi, Kenya. (July 10, 2013)
- 2013 Conference Attendance, Linguistic competition in urban spaces: Sheng's value, utility and adaptation to Kenyan linguistic market., African Urban and Youth Languages Conference

Cape Town, South Africa. (July 5, 2013 - July 7, 2013)

- 2013 Inaugural Graduation Ceremony, Josnem Teachers Training Institute, Nakuru, Kenya, They are counting on us, Githinji, P. (Presenter & Author). (September 6, 2013)
- 2013 International conference for the Celebration of 50 years of Kiswahili Development in Kenya, Chama cha Kiswahili cha Taifa (CHAKITA), Nairobi, Kwa miaka hamsini, Sheng imekitunza au kukiangamiza Kiswahili?
- 2011 Conference Presentation: Corruption or innovation? Making sense of Kenyan Urban youth Discourse, Kenya Scholars and studies Association, Bowling Green, Ohio, United States. (September 16 -17)
- 2011: Bilingual education in Kenya: Which way for the Counties, Kenya Scholars and studies association, Bowling Green, Ohio, United States (September 16-17)
- 2010 Conference Presentation. Brand Swahili: Squandered birthright, misguided policies and linguistic insecurity among Kenyans. Annual Conference of Kenyan Scholar and Studies Association (KESSA) at Bowling Green University (Sept 19-19 2010)
2010. Conference presentation. Tafsiri na ufundishaji wa Kiswahili kwa wanafunzi wa ng'ambo (*Translation and Teaching of Swahili to students abroad*) to be presented during the CHAKITA conference at Pwani University, Kilifi (August 9-12)
- 2010 Language in Education policy in Tanzania and Ethiopia: The path in between for Kenya. Paper presented during the International Conference on Multilingualism at Kenyatta University, Nairobi (July 22-23)
- 2010 Managing L1 in the second language classroom. Presentation during the ALTA/NCOLCTL Conference at Madison, Wisconsin (April 21-25)
- 2009 Translanguaging in imagined communities: Mismatch between ethnic language and ethnic identity. Presented at the 40th Annual Conference of African Linguistics at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (April 9-11)
- 2009 Educational marginalization of African children without the Mother-Tongues. Paper presented at the 10th Anniversary of the Institute of the African Child at Ohio University. (March 12-14)
- 2008 Arresting Language decline: A proposal for trilingualism. A joint presentation with Peter Otiato during the African Language Teachers Association (ALTA) Conference at Madison, Wisconsin (April 24-18)
- 2008 Lexical gaps: Lexicographers, you got work to do. Paper presented during the Annual Conference of African Linguists (ACAL) in Athens, Georgia (April 18-20)
- 2008 Outside the Box: Revitalizing local knowledge through linguistic hybridity. Presented at the Symposium on "Enabling Local Knowledge in Africa: A Pathway to Social Resilience?" held at Ohio University on January 24 and 25

- 2007 Socio-linguistic construction of gender among Sheng Speaker in Nairobi. Paper presented at the Annual Conference of African Linguistics (ACAL) at Gainesville, Florida

- 2007 Maximizing media output in the language classroom: pros and cons of audio-visual cues. Paper presented at the 11th African Language Teachers Association (ALTA) at Gainesville Florida

- 2006 Homecoming: Drawing from the source in the teaching of African Languages. Presented in the 10th Annual conference of African Language Teacher's Association at Rutgers

- 2006 "Changing with change: Making African Languages relevant to global demands". Presented jointly with Peter Otiato at 10th ALTA conference at Rutgers

- 2005 Bases of Sheng and lexical variation: Indices of multiple identities in Nairobi. Colloquium talk at Ohio University

- 2005 "Non-standard features in language pedagogy: to teach or not to teach?" Presented at the 9th annual meeting of African Language Teachers Association (ALTA) at Yale University.

- 2001 "The Dilemma of Stereotyping Sheng' and Its Speakers" Paper presented at the 31st New Ways of Analyzing Variation Conference at Stanford University, San Francisco, California

Workshops Attended

- 2018. A workshop on Kenya Youth Language Practices held at Kenyatta University (July 19-20)

Seminars Attended

-
-

Supervision of Postgraduate Students

Masters Thesis

- 2015. Ray, Keith. Identities and Imagined Communities amongst selected groups of English Language Learners at Ohio University.

- 2012. Nandaka Kalugampitiya The Role Accent Plays in the Evaluations of Native Speaker-hood by Native Speakers of American English

- 2010. Bouchra Kachoub. The Relationship of L2 attitudes to L3 attitudes and learning: A study of Moroccan University Students

- 2010. Nurenzia Yannuar. Exploring learners' autonomous abilities in blogs designed for independent learning. (MA Theses, Completed)

MASTERS PROJECTS

- 2021 Nelson Asige. Mtindo wa Hadithi katika nyimbo teule za Bahati Bukuku
2010. Mary Gathogo: Acquisition of Sentential Negation by Swahili L2 Learners: Early Developmental Stages and Lerner Strategies.
2010. Mariya Chakir: Why Moroccan Arabic is Unintelligible to Arabic Speakers from the Gulf
2010. Iryna Korbenyk: English Slang Acquisition by Non-Native Speakers of English (A Case Study at Ohio Program of Intensive English)
2009. Shuang Hu. A study of Teacher Initiated Codeswitching in Chinese as a Foreign Language Classroom.
2009. Ella Datsenko. Attitudes of Ukrainians toward the Ukrainian and Russian Languages
2009. Nelly Martin. Codeswitching in Indonesian as a Second Language Classrooms
2009. Francis Wang'endo: Communicating more than what is literally said: Exploring Implicature in Kenya Alcohol Commercials
2009. Albert Bado Bilingual Education in Burkina Faso: Parents' and Teachers' Attitudes toward Instruction in French and Indigenous Languages.
2008. Derek Druzbacky. Storytelling Sex Tourism: The grammar of Agency and Non Agency in the Narratives of a Virtual Community.
2008. Jessica K. Mushi. An Analysis of linguistics Styles in a Tanzania Internet Forum

Ph. D

- 2018: Filipo Lubua: Entrepreneurship and Instructional Technology in East Africa (PhD Dissertation, completed)
- 2014: Albert Bado Niambue: Video Games and English as a foreign language in Education in Burkina Faso (PhD Dissertation, completed)
2012. Shariff Osman. Reading for Development: The Somali Rural Literacy Campaign of 1975 (PhD Dissertation, Completed)
2011. Elizabeth Ngumbi. Educational experiences of young Maasai women in Kajiado District, Kenya: a phenomenological case study of Enomatasiani Girls Secondary School (PhD Dissertation, completed)

Professional/ Consultancy (Editor/ Peer review in journals, Networks/ Collaborations, External Examiner, Patents)

- Past Editorial Board Member. Nairobi University Journal of Linguistics

- Past Editorial Board Member. Pan African University Interdisciplinary Journal

Peer Reviewer

- Nordic Journal of African Studies
- Journal of Pidgin and Creoles
- Journal of African language Teachers Association
- International Mother Language Day
- Journal of Language Policy
- Swahili Forum
- South African Journal of linguistics
- Foreign Languages and Areas Study (FLAS) reviewer

External Examiner

2016: Kamanga Chimwemwe: A Descriptive Analysis of Chibrazi, The Urban Contact Vernacular Language of Malaŵi (PhD dissertation, University of Pretoria, completed)

Community Service and Other Engagements

-
-

Affiliation of Professional Bodies

- Past Member: Chama Cha Ukuzaji Kiswahili Duniani (CHAUKIDU)
- Past Member: African Language Teachers Association (ALTA)
- Founding Member: Language Association of Eastern Africa (LEIA)

National and International awards and Recognitions

-
-

Administrative Positions Held

Recognized university administrative positions

-
-

Other administrative positions Held

Kenyatta University Nakuru Campus

- Chair, Post Graduate Studies, Nakuru Campus
- Chair, Nakuru Campus COVID-19 Response Team
- Member, Nakuru Campus Management board
- Member, Campus ICT Team

Ohio University

- Promotion and Tenure committee (College of Arts and sciences)
- Coordinator: Linguistic Colloquium
- Advisor: African Languages association
- Chair of Department Peer Review Committee (2007)
- Foreign Languages and Areas Study (FLAS) fellowship award committee
- External examiner of Gikuyu
- African languages committee
- African Studies Admission committee
- African Studies Advisory board

Kindly use this format for your online CV submission and send it to: webmaster@ku.ac.ke to enable updates to your web page.