

# MR. BRYSON OTIENO OMWALO

Department of Literary Studies

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## EDUCATION

Doctoral Studies

Currently undertaking Doctoral studies in the Department of Literary Studies, Maseno University. Main focus is on popular art with a bias on the utilitarian nature of Art in reference to the popular sitcom genre

Master of Arts:

University of Nairobi (1999) graduated with M.A. in Literature and focused on the African Novel. Wrote a thesis entitled '*The Quest for Liberty in Nuruddin Farah's Trilogy*'.

P.G.D.E.:

Maseno University 2002 – 2003.

Postgraduate Diploma in Education.

Bachelor of Arts:

University of Nairobi (1991). Graduated with a second class Honors (Upper Division). Majored in Literature in the Second and Third years Faculty of Arts (1991)

Advanced Level (A Level):

Ambira High School, Siaya District (1985-86).

Obtained 3 Principal passes in Literature in English (principal C), Kiswahili (principal D), Christian Religious Education (principal D) and subsidiary pass in General Paper. Total of 11 points.

Ordinary Level (O Level):

Pumwani High School, Nairobi (1981 – 1984) obtained a second division of 27 points.

Primary Level:

Makongeni West Primary School, Nairobi (1974 – 1980) passed C.P.E. with 29 points.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Ongoing:

Principal Researcher in The Use of Social Media in Peacebuilding: A collaboration between Maseno University, Rongo University, Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Science and Technology, Masinde Muliro

University of Science and Technology, Kibabii  
university and Buildup, California U.S.A

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

**Oct 2003 – To Date:**

Lecturer and Exams and programs Coordinator  
Department of Literary Studies, Maseno University

**2001 to 2005:**

An adjunct lecturer, Department of Languages and  
Literature, University of East Africa, Baraton.

**1996 – 2000:**

Teacher of literature and English, Chemundu  
Secondary. Was Patron of Drama and Debating  
Clubs.

**1994 – 1996:**

Teacher of English and Literature, St. Josephs Girls'  
High School, Chepterit. Was Patron of Drama and  
debating Clubs and also Entertainment Master.

**1993-1994:**

Teacher of English and Literature, Shauri Moyo. was  
Patron, Drama and Debating Clubs

## **HONORS AND AWARDS**

**1991**

Awarded the Evans Brothers Prize for best final year  
Literature student, University of Nairobi

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP**

**2020**

A member of ITAC (International Teaching arts  
Collaboration), an International Association of  
teachers of Arts

**2018 to date**

Member of IMPACCT international (Imagining  
Practise in Arts and Culture in Conflict  
Transformation), an International Association of the  
use of Arts and Culture in Conflict Transformation

**1994 to 2009:**

Member (No 049) of the **Kenya Drama Education  
Association** (K.D.E.A.) the Kenya Chapter of  
**International Drama Education Association**  
(I.D.E.A.) an association of drama teachers and  
practitioners.

**1991 – 1994:**

Member of **Theatre Workshop Productions** (TWP) a  
Nairobi Based theatre group involved in Intervention  
Theatre and Theatre for development

|                     |                                                                                                                                                 |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                     | Initiatives. Involved in the production of <i>Drumbeats on Kerenyaga</i> , a <b>peace and National Cohesion</b> project                         |
| <b>1989 – 1991:</b> | Member of Literature Students Association (L.S.A.) and Free Travelling Theatre (F.T.T.) of the Department of Literature, University of Nairobi. |
| <b>1985 – 1986:</b> | Chairman, Ambira High School Drama Club.                                                                                                        |
| <b>1983-1984</b>    | Chairman, Pumwani Secondary School Swimming Club.                                                                                               |

## SKILLS AND TRAINING

|                     |                                                                                                                                                          |
|---------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>January 2020</b> | Juniata College; Huntingdon, Pennsylvania U.S.A undertook a certificate course in Research in Arts Culture in Conflict transformation and Peace building |
| <b>June 2018</b>    | Juniata College; Huntingdon, Pennsylvania U.S.A undertook a certificate course in Arts and Peace building.                                               |
| <b>July 2014</b>    | College of Insurance, Nairobi. Undertook a two-week Trustee Development Program Course                                                                   |

## LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

|                     |                                                                                                                                      |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>August 2018</b>  | Directed the Maseno-UNESCO <b>Arts, Culture and National Cohesion Project</b>                                                        |
| <b>2017-to date</b> | Art Director, Maseno University-Juniata joint project <b>on Arts, Culture and peace- building</b> project                            |
| <b>2007-to date</b> | Director, Maseno University Traveling Theatre <b>(M.U.T.T)</b> , a project of the department of Literary Studies, Maseno University. |
| <b>2014-2016</b>    | Member, Board of Trustees, Maseno University Retirement Benefits Scheme (MURBS)                                                      |
| <b>1996- 2000:</b>  | <b>Patron, Drama Club, St. Joseph's Girls High School, Chepterit.</b>                                                                |
| <b>1991 – 1994:</b> | Founding Chairman, <b>Juhudi Cultural Troupe</b> , an Amateur estate Self-help and drama group, Nairobi                              |
| <b>1989 – 1991:</b> | Secretary General, <b>Literature Students Association</b> (L.S.A.) University of Nairobi.                                            |

## CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

- May 2012:** Facilitated a PLAN International Workshop on **the Production of Child centered Magazine.**
- June 2009:** Presented a paper, **The Dulce et Utile:Poetry & HIV/AIDS campaign for the orphaned and vulnerable** ,HIV/AIDS symposium, Kisumu Kenya.
- Oct-Dec 2007:** **Facilitated the Theatre/Drama and Health Communication**, an EINERMAP/GOK Global fund on Malaria, TB and HIV/AIDS project for Secondary School dramaTeachers, Sori Kenya
- Jan-Nov 2007** Directed the **Drama/Theatre for peace and national Cohesion project**,a URAIA peace initiative in the run-up to the 2007 General Elections

## PUBLICATIONS

- Kilonzo S, Magak K,and Omwalo Bryson: "*The Influence of Information Technology on the socio-political song in Kenya*".Critical Arts vol 29 Number 4 August 2015  
Routledge (518-536)
- Magak K,and Omwalo Bryson *The Children of Sisyphus:The Somali ethnic identity Factor in Kenya's Peace and Security*.Journal of International Peace and Development vol 12 No 2 Special edition (2014)
- Mwai W and Omwalo Bryson *An Analysis of the Biblical Biography of Jesus Christ*.Maseno University Faculty of Arts and Social Science (MUFASS) journal.Vol 2 No 2 September 2007