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**Northwestern University, Department of Religion**  
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## EDUCATION

2004	Habilitation	Bayreuth University, Germany (Islamic Studies)
1993	Ph.D.	University of Mainz, Germany (Islamic Studies)
1988-1989	Arabic Language	Damascus, Syria
1986-1991	M.A. Studies	University of Mainz, Germany (Islamic Studies and Anthropology)
1984-1985	Undergrad. Studies	Philipps University Marburg, Germany (Archeology, Prehistory, Ancient Oriental Studies)

## AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION AND INTEREST

Sufism, Comparative Mysticism, Islam and Modernity, Islam and Politics, Islamism, Islamic Education, Islamic Knowledge, Religion in Africa

## COURSES TAUGHT

Introduction to Islam; The Qur'ân; Muslim Saints; The Sufi Orders in Africa; The Evolution of Islamic Political Thought; Islam and the Clash of Civilizations; Converts and Apostates; Theories and Practices of Islamic Knowledge; Muslim Festivals; *Jihâd*: Wars and Concepts; Radical Muslim Intellectuals and Militant Islamic Movements; Islam in the Sudan; The Origins of Sufism; Political Islam in Africa South of the Sahara; Islam as Text, Islam in Context; "Popular" and "Orthodox" Islam: Approaches to the Study of Islam and Muslim Societies

## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Current:

2005- Assistant Professor, Department of Religion, Northwestern University

Previous:

May 2010 Visiting Professor, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris  
2000-2004 Research Fellow, Bayreuth University, Special Research Unit (SFB) "Local Agency in Africa in the Context of Global Influences"; Project Title: "Islamic Education in East Africa"  
1997-2004 Adjunct Lecturer, Chair of Islamic Studies, Bayreuth University

- 1996 Research Fellow, Bayreuth University, Special Research Unit (SFB) “Identity in Africa”; Project Title: “Islam and Work Ethics in Africa”
- 1994-1995 Adjunct Lecturer, Faculty of Economic and Social Studies, University of Khartoum (Sudan)

### **ACADEMIC HONORS/FELLOWSHIPS/GRANTS**

- 2009- Co-Principal Investigator, Ford Foundation Grant (\$430,000) to the conclude work on the project “Constituting Bodies of Islamic Knowledge,” Institute for the Study of Islamic Thought in Africa (ISITA), Northwestern University
- 2007-2008 Faculty Fellow, Kaplan Institute for the Humanities, Northwestern University
- 2006-2007 URGC Faculty Research Grant (\$ 5,000), The Graduate School, Northwestern University, for the project “Sufism and Society in 20<sup>th</sup>-Century West Africa”
- 2005-2008 Co-Principal Investigator, Ford Foundation Grant (\$430,000) to the project “Constituting Bodies of Islamic Knowledge,” Institute for the Study of Islamic Thought in Africa (ISITA), Northwestern University
- 2003 Conference Grant (€ 17,000), International Conference on “The Global Worlds of the Swahili” in Zanzibar (Prince Claus Fund, The Netherlands)
- 1999-2000 Habilitation Fellowship and Research Grant from the German Research Foundation (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, DFG); Project Title: “Ibrahim Niasse and the Tijaniyya Sufi Order” (Bayreuth University, Germany)
- 1997-1998 Research Fellowship from the DFG; Project Title: “The Niyasiyya Branch of the Tijaniyya Sufi Order” (Bayreuth University, Germany)
- 1998-1999 Fellow, Summer Institute “The Islamic World and Modernity” (Social Science Research Council, New York, and Institute of Advanced Studies, Berlin)
- 1993-1995 Postdoctoral Fellowship and Research Grant, Graduate College “Intercultural Relations in Africa” (Bayreuth University, Germany)
- 1990-1991 M.A. Thesis Completion Fellowship (University of Mainz, Germany)

### **LANGUAGES**

German (native); English, French, Arabic (all fluent); Turkish, Persian, Kiswahili (all basic knowledge, research proficiency); Greek, Latin (reading ability)

### **STUDIES AND RESEARCH ABROAD**

- 2009 Kenya: restudy of the impact of the “war on terror” (one month)
- 2009 Sudan: research on Tijani literature (two weeks)
- 2008 Mauritania, Senegal: research on Tijani authors and their writings (two months)
- 2007 Sudan, Egypt: research on Tijani authors and their writings (two months)
- 2006 Kenya: research on popular religious literature (two months)
- 2005 Kenya: research on the impact of the “war on terror” on Muslims (two months)
- 2003 Zanzibar: complementing research on Islamic education in Kenya (two weeks)

2001-2004	Kenya: research on Islamic education (four trips of two months each)
1999	Senegal: completing data collection on the Tijaniyya (one month)
1999	Sudan: completing data collection on the Tijaniyya (one month)
1997	Sudan, Chad, Nigeria, Egypt: research on the Tijaniyya Sufi order (five months)
1996	Senegal: research on the Tijaniyya Sufi order (two months)
1994-1995	Sudan: field work in Darfur focusing on Islam and work ethics, Qur'anic education, and the Tijaniyya Sufi order (twelve months)
1994	Senegal: research on the Tijaniyya Sufi order (two months)
1994	Sudan: preparatory trip for long-term field research in Darfur (two months)
1988-1989	Syria: study of Arabic language in Damascus (nine months)
1988	Senegal: research on the Muridiyya Sufi order (three months)

## PUBLICATIONS

### a) Monographs

- *The Divine Flood: Ibrahim Niassa and the Roots of a Twentieth-Century Sufi Revival*. New York: Oxford University Press, forthcoming.
- *Nach der «Flut»: Ibrâhîm Niassa (1900-1975), Sufik und Gesellschaft in Westafrika* [After the «Flood»: Ibrâhîm Niassa, Sufism and Society in West Africa; in German]. Habilitation Thesis, Bayreuth University, 2004.
- *Ahmadu Bamba und die Entstehung der Murîdiyya* [Ahmadu Bamba and the Origins of the Murîdiyya; in German]. Berlin: Klaus Schwarz Verlag, 1993.

### b) Edited Volumes

- *Arabic Literature of Africa, Vol VII: The Tijânî Corpus and Its Authors*. Leiden: Brill, under contract.
- *The Global Worlds of the Swahili. Interfaces of Islam, Identity and Space in 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>-Century East Africa* (co-editor with Roman Loimeier). Berlin: LIT, 2006.

### c) Articles in Peer-Reviewed Journals

- Three Ibrahims: Literary production and the remaking of the Tijaniyya Sufi order in twentieth-century Sudanic Africa. *Die Welt des Islams* 49, 2009 (pp. 299-333).
- “Being as good Muslims as Frenchmen”: On marabouts, colonial modernity, and the Islamic sphere in French West Africa (co-author with Benjamin F. Soares). *Journal of Religion in Africa* 39, 2009 (pp. 91-120)
- Between Sufism and Islamism: The Tijâniyya and Islamist rule in the Sudan. *Princeton Papers. Interdisciplinary Journal for Middle Eastern Studies* 15 (Sufism and Politics, ed. Paul Heck), 2006 (pp. 23-57).
- *Ziyâra*: Funktionen und Bedeutungen in der Tijânîya (Westafrika) [*Ziyâra*: Its functions and meanings within the Tijâniyya Sufi order in West Africa]. *Der Islam* 83, 2006 (pp. 157-169).
- Islamism and the paradox of secularization. The case of Islamist ideas on women in the Sudan. *Sociologus. Journal for Empirical Social Anthropology* 55, 2005 (pp. 89-118).
- “Ein Dialog der Taubstummen”: Französische vs. britische Wahrnehmungen des Islam im spätkolonialen Westafrika [“A dialogue of the deaf”: French versus British perceptions of Islam in late colonial West Africa]. *Afrika Spectrum* 37 (2), 2002 (pp. 109-139).

- The writings of the Sudanese Tijânî *shaykh* Ibrâhîm Sîdî (1949-1999), with notes on the writings of his grandfather, *shaykh* Muhammad Salmâ (d. 1918), and his brother, *shaykh* Muhammad al-Ghâlî (b. c. 1947). *Sudanic Africa* 11, 2000 (pp. 107-124).
- “Where East Meets West”: Islamic educational institutions in Darfur / Sudan. *Islam et sociétés au Sud du Sahara* 13, 1999 (pp. 41-61).
- The *takfîr* debate. Part II: The Sudanese arena. *Sudanic Africa* 10, 1999 (pp. 65-110).
- The *takfîr* debate. Sources for the study of a contemporary dispute among African Sufis, Part I: The Nigerian arena. *Sudanic Africa* 9, 1998 (pp. 39-70).

#### d) Articles in Collective Volumes

- Kenyan Muslims, the aftermath of 9/11 and the “war on terror.” In: *Islam and Muslim Politics in Africa*, ed. Benjamin F. Soares & René Otayek. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2007 (pp. 157-176).
- Introduction: Interfaces of Islam, identity and space in 19th and 20th-century East Africa (co-author with Roman Loimeier). In: *The Global Worlds of the Swahili. Interfaces of Islam, Identity and Space in 19th and 20th-Century East Africa*, ed. Roman Loimeier & Rüdiger Seesemann. Berlin: LIT, 2006 (pp. 1-14).
- African Islam or Islam in Africa? Evidence from Kenya. In: *The Global Worlds of the Swahili. Interfaces of Islam, Identity and Space in 19th and 20th-Century East Africa*, ed. Roman Loimeier & Rüdiger Seesemann. Berlin: LIT, 2006 (pp. 229-250).
- Sub-Saharan Africa. In: *Anti-Americanism in the Islamic World*, ed. Sigrid Faath. London: Hurst, 2006 (pp. 197-208).
- The quotidian dimension of Islamic reformism in Wadai (Chad). In: *L’Islam politique au sud du Sahara. Identités, discours et enjeux*, ed. Muriel Gomez-Perez. Paris: Karthala, 2005 (pp. 327-346).
- The *shurafâ*’ and the ‘blacksmith’: The role of the Idaw ‘Alî of Mauritania in the career of the Senegalese Tijânî *shaykh* Ibrâhîm Niase. In: *The Transmission of Learning in Islamic Africa*, ed. Scott S. Reese. Leiden: Brill, 2004 (pp. 72-98).
- Verfall des Sufismus? [Decay of Sufism?]. In: *Geschichte und Erinnerung im Islam*, ed. Angelika Hartmann. Göttingen: Vandenhoeck und Ruprecht, 2004 (pp. 171-193).
- Antiamerikanismus in Afrika südlich der Sahara [Anti-Americanism in Africa south of the Sahara]. In: *Antiamerikanismus in Nordafrika, Nah- und Mittelost. Formen, Dimensionen und Folgen für Europa und Deutschland*, ed. Sigrid Faath. Hamburg: Deutsches Orient-Institut, 2003 (pp. 279-294).
- Sufi leaders and social welfare: Two examples from the Sudan. In: *Social Welfare in Muslim Societies in Africa*, ed. Holger Weiss. Uppsala: Nordiska Afrikainstitutet, 2002 (pp. 98-117).
- The history of the Tijâniyya and the issue of *tarbiya* in Darfur (Sudan). In: *La Tijâniyya. Une confrérie musulmane à la conquête de l’Afrique*, ed. David Robinson & Jean Louis Triaud. Paris: Karthala, 2000 (pp. 393-437).
- Der lange Arm des Ibrâhîm Sâlih. Erfahrungen eines deutschen Forschers mit dem Netzwerk eines nigerianischen Gelehrten [The long arm of Ibrâhîm Sâlih. A German researcher’s encounter with the network of a Nigerian religious scholar]. In: *Die islamische Welt als Netzwerk*, ed. Roman Loimeier. Würzburg: Ergon, 2000 (pp. 135-161).
- Islam, Arbeit und Arbeitsethik: Die zâwiya der Tijâniyya in el-Fasher / Sudan [Islam, work and work ethics: The zâwiya of the Tijâniyya in el-Fasher / Sudan]. In: *Arbeit in Afrika*, ed. Kurt Beck & Gerd Spittler. Hamburg: LIT, 1996 (pp. 141-160).

## e) Other Published Works (including contributions to encyclopedias)

- “Islam in sub-Saharan Africa.” In: *The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Islamic World*, ed. John Esposito. New York: Oxford University Press 2009 (vol. 3, pp. 87-98).
- Between tradition and reform: The Hadrami model of Islamic learning in 20<sup>th</sup>-century Kenya. *Orientwissenschaftliche Hefte 22* (Bildungsformen und Bildungsträger zwischen Tradition und Moderne, ed. Stefan Leder & Hanne Schönig), 2007 (pp. 37-59).
- “Thinking in terms of black and white is dangerous.” Interview with Rüdiger Seesemann. *Development and Cooperation* 48 (10), 2007 (pp. 372-375).
- Kenia – Muslime im politischen Wandel [Kenya – Muslims and Political Change]. *INAMO* (Berlin) 41, 2005 (pp. 9-12).
- East African Muslims after 9/11. *Bayreuth African Studies Working Papers* No. 3, July 2005 (12 pp.). Available on the Internet: <http://opus.ub.uni-bayreuth.de/volltexte/2005/169/>
- Vom Gesang der Wale, oder: Warum man einen Marabout alimentiert [The whales’ song, or why to give gifts to a Marabout]. In: *Blick nach vorn. Festgabe für Gerd Spittler zum 65. Geburtstag* [Essays in honor of Gerd Spittler on the occasion of his 65th birthday], ed. Kurt Beck, Till Förster & Hans Peter Hahn. Köln: Köppe, 2004 (pp. 186-199).
- Senegambia I: The Niassene tradition (co-author with John Hunwick and Ousmane Kane). In: *Arabic literature of Africa, Vol. IV: The Writings of Western Sudanic Africa*, ed. John Hunwick. Leiden: Brill, 2003 (pp. 272-307).
- “Murīdiyya,” “Tijāniyya.” In: *Religions of the World: A Comprehensive Encyclopedia of Beliefs and Practices*. Santa Barbara/Ca.: ABC-CLIO, 2002.
- “Ziyāra (West and Central Africa).” In: *Encyclopaedia of Islam*. Leiden: Brill, 2001.
- Der Sudan und die islamistische Verfassung [The Sudan and the Islamists’ constitution]. *INAMO* (Berlin) 17, 1999 (pp. 42-45).
- Internationalisierung des ‘afrikanischen Islam’? Das Beispiel von Ibrāhīm Sālih (Maiduguri / Nigeria) [Internationalization of ‘African Islam’? The case of Ibrāhīm Sālih]. In: *Afrika und die Globalisierung*, ed. Hans Peter Hahn & Gerd Spittler. Hamburg: LIT, 1999 (pp. 325-36).
- Origins and consequences of the expansion of the Niyāsiyya branch of the Tijāniyya. *Saharan Studies Association Newsletter* 5 (1), 1997 (pp. 9-13). Available on the Internet: <http://ssa.sri.com:8002/news/newsletters/v5n1.pdf>
- Die jihād-Ideologie im islamistischen Sudan [The ideology of jihād in Islamist Sudan]. In: *Forschungen im Sudan. Ergebnisse der interdisziplinären Sudantagung im Februar 1996 in Erfurt*, ed. K.-H. Pörtge. Erfurt: Institut für Geographie der Pädagogischen Hochschule, 1997 (pp. 203-208).
- Ba‘d malāmih al-ta‘līm al-dīnī wa-l-khalāwī fī Dārfūr [Some aspects of religious education and Koranic schools in Darfur]. *Dirāsāt Ifriqiyya* (Khartoum) 13, 1995 (pp. 93-116).
- Zwischen Verklärung und Erbfeindschaft: Das westliche Islambild als abendländisches Konstrukt [Between idealisation and enmity: The Western image of Islam as an occidental construct]. *Umbrüche* (Berlin) 7, August 1993 (pp. 10-18).

## f) Book Reviews

- Gabriel Warburg, Islam, Sectarianism, and Politics in Sudan since the Mahdiyya. *Die Welt des Islams* 49, 2009 (pp. 280-282).
- Scott Kugle, Sufis and Saints’ Bodies. Mysticism, Corporeality, and Sacred Power in Islam. *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 76, 2008 (pp. 514-521).

- Ian Richard Netton, Sufi Ritual. *Journal of Semitic Studies* 47, 2002 (pp. 166-169).
- Abdel Salam Sidahmed, Politics and Islam in Contemporary Sudan. *Die Welt des Islams* 41, 2001 (pp. 130-132).
- David Westerlund & Eva Evers Rosander (eds.), African Islam and Islam in Africa. *Die Welt des Islams* 40, 2000 (pp. 129-131).
- Peter Nyot Kok, Governance and Conflict in the Sudan 1985-1995. *Zeitschrift der Deutschen Morgenländischen Gesellschaft* 148, 1998 (pp. 218-219).
- Urs-Peter Ruf, Mobile Selbsthafte. Sedentarisierung und Geschichte der Nomaden in Mauretanien. *INAMO* (Berlin) 10, 1997 (pp. 49-50).

g) Forthcoming Articles, Contributions to Encyclopedias, Book Reviews

- Sufism in West Africa. In: *Religion Compass*. London: Blackwell.
- “Turabi, Hasan al-.” In: *Encyclopedia of Islamic Political Thought*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- “Alfa Hashim.” In: *Encyclopedia of Islamic Three*. Leiden: Brill.
- Review of Mark Sedgwick, Saints and Sons. *Journal of Semitic Studies*.

## CONFERENCES AND PAPER PRESENTATIONS

a) Panels, Workshops, and Conferences Organized and Convened

- International Conference on *Sufism and Nineteenth-Century Literary Production*, Institut Français d’Archéologie Orientale, Cairo, March 2010 (co-sponsored by the Institute for the Study of Islamic Thought in Africa, Northwestern University, and the Centre National de Recherche Scientifique, Paris).
- Meeting of the International Working Group *The Tijani Corpus and Its Authors*, Institute for the Study of Islamic Thought in Africa, Fez (Morocco), June 2009.
- Conference on *Islam and Muslim Youth in Africa*, Institute for the Study of Islamic Thought in Africa, Northwestern University, April 2009 (with Benjamin Soares).
- Conference on *Constituting Bodies of Islamic Knowledge*, Institute for the Study of Islamic Thought in Africa, Northwestern University, November 2008.
- Workshop on *Texts, Words, Images: New Media and Islam in Africa* (with Butch Ware), Institute for the Study of Islamic Thought in Africa, Northwestern University, October 2007.
- Workshop on *Sufi Texts, Sufi Contexts*, Institute for the Study of Islamic Thought in Africa, Northwestern University, May 2007.
- Panel on *Patterns of Religious Authority and Reform among African Muslims*, Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Washington D.C., November 2006.
- Workshop on *The Tijani Corpus and Its Authors*, Institute for the Study of Islamic Thought in Africa, Northwestern University, May 2006.
- Panel on *The Legacies of ‘Islam Noir’*, Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association, Washington D.C., November 2005.
- Workshop on *Local Perspectives on the Global: Islam and Taarab in East Africa*, Bayreuth University (Germany), May 2003.
- International Conference on *The Global Worlds of the Swahili*, Palace Museum Zanzibar (Tanzania), February 2003.

- Workshop on *The East African Coast in Times of Globalization*, Bayreuth University (Germany), May 2001.
- b) Academic Papers Presented (selection, since 2003; complete list available on request)
- On the cultural history of Islamic knowledge and its contemporary relevance. Invited Lecture, University of Michigan, April 14, 2010.
  - African Islam, Arab Islam, and the colonial crucible: The Tijaniyya Sufi Order in late colonial West Africa. Lecture Series “Africa and the Middle East Intertwined,” Council on Middle East Studies and Council on African Studies, Yale University, March 31, 2010.
  - A new dawn for Sufism? Spiritual training (*tarbiya*) in the mirror of Tijani literature, 1800-1930. International Conference on Sufism and Nineteenth-Century Literary Production, Cairo, March 17, 2010.
  - 9/11 and Muslim politics in Kenya. Conference on “9/11 in Popular Culture and Art in Africa,” University of Cologne (Germany), November 21, 2009 (paper read in absence).
  - Zur Kulturgeschichte islamischen Wissens und ihrer gegenwärtigen Relevanz. Invited Lecture, University of Basel (Switzerland), October 13, 2009.
  - New expressions and transformations of Sufism. Invited Lecture, Faculty of Economic and Social Studies, University of Khartoum (Sudan), August 19, 2009.
  - Islamism and the paradox of secularization. Invited Lecture, Center for the Study of Islam and the Contemporary World, Khartoum (Sudan), August 12, 2009.
  - Three Ibrahims: Literary production and the remaking of the Tijaniyya Sufi order in 20th-century Africa. European Conference of African Studies, Leipzig (Germany), June 5, 2009.
  - “Let the cup make its round.” Popularizing mystical knowledge in twentieth-century West Africa. Conference on “Constituting Bodies of Islamic Knowledge,” Northwestern University Evanston, November 17-18, 2008.
  - States within the state? The Sufi orders in West Africa. Lecture Series, Bayreuth International Graduate School for African Studies (Bayreuth, Germany), July 8, 2008.
  - “What time is it?” Time as an element of order in African Muslim societies. Summer School “Religion and Order in Africa,” Bayreuth University (Germany), July 7, 2008.
  - The role of Islam in the Darfur conflict and its resolution. Conference on “Failed and Failing States in Africa: Lessons from Darfur and Beyond,” Cornell University, April 18-19, 2008.
  - Studying Sufism: Lessons from West Africa. Lunch Colloquium, Alice B. Kaplan Institute for the Humanities, Northwestern University, April 9, 2008.
  - “Fight the idolaters wherever you find them.” Violence and politics in the Sudan. Conference on “Violence: Political and Sacred,” Northwestern University, April 2-3, 2008.
  - Three Ibrahims and their writings: A comparative analysis of Sufi literature from twentieth-century West Africa. Invited Lecture, University of Wisconsin-Madison, February 19, 2008.
  - Sufis zwischen Diesseits und Jenseits: Arbeitsethik und soziales Engagement in westafrikanischen Bruderschaften [Sufis between this world and the next: Work ethics and social activity in West African Sufi orders]. Invited Lecture, Freiburg University (Germany), December 5, 2007.
  - Work, service, and social welfare. Engaged Sufism in sub-Saharan Africa. Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, San Diego, November 2007.
  - The dialectics of tradition and reform: Islamic learning and religious authority in 20<sup>th</sup>-century Kenya. Conference on “Islam, Contested Authority, and the Making of Everyday Lives in Africa,” Indiana University, October 2007.

- Multiple Zeitordnungen in islamischen Kontexten: Entwicklungen und Debatten in Ostafrika [Multiple concepts of time in Islamic contexts: Developments and debates in East Africa; with Roman Loimeier]. Lecture Series “Local Agency in Africa,” Bayreuth University (Germany), July 5, 2007.
- Apostasy, blasphemy, and Muslim-Christian relations in Africa and beyond. Invited lecture, Bayreuth University (Germany), June 2007.
- Three Ibrahims and their writings: A comparative look at twentieth-century Tijani literature. Workshop on “Sufi Texts, Sufi Contexts,” Institute for the Study of Islamic Thought in Africa, Northwestern University, May 2007.
- Constituting bodies of knowledge: Towards a new archive for the study of Islamic thought in Africa (with Butch Ware). Workshop on “Rethinking the Islamic Library: African Archives, Scholars and the Public,” Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Stanford University, May 2007.
- Patterns of Islamic learning in 20<sup>th</sup>-century Kenya. Invited lecture, Department of Religion and Program of African Studies, Northwestern University, May 2007.
- The Tijâniyya: Its Origin and Movement across the Western Sahara. Colloquium on “Islam and Arabic in the Western Sahara,” Institute for the Study of Islamic Thought in Africa, Northwestern University, February 9, 2007.
- The constitution of bodies of Islamic knowledge in Africa (with Butch Ware). Monday Night Lecture, Program of African Studies, Northwestern University, January 2007.
- Between tradition and reform: The Hadhrami model of Islamic learning and religious authority in 20<sup>th</sup>-century Kenya. Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Washington D.C., November 2006.
- Islam, identity and space in sub-Saharan Africa. Invited lecture, Geography Awareness Week, Eastern Illinois University Charleston, November 2006.
- Changing paradigms of Islamic learning in contemporary Kenya. Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association in Germany (Vereinigung der Afrikanisten Deutschlands) on “Knowledge and Science in Africa,” Frankfurt (Germany), July 2006.
- Tijani Sufis, the sharia question, and the changing configuration of Muslim societies in sub-Saharan Africa. Invited lecture, Bayreuth University (Germany), July 2006.
- “A dialogue of the deaf.” French versus British perceptions of Islam in late colonial West Africa. Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association, Washington D.C., November 2005.
- Teaching Islam: A European perspective. Conference on “Teaching Islam in the Undergraduate Curriculum,” University of North Carolina at Asheville, June 2005.
- Islam and work ethics: The Sufi orders in sub-Saharan Africa reconsidered. Annual Meeting of the Society for the Anthropology of Religion, Vancouver, April 2005.
- “Does God sit on the Throne?” The quotidian dimension of Islamic reformism, Wednesday Bag Lunch Series, Program of African Studies, Northwestern University, February 2005.
- Worldviews of East African Muslims after 9/11. Invited lecture (lecture series “Africa in the World”), African Studies Center, Leiden (The Netherlands), December 2004.
- East African Muslims after 9/11. Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association, New Orleans, November 2004.
- African Islam or Islam in Africa? Evidence from Kenya. Lecture in fulfillment of the requirements of the habilitation procedure, Bayreuth University (Germany), July 2004.
- Competing approaches to Islamic education in Kenya. International Symposium on Islamic Civilization in East Africa, Kampala (Uganda), December 2003.

- Ibrâhîm Niassé (1900-1975) and the revival of Sufism in sub-Saharan Africa. Conference on “Modern Adaptations of Sufi-Based Popular Islam,” Center of Modern Oriental Studies, Berlin (Germany), April 2003.
- Islam, terrorism and globalization: Muslim responses to global challenges. Invited lecture, University of Zurich (Switzerland), January 2003.

**OTHER LECTURES AND PANEL APPEARANCES** (selection; complete list available on request)

- Presider at the panel “Inside and Outside the Mystic Text,” Islamic Mysticism Group, Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Montreal, November 10, 2009.
- Workshop “The Anthropology of Islam” for Graduate Students, University of Khartoum (Sudan), August 17-18, 2009.
- Presider at the panel “Tijani Literature,” 7th Annual Conference of the Cercle des Souffles, Fez (Morocco), June 20, 2009.
- Presider at the panel “Islamic Theology and Sufism,” Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Chicago, November 13-16, 2008.
- Discussant at the panel “Muslims in Colonial and Postcolonial Kenya,” Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association, Chicago, October 31-November 3, 2008.
- Panelist at the panel discussion “Fostering Global Harmony not Conflict: An Interfaith Dialogue,” Center for Global Studies, Purdue University Calumet, April 19, 2007.
- Discussant at the panel “Traditions of Reform, Reforms of Tradition: African Muslim Societies in Contemporary Times,” European Conference of African Studies, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, July 1, 2005.
- Panelist and presenter (“The Role of Islam in the Current Conflicts”) in the panel discussion “Sudan – A Political Conversation,” jointly convened by Africa Vision International and Orientwissenschaftliches Zentrum der Universität Halle, Halle (Germany), June 20, 2005.
- Panelist and presenter at the Darfur Panel Discussion, convened by SHOAH (Students Helping to Organize Awareness about the Holocaust), STAND (Students Taking Action Now: Darfur) and Amnesty International, Northwestern University, April 6, 2005.
- Moderator of the panel discussion “Encounter Jesus and Muhammad,” convened by the Muslim Dialogue Platform, Northwestern University, April 5, 2005.

**OTHER RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

a) Editing

- 2009- Deputy Editor, *Islamic Africa* (bi-annual peer reviewed journal published by Northwestern University Press)
- 2004- Co-General Editor of the Series “Islam in Africa” (E.J. Brill Publishers, Leiden)

b) Reviewing

- 2008- Member of the Steering Committee, Islamic Mysticism Group, American Academy of Religion

- 2007- Reviewer of grant proposals for the American Academy in Berlin, Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies
- 2005- Reviewer of book manuscripts for Cambridge University Press, Notre Dame University Press
- 2003- Reviewer of articles for *Africa*, *Africa Today*, *Journal of Religion in Africa*, *Journal of Islamic Studies*, *Islamic Law and Society*

c) Consulting

- 2006-2009 Consultant for the project *Sharia debates and their perception by Christians and Muslims in selected African countries*, Bayreuth University, funded by the Volkswagen Foundation program *Knowledge for Tomorrow*
- 2004 ISITA advisory board (Institute for the Study of Islamic Thought in Africa, Northwestern University Evanston)
- 2003 Consultant for the *German-African Medical Academy* (German Academic Exchange Service), member of the fact-finding mission to East Africa

d) Administrative, Service

- 2009- Selection Committee for the Panofsky Pre-Dissertation Research Award, Program of African Studies, Northwestern University
- 2009-2010 Search Committee, Modern Middle Eastern Literature, Kaplan Institute for the Humanities, Northwestern University
- 2008- Selection Committee for the African Studies Cluster Graduate Fellowship, Program of African Studies, Northwestern University
- 2008-2009 Search Committee, Turkish/Ottoman History, History Department, Northwestern University
- 2008 Search Committee, Position of the Director of the Program of African Studies, Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences, Northwestern University
- 2007-2008 Search Committee, Middle East/North Africa, Department of Anthropology, Northwestern University
- 2005-2007 Member of the Faculty Advisory Board, Program of African Studies, Northwestern University
- 2005-2006 Member of the Committee for the Undergraduate Program in African Studies, Northwestern University
- 2005-2007 Member of the Honors Committee, Department of Religion, Northwestern University
- 2001-2003 Coordinator of the Guest Lecture Series of the Special Research Unit (SFB) "Local agency in Africa in the context of global influences," Bayreuth University
- 2000-2004 Member of the Executive Committee within the Special Research Unit (SFB) "Local agency in Africa in the context of global influences," Bayreuth University

e) Graduate Advising

- 2008- Esther Bavelaar, "Transmission of Islamic Knowledge in Somali Diasporic Communities," Religious Studies, Northwestern University (primary advisor)
- 2007- Justine Howe, "Islamic Family Law Reform in Morocco," Religious Studies, Northwestern University (primary advisor)

- 2005-2010 Zachary Wright, "Embodied Knowledge in West African Islam," History,  
Northwestern University (co-advisor)
- 2003-2009 Hassan Juma Ndzovu, "The Politicization of Kenyan Muslims," Islamic Studies,  
University of KwaZulu Natal (external examiner)

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

African Studies Association  
American Academy of Religion

### **OUTREACH AND PUBLICITY (available on request)**