

Kenneth S. Olson

SIL International
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Education

- 2001 Ph.D. (Linguistics), University of Chicago
Dissertation: The phonology and morphology of Mono
Advisor: John Goldsmith
Course work in phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, historical linguistics. Concentration in phonology and phonetics. Chicago Linguistic Society officer, 1997–1998. Co-Coordinator of Workshop on Theory and Data in Speech Research, 1999–2000.
Awards: University of Chicago Century Fellowship, 1995–1999.
- 1991 M.A. (Linguistics), University of Texas at Arlington
Concentration in field methods, discourse, and sociolinguistics.
Awards: Fellowship for the Study of Linguistics, distinguished honor roll.
- 1986 B.S. (Electrical Engineering), North Dakota State University
Awards: Helgason Scholarship, Tau Beta Pi, Eta Kappa Nu (chapter president), Phi Kappa Phi, top student honor, graduated with honors, Dean's list.
- 1984 A.A. (Pre-Engineering), Rochester Community College
Awards: Morris Fenske Award, Lester Fiegel Award, Phi Theta Kappa, graduated with high honors.
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Employment

- 1989–Present SIL International and Wycliffe Bible Translators
Associate International Linguistics Coordinator
Administration of SIL International Linguistics Consultants and Advisors, coordination of linguistics workshops, linguistics consulting, advising software development, referee for SIL linguistics publications.
- Linguist/Translator*
Involved in language development project in the Mono language of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, including linguistic studies, orthography development, literacy materials development, literacy and linguistic training, and Bible translation.
- Instructor*
- *Phonology 2*, University of North Dakota, 2006 (and 1997)
 - *Readings in Historical Linguistics*, University of North Dakota, 2006
 - *Introduction to Phonology*, Northwest Christian College, 2005
 - *Seminar in Applied Linguistics: Tone*, Graduate Institute of Applied Linguistics, Dallas, Texas, 2004

- *Sémantique et Pragmatique*, Faculté de Théologie Évangélique de Bangui, 2004 (and 2002)
 - *Outils informatiques de la traduction*, Faculté de Théologie Évangélique de Bangui, 2004 (and 2002)
 - *Shoebox*, SIL European Training Programme, Horsleys Green, England, 2003
 - *Advanced Phonology*, Northwest Christian College, 2002
 - *Analyse phonologique*, Faculté de Théologie Évangélique de Bangui, 2001
 - *Introduction à la linguistique*, Faculté de Théologie Évangélique de Bangui, 2001
 - *Intermediate Phonology*, University of Oregon, 2000 (and 1999)
 - *Introduction à la phonologie*, Cours d'Introduction à la Linguistique, Lamorlaye, France, 1995
- 1997–1999 University of Chicago
Course Assistant
- LING 306: Phonetics, under the direction of Prof. Karen Landahl, 1997
 - LING 309: Phonology 2, under the direction of Prof. Rob Pensalifini, 1999
- 1986–1989 Mayo Foundation, 1986–1989
Engineer
Developed mathematical algorithms for the prediction of electromagnetic wave front propagation on multiconductor transmission lines and integrated these algorithms into a Computer-Aided Design (CAD) system used to design high-speed digital signal processors. Programming in C and FORTRAN.
- 1985 IBM
Pre-professional Engineer
Quality assurance testing of System 36 and System 38 machines.

Peer-reviewed Publications (Linguistics)

- Olson, Kenneth S. 2004. Mono. (Illustrations of the IPA.) *Journal of the International Phonetic Association* 34(2). 233–238.
- Olson, Kenneth S. 2005. *The phonology of Mono* (SIL International and the University of Texas at Arlington Publications in Linguistics 140). Dallas: SIL & UTA.
- Olson, Kenneth S. 2006. On Niger-Congo classification. In Howard I. Aronson, Donald L. Dyer, Victor A. Friedman, Daniela S. Hristova & Jerrold M. Sadock (eds.), *The Bill question*, 153–190. Bloomington, IN: Slavica.
- Olson, Kenneth S. & John Hajek. 1999. The phonetic status of the labial flap. *Journal of the International Phonetic Association* 29(2). 101–114.
- Olson, Kenneth S. & John Hajek. 2003. Crosslinguistic insights on the labial flap. *Linguistic Typology* 7(2). 157–186.
- Olson, Kenneth S. & John Hajek. 2004. A crosslinguistic lexicon of the labial flap. *Linguistic Discovery* 2(2). 21–57. <http://linguistic-discovery.dartmouth.edu/cgi-bin/WebObjects/Journals.woa/2/xmlpage/1/article/262>. (April, 2004.)
- Olson, Kenneth S., Glenn Machlan & Nelson Amangao. 2008. Minangali (Kalinga) digital wordlist: Presentation form. *Language Documentation & Conservation* 2(1). 141–156. <http://hdl.handle.net/10125/1772>. (July, 2008.)

- Olson, Kenneth S. & Mbakuwuse Tshangbaita. in press. Mono digital wordlist: Presentation form. *Linguistic Discovery*.
- Olson, Kenneth S. & Jacques Vermond Mbomate. 2007. Ngbugu digital wordlist: Presentation form. *Linguistic Discovery* 5(1). 40–47. <http://linguistic-discovery.dartmouth.edu/cgi-bin/WebObjects/Journals.woa/2/xmlpage/1/article/317>. (January, 2008.)
- Olson, Kenneth S. & Jeff Mielke. 2007. Acoustic properties of the Kagayanen vowel space. In Jürgen Trouvain & William J. Barry (eds.), *Proceedings of the 16th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences*, Saarbrücken, Germany, August 6–10, 2007, 845–848. Saarbrücken: University of Saarland.
- Simons, Gary F., Kenneth S. Olson & Paul Frank. 2007. Ngbugu digital wordlist: A test case for best practices in archiving and presenting language documentation. *Linguistic Discovery* 5(1). 28–39. <http://linguistic-discovery.dartmouth.edu/cgi-bin/WebObjects/Journals.woa/2/xmlpage/1/article/314>. (January, 2008.)
- Soderberg, Craig D. & Kenneth S. Olson. 2008. Indonesian. (Illustrations of the IPA.) *Journal of the International Phonetic Association* 38(1). 209–213.
- Williamson, Kay & Kenneth S. Olson. 2007. Languages: Niger-Congo. In John Middleton & Joseph C. Miller (eds.), *New Encyclopedia of Africa*, Volume 3, 231–233. Farmington Hills, MI: Charles Scribner's Sons.

Peer-reviewed Publications (Electrical Engineering)

- Gilbert, Barry K., Daniel J. Schwab & Kenneth S. Olson. 1987. Packaging and Interconnection Issues for High Clock Rate GaAs Digital Integrated Circuits. *Proceedings of the 1987 VHSIC Packaging Conference*, Houston, Texas, April 21–22, 1987, 219–228.
- Olson, Kenneth S., Gwang-Wen Pan & Barry K. Gilbert. 1987. Comments on transient analysis of single and coupled lines with capacitively-loaded junctions. *IEEE Transactions on Microwave Theory and Techniques* 35. 929–930.
- Pan, Gwang-Wen, Kenneth S. Olson & Barry K. Gilbert. 1989. Improved algorithmic methods for the prediction of wavefront propagation behavior in multiconductor transmission lines for high frequency digital signal processors. *IEEE Transactions on Computer-Aided Design* 8. 608–621.
- Pan, Gwang-Wen, Kenneth S. Olson, and Barry K. Gilbert. 1991. Frequency-domain solution for coupled striplines with crossing strips. *IEEE Transactions on Microwave Theory and Techniques* 39(6). 1013–1017.

Other Publications

- Boone, Douglas W. & Kenneth S. Olson. 2004. Bwa bloc survey report. *SIL Electronic Survey Reports* 2004–013. Dallas: SIL. <http://www.sil.org/silesr/2004/silesr2004-013.pdf>. (12 October, 2004.)
- Dainora, Audra, Rachel Hemphill, Yukari Hirata & Kenneth Olson. 1996. Effects of context and speaking rate on liquid-stop sequences: A reassessment of traditional acoustic cues. *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America* 100(4). 2601. <http://link.aip.org/link/?JASMAN/100/2601/1>. (26 September, 2007.)
- Darden, Bill & Kenneth S. Olson. 1999. On the question of the relevance of family trees in comparative reconstruction. *Chicago Linguistic Society (CLS)* 35(2). 311–321.
- Gruber, M. Catherine, Derrick Higgins, Kenneth S. Olson & Tamra Wysocki (eds.). 1998. *CLS 34: The Main Session*. Chicago: Chicago Linguistic Society.

- Gruber, M. Catherine, Derrick Higgins, Kenneth S. Olson & Tamra Wysocki (eds.). 1998. *CLS 34: The Panels*. Chicago: Chicago Linguistic Society.
- Machlan, Glenn & Kenneth S. Olson. 2008. Minangali (Kalinga) digital wordlist: Archival form. SIL-LCA-50319. SIL Language and Culture Archives, Dallas, Texas.
- Olson, Kenneth S. 1996. On the comparison and classification of Banda dialects. *Chicago Linguistic Society (CLS)* 32(1). 267–283.
- Olson, Kenneth S. 2000. The phonetic status of the labial flap. *The Native Speaker* 4(1). 5–6.
- Olson, Kenneth S. 2001. The phonology and morphology of Mono. Chicago: University of Chicago dissertation.
- Olson, Kenneth S. 2004. An evaluation of Niger-Congo classification. *SIL Electronic Working Papers* 2004–005. Dallas: SIL. <http://www.sil.org/silewp/2004/silewp2004-005.pdf>. (12 October, 2004.) [Workpaper version of Olson (2006).]
- Olson, Kenneth S. 2006. Ngbugu digital wordlist: Archival form. SIL-LCA-47050. SIL Language and Culture Archives, Dallas, Texas.
- Olson, Kenneth S. 2008. Mono digital wordlist: Archival form. SIL-LCA-50695. SIL Language and Culture Archives, Dallas, Texas.
- Olson, Kenneth S. & John Hajek. 2001. The geographic and genetic distribution of the labial flap. *SIL Electronic Working Papers* 2001–002. Dallas: SIL. <http://www.sil.org/silewp/2001/002/SILEWP2001-002.pdf>. (27 November, 2001.)
- Olson, Kenneth S. & Jeff Mielke. 2008. Acoustic properties of the interdental approximant in Kagayanen. *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America* 123(5). 3460.
- Olson, Kenneth S. & Brian E. Schrag. 2000. An overview of Mono phonology. In H. Ekkehard Wolff & Orin Gensler (eds.), *Proceedings from the 2nd World Congress of African Linguistics, Leipzig 1997*, 393–409. Cologne: Rüdiger Köppe.
- Olson, Kenneth S. & Paul H. Schultz. 2002. Can [sonorant] spread? *Work Papers of the Summer Institute of Linguistics, University of North Dakota Session* 46. <http://www.und.edu/dept/linguistics/wp/2002.htm>.

Presentations

- *Acoustic properties of the interdental approximant in Kagayanen*. Paper (co-authored with Jeff Mielke) presented at Acoustics '08 (the 155th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America), 29 June–4 July 2008, Paris.
- *Mono digital wordlist*. Paper presented at the 39th Annual Conference on African Linguistics, April 2008, Athens, Georgia.
- *Acoustic properties of the labial flap*. Paper presented at the 39th Annual Conference on African Linguistics, April 2007, Gainesville, Florida.
- *Articulation of the Kagayanen interdental approximant: An ultrasound study*. Paper (co-authored with Jeff Mielke) presented at the Linguistic Society of America annual meeting, January 2007, Anaheim, California.
- *SIL International: An insider's view*. Paper presented at the Linguistic Society of America annual meeting, January 2007, Anaheim, California.
- *A different type of approximant*. Paper presented at the Linguistic Society of America annual meeting, January 2006, Albuquerque.
- *Tone shift in Lobala*. Paper (co-authored with David Morgan) presented at the 36th Annual Conference on African Linguistics, April 2005, Savannah, Georgia.
- *Ngbugu digital wordlist: Archival and accessible documentation*. Paper (co-authored with Gary Simons) presented at the Fourth International Conference on African

Languages, November 2004, University of Maryland Eastern Shore, Ocean City and Princess Anne, Maryland.

- *Acoustic correlates of the labial flap*. Paper presented at the Linguistic Society of America annual meeting, January 2004, Boston.
- *Word minimality and non-surface-apparent opacity in Mono*. Paper presented at the Fourth World Congress of African Linguistics, June 2003, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey.
- *Can [sonorant] spread?* Paper (co-authored with Paul Schultz) presented at the Linguistic Society of America annual meeting, January 2001, Washington, DC.
- *Languages in which the labial flap is attested*. Paper presented at the 31st Annual Conference on African Linguistics, March 2000, Boston University, Boston.
- *The phonetic status of the labial flap*. Paper (co-authored with John Hajek) presented at the Linguistic Society of America annual meeting, January 2000, Chicago.
- *On the question of the relevance of family trees in comparative reconstruction*. Paper presented with Bill Darden at the 35th Regional Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society, April 1999, Chicago.
- *An overview of Mono phonology*. Paper (co-authored with Brian Schrag) presented at the Second World Congress on African Linguistics, July/August 1997, Leipzig.
- *On the comparison and classification of Banda dialects*. Paper presented at the 32nd Regional Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society, April 1996, Chicago.

Thesis Committees

- Kendall Mark Isaac, *Participant reference in Tunen narrative discourse*, Graduate Institute of Applied Linguistics M. A. thesis, December 2007.
- Christine A. Keating, *A cross-linguistic overview of bilabial trills*, Graduate Institute of Applied Linguistics M. A. thesis, December 2007 (chair).
- Bradley D. Festen, *Verbal tone in Mpyemo*, University of North Dakota M. A. thesis, December 2008.

Honors

- Referee for the *Journal of the International Phonetic Association*.
- Interviewed on National Public Radio's *Weekend Edition with Scott Simon*, August 12, 2006: "For the Aymara, Future is Then".
- Quoted in *New York Times*, December 13, 2005: *With sound from Africa, the phonetic alphabet expands*, by Michael Erard.
- Interviewed on Canadian Broadcasting Company's *As It Happens*, December 13, 2005.
- Interviewed on National Public Radio's *Weekend Edition with Scott Simon*, December 17, 2005: "Linguist Wins Symbolic Victory for 'Labiodental Flap'".

Languages

- French
- German (reading ability)
- Lingala
- Mono (Democratic Republic of the Congo)