

CURRICULUM VITAE

OCEN LAURY LAWRENCE

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Place of Birth: Lira, Northern Uganda; Date of Birth 21/11/1970

Nationality: Ugandan

Current Position: Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Education, Department of Professional Studies

Professional Summary

I am a social scientist, educationist, community outreach professional, cultural historian, and motivational speaker. I am student of classical thought with special interest in Socratic, Platonic, and Aristotelian histories of knowledge. I am community of practice adviser with vast skills in community engagement and outreach. I am a theatre for development consultant, skilful in science communication and diplomacy; I am an actor, drama director, playwright, novelist, essayist, and poet. My current research focuses on indigenous epistemologies, environmental history, environmental justice, quotidian communities, and vernacular intellectuals in the margins of societies. I am interested in how informally trained knowledge experts produce, store, transfer, and disseminate knowledge to determine the sense in which the Academy can relate, partner, or collaborate with such intellectuals often ignored in the Ivory Tower spaces. My research trajectory explores cross, inter, multi, and transdisciplinary perspectives from which knowledge and technology can be created, stored, disseminated and transferred.

University Education

2017: Doctor of Philosophy (Interdisciplinary PhD in Social Studies), Makerere Institute of Social Research (MISR), Makerere University. Dissertation title: “Reading Monuments: the Politics and Poetics of Memory in Postwar Northern Uganda”.

2015: Master of Philosophy, MISR, Makerere University.

2005: Master of Arts (Literature), Makerere University. Dissertation title: *Naratology in African Cinema*.

1995: Bachelor of Arts with Education (Hons.), Islamic University in Uganda (IUIU), English Language Studies (minor) & Literature in English (major).

Current Fellowship and Grant

July 2024-June 2026: “Vernacular Intelligentsia”: Possible Africa Post-Doctoral Fellowship funded by Science for Africa Foundation

Selected Academic and Literary Publications

2025: Film Documentary: “Vernacular Intelligentsia: Battle of Epistemes in Oral Knowledge Communities.

2024: *Caden me Kwo Wa: A Dual Autobiography* co-authored with Okaka Opio Dokotum. Kampala, Lira: Makerere University Press & North Star Publishers.

2010. With James Ocita, and Godman Okonye. *Twa me Ngec* (Lango Treasure Chest), Kampala: Fountain Publishers Ltd.

2023: *Beyond Monuments: The Politics and Poetics of Memory in Post-war Northern Uganda*, AHA/NICE Publications

2019. “Author, Object, and Text: Literary Reading of War Monuments in northern Uganda”, In *Translation Revisited*, Cambridge: Cambridge Scholars Publishing.

2017: “Oral performers and memory of mass violence”, in: *Memory and Genocide. On what Remains and Possibility of Representation*. Eds.; Fazil Moradi, Raph Buchenurst, and Maria Six-Hohenbalken, London and New York: Routledge, Taylor and Francis Group.

2015: “Justice and Peace after War: Conceptual Difficulties in the Discourses of Transition and Reform in Post-war Societies”. *Makerere Institute of Social Research, MISR Working Paper No.* 26 Oct. 2015.