

## Interactive Dynamics and Contexts of Nigerian and German Doctor-Patient-Encounters

*Prof. Dr. Karin Birkner, University of Bayreuth, Germany & Prof. Dr. Akin Odebunmi, University of Ibadan, Nigeria*

*Dr. Alexandra Groß & Franziska Alt (Bayreuth); Amusa Oluwaseun & Adeyehun Boriwaye Oluwatosin (Ibadan)*

The empirical project will investigate doctor/patient-encounters in German and Nigerian outpatient clinics with the methodological approaches of Conversation Analysis (CA) and Discourse Analysis (DA). It will analyze the communicative practices of doctors and patients in biomedical clinical encounters, stemming from two prominently different socio-cultural and economic contexts. The project, therefore, aims to show how contextual features of doctor/patient-encounters in Germany and Nigeria are reflected, constructed and consolidated in the sequential unfolding of the medical consultations.

As an overarching **objective**, the project will develop a methodological framework that combines a micro analytic CA-approach and a (more) macro analytic DA approach, hence benefitting from their respective strengths. The project will explain the differences between German and Nigerian doctor/patient-encounters – investigating if they can be explained by interaction-inherent dynamics or through references to cultural, ideological and socio-economic backgrounds.

In a **first step**, the findings of German and Nigerian doctor-patient-encounters, which the participating researchers have gathered in the past, will be compared, by focusing on four central activities in doctor/patient-encounters: (i) problem presentation, (ii) medical history-taking, (iii) diagnosis, and (iv) treatment discussions. Communalities and differences of the doctor/patient-encounters will be discussed in order to distinguish invariable features. In a **second step**, communalities and differences will be related to the respective contexts of the medical consultations and how these contexts surface as distinctive local practices of biomedicine, different socio-cultural common grounds and medical ideologies.

<i>From Bayreuth</i>	<i>From Ibadan</i>	<i>Further associates</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Markus Bieswanger, English Department, UBT, President of the Society for Applied Linguistics</li> <li>• Members of the Bayreuth Academy of Advanced African Studies</li> <li>• Members of the Cluster of Excellence <i>Africa Multiple</i> at Bayreuth University</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ayobami Kehnde, Head, Department of English, University of Ibadan</li> <li>• Members of the Department of English, University of Ibadan, the Pragmatics Association of Nigeria , Linguistics and African Languages Department</li> <li>• Members of the University of Ibadan Teaching Hospital</li> </ul>	<p>Dr. Eniola Boluwaduro, Redeemers University,</p>