


# Daystar University Staff Profile Template

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<b>1. Name:</b>	<p><i>Levi Obonyo</i> <i>Dean, School of Communication</i> <i>Coordinator, PhD in Communication</i> <i>Associate Professor of Media and Communication</i></p>
<b>2. Passport photo:</b>	
<b>3. Job Title and Responsibilities:</b>	<p><i>Dean, School of Communication &amp; Coordinator, PhD in Communication Program.</i> <i>Overseeing the academic programs in the School</i> <i>Teaching primarily Theories of Communication and Media, Media Studies among others at the graduate level</i></p>
<b>4. Biography (About Me):</b>	<p>I hold a PhD in Communication and Media Studies from Temple University in Philadelphia, USA. Prior to that I completed a postgraduate Diploma in Tertiary Education at Potchefstroomse Universiteit vir Christelike hoer Onderwys, MA in Communication from Wheaton Graduate School and BA in Communication from Messiah College. I have since taken several professional courses. I have extensive experience in communication and media practice, strategy and policy formulation, a field where I have worked for many years and can seamlessly combine the practice and theory of communication and media. I continue to engage in policy formulation and enforcement in the media sector in Kenya.</p> <p>I convened and chaired, on behalf of the Church in Kenya, the 2013 deputy presidential and presidential debates that interrogated, among others, the values and integrity of the leaders contesting for the nation's top offices. In 2011 I served in a constitutional panel convened by the President of the Republic of Kenya to interview the Chair and Members of the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission of Kenya.</p>

	<p>I am a past Chairman of the Media Council of Kenya and a former member of Communication Appeals Tribunal. Currently, I am a member of the Board of the Communications Authority of Kenya.</p> <p>I started my career as a newspaper and magazine reporter and editor. But for the last two decades I have taught and practiced communication at University level culminating in my current position as Dean, School of Communication. Previously I headed the Department of Communication during which period the Department achieved recognition by UNESCO as a Center of Reference in Media and Communication studies in Africa. Part of my responsibilities have included mobilizing resources for the department, engaging in collaboration with other institutions, and facilitating participation of members of the department in international conferences. Over the last several years the Department and the School has successfully hosted annual communication conferences since 2008. I have co-authored a book, <i>Journalists and the rule of law</i> and published research papers in international journals. I am currently a columnist for the <i>People</i> newspaper.</p> <p>I have chaired the Board of Life Ministry, Kenya and have been a member of several Boards including the Board of a media organization, Africa Means Business and of Transworld Radio. I am a member of the International Communication Association (ICA), the International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR), the World Association for Christian Communication (WACC), the International Peace Research Association (IPRA), and of Orbicom, and for sometime was a member of the National Communication Association (NCA). I am the current Vice President of Global Communication Research Association (GCRA). I have made presentations on various topics in many international and local conferences and have been a visiting Speaker of the Month at University of South Africa, and a keynote speaker at the University of Botswana. I am a founding member and former President of the East African Communication Association that brings together scholars of media and communication studies in East African.</p>			
<b>5. Academic Qualifications:</b>	<b>Academic Qualification</b>	<b>Year of Award</b>	<b>Institution</b>	<b>Thesis Title</b>
	PhD Media and Communication	2005	Temple	The History of Cartooning in Kenya
	PGDE	1996	PU vir CHO	
	MA in Communication	1994	Wheaton	Men Without Chests
	BA in Communication	1990	Messiah	
<b>6. Research Interests:</b>	<p><b><i>Media History, Media Policy, the Economy of the Media</i></b></p> <p>2019 – 2021: Constructive Journalism and Social Development</p>			

	<p>2019 The Case for Advertising Code in Kenya  2015 – 2018: World Journalism Study  2014 Media Regulation in East Africa  2009: Nubians in Kenya and the Right of Expression</p>
<p><b>7. Publications:</b></p>	<p><b><u>Book</u></b></p> <p>Obonyo, L. &amp; Erneo Nyakundi. (2011). <i>Journalists and the rule of law</i>. Nairobi: ICJ</p> <p><b><u>Book Chapters</u></b></p> <p>Play Theory and Public Media: A Case Study in Kenya Editorial Cartoons, in Fortner, R. S. and Fackler, M. <i>The Handbook of Media and Mass Communication Theory</i>, NY: Wiley-Blackwell, April 2014, pp.726-740.</p> <p>Challenges facing the Media, in <i>Kenya National Dialogue and Reconciliation: Building a Progressive Kenya</i>. Nairobi: Kofi Anan Foundation, December 2011</p> <p>Development of Media in Kenya, chapter in <i>Thinking, informing and monitoring change program in Kenya</i>. Nairobi: SID.</p> <p>Media and Post Election Violence in Kenya, in Fortner, R. S. and Fackler, M. <i>The handbook of global communication and media ethics</i>. NY: Wiley-Blackwell, April 2011.</p> <p>Thinking scholarship: A reflection on faith and integration. In Kuria, Mike (ed.). <i>Integrating Faith and Learning: Interdisciplinary Perspectives</i>. Nairobi: Daystar University, 2007: pp: 92-99.</p> <p>Journalism and communication education in Africa. In Chitty, Naren (ed.). <i>Faces of globalization</i>, Varnasi, India: Genga Kaveri Publishing House, 2003.</p> <p>Kenya. In <i>World press encyclopaedia: A survey of press systems worldwide</i> Vol.1 (2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.). Detroit: Gale: 2003: pp. 529-539.</p> <p>Philosophy education in varsity curriculum: The Case of Daystar University. In B.J. van der Walt &amp; Rita Swanepoel (Eds.), <i>Signposts Vol. 1</i>. Potchefstroom: IRS, 1998.</p> <p><b><u>Articles Published</u></b></p> <p>Njoroge, C. &amp; Obonyo, L. (2017). Influence of PR Strategies on the success of CEO's image in selected organizations in Kenya. <i>International Journal of Communication and Public Relations</i> 2(1): 46-66.</p> <p>Obonyo, L. &amp; Owilla, H. (2017). Journalists in Kenya. In Worlds of Journalism Study. In <a href="https://epub.ub.uni-muenchen.de/36375/1/Country_report_Kenya.pdf">https://epub.ub.uni-muenchen.de/36375/1/Country_report_Kenya.pdf</a> (Accessed 2017-04-19)</p> <p>Obonyo, L. (2012) Media Regulation in Emerging Democracies: The Example of Kenya's Hybrid Model. In <i>African Communication Research</i>, 5(2): 139-160.</p>

	<p>Obonyo, L. (2011). Talking Health: HIV/Aids in Kenyan “toons”. In <i>African Communication Research</i>, 4(2): 343-368.</p> <p>Obonyo, L. (2011) Towards a theory of communication for Africa: The challenges of emerging democracies. In <i>Communicatio</i>. 37(1): 1-20.</p> <p>Book Review: Media legislation in Africa: A comparative legal survey by Guy Berger. In <i>Journal of African Media Studies</i>. 2010: 2(2): 255 – 258.</p> <p>Peace Journalism Training in East Africa. In <i>Media Development</i>. 2010: (3):</p> <p>From Cheerleader to watchdog – and plenty more in between. In <i>The Media Observer</i>. May 2010: 10 – 14.</p> <p>Book Review: 50 years of journalism: African media since Ghana’s independence by Elizabeth Barratt and Guy Berger (eds.). In <i>Journal of African Media Studies</i>. 2009: 1(2): 330 – 332.</p> <p>Cartooning in Kenya: Past, present, and future. In <i>International Journal of Comic Art</i>. Spring 2004. 6(1): 96 – 116.</p> <p>Rethinking news values. In <i>Instituut vir Reformatoriese Studie Potchefstroom: PU for CHE</i>, 1996.</p> <p>Universities in Africa: The need for change” with Munyaradzi, M. &amp; Iornengen, K. In <i>Didacticom</i>, 1995.</p> <p><b><u>Keynote Presentations</u></b></p> <p><b>August 2018</b> Keynote speaker at the annual East African Communication Association conference at Light University in Bujumbura, Burundi</p> <p><b>July 2012</b> Keynote speaker at the Biennial communication scholars conference at the University of Botswana</p> <p><b>Nov 16, 2009:</b> Post election violence and media intervention in Kenya, Lecture delivered at Calvin College, Grand Rapids, Michigan</p> <p><b>Oct 21, 2009:</b> African Visiting Scholar of the Month, Africa Speaks Lecture Series, Department of Communication Sciences, University of South Africa, Pretoria, SA.</p>
<p><b>8. Classes you teach:</b></p>	<p><b><i>Communication Theory,</i></b>  <b><i>Media Theory,</i></b>  <b><i>Management Communication,</i></b>  <b><i>Communication Ethics</i></b>  <b><i>Media Studies</i></b></p>

<b>9. Other relevant links:</b>	
<b>10. Official Contact Details:</b>	<i>Type your Official Contact Details here:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Email: lobonyo@daystar.ac.ke</li><li>• Telephone number(s) 073908005</li><li>• Social Media details: @obonyolevi</li></ul>