

CURRICULUM VITAE

Knut J. Olawsky

Education and employment history in detail

21. March – 14. May 2011 Special Visiting Fellow at the Language and Culture Research Group of the Cairns Institute, James Cook University
21. – 25. September 2009 Lecturer for a block seminar at Heinrich-Heine-Universität, Düsseldorf
23. June – 03. July 2008 Instructor at *InField* - Institute on Field Linguistics and Language Documentation. University of California, Santa Barbara (funded by NSF – National Science Foundation/USA).
23. January 2007 NAATI accreditation as a Professional Translator for English-German
- Since July 2005 Senior Linguist/Manager at Mirima Dawang Woorlab-gerring, Language and Culture Centre, Kununurra (WA)
- July 2000 – June 2005 Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Research Centre for Linguistic Typology (RCLT), Melbourne.
Project: *Urarina language and culture*.
- Various research trips to Peru to conduct linguistic fieldwork
- July 1999 – June 2000 Postdoctoral Research Fellow at University of California, Berkeley. Project: *Tonal typology*
31. March 1999 Awarded PhD. Thesis rated *Magna cum laude*; Oral exams rated *Summa cum laude*. Heinrich-Heine Universität (HHU), Düsseldorf (Germany)
- December 1998 PhD dissertation *Aspects of Dagbani Grammar (with special emphasis on phonology and morphology)* submitted to the HHU, Düsseldorf
01. April, 1994 – 31. March 1999 Research fellow for the Dept. of Linguistics, HHU, Düsseldorf.
Mission: Analysis of the Dagbani Grammar, with particular emphasis on phonology and morphology.
- Various research trips to Ghana to conduct linguistic fieldwork.
- Additional diploma course in Educational Studies at the HHU, Düsseldorf
- Teaching responsibilities as a lecturer in linguistics
01. November, 1993 – 31. March, 1994 Research fellow for the *Lexlern* language acquisition project at the HHU, Düsseldorf, supervised by Prof. Harald Clahsen

21. October, 1993 Final examination: Magister Artium (M.A.): *Psycholinguistic experiments on the formation of participles in German*.
Qualification with highest degree
- 30.07.1991 Acquisition of the certificate *Intercultural Communication/Teaching German as a foreign language*,
HHU Düsseldorf
02. April, 1991 –
30. September, 1993 Teaching assistant for General Linguistics at the HHU,
Düsseldorf.
- 17.02.1990 Acquisition of the *Certificate of Language Proficiency* from
the *Japan Foundation* (Level 3)
01. May, 1989 Continuation of the university study at the HHU, Düsseldorf
(same course as stated above)
01. November, 1988
– 30. April, 1989 University study at the *Università degli Studi di Napoli*,
Naples/Italy
- 19.02.1988 Acquisition of the *Certificate of Language Proficiency* from
the *Japan Foundation* (Level 4)
01. October, 1986 Begin of university study at HHU, Düsseldorf (Germany):
M.A. course in:
1. General Linguistics (major subject)
2. Romance Linguistics (minor subject)
3. Japanology (minor subject)

Teaching experience summary

- 1991-1993 Teaching assistant at HHU Düsseldorf
- 1994-1999 Various teaching assignments at HHU Düsseldorf; subjects covered:
- Introduction to linguistics
 - Phonetics and phonology
 - Empirical linguistic methods
 - Lexicography
 - Linguistic fieldwork
- 2008 Instructor at *InField* (Institute on Field Linguistics and Language Documentation, UCSB Santa Barbara); courses co-taught:
- Life in the field
 - Language resources and the community
 - Grant writing for language activists and linguists (in advisory role)
- 2009 Lecturer for a block seminar in *Linguistic Fieldwork* at HHU, Düsseldorf. (36 hours)
- Since 2005 Regular teaching assignments at Mirima Language Centre, Kununurra; subject *Miriwoong language and culture awareness* (7 hour block seminar) and related topics. Development of curriculum, teaching support for Miriwoong language class (largely attended by government employees)

Awards won

- July 2003 Fellowship for postdoctoral research at the RCLT, Melbourne (Awarded by ELDP = Endangered Languages Documentation Programme, London).
- April 1999 Fellowship for postdoctoral research at the University of California, Berkeley (Awarded by DAAD = German Academic Exchange Service, Bonn).
- July 1996 Grant for fieldwork in Ghana (Awarded by CDG = Carl-Duisberg-Gesellschaft, Berlin).
- March 1995 Grant for fieldwork in Ghana (Awarded by DAAD, Bonn).
- November 1988 Scholarship for study at Italian Universities Perugia, Naples (Awarded by DAAD, Bonn).

Major publications

Book chapters

- Olawsky, K.J.: Revitalisation Strategies for Miriwoong. In: Hobson, J., K. Lowe, S. Poetsch & M. Walsh (eds.), *Re-Awakening Languages. Theory and practice in the revitalisation of Australia's indigenous languages*. Sydney University Press, 2010. 146-154.
- Olawsky, K.J.: Going Public With Language: Involving the Wider Community in Language Revitalisation. In: Hobson, J., K. Lowe, S. Poetsch & M. Walsh (eds.), *Re-Awakening Languages. Theory and practice in the revitalisation of Australia's indigenous languages*. Sydney University Press, 2010. 75-83.
- Olawsky, K.J.: ObVious OVS in Urarina syntax. In: Simpson, A. & P. Austin (eds.), *Linguistische Berichte Special Volume on Endangered Languages*. Hamburg: Helmut Buske Verlag, 2007. 62-90
- Olawsky, K.J.: What is a word in Dagbani? In: Dixon, R. M. W. & A. Y. Aikhenvald (eds.), *Word. A cross-linguistic typology*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2002. 205-226.

Selected conference papers and refereed journal articles

- Olawsky, K.J.: Urarina - Evidence for OVS constituent order. In: Boban Arsenijević, Nouredine Elouazizi, Frank Landsbergen & Martin Salzmann (eds.), *Leiden Papers in Linguistics 2.2* (2005), 43-68. <http://www.ulcl.leidenuniv.nl> (ISSN 1574-4728).
- Olawsky, K.J.: What is a Noun? What is an Adjective? Problems of classification in Dagbani. *Journal of African Languages and Linguistics*, Vol. 25 (2), 2004.
- Hyman, M.L. & Olawsky, Knut J.: Dagbani verb tonology. In: *Kinyira njira! - Step firmly on the pathway! Selected Papers from the 31st Annual Conference on African Linguistics*, Boston University, March 2-5, 2000, edited by Chege Githiora, Heather Littlefield & Victor Manfredi. Africa World Press, Trenton New Jersey & Asmara Eritrea, 2004. 97-108
- Olawsky, K.J.: Urarina word classes. In: *Proceedings of the 5th Workshop on American Indigenous Languages*, University of California, Santa Barbara, April 26-28, 2002. Edited by J. Castillo. Santa Barbara, 2003: 105-121.

Monographs

- Olawsky, K. J.: *Psycholinguistic experiments on Dagbani number classes*. Arbeiten des SFB 282, Nr. 108. Heinrich-Heine-Universität Düsseldorf 1998: 1-52.
- Olawsky, K.J.: *An introduction to Dagbani phonology*. Arbeiten des SFB 282, Nr. 76. Heinrich-Heine-Universität Düsseldorf 1996. 1-39.

In preparation

Olawsy, K.J.: Between duty statement and reality – A linguist’s job at an Australian language centre. Pending acceptance in: Henderson, J., The role of linguists in Indigenous language centres and other community language programs.

Olawsy, K.J.: Miriwoong phonology. To appear in Olawsy, K.J. & F. Kofod: Studies in Miriwoong Language.

Olawsy, K.J.: Word formation in Miriwoong. To appear in Olawsy, K.J. & F. Kofod: Studies in Miriwoong Language.

Selected academic presentations

May 2011: *The Miriwoong sound system*. LCRG (Language and Culture Research Group) Round Table, The Cairns Institute, James Cook University, Cairns, 12th May 2011.

April 2011: *A race against time in the Kimberley: Language maintenance and revitalisation at Mirima Language Centre, Kununurra*. Public lecture, James Cook University, Cairns, 19th April 2011.

April 2011: *The Miriwoong Seasonal Calendar*. Guest lecture, School of Earth and Environmental Science, James Cook University, Cairns, 13th April 2011.

April 2011: *Representative use of language in the revitalisation process*. LCRG Round Table, The Cairns Institute, James Cook University, Cairns, 1st April 2011.

July 2008: *The Barefoot Linguist: Language work at an Aboriginal language centre in the Australian Outback*. Heinrich-Heine-Universität Düsseldorf, 10th July 2008.

June 2008: *Language resources and the community: How to provide technical support for my community*. Workshop in collaboration with Victoria Rau (Providence University, Taiwan) and Te Taka Keegan (University of Waikato, New Zealand). 24th - 28th June 2008, University of California, Santa Barbara.

June 2008: *Life in the Field: How do I succeed in the Field?* Workshop in collaboration with Spike Gildea (University of Oregon) and Lise Dobrin (University of Virginia). 24th June - 4th July 2008, University of California, Santa Barbara.

June 2008: *Australian Language Centres*. Workshop on Models of Language Maintenance and Revitalization. 24th June 2008, University of California, Santa Barbara.

June 2005: *Es gibt sie doch: OVS-Wortstellung in Urarina*. Heinrich-Heine-Universität Düsseldorf, 9th June 2005.

September 2004: *Basic and exceptional constituent order in Urarina*. University of Amsterdam, 3rd September 2004.

December 2003: *Typological peculiarities of Urarina*. SOAS, London, 16th December 2003.

December 2003: *Person Inflection Types in Urarina*. Linguistics Colloquium, University of Cologne (Germany), 9th December 2003.

October 2003: *Aspects of Urarina tone*. Center for Indigenous Languages of Latin America (CILLA), University of Texas, Austin, 25th October 2003.

November 2002: *Verb Structure and Clause Linking in Urarina*. Linguistics colloquium, University of California, Berkeley, 18th November 2002.

April 2002: *Urarina word classes*. Workshop on American Indigenous Languages. University of California, Santa Barbara, 26th - 28th April 2002.

August 2000: *What is a word in Dagbani?* International workshop “The status of “word”: its phonological, grammatical, cultural and cognitive basis”. La Trobe University, Melbourne. 7th – 12th August 2000.

March 2000: *Dagbani verb tonology*. 31st Annual Conference on African Linguistics (ACAL 2000) at Boston University. 2nd – 5th March 2000.

October 1999: *Psycholinguistic experiments on Dagbani nominals*. CSUF Linguistics Colloquium, California State University, Fresno. 8th October 1999.

November 1998: *Dagbani class morphology in the mental lexicon*. Linguistic colloquium of the Philipps-Universität Marburg, 27th November 1998.

September 1998: *Dagbani nominals in the mental lexicon*. Poster presentation at the First International Conference on the Mental Lexicon, University of Alberta, Edmonton (Canada), 3rd – 5th September 1998.

March 1998: *Domino-effect and contour formation in Dagbani*. Council on African Studies. Yale University, 26th – 29th March 1998.

September 1997: *The tonal structure of Dagbani nouns*. 27th Colloquium on African Languages and Linguistics, Leiden, 27th – 30th August 1997.

July 1997: *Tone patterns and morphology in Dagbani*. 2nd World Congress of African Linguistics, Leipzig, 27th July – 3rd August 1997.

February 1997: *Interaction of tone and morphology in Dagbani*. DGfS-Tagung 1997. Düsseldorf, 27th April 1997

January 1996: *Dagbani as a tonal language*. 8th Italian Meeting of Afroasiatic Linguistics. Naples, 25th – 26th January 1996

Research interests

- Phonology (segmental & prosodic)
- Linguistic typology
- Endangered languages and language revitalisation
- Australian Indigenous studies
- Amazonian languages
- African languages
- Language acquisition (L2)
- Intercultural communication