

Mary Paster

<http://research.pomona.edu/mary-paster>

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Employment

Professor, Pomona College Department of Linguistics and Cognitive Science, 2019-present
Associate Professor, Pomona College Department of Linguistics and Cognitive Science, 2012-2019
Chair, Pomona College Department of Linguistics and Cognitive Science, 2012-2016, 2018
Coordinator, Cognitive Science, Pomona College, Spring 2018
Associate Dean of the College, Pomona College, 2014-2016
Assistant Professor, Pomona College Department of Linguistics and Cognitive Science, 2006-2012
Visiting Assistant Professor, University of Pittsburgh Department of Linguistics, Spring 2006
Visiting Instructor, University of Pittsburgh Department of Linguistics, Fall 2005
Graduate Student Instructor, UC Berkeley Department of Linguistics, Fall 2001 and Spring 2003

Education

University of California, Berkeley

Ph.D., Linguistics, May 2006

Dissertation: *Phonological Conditions on Affixation*

Sharon Inkelas and Andrew Garrett, Advisors

M.A., Linguistics, May 2002

The Ohio State University

B.A., Linguistics and Anthropology, March 2000

Summa Cum Laude, with Distinction in Linguistics, with Honors in the Liberal Arts

Senior Honors thesis: *Issues in the Tonology of Gã*

David Odden, Advisor

Publications

Peer-reviewed articles

- Paster, Mary. 2020. Analyzing interspeaker variation in Maay. *Loquens* 6.2 [2019]: e063 (13 pp.).
- Paster, Mary. 2019. Phonology counts. *Radical: A Journal of Phonology* 1: 1-62.
- Paster, Mary. 2018. Gender instability in Maay. Pp. 205-218 in Jason Kandybowicz, Travis Major, Harold Torrence, and Philip T. Duncan, eds. *African Linguistics on the Prairie: Selected papers from the 45th Annual Conference on African Linguistics*. Berlin: Language Science Press.
- Diercks, Michael, Lindsey Meyer, and Mary Paster. 2017. Agreement with conjoined arguments in Kuria. *Studies in African Linguistics* 44.1 [2015]: 27-46.
- Paster, Mary. 2016. Diachronic sources of allomorphy. Pp. 419-443 in Vera Gribova and Stephanie Shih, eds. *The Morphosyntax-Phonology Connection: Locality and Directionality at the Interface*. Oxford University Press.
- Diercks, Michael, Rodrigo Ranero, and Mary Paster. 2015. Evidence for a clitic analysis of Object Markers in Kuria. Pp. 52-70 in Ruth Kramer, Elizabeth C. Zsiga, and One Tlale Boyer, eds. *Selected Proceedings of the 44th Annual Conference on African Linguistics*. Somerville, Massachusetts: Cascadilla Proceedings Project.
- Marlo, Michael, Leonard Chacha Mwita, and Mary Paster. 2015. Problems in Kuria H tone assignment. *Natural Language and Linguistic Theory* 33: 251-265.
- Marlo, Michael, Leonard Chacha Mwita, and Mary Paster. 2014. Kuria tone melodies. *Africana Linguistica* XX: 277-294.
- Paster, Mary. 2013. Rethinking the ‘duplication problem’. *Lingua* 126: 78-91.
- Paster, Mary. 2011. The verbal morphology and phonology of Asante Twi. *Studies in African Linguistics* 39.1: 77-120.
- Paster, Mary and Yuni Kim. 2011. Downstep in Tiriki. *Linguistic Discovery* 9.1: 71-104.

- Paster, Mary. 2010. Optional multiple plural marking in Maay. Pp. 177-192 in Franz Rainer, Wolfgang U. Dressler, Dieter Kastovsky, and Hans Christian Luschützky, eds. *Current Issues in Linguistic Theory* 310: *Variation and Change in Morphology*. Amsterdam: Benjamins.
- Paster, Mary. 2009. Explaining phonological conditions on affixation: Evidence from suppletive allomorphy and affix ordering. *Word Structure* 2.1: 18-47.
- McPherson, Laura and Mary Paster. 2009. Evidence for the Mirror Principle and morphological templates in Luganda affix ordering. Pp. 56-66 in Akinloye Ojo and Lioba Moshi, eds. *Selected Proceedings of the 39th Annual Conference on African Linguistics*. Somerville, Massachusetts: Cascadilla Proceedings Project.
- Comfort, Jade and Mary Paster. 2009. Notes on Lower Jubba Maay. Pp. 204-216 in Masangu Matondo, Fiona McLaughlin and Eric Potsdam, eds. *Selected Proceedings of the 38th Annual Conference on African Linguistics*. Somerville, Massachusetts: Cascadilla Proceedings Project.
- Paster, Mary. 2007. Aspects of Maay phonology and morphology. *Studies in African Linguistics* 35.1: 73-120.
- Paster, Mary. 2005. Pulaar verbal extensions and phonologically driven affix order. *Yearbook of Morphology* 2005: 155-199.
- Paster, Mary. 2004. Vowel height harmony and blocking in Buchan Scots. *Phonology* 21.3: 359-407.
- Paster, Mary. 2003. Floating tones in Gã. *Studies in African Linguistics* 32.1: 17-39.
- Paster, Mary. 2003. Tone specification in Leggbo. Pp. 139-150 in John M. Mugane, ed. *Linguistic Description: Typology and Representation of African Languages*. *Trends in African Linguistics* 5.

Invited contributions

- Paster, Mary. 2023/in prep. Output-oriented phenomena in morphological change. Invited to contribute to Peter Arkadiev and Franz Rainer, eds. *The Oxford Handbook of Historical Morphology*, Oxford University Press.
- Paster, Mary. 2021/in prep. Akan morphological ‘reversal’ in historical context. Invited to contribute to edited volume under contract with Oxford University Press.
- Paster, Mary. 2017. Alternations: Stems and allomorphy. Pp. 93-116 in Andrew Hippisley and Gregory T. Stump, eds. *The Cambridge Handbook of Morphology*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Paster, Mary. 2015. Phonologically conditioned suppletive allomorphy: Cross-linguistic results and theoretical consequences. Pp. 218-253 in Eulàlia Bonet, Maria-Rosa Lloret, and Joan Mascaró, eds. *Understanding Allomorphy: Perspectives from OT*. *Advances in Optimality Theory* series. London: Equinox.
- Paster, Mary. 2015. Phonology. Pp. 75-80 in James D. Wright, ed. *International Encyclopedia of the Social and Behavioral Sciences, Second Edition, Volume 18*. This article is a revision of the previous edition article by S.R. Anderson, pp. 11386-11392, 2001, Elsevier Ltd.
- Paster, Mary. 2015. Phonological analysis. Pp. 525-543 in Bernd Heine and Heiko Narrog, eds. *The Oxford Handbook of Linguistic Analysis*, second edition. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Paster, Mary. 2014. Allomorphy. Pp. 219-234 in Rochelle Lieber and Pavol Štekauer, eds. *The Oxford Handbook of Derivational Morphology*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Other articles

- Paster, Mary. 2012. The role of homophony avoidance in morphology: A case study from Mixtec. Pp. 29-39 in Daisy Rosenblum and Stephanie Gamble Morse, eds. *Proceedings of the 13th Annual Workshop on American Indian Languages* (2010). *Santa Barbara Papers in Linguistics* 21.
- Paster, Mary. 2009. Review of *Field Linguistics: A Beginner’s Guide*, by Terry Crowley. *Linguistic Typology* 12.3: 473-479.
- Dutcher, Katharine and Mary Paster. 2008. Contour tone distribution in Luganda. Pp. 123-131 in Natasha Abner and Jason Bishop, eds. *Proceedings of the 27th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics*. Somerville, MA: Cascadilla Proceedings Project.
- Paster, Mary. 2008. Review of Kaye, Alan S. *Morphologies of Asia and Africa*. LINGUIST List 19.1357.

- Paster, Mary. 2006. A survey of phonological affix order with special attention to Pulaar. Leah Bateman and Cherlon Ussery, eds. *Proceedings of the 35th Annual Meeting of the North Eastern Linguistic Society: Volume 2*: 491-506. Amherst, MA: University of Massachusetts Graduate Linguistics Student Association.
- Paster, Mary. 2006. Review of Olson, Kenneth S. *The Phonology of Mono*. LINGUIST List 17.1958.
- Paster, Mary. 2005. Subcategorization vs. output optimization in syllable-counting allomorphy. Pp. 326-333 in John Alderete, Chung-Hye Han, and Alexei Kochetov, eds. *Proceedings of the 24th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics*. Somerville, MA: Cascadilla Proceedings Project.
- Paster, Mary and Rosemary Beam de Azcona. 2004. A phonological sketch of the Yucunany dialect of Mixtepec Mixtec. Pp. 61-76 in Lea Harper and Carmen Jany, eds. *Proceedings of the 7th Annual Workshop on American Indian Languages*. UC Santa Barbara.
- Hyman, Larry, Heiko Narrog, Mary Paster, and Imelda Udoh. 2003. Leggbo verb inflection: A semantic and phonological particle analysis. Pp. 399-410 in Julie Larson and Mary Paster, eds. *Proceedings of the 28th Annual Meeting of the Berkeley Linguistics Society*. Berkeley, CA: Berkeley Linguistics Society.

Books

- Paster, Mary and Rodrigo Ranero. 2015. *CASL Introductory Structural Sketches for African Languages: Maay*. Technical Report (DO0050). University of Maryland-CASL.
- Paster, Mary and Rodrigo Ranero. 2013. *Beginning Rumsen Language*. Unpublished textbook, available to Rumsen tribe members on request.
- Beam de Azcona, Rosemary and Mary Paster, eds. 2005. *Proceedings of the Conference on Otomanguean and Oaxacan Languages. Survey Report 13*. Berkeley, CA: Survey of California and Other Indian Languages.
- Larson, Julie and Mary Paster, eds. 2003. *Proceedings of the 28th Annual Meeting of the Berkeley Linguistics Society*. Berkeley, CA: Berkeley Linguistics Society.

Presentations

Invited talks/presentations

- Paster, Mary. 2021. Listener error as a source of morphological change. Interaction of Grammatical Building Blocks colloquium, Leipzig University.
- Paster, Mary. 2019. I-language and interspeaker variation in a refugee community. Princeton University Linguistics Program colloquium.
- Paster, Mary. 2018. *Jamais trois sans deux?* Arguments for ternarity from some lesser-known languages. Paper presented at the 16th Réseau Français de Phonologie (French Phonology Network) Meeting, Paris.
- Paster, Mary. 2015. Approaches to the Bantu melodic H. Paper presented at the workshop on Morphosyntactic Triggers of Tone: New Data and Theories, University of Leipzig.
- Paster, Mary. 2015. Phonology counts. UC San Diego Linguistics Department colloquium.
- Paster, Mary. 2014. Phonology counts. UCLA Linguistics Department colloquium.
- Paster, Mary. 2013. Inter-speaker variation in a refugee community: The case of Maay. Paper presented at the Fieldwork Forum, UC Berkeley Linguistics Department.
- Paster, Mary. 2013. An I-language approach to inter-speaker variation in Maay. Paper presented at the 44th Annual Conference on African Linguistics, Georgetown University.
- Paster, Mary, Lily Clifford, and Aleksandra Bril. 2013. Collaborative linguistic research in a refugee community: Challenges and prospects. Poster presented at the Workshop on Methodology and Practice in Collaborative Endangered Language Research, Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting, Boston.
- Paster, Mary. 2012. Diachronic sources of allomorphy. Paper presented at the Workshop on Locality and Directionality at the Morphosyntax-Phonology Interface. Stanford University.
- Paster, Mary and Martha Johnson. 2012. H tone tripling in Manyika. Paper presented at the Workshop on African Linguistics, University of Missouri.
- Paster, Mary. 2012. Why doesn't phonology count? Talk presented at the 7th North American Phonology Conference (NAPhC), Concordia University, Montreal.

- Paster, Mary. 2012. Phonologically conditioned morphology. Colloquium presented as part of the UCSC/Stanford Cross-linguistic Investigations in Syntax-Phonology Distinguished Visitors Series, UC Santa Cruz.
- Paster, Mary. 2009. A diachronic solution to the ‘duplication problem’ in phonology. The Ohio State University Linguistics Department colloquium.
- Paster, Mary. 2008. Phonologically conditioned affix order as a post-morphological phenomenon. UC San Diego Linguistics Department colloquium.
- Paster, Mary. 2008. From linguistics major to linguistics professor. Lecture given at the Summer Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, The Ohio State University.
- Paster, Mary. 2006. Phonologically conditioned suppletive allomorphy: Cross-linguistic results and theoretical consequences. UC Berkeley Linguistics Department colloquium.
- Paster, Mary. 2006. Phonological conditions on affixation: Cross-linguistic findings and a case study. University of Pittsburgh Linguistics Department colloquium.
- Paster, Mary. 2006. Phonological conditions on affixation: Cross-linguistic findings and a case study. New York University Linguistics Department colloquium.
- Paster, Mary. 2006. Phonological conditions on affixation: Cross-linguistic findings and a case study. University of Oklahoma Modern Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics Department colloquium.
- Paster, Mary. 2006. Phonological conditions on affixation: Cross-linguistic findings and a case study. Pomona College Linguistics and Cognitive Science Department colloquium.
- Paster, Mary. 2005. Modeling the phonology-morphology interface: Evidence from Pulaar. University of Chicago Linguistics Department colloquium.

Conference and workshop presentations

- Kuzmik, Jackson and Mary Paster. 2021. Vowel hiatus resolution in Kikuyu. Paper to be presented at the 51st/52nd Annual Conference on African Linguistics, University of Florida.
- Paster, Mary. 2019. Comparing analyses of Yoruba vowel harmony. Paper presented at the 50th Annual Conference on African Linguistics, University of British Columbia.
- Paster, Mary. 2016. On the representation of vowels in Kipsigis. Paper presented at the 47th Annual Conference on African Linguistics, UC Berkeley.
- Samuels, Alex and Mary Paster. 2015. Verbal tone in Logoori. Paper presented at the Workshop on Luyia Bantu Languages, 46th Annual Conference on African Linguistics, University of Oregon.
- Paster, Mary. 2014. Reflexes and remnants of inflectional classes in Maay nominal morphology. Paper presented at the Workshop on Synchrony and Diachrony of Inflectional Classes: Theoretical and Empirical Considerations, International Morphology Meeting, Budapest.
- Paster, Mary. 2014. Gender instability in Maay. Paper presented at the 45th Annual Conference on African Linguistics, University of Kansas.
- Johnson, Martha and Mary Paster. 2012. Aspects of Manyika verbal tonology. Paper presented at the 43rd Annual Conference on African Linguistics, Tulane University.
- Paster, Mary. 2011. A historical approach to Tano verbal morphology. Paper presented at the 42nd Annual Conference on African Linguistics, University of Maryland.
- Paster, Mary. 2010. There is no ‘duplication problem’. Paper presented at the 18th Manchester Phonology Meeting, University of Manchester.
- Paster, Mary. 2010. The role of homophony avoidance in morphology: A case study from Mixtec. Paper presented at the Workshop on American Indigenous Languages, UC Santa Barbara.
- Nuchi, Elisha and Mary Paster. 2009. An analysis of metaphony in Felechosa Asturian. Paper presented at the 17th Manchester Phonology Meeting, University of Manchester.
- Paster, Mary. 2009. The verbal morphology of Asante Twi. Paper presented at the 40th Annual Conference on African Linguistics, University of Illinois.
- Paster, Mary. 2009. Phonologically conditioned affix order as an illusory phenomenon. Paper presented at the Workshop on the Division of Labour between Morphology and Phonology, Amsterdam.
- Dutcher, Katharine and Mary Paster. 2008. Contour tone distribution in Luganda. Paper presented at the 27th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics, UCLA.

- McPherson, Laura and Mary Paster. 2008. Evidence for the Mirror Principle and morphological templates in Luganda affix ordering. Paper presented at the 39th Annual Conference on African Linguistics, University of Georgia.
- Paster, Mary. 2008. Optional multiple plural marking in Maay. Paper presented at the 13th International Morphology Meeting, Vienna.
- Paster, Mary. 2007. Phonologically conditioned suppletive allomorphy: Cross-linguistic results and theoretical consequences. Paper presented at the 15th Manchester Phonology Meeting, University of Manchester.
- Comfort, Jade and Mary Paster. 2007. A grammatical sketch of Maay. Paper presented at the 38th Annual Conference on African Linguistics, University of Florida.
- Kim, Yuni and Mary Paster. 2006. Downstep in Tiriki. Paper presented at the 37th Annual Conference on African Linguistics, University of Oregon.
- Paster, Mary. 2006. Pama-Nyungan ergative allomorphy: Historical reconstruction and theoretical consequences. Paper presented at the Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting, Albuquerque.
- Paster, Mary. 2005. Subcategorization vs. output optimization in syllable-counting allomorphy. Paper presented at the 24th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics, Simon Fraser University.
- Paster, Mary. 2005. Tone rules and representations in Yucunany Mixtepec Mixtec. Paper presented at the Society for the Study of the Indigenous Languages of the Americas Annual Meeting, Oakland, California.
- Paster, Mary. 2004. A survey of phonological affix order with special attention to Pulaar. Paper presented at the 35th Conference of the North Eastern Linguistic Society, University of Connecticut.
- Paster, Mary. 2004. Senegalese Pulaar verbal extensions and phonologically driven affix order. Paper presented at the Southwest Optimality Theory Workshop, UC Santa Cruz.
- Paster, Mary. 2004. Suffix order in Senegalese Pulaar. Paper presented at the 35th Annual Conference on African Linguistics, Harvard University.
- Beam de Azcona, Rosemary and Mary Paster. 2004. A phonological sketch of the Yucunany dialect of Mixtepec Mixtec. Paper presented at the Workshop on American Indigenous Languages, UC Santa Barbara.
- Paster, Mary and Rosemary Beam de Azcona. 2004. Aspects of tone in the Yucunany dialect of Mixtepec Mixtec. Paper presented at the Conference on Otomanguean and Oaxacan Languages, UC Berkeley.
- Paster, Mary. 2003. The evolution of vowel harmony blocking in Buchan Scots. Paper presented at the Trilateral Phonology Weekend (TREND), University of California, Santa Cruz.
- Good, Jeff, Teresa McFarland, and Mary Paster. 2003. Reconstructing Achumawi and Atsugewi: Proto-Palaihnihan revisited. Paper presented at the Society for the Study of the Indigenous Languages of the Americas Annual Meeting, Atlanta.
- Paster, Mary. 2002. The couthie mannies of Buckie: A phonetic investigation of a Scots dialect. Paper presented at the 1st Annual SLUG Symposium, UC Berkeley.
- Paster, Mary. 2002. The unmarked tone in Leggbo. Paper presented at the 33rd Annual Conference on African Linguistics, Ohio University.
- Hyman, Larry M., Heiko Narrog, Mary Paster, and Imelda Udoh. 2002. Leggbo verb inflection: A semantic and phonological particle analysis. Paper presented at the 28th Annual Meeting of the Berkeley Linguistics Society.
- Paster, Mary. 2002. Vowel height harmony and blocking in Buchan Scots. Paper presented at the Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting, San Francisco.
- Paster, Mary. 2001. What determines suffix ordering in Fula? Paper presented at the 32nd Annual Conference on African Linguistics, UC Berkeley.
- Paster, Mary. 2000. An Optimality Theoretic analysis of verbal tone in Gã. Paper presented at the Montreal-Ottawa-Toronto Phonology Workshop, York University and University of Toronto.
- Paster, Mary. 2000. The Tone-Bearing Unit in Gã. Paper presented at the 31st Annual Conference on African Linguistics, Boston University.
- Paster, Mary. 1999. Aspects of verbal tone in Gã. Paper presented at the 30th Annual Conference on African Linguistics, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Courses taught

Pomona College

Linguistics and Cognitive Science 10: Introduction to Linguistics
Linguistics and Cognitive Science 108: Phonology
Linguistics and Cognitive Science 109: Morphology
Linguistics and Cognitive Science 119: Language and Social Justice
Linguistics and Cognitive Science 125: Field Methods in Linguistics
Linguistics and Cognitive Science 184/185P: Topics in Phonology
Linguistics and Cognitive Science 190: Senior Seminar in Linguistics
Critical Inquiry Seminar: Language and Food
Critical Inquiry Seminar: Language and Social Justice

University of Pittsburgh

Linguistics 1579: Phonology
Linguistics/Anthropology 1441 and 2441: Field Methods in Linguistics
Linguistics 1773: Morphology
Linguistics 1951: Languages of the World

UC Berkeley (Graduate Student Instructor)

Linguistics 100: Introduction to Linguistic Science
Linguistics 115: Introduction to Phonology and Morphology

Fellowships and awards

A "Listener-Error"-based Theory of Morphological Change, Faculty Research Grant, Pomona College, 2020
Materials for Rumsen Language Class, Language Revitalization Grant, Foundation for Endangered Languages, 2013
A Grammar of Maay, Faculty Research Grant, Pomona College, 2012
Linguistic Fieldwork Training and Language Description in a Refugee Community, Arnold L. Graves and Lois S. Graves Award, American Council of Learned Societies, 2012
Collaborative Research on West African Languages, Faculty Research Grant, Pomona College, 2011
Linguistic Research in Benin, Faculty Research Grant, Pomona College, 2011
Downing faculty exchange fellowship, Pomona College, 2010
South Guang Language Documentation, Faculty Research Grant, Pomona College, 2010
Theta Nu Xi Award of Excellence, University of Pittsburgh, 2006
Phi Beta Kappa Northern California Chapter Graduate Fellowship, 2005
Dean's Normative Time Fellowship, UC Berkeley, 2004
Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award, UC Berkeley, 2004
A Phonetic Investigation of Vowel Harmony and Blocking in Buchan Scots, Humanities Research Grant, UC Berkeley, 2002
National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship, 2000
Phi Kappa Phi Fellowship (national), 2000
Berkeley Fellowship, UC Berkeley, 2000
Linguistic Society of America Fellowship, 1999, 2001
Issues in the Tonology of Gã, Arts and Sciences Undergraduate Research Grant, The Ohio State University, 1999
Inducted into Phi Beta Kappa national honor society, 1998
Inducted into Phi Kappa Phi national honor society, 1997

Professional service

Editor, *Word Structure*, 2018-present
Member, LSA Advisory to Programs Committee, 2018-present
Mentor, LSA Women in Linguistics Mentoring Alliance, 2008-present

External member, Concordia Center for Cognitive Science, 2014-present
 Committee chair, external review of Macalester College Linguistics Department, 2020 [postponed to 2021]
 Associate Editor and Book Reviews Editor, *Linguistic Variation*, 2013-2019
 Adjunct Affiliate, Center for Advanced Study of Language, 2012-2018
 Committee member, external review of Reed College Linguistics Department, 2018
 Advisory Board, *Word Structure*, 2014-2017
 Executive Committee, Association of Contemporary African Linguistics, 2014-2016
 Editorial Board, *Contemporary African Linguistics*, 2014-2016
 Faculty, CoLang, University of Texas, Arlington, 2014
 Faculty, African Linguistics School, Porto-Novo, Benin, 2011
 Member, LSA Linguistics in Higher Education Committee, 2009-2012
 Mentor, Breath of Life California Indian Language Restoration Workshop, 2004
 Manuscript reviewer, *Phonology*, *Language*, *Studies in African Linguistics*, *Morphology*, *Studies in Morphology*,
Linguistic Inquiry, *Natural Language and Linguistic Theory (NLLT)*, *Glossa*, *Lingua*, *Word Structure*,
Journal of African Languages and Linguistics (JALL), *Journal of West African Linguistics*, *Journal of*
Cognitive Science, *Laboratory Phonology*, *Journal of Linguistics*, *Linguistic Analysis*, *The Linguistic*
Review, *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Linguistics*, *Oxford Handbook of Vowel Harmony*, *Brill's*
Journal of Afroasiatic Languages and Linguistics, *Canadian Journal of Linguistics*, *Linguistics: An*
Interdisciplinary Journal of the Language Sciences, proceedings of the Annual Conference on African
 Linguistics (ACAL)
 Abstract reviewer, North East Linguistics Society (NELS), West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics
 (WCCFL), Linguistic Society of America (LSA) annual meeting, Old World Conference in Phonology
 (OCP), Western Conference on Linguistics (WECOL), International Conference on Bantu Languages
 (BANTU), Berkeley Linguistics Society (BLS; 2000-2005)
 Panelist, National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship program
 Grant proposal reviewer, National Science Foundation (Linguistics, Documenting Endangered Languages, and
 Dissertation Improvement Grants programs)
 Fellowship proposal reviewer, American Academy in Berlin fellowship program, Marie Curie fellowship program
 Book manuscript reviewer, Thomson Higher Education, Wiley-Blackwell, MIT Press, Mouton de Gruyter, OUP

Conference organizing

Co-Organizer, Workshop on Luyia Bantu Languages, Annual Conference on African Linguistics, 2015
 Chair, Phi Beta Kappa Centennial Series Organizing Committee, Pomona College, 2013-14
 Co-Organizer, Indigenous Language Symposium, Pomona College, 2013
 Organizer, Southern California Workshop on Phonetics and Phonology (SCOPHO), 2008
 Co-Chair, Berkeley Linguistics Society (BLS) 28th Annual Meeting, 2001-2002
 Organizing Committee, Berkeley Linguistics Society (BLS) 27th Annual Meeting, 2000-2002, 2004-2005
 Organizing Committee, 32nd Annual Conference on African Linguistics (ACAL), 2000-2001

Institutional service and other activities

Senior faculty mentor, Pomona College, 2012-present
 Treasurer and Pomona College representative, Executive Committee, American Association of University
 Professors Claremont Colleges chapter, Fall 2020-present
 Faculty Executive Committee, Pomona College, Fall 2011, Fall 2020
 Chair, Division 1, Pomona College, Fall 2020
 Committee on Phased Reopening, Pomona College, Fall 2020
 Watson fellowship advisor, Pomona College, 2018-2019
 External member, Pomona College Media Studies department faculty search committee, 2016, 2018
 Institutional Review Board, Pomona College, 2014-2016 *ex officio*
 Research Committee, Pomona College, 2012-2014; 2014-2016 *ex officio*
 Ashé Africa grant steering committee, Pomona College, 2014-2016

Big Bridges Working Group, Pomona College, 2014
President, Phi Beta Kappa, Gamma chapter of California, 2013-2014
Vice President, Phi Beta Kappa, Gamma chapter of California, 2012-2013
Convenor, Pomona College Social Responsibility Committee, 2012
Social Responsibility Committee, Pomona College, 2010-2011
Undergraduate Advisor, University of Pittsburgh Department of Linguistics, 2005-2006

Professional memberships

American Association of University Professors
Association of Contemporary African Linguistics
Linguistic Society of America