

# CURRICULUM VITAE

**DR. SOPHIA M. NDETHIU**

**KENYATTA UNIVERSITY**

**KENYA**

**Status:** **Senior** Lecturer Chairperson, Department of Educational Communication and Technology, Kenyatta University.

**Areas of Interest:** Academic communication skills, advanced reading and writing skills, teaching and learning environments.

Full Member of the academic staff, School of Education, Kenyatta University.

## **Contact Address**

Department of Educational Communication & Technology

Kenyatta University

P.O. Box 43844 – 00100

Nairobi, Kenya

Office Tel.: +254-20-8710901 Ext 3741

Email: ndethiu.sophia@ku.ac.ke

## **1.0 BASIC REQUIREMENTS**

### **Academic Qualifications**

**2007:** Ph.D. in Education in advanced literacy studies, Kenyatta University.

**1990:** M.Ed. in TESOL. University of Leeds, United Kingdom.

**1984:** B.Ed. (Education, Literature and Religious Studies) University of Nairobi, Kenya.

## **Other Qualifications relevant to my profession**

- 2013:** Certificate in Teaching Methodology
- 2012:** Certificate in Technology Training through Project “Building Capacity through Quality Teacher Preparation” Kenyatta University.

## **Employment**

- 2006 – to date:** Senior Lecturer in Communication skills, Department of Education Communication & Technology.
- 2014:** Chairperson, Department of Educational Communication & Technology, KU (Responsible for day to day running of the department and chairing meetings and chief examinations officer) Member of Kenyatta University Senate.
- 1992 -2006:** Lecturer: Communication Skills under Communication Skills Department.
- 1990 Dec- 1992:** Tutorial Fellow, Communication skills Department, KU
- 1990 Oct-Dec:** Graduate Assistant, Department of Educational Communication and Technology
- 1984 – 1989:** Graduate High School Teacher (English, Literature & Religious Education) St. Kizito Secondary School, Kenya.
- 1980:** Untrained teacher Magundu Girls Secondary Schools, Tharaka Nithi

## **University Teaching Experience**

- 1990 to date:** Teach both undergraduate and postgraduate students: Communication skills, study skills, advanced writing and reading skills, instructional methods, language in education, language and society, research methods, business and mass communication.
- 2007-2010:** Part-time lecturer at United States International University, Africa teaching Communication skills, cross-cultural communication, study skills and first-year experience and Career strategies and planning for success.
- 1995:** Part-time lecturer, Catholic University of Eastern Africa teaching Communication skills.

**1990-1999:** Assessor of pre-service Bed undergraduate students.

## **2.0 POSTGRADUATE SUPERVISION**

### **Completed (Med)**

**2011:** Adhiambo Monica: Availability and utilization of English Language teaching and learning resources in Secondary Schools, Nairobi Province, Kenya

**2011:** Matere Audrey: M.ed: An Investigation of Teaching Integrated English in Secondary Schools in Bungoma District, Kenya.

**2014:** Akumu Elisha Ochieng: M.ed: Influence of Code Switching on Students' oral and Written Discourse in English in Selected Schools in Nyatike District Migori County, Kenya.

**2014:** Joyce Kalee Mathew: M.ed: Communication Challenges faced by teachers of English Language in Primary Schools for the Hearing Impaired in Central Kenya.

**2014:** Joyce Mbithi: M.ed: Integration of ICT Instruction of English in Secondary Schools in Matungulu District, Machakos County, Kenya.

**2014:** Nyangau Bernard: M.ed: Challenges students face in learning essay writing skills in English as a Second Language in Secondary Schools in Manga District, Nyamira County, Kenya (**making corrections after successful defense**)

### **Completed Diploma and Postgraduate Projects**

**2009:** Oteyo Isaac Ongute: An assessment of the mode of communication applied in the Kenyan Police force.

**2009:** Mungai John Njuguna: An assessment of the determinants of effective channels of advertising in the tourism industry: a case of Savuka Tours Company.

**2008:** Ombongi Albert Marore: A study of the effectiveness of community policing in the Kenya Police Force: a case of police headquarters, Nairobi

**2008:** Misiko David Wasike: Challenges facing journalism clubs in Kenyan Secondary Schools: A case of Teremi High School in Chwele Division, Bungoma North District.

- 2007:** Njoroge Joseph Njeri: An investigation into the nature of internal communication in private corporations: a case of Bata Shoe Company Limuru.
- 2007:** Mabto Ben Chebweche: An Analysis of the role of Public Relations in the effective delivery of services at Barclays Bank of Kenya.
- 2007:** Kimani Leah Wanjiru: Factors influencing students' choice of radio programmes in selected secondary schools in Limuru Division, Kiambu District.
- 2006:** Barine Frankline Kimathi: An Analysis of Celebrity Images in Kenyan Newspapers: a case of Sunday Nation.

### **Ongoing under examination**

- 2012- to date:** Twum Rosemary: PhD Thesis: Mobile Phone Learner Support Systems in Enhancing Satisfaction, Learning style and Performance of University Students in Ghana.
- 2012- to date:** Wanjiru Benson Njoroge: PhD Thesis: Effects of Mathematics Vocabulary Instruction on Students' achievement in Mathematics in Secondary Schools of Murang'a county, Kenya.

### **Ongoing**

- 2013-to date:** PhD: Marie-Immaculee Ndayimirije: Appraisal of the Language Curriculum Adequacy and its implementation in State Primary Schools in Burundi.
- 2013-to date:** Gachoka Mwangi: M.ed: An Analysis of Practical Approach of Teaching Geometry in Primary Schools in Thogoto Zone, Kiambu District, Kenya.
- 2012-to date:** Jane Wambui Kiarie: M.ed: Strategies of Teaching and Learning English Language Vocabulary used in writing Composition by Standard Seven Learners in Public Primary School in Thika Sub County.
- 2013-to date:** Mary Muinje: PhD: Remediation for Sources of errors in Misconception in Algebra through Classroom Practice.

- 2012-to date:** Pity Maina: M.ed: Instructional Activities Used in Teaching Oral Skills in English in Selected Secondary Schools, Nairobi, County.
- 2012-to date:** Rachael Njoki Muya: M.ed: Instructional Practices used by Teachers to Teach English Writing Skills to Standard Four Pupils in Nyandarua North District, Nyandarua North County, Kenya.
- 2012-to date:** Mutabari Edward Laichena: M.ed: Towards Meeting Learning Needs of Open, Distance and e-Learning Programme: the case of Nairobi, Kenyatta and Egerton Universities.
- 2010-to date:** Janet Matheri Wanjiku: M.ed: The Impact of Teachers Feedback in English Language Cmpositions in Kahuro Sub-County, Murang'a County, Kenya.

### **Postgraduate Thesis Examination**

- 2014:** Mboha Eric Omondi: Influence of School Departmental Leadership on Students' KCSE Performance in English Language in Kisumu West District, Kisumu, County.
- 2014:** Andima George Morara: Aetiology of Instructional Practices for Reading of English in Rural Primary Schools in Kisii Central District, Kisii County, Kenya.
- 2014:** Khaemba Patrick: The Role of Drama in the Development of Communicative Competence among Primary School Pupils in Nakuru Municipality, Kenya.
- 2013:** Ndirangu Joseph Kamu: Adequacy and Sustainability of Secondary School computerization in Meeting Instructional Needs in Kitui District, Kenya.
- 2013:** Mogere Geoffrey Nyaega: Teachers' Instructional Strategies and their Influence on Class Seven Pupils Performance in Garissa County, Kenya.
- 2012:** Wanjala Thomas: Learner Problems in Development of English Language Reading Comprehension among Secondary School Students in Vihiga District.
- 2010:** Mangeni Ester Neema: Learners' Verbal Communication Abilities in English Language during Interaction Processes in Lodiani Division, Kipkelion District, Kenya.
- 2009:** Stella Rwanda: Depth and Breadth of Vocabulary Knowledge in English Language reading Comprehension among Standard Eight Pupils in Meru District, Kenya.

### **3.0 ADMINISTRATIVE AND OTHER UNIVERSITY RESPONSIBILITY**

- 2014: (April to date)** Chairman, Department of Educational Communication and Technology, Kenyatta University.
- 2014: (April to date)** Member of Senate, Kenyatta University.
- 2014: (August)** Appointed Chairman for tender processing committee for Supply and delivery of meat products, fruits and vegetables, general provisions and dry foodstuffs for the North Coast Beach Hotel.
- 2014: (20<sup>th</sup> May)** Appointed Chairman for tender processing committee on consultancy services to conduct customer/students satisfaction survey.
- 2014:** Member of organizing committee on the Launch of Teaching Practicum and Mentorship Programme.
- 2014:** Wrote Vice-Chancellor's Speech on the Launch of the Teaching Practicum and Mentorship Programme.
- 2014: (February 7<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>):** Facilitated Campus Awareness Seminars for the School of Education on University Examination Regulations and Procedures, Course Requirements and Degree Classification Requirements (done in Main Campus, Nakuru, Kericho, Mombasa, Nyeri and Kitui Campuses).
- 2014:** Senate Representative in School Board of Examiners (School of Humanities).
- 2011-2014:** Examinations Coordinator School of Education, KU (in charge of student advising on university examination regulations and course requirements, preparing school consolidated marksheets and Senate captions and degree classification).
- 2014: (June)** Chaired session in the 28<sup>th</sup> Postgraduate Seminar, Kenyatta University.
- 2013:** Member Committee on the proposal for the establishment of new programme and School of Communication, Journalism and Media Studies.
- 2013:** Member Committee on Revision of University Calendar (2014 – 2017).
- 2012: (May/June):** Was Acting Associate Dean, School of Education, Kenyatta University.
- 2011-2013:** Member, Graduation Committee, Kenyatta University.
- 2009-2011:** Examinations Coordinator, Department of Educational Communication & Technology (IBP & ODeL).
- 2009:** Wrote Speech for the Vice-Chancellor for the occasion of the Opening of the International Conference in Education, July 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>, Nairobi.

- 2009:** Wrote Speech for the Minister of Education for the occasion of Opening of the International Conference in Education, July 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>, Nairobi.
- 2009-2014:** Member School of Education Postgraduate Committee (evaluate Postgraduate proposals and allocate board members for the defence board).
- 2009-2014:** Overseer and reader for Department of Education Management, Curriculum and Policy Studies.
- 2007 to 2014:** Member of Departmental Postgraduate Committee, Kenyatta University.
- 2004-2006:** Examinations Coordinator Institute of Open Learning.
- 2000-2004:** Chairperson, Department of Communication Skills, KU.
- 2004:** Member of AD-HOC Committee on Graduate School, Kenyatta University.
- 2003:** Member of Senate Sub-Committee for screening, Counseling and advising expelled students who were to be re-admitted after the 2003 Presidential Amnesty for Expelled University students, 6<sup>th</sup> March to 5<sup>th</sup> April, 2003.
- 2007 to 2014:** Member of Departmental Postgraduate Committee, Kenyatta University.
- 2002:** Rapporteur at 10<sup>th</sup> Postgraduate Seminar, Kenyatta University.
- 2000-2004:** Chairperson Communication Skills Department and Member of Senate, Kenyatta University.
- 1996-2000:** Examinations Coordinator, Communication skills Development.
- 1994:** Member of Committee to develop project writing process approach for the Communication Skills unit, Kenyatta University, 21<sup>st</sup> November.

#### **4.0 CONFERENCES/SEMINARS/WORKSHOPS**

- 2014:** Training Seminar for Teacher Mentors under the Kenyatta University Teaching Practicum and Mentorship Programme, “The Role of Effective Communication Skills and Public Relations in Teacher Mentoring” 28<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> August, Nairobi.

- 2014:** Seminar to highlight accomplishments and recommendations from the USAID/HED project on Capacity Building for Quality teacher Preparation under Africa US Higher Education Initiative, 2<sup>nd</sup> July, Nairobi.
- 2014:** Training seminar on Guidelines to Thesis Supervision Plagiarism and Intellectual Property Rights, July 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- 2014:** 12<sup>th</sup> International Conference on IT Application Management: Culture and Humanities in the Digital Future, 8<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>, Nairobi.
- 2014:** Building Capacity in Quality Teacher Preparation workshop on dissemination of research findings for USAID/HED funded Project July 2<sup>nd</sup>, Nairobi.
- 2013:** International Conference on Technology, Teaching and Learning, 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> July, Nairobi.
- 2012:** Blackboard Teaching and Learning Forum by United States International University – Africa: Topics: the active student, the agile institution, learning and mobile technologies.
- 2012:** July: Workshop on Academic Writing and Publications by Prof Jared Keengwe Sagini, visiting Scholar from North Dakota University, Nairobi.
- 2012:** 12<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Building Teaching and Learning Communities, Boston, USA, July 18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>.
- 2011:** A Perspective of the Current Status of the Communication Skills Programme in Kenyan Public Universities. Paper presented at the International Conference on Education: Education for Societal Transformation 20<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> July, Nairobi.
- 2011:** (June) Project Planning Meeting for USAID/HED funded Project on Capacity Building for Quality Teacher Preparation, Syracuse University, New York.
- 2011:** Workshop on Strategies for Supporting all Learners under USAID/HED Project, Kenyatta University, 24<sup>th</sup> October.
- 2011:** Facilitator: Workshop on Strategies for Handling Large Classes under HED/USAID Project, Kenyatta University, 13<sup>th</sup> October.
- 2011:** Examination Coordinator’s Seminar on Examination Processing using student Examination Management System, Campus Vue, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, Kenyatta University.
- 2011:** Workshop on ICT Integration in Teaching and Learning at National ICT Innovation and Integration Centre, 25<sup>th</sup> October.

- 2009:** Promoting Independent Learning Strategies for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: The Role of Critical Reading Education at University Level. Paper Presented at the International Conference on Education: Innovative Teacher Education and Classroom Practice for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> July, Nairobi.
- 2009:** The Role of the Teacher in a Knowledge – based Economy. Paper presented at the First KIE Symposium on Technology, Education and the Knowledge Economy Nairobi, February, 17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>.
- 2008:** Facilitated a one week course on Communication Skills for civil servants under Center for Regional Capacity and Development, Kenyatta University 3<sup>rd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> June.
- 2007:** Invited to Participate in DAAD’s Alumni Staff Conference, Malawi 29<sup>th</sup> October – 2<sup>nd</sup> November.
- 2007:** Workshop on Sensitization on English Language Norms under Literacy Project funded by Rockefeller Foundation 25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> October.
- 2006:** Attended seminar on Academic and Professional Integrity, Kenyatta University.
- 2005:** e-Learning workshop at Kenyatta University Institute of Open Learning facilitated by University of Carolina North Central, USA.
- 2004:** The African Universities’ Response to the undergraduate students’ need for independent learning and critical thinking skills. Paper presented at the International Conference of the Association of Third World Countries, September 5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>, Kenyatta University, Kenya.
- 2004:** Workshop for University Senators, Kunste Hotel Nakuru, 5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> February.
- 2006:** Workshop on Integrating HIV/AIDS Content Across the University, Curriculum, Kenyatta University.
- 2002:** Attended workshop on module writing at Blue Post Hotel Thika, 17<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> January.
- 2001:** International Conference on Transformational of Higher Education Management and Leadership for Efficacy in Africa 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> November, Nairobi.
- 1994:** Negotiation Skills in Lecturing and their role in the Effective Communication of meaning. Paper presented at the communication skills Seminar held for Communication Skills staff in Public Universities, Nairobi.

- 1994:** Effective listening to lecturers: revisiting some basic assumptions. Paper presented at the Communication Skills Seminar for communication skills staff in Public Universities, Nairobi.
- 1992:** Workshop on Academic writing and Disciplines by Greg Myres, Communication Skills Department, Kenyatta University.
- 1992:** Workshop on Examinations and Testing by Nicki Mcleod, Communication Skills Department, Kenyatta University.
- 1991:** First International Conference on Academic Communication Skills for Africa, July 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup>, Nairobi.

### **Convening and Coordinating Conferences**

- Member of the Planning Committee for the International conference in Education held at Kenyatta University, KUCC. Nairobi, 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2009, organized under the Kenyatta and Syracuse University linkage.
- Member of the Planning Committee for the International conference in Education held at Kenyatta University, KUCC. Nairobi, 20<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> July, 2011, organized under the Kenyatta and Syracuse University linkage.
- Member of the Planning Committee for the International conference in Education held at Kenyatta University, KUCC. Nairobi, 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> July, 2013, organized under the Kenyatta and Syracuse University linkage.
- Rapporteur at the International Conference on Transformational of Higher Education Management and leadership for Efficacy in Africa 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> November, Nairobi.
- The First International Conference on Academic Communication Skills for Africa, July 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1991.

## **5.0 RESEARCH, PUBLICATIONS AND GRANTS**

- 2014:** Types of Mobile Phone Technologies Available to Students and Lecturers to Enhance Academic Performance in Selected Ghanaian Public Universities. International Journal of Engineering Research and Technology Vol. 3 (6).

- 2011:** The role of a Teacher in Knowledge – Based Economy. Papers Presented at the first KIE Symposium and published ISBN: 9966-31-145-3. Nairobi: Kenya Institute of Education.
- 2004:** Higher Education and the need for “a deep” and “process” approach in teaching and learning of Essay writing skills. East Africa Journal of Human Social Sciences 4 (1), January – June, 1-15.
- 2001:** Effective Listening Skills: Accentuating the neglected side of communication. The African Journal of Historical and Social Sciences Research Vol. 3, No. 1, pp 29-46.

### **Article in Conference Proceedings**

- 2003:** The African Universities’ Response to the undergraduate Students’ need for Independent Learning and Critical thinking Skills paper in Conference Proceedings by the Association of Third World Countries – Kenyan Chapter.

### **Books/Modules**

- 2007:** (June): Communication Skills in Teaching and Learning (a module prepared for Centre for Capacity Development, KU).
- 2006:** Public Relations and Information Technology (a module for distance learning students), Kenyatta University.
- 2005:** Organizational Behaviour (a module for distance learning students), Kenyatta University.
- 2004:** Business Communication (a module for open and distance learning students), Kenyatta University.
- 2003:** Communication Skills (a module for open and distance learning students), Kenyatta University.
- 2003:** Fundamentals of Communication (a module for distance learning students), Kenyatta University.
- 2003:** Fatal Embrace. A poem published in an anthology of Poetry and also recorded in CD by International Library of Poets and recited in New York Poetry Congress.

### **Research Grants**

- 2010:** Received project planning grant \$50,000 from USAID Syracuse/Kenyatta University collaboration.
- 2011:** Received grant from USAI/HED for Capacity Building for Quality Teacher Preparation under Kenyatta University/Syracuse University Linkage.
- 2013:** Additional grant for USAID/HED project on Capacity Building for Quality Teacher Preparation.
- 2014:** 3.9 million Kenya Shillings as additional grant for equipment, books and materials under HED/USAID.

## **6.0 LOCAL/NATIONAL/REGIONAL/INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION**

- 2012: July/August** Participated in an Academic Scholar exchange programme at Syracuse University.
- 2011:** Nominated to attend HED/USAID Project planning meeting in New York under Kenyatta University/Syracuse University research partnership.
- 2010-to-date:** External Examiner Communications Skills, English Language and Literature in English, South Eastern Kenya University.
- 2003-2006:** External Examiner for Communications Skills, Kiriri Women's University.
- 2003:** Recognition by the International Library of Poetry for my artistry. Poem recorded in CD album, The Sound of Poetry.

## **7.0 ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP**

- 2016: Coordinating drafting of Ph.D with course work and thesis for Commtech Department.
- 2015: Coordinated restructuring of the Department of Educational Communication and Technology
- 2014: Developed in committee the Teaching Practicum and Mentoring Assessment Tool for the Kenyatta University Teaching Practicum and Mentoring Programme.
- 2013: Member of Curriculum Development Workshop for Kenya Prisons Services (14<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> January).

- 2012: (June): Team member to coordinate Implementation of the New Student Management System.
- 2011: Consultancy assignment under Mountain Kenya University sponsored by AVSI (Association of Volunteers International) for in-service Refugee Teachers at Dadaab Refugee Camp, Kenya.
- 2010: Nominated by department as the pioneer for online teaching of Communication Skills through Module e-Learning Management System.
- 2009: Team member in PHEA-ETI project for digitization of content for the unit UCU 100 Communication Skills, Kenyatta University.
- 2008: Chairperson Committee to draft Proposal for the establishment of a department and programme in Communication, journalism and media studies.
- 2001: Facilitated training on effective communication skills for teaching at the wholistic excellence seminar held at A-Z Bengwa centre, Kajiado 20<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- 2011: Facilitator: Workshop on teaching and Learning in large classes, KUCC, Nairobi under the USAID/HED Project on Capacity Building for Quality Teacher Preparation.
- 2000-2004: Coordinated proposal writing for new programmes: Diploma in Public Relations, Postgraduate Diploma in Public Relations and Postgraduate Diploma in Public Relations under Institute of Open and Distance Learning.
- 1996: Participated in an academic review retreat workshop for School of Education, Machakos, 26<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> September.