

Curriculum Vitae

Professor Graham Lytton **Furniss** BA PhD FBA OBE

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Employment:

- 1967-68 Professeur d'Anglais, Séminaire St. Louis, Ziguinchor, Casamance, Senegal.
- 1973-74 Part-time Lecturer, Department of Nigerian Languages, Bayero University, Kano, Nigeria.
- 1975-77 Teaching Fellow in Hausa, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London.
- 1977-79 Lecturer, Department of Languages and Linguistics, University of Maiduguri, Nigeria.
- 1979-89 Lecturer in Hausa, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London.
- 1990-96 Senior Lecturer in Hausa, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London.
- 1996-99 Reader in Hausa Cultural Studies, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London.
- 1999-2014 Professor of African Language Literature in the University of London
- 2014- Professor emeritus, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London.

Qualifications:

- 1972 BA (Hons) Hausa and Social Anthropology, University of London.
- 1977 Ph.D University of London.

Authored books:

1. 1991 *Second Level Hausa: Grammar in Action*, 128pp. London: SOAS. ISBN 0 7286 0182 6
2. 1995 *Ideology in Practice: Hausa Poetry as Exposition of Values and Viewpoints* (Westafrikanische Studien: Frankfurter Beiträge zur Sprach- und Kulturgeschichte, Band 9), xi+245pp. Köln: Rüdiger Köppe Verlag. ISBN 3-927620-51-3.
3. 1996 *Poetry, Prose and Popular Culture in Hausa*, 338pp. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press (ISBN 0 7486 0786 2) and Washington: Smithsonian

- Institution Press (ISBN 1 56098 695 6) for the International African Institute; also Ibadan, Nigeria: University Press (ISBN 9780306889).
4. 2004 *Orality: the Power of the Spoken Word*, 188pp. London and New York: Palgrave Macmillan (ISBN 1403934045)
 5. 2004 (with Malami Buba and William Burgess) *Bibliography of Hausa Popular Fiction 1987-2002*, (Wortkunst und Dokumentartexte in afrikanischen Sprachen 21) 179pp. Köln: Rüdiger Köppe Verlag (ISBN 3896452770).

Edited books (inc. co-edited books), dissertation, and edited journals:

1. 1977 Some aspects of modern Hausa poetry: themes, style and values with special reference to the 'Hikima' poetry circle in Kano. Ph.D dissertation, University of London, 386pp. Godstone: British Theses Service.
2. 1982 (ed.) *Writings on Hausa Grammar: the Collected Papers of F. W. Parsons*, 606pp. Ann Arbor, Books on Demand, University Microfilms International.
3. 1988 (ed. with Philip J. Jaggar). *Studies in Hausa Language and Linguistics.*, xxxi+282pp. London: Kegan Paul International in association with the International African Institute, and New York: Columbia University Press. ISBN 0 7103 0282 7
4. 1988/89 (ed.) *African Languages and Cultures* 1,1; 1,2. (total 200pp.)
5. 1994 (ed.) with Richard Fardon. *African Languages, Development and the State*, xi+254pp. London: Routledge. ISBN 0 415 09476 3
6. 1995 (ed. with Liz Gunner). *Power, Marginality and African Oral Literature*, xiii+285pp. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, and Johannesburg: University of the Witwatersrand Press ISBN 0 521 480612
7. 1999 (ed. with Lucy Durán). *Sunjata: Gambian Versions of the Mande Epic*, New York and London: Penguin Classics. ISBN 0140447369
8. 2000 (ed. with Richard Fardon). *African Broadcast Cultures: Radio in Transition*. London: James Currey, Westport, Connecticut: Praeger, Cape Town: David Philip, Harare: Baobab. ISBN 0852558287.
9. 2005 Series editor (with Richard Fardon and Francis Nyamnjoh) *Afriscopes*. London: Saffron Books.
10. 2006 (ed. with Karin Barber). *Creative Writing in African Languages*. Special Issue of *Research in African Literatures*. Fall 2006.
11. 2011 (ed. with Ruth Finnegan and Martin Orwin). *Carried by a Mystic Wind: B. W. Andrzejewski on the Somali Passion for Poetry and Language*. Special Issue of *Journal of African Cultural Studies* 23,1.

Journal articles:

1. 1974 (trans. with P. Neale). 'Sicilian harvest song', *Journal of Peasant Studies* 1, 2: 390-5.
2. 1978 'The application of ethics in contemporary Hausa didactic poetry', *African Languages/Langues Africaines* 4: 127-139.
3. 1981 'Hausa disyllabic verbs: comments on base forms and extensions', *Studies in African Linguistics* 12, 2: 97-129.

4. 1982 'Aspects of style and meaning in the analysis of a Hausa poem', *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies* 45, 3: 546-570.
5. 1984 'The "Way of the World" : the interplay of meaning and form in the interpretation of a Hausa poem', *Research in African Literatures* 15,1: 25-44.
6. 1985 'Réflexions sur l'histoire récente de la littérature Haoussa', *Bulletin de l'AELIA* 8: 123-131.
7. 1985 'Tunawa da "The City of Language"', *Harsunan Nijeriya* 12: 61-63.
8. 1986 'A provisional bibliography of commentary and critical writing on Hausa literature 1940 to 1984'. *Les Cahiers du CELHTO* 2,1: 228-39; also published in *Harsunan Nijeriya* 13, (1983/85): 93-103.
9. 1988 'Money, marriage and the young as issues in modern Hausa poetry', *African Languages and Cultures* 1(1): 45-60.
10. 1990 'Fitila, une nouvelle revue radicale haoussa', *Politique Africaine* 37: 102-7.
11. 1991 'Hausa poetry on the Nigerian civil war', *African Languages and Cultures*, (Special Issue edited by Elizabeth Gunner and Theodora Ezeigbo) 4,1: 21-8.
12. 1991 (with Philip J. Jaggar) 'Professor Jack Carnochan: biographical note', *York Papers in Linguistics* 15: 281-4.
13. 1991 'De la fantaisie à la réalité dans la littérature haoussa en prose' suivi de 'Pourquoi étudier la poésie haoussa?' *Travaux et Documents* 31, Bordeaux: Centre d'Etude d'Afrique Noire.
14. 1992 'Oral culture and the making of meaning', (Review article) *African Affairs* 91: 271-6.
15. 1992 'A note on Hausa literature and R. C. Abraham', *African Languages and Cultures*, (Supplement 1: Papers in Honour of R. C. Abraham): 43-50.
16. 1991/92 (with Y. D. Ibrahim) 'An early twentieth-century Hausa song: "Wakar kuyangin Sakkwato"', *Harsunan Nijeriya* 16: 47-60.
17. 1994 (with S. B. Ahmad) 'Pattern, interaction and the non-dialogic in performance by Hausa rap artists', *Oral Tradition*, 9, 1: 113-35. Also in Siran, J-L. and B. Masquelier (eds) *Rhetoriques du Quotidien: pour une anthropologie de l'interlocution*. Paris: l'Harmattan.
18. 1994 (with John Hunwick) 'Mervyn Hiskett, 1920-1994. A bibliography of his published academic writings', *Sudanic Africa* 5: 1-6.
19. 1998 'Hausa prose in the 1930s: an exploration in post-colonial theory', *Research in African Literatures* 29 (1): 87-102. Also in Stephanie Newell (ed.) (2002) *Readings in African popular literature*, pp.11-17. Oxford: James Currey and Indiana University Press for the IAI.
20. 1999 (with Malami Buba) 'Youth culture, Bandiri, and the continuing legitimacy debate in Sokoto town', *Journal of African Cultural Studies* 12 (1): 27-46. Also to appear in *Festschrift for I Y Yahaya and M K M Galadanci*, Kano: Bayero University.
21. 2005 'Video and the Hausa novella in Nigeria', *Social Identities* 11 (2): 89-112.
22. 2005 'Le implicazioni dell'oralita' *afrique e orienti* 2005(4): 10-17 . ISSN 15926753. Also published as 'On the implications of orality' in A. Ricard and F. Veit-Wild (eds) *Interfaces Between the Oral and the Written/Interfaces entre l'écrit et l'oral. Versions and Subversions in African Literature* 2, (Matatu – Journal for African

- Culture and Society* 31-32), (2005) pp. 267-90. Amsterdam/New York: Rodopi.
23. 2005 'Higher education in Africa: the Commission for Africa', *Review of African Political Economy* 104/5: 446-9.
 24. 2006 (with Karin Barber) 'African-language writing'. *Research in African Literatures*, 37 (3): 1-14.
 25. 2007 'The future of UK-Africa collaboration in Humanities and Social Science research', *African Research and Documentation*, 102: 3-12.
 26. 2009 'On the multiple dimensions of memory in the oral communicative moment'. *Cahiers de Litterature Orale*, 63-4: 127-44.
 27. 2011 'On Engendering Liberal Values in the Nigerian Colonial State: the Idea behind the Gaskiya Corporation'. *Journal of Imperial and Commonwealth History* 39 (1): 69-93.
 28. 2012 (with Abdalla Uba Adamu) "'Go by appearances at your peril": the Raina Kama writers' association in Kano, Nigeria, carving out a place for the "popular" in the Hausa literary landscape'. *Research in African Literatures* 43 (4): 88-111.
 29. 2015 'L'évolution de la parole patrimoniale haoussa dans de nouveaux contextes médiatiques. L'exemple des pérégrinations du motif traditionnel, d'un conte-type au théâtre, au livre et à la vidéo', *Cargo: Revue Internationale d'Anthropologie Culturelle & Sociale* 4: 71-84.

Chapters in edited books:

1. 1983 'The 4th Grade of the verb in Hausa', in E. Wolff and H. Meyer-Bahlburg, (eds) *Studies in Chadic and Afroasiatic Linguistics.*, pp. 287-300. Hamburg, Helmut Buske.
2. 1983 'Hausa literature', in B. Lindfors, (ed.) *Research Priorities in African Literatures*, pp. 62-74. K. G. Saur Verlag and Hans Zell.
3. 1984 'Some constraints upon the writing and dissemination of modern Hausa poetry', in I. Y. Yahaya and A. Rufa'i, (eds) *Studies in Hausa Language, Literature and Culture: Proceedings of the 1st Hausa International Conference, July 1978*, pp. 436-451. Kano, Bayero University.
4. 1986 'Perspectives on African studies in the United Kingdom: African languages and literatures', in I. Sternberg and P. M. Larby, (eds) *African Studies*. British Library Occasional Papers No. 6, pp. 34-41. London: The British Library.
5. 1988 'The language of praise and vilification in two poems by Muhammadu Audi of Gwandu about Abubakar, emir of Nupe,' in Graham Furniss and Philip J. Jaggar, (eds) *Studies in Hausa Language and Linguistics*. pp. 181-201, London: Kegan Paul International in association with the International African Institute.
6. 1988 'African languages and the Parker Report', in Patricia M. Larby (ed.) *New Directions in African Bibliography*. pp. 15-30. London: SCOLMA.
7. 1989 'Typification and evaluation: a dynamic process in rhetoric', in Karin Barber and P. F. de M. Farias (eds) *Discourse and its Disguises: the Interpretation of*

- African Oral Texts*. (CWAS Interdisciplinary African Studies Series, 1), pp. 24-33. Birmingham: CWAS.
8. 1991 'Standards in speech, spelling and style – the Hausa case,' in N. Cyffer, K. Schubert, H-I. Weier (eds) *Language Standardization in Africa*, pp. 97-110. Hamburg: Helmut Buske.
 9. 1991 'Burlesque in Hausa: "And my text for today is food" said Mr Matches', in Paul Baxter and Richard Fardon (eds) *Voice, Genre, Text: Anthropological Essays in Africa and Beyond* (Bulletin of the John Rylands University Library of Manchester, 73, 3: 37-62).
 10. 1991 'Hausa language studies: the present', in Abba Rufa'i (ed.) *Nigerian Languages Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow*, pp. 19-25. Kano: Centre for the Study of Nigerian Languages. Also published as 'Matsayin karatu da nazarin harshen Hausa a yau', *Harsunan Nijeriya* 14: 1-14.
 11. 1993 'Hausa poetry', in Alex Preminger and T. V. F. Brogan (eds) *The New Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics*, pp. 496-7. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
 12. 1994 (with Richard Fardon) 'Frontiers and boundaries – African languages as political environment', in Richard Fardon and Graham Furniss (eds) *African Languages, Development and the State*, pp. 1-32. London: Routledge.
 13. 1995 'The power of words and the relation between Hausa genres', in Graham Furniss and Liz Gunner (eds) *Power, Marginality and African Oral Literature*, pp. 130-44. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
 14. 1995 (with Liz Gunner). 'Power, marginality and oral literature', in Graham Furniss and Liz Gunner (eds) *Power, Marginality and African Oral Literature*, pp. 1-19. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
 15. 1995 'The Hausa contractor: the image of an entrepreneur', in S. Ellis and Y. Fauré (eds) *Entreprises et entrepreneurs africains*, pp. 229-238. Paris: Karthala – ORSTOM.
 16. 1996 (with Jean Boyd). 'Mobilise the people: The qasida in Fulfulde and Hausa as purposive literature', in S. Sperl and C. Shackle (eds) *Qasida Poetry in Islamic Asia and Africa, Vol. 1: Classical Traditions and Modern Meanings*, pp. 429-449. Leiden: E.J.Brill. ISBN 90 04 10452 6
 17. 1996 (trans.) 'Ma'ama'are,' in S. Sperl and C. Shackle (eds) *Qasida Poetry in Islamic Asia and Africa, Vol. 2 Eulogy's Bounty, Meaning's Abundance. An Anthology* pp. 372-87. Leiden: E.J.Brill. ISBN 90 04 10387 2
 18. 1997 'Hausa literature,' in J. Middleton (ed.) *The Encyclopedia of Africa South of the Sahara, Vol. 3*. pp. 8-9. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.
 19. 1999 (with Lucy Durán) 'Introduction', in Lucy Durán and Graham Furniss (eds) *Sunjata: Gambian Versions of the Mande Epic*, pp.vii-xxix. New York and London: Penguin Classics. ISBN 0140447369
 20. 2000 (with Richard Fardon) 'African broadcast cultures', in Richard Fardon and Graham Furniss (eds) *African Broadcast Cultures: Radio in Transition*. pp. 1-20, London: James Currey, Westport, Connecticut: Praeger, Cape Town: David Philip, Harare: Baobab. ISBN 0852558287.

21. 2000 'African literature: Introduction', and 'West African Literature', in Peter France (ed.) *The Oxford Guide to Literature in English Translation*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
22. 2000 'Documenting Kano "market" literature', in T. A. Barringer (ed.) *Africa Bibliography 1998*. pp.vii-xxiii, Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press for the International African Institute.
23. 2001 'Meaning and performance: gradations in the expression of disapproval in Hausa', in D. Ibrizimow, R. Leger and U Seibert (eds) *Von Agypten Zum Tschadsee: Eine Linguistische Reise Durch Afrika* (Festschrift für Herrmann Jungraithmayr zum 65. Geburtstag), pp.171-7, Würzburg: Ergon Verlag for the Deutsche Morgenlandische Gesellschaft.
24. 2001 'Language, truth and rhetoric in the constitution of orality', in Russell Kaschula (ed.) *African Oral Literature: Functions in Contemporary Contexts*, pp. 191-203. Cape Town: New Africa Books.
25. 2002 'Commentary upon Paul Newman's "Grades, vowel-tone classes and extensions in the Hausa verbal system",', in Philip J. Jaggar and H. Ekkehard Wolff (eds) *Chadic and Hausa Linguistics: Selected Papers of Paul Newman with Commentaries*, pp. 65-6, Köln: Rüdiger Köppe Verlag.
26. 2003 Entries 'Akilu Aliyu', 'Abubakar Imam', 'Bello Kagara' and 'Abubakar Tafawa Balewa' in S. Gikandi (ed.) *Encyclopedia of African Literature*. London: Routledge. ISBN 0415230195.
27. 2003 'Contemporary bards: Hausa verbal artists', in P. Peek and K. Yankah (eds) *African Folklore: an Encyclopedia*. New York: Garland Press. ISBN 041593933X.
28. 2004 'George Percy Bargery', in H. C. G. Matthew (ed.) *New Dictionary of National Biography*. Vol. 3, pp.806-7. Oxford: Oxford University Press. ISBN 019861411X.
29. 2005 'Introduction to Hausa popular fiction', in Graham Furniss, Malami Buba and William Burgess *Bibliography of Hausa Popular Fiction 1987-2002*. (Wortkunst und Dokumentartexte in afrikanischen Sprachen 21) pp. 1-19, Köln: Rüdiger Köppe Verlag (ISBN 3896452770).
30. 2005 'Reflections on the UNESCO Convention on the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage', in Jean Derive and Ursula Baumgardt (eds) *Paroles Nomades: écrits d'ethnolinguistique africaine*, pp. 31-44. Paris: Karthala.
31. 2005 'Creativity and rhetoric', in Anne-Marie Dauphin-Tinturier and Jean Derive (eds) *Oralité africaine et création*, pp. 71-91. Paris: Karthala (ISBN 2845867158).
32. 2006 'Innovation and persistence: literary circles, new opportunities and continuing debates in Hausa literary production', in Karin Barber (ed.) *Africa's Hidden Histories: Everyday Literacy and Making the Self*, Bloomington: Indiana University Press.
33. 2007 'Popular literature and video film in Hausa', in Suad Joseph (ed.) *Encyclopedia of Women and Islamic Cultures*. Leiden: Brill. Electronic edition, listed as 'Arts: Popular Culture; West Africa: Hausa', Vol. 5: 111-12.
34. 2011 'Analysing imagery: comments from short-form verbal art in Hausa', in Doris Lohr, Eva Rothmaler and Georg Ziegelmeyer (eds) *Kanuri, Borno and*

Beyond: Current Studies on the Lake Chad Region, pp. 65-76. Cologne: Ruediger Koepe Verlag.

35. 2018 'Visions of an alternative world: understanding the background to Boko Haram', in Alain Tschudin, Stephen Buchanan-Clarke, Lloyd Coutts, Susan Russell and Mandla Tyala (eds) *Extremisms in Africa*, pp.162-75. Johannesburg: Jacana Press for Good Governance Africa.
36. 2018 'Debating value and the Hausa literary canon', in Sandra Bornand and Jean Derive (eds) *Les canons du discours et la langue: parler juste*, pp. 43-64. Paris: Karthala. See also https://www.canal-u.tv/video/cnrs_ups2259/graham_furniss_debating_value_and_the_hausa_literary_canon.20061

Notes:

- 1989 'Nazarin harshen Hausa: halin da muke ciki', *Gaskiya Ta Fi Kwabo*, 31 August 1989.

Teaching:

Undergraduate:

1st year Hausa language, survey of Hausa literature.

2nd year Hausa grammar, translation, composition, literary texts.

3rd year political texts, prose texts, religious verse, modern verse.

4th year literature and grammatical analysis.

Convenor of course on African language literatures (oral and written), BA and MA level.

Master's level:

Taught courses in Hausa language and literature and in African oral literature.

Doctoral supervision in literature:

S B Ahmad 1986, *Narrator as interpreter: stability and variation in Hausa tales*.

S Y Sada, incomplete (deceased), *The techniques of Hausa praise-singing: a study of the transmission of skill and style*.

Mounira Hejaiej 1992, *Women's oral narratives in Tunis*.

Cristiana Pugliese 1992, *Author, publisher and Gikuyu nationalist: the life and writings of Gakaara wa Wanjau*.

Giordano Spiga 1993, *European newspaper reviewing of African literature in the 1980s*.

Tae-Sang Jang 1994, *Balance and bi-partite structure in Hausa proverbs*.

Mansur Abdulkadir, 1997, *The language of advertising in Hausa*.

Abdelgawad Elnady, 1997 non-degree research, *Chinua Achebe and Joyce Cary: two visions of Africa*

Annette Czekelius, 1999, *Artistry and effectiveness in language use: the evaluation of ways of speaking among the Berba of Benin*.

Kai Easton, 2000, *Textuality and the land: reading 'White Writing' and the fiction of J M Coetzee*.

- Jekura Kavari, 2000, (joint supervision with Martin Orwin) *The form and meaning of Otjiherero praises*
- Anders Breidlid, 2000, (joint supervision with Nana Wilson-Tagoe), *Resistance literature and the writings of Ngugi wa Thiongo and Alex LaGuma*
- Anyia Oed, 2002, (joint supervision with Akin Oyetade), *Antelope (woman) and Buffalo (woman): contemporary literary transformations of a topos in Yoruba culture*
- Rrenyane Dikole, 2002 (joint supervision with Farouk Topan), *Aspects of theme and technique in the Setswana novel 1940-1980.*
- Margaret Kassam, 2002, *Creativity and the dynamics of cultural power in oral and written literature by women in northern Nigeria*
- Ashlee Lenta, 2005, *Tribes of Phalo; Tribes of Nonibe: Political community and audience in the poetry of David Manisi*
- Carolyn Hart, 2006, *Cross-cultural innovations in African diasporic literatures: creation, production and reception of transgressive texts.*
- Mark Brogden, 2009, *The culture of exploration: British expeditions to Northern Nigeria 1822-1827.*
- Anne Schumann, 2010, *Danses philosophiques - The Social and Political Dynamics of Zouglou music in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, 1990-2008.*
- Jarmo Pikkujamsa, 2010, *The Search for Resolution in the Tensions of Senegalese Life: Francophone African writing with special reference to the novels of Ken Bugul.*
- Aisha Schmitt, 2011, *Beyond Praising the Prophet: Making New Meanings in Zanzibari Qasida.*
- Charles Pigott, 2013, *Voices of the Mountains: Language and Cultural Identity in Andean Songs.*

SOAS management experience:

- Pro-Director (Research and Enterprise), SOAS, 2008-13.
- REF Director, SOAS, 2008-13.
- RAE Director, SOAS, 2006-7.
- Founding Dean of the Faculty of Languages and Cultures, SOAS, 2002-4.
- Dean of Languages, SOAS, 1995-7.
- Founding Head of the SOAS Language Centre, 1995-8.
- Head, Department of African Languages and Cultures, SOAS, 1999-2002.
- Chairman, Africa sub-panel of the RAE Panel 46: African and Middle East Studies, 2001.
- Member of the RAE Panel 46: African and Middle East Studies, 2001.
- Chairman, Centre of African Studies, University of London, 1989-93.
- Chairman, MA Area Studies (Africa) programme, 1985-89.
- Chairman, African Languages sub-board of examiners, 1987-89.
- Chairman, c.u. sub-committee of the BSOALL, 1987-89.
- Chairman, Audio-Visual Aids committee, SOAS, 1987-89.
- Chairman, Publications sub-committee of the Research & Publications Committee, SOAS, 1992-93.
- Chairman, Personnel Department Review Group, 1997.

Member of the Working Party on Academic Organization of SOAS (Low Committee), 1984-85.
 Member of the Academic Board of SOAS, 1981-93; 1995-7
 Member of the Governing Body of SOAS, 1986-89, 2002-4.
 Member of the Heads of Departments Committee, SOAS, 1989-93; 1995-7, 1999-2002.
 Member of the Research & Publications Committee, SOAS, 1987-93.
 Member of the Education Committee, SOAS, 1994-7
 Member of the Management Committee, SOAS, 1995-7
 Member of the Undergraduate Studies Sub-committee, SOAS, 1995-7
 Member of the Postgraduate Studies Sub-committee, SOAS, 1995-7
 Member of the Central Costs working party, SOAS, 1997
 Member, then Chairman of the Information Strategy Group, SOAS, 1997
 Member of the Information Technology Committee, SOAS, 1997
 Member of the External Relations implementation group, SOAS, 1997
 Member of the Deans Committee of the Office of Institutional Development, SOAS, 1995-97

External Academic Roles and Honours:

Awarded OBE for services to Higher Education and Scholarship, June 2013.
 Commissioner of the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission, 2010-16.
 Fellow of the British Academy, from 2009.
 Member of the British Academy Africa Area Panel, 2005-9; chair of the panel 2009-16.
 Vice-chairman, Royal African Society, 2000-2008.
 President, African Studies Association of the United Kingdom (ASAUK) 2004-6,
 Council Member 1986-88; 1993-6, Vice-President 2002-4.
 Member of the Oriental and African Panel for the European Reference Index for the Humanities (ERIH) of the European Science Foundation.
 Member of the Research Committee, International African Institute (IAI), 1987-89.
 Founding President, International Society for Oral Literature in Africa, 1998-2002.
 membre associé, groupe de recherche 931 du CNRS, Langues, Livres et Littératures Africaines.
 chercheur associé, département de rhétoriques, LACITO, Paris.
 Advisory Board member, Ferguson Centre for African and Asian Studies, The Open University, 2005-08.
 Advisory Board member, Centre for Hausa Cultural Studies, Kano, Nigeria, 2004-10.
 Advisory Board member, Centre for Research in Nigerian Languages, Translation and Folklore, Bayero University, Kano.
 Editorial Board, *Journal of African Cultural Studies*, London.
 Editorial Board, *Safara*, Université Gaston Berger, Senegal.
 Comité scientifique, *Cahiers de littérature orale*, INALCO, Paris.
 Founding editor of *African Languages and Cultures* (now *Journal of African Cultural Studies*).
 External assessor for CWAS internal audit, University of Birmingham, 2001.
 External assessor for CWAS internal research review, University of Birmingham, 2005.

External assessor for Department of African Languages and Literature, University of Botswana, 2005.

External examiner, Department of Nigerian Languages, Bayero University, Kano, 1981-84.

Other external roles:

Council Member, British Institute in East Africa, 2006-8.

Member of the Britain-Nigeria Association, 1986-2007; Trustee of the Britain-Nigeria Educational Trust (BNET), 2008 to date; Vice-Chairman 2014-2019.

Governor and Trustee of the Harrow School Foundation (Harrow School, The John Lyon School, the John Lyon Charity), 2007-2019.