

CHARLES MPHANDE

Associate Professor

Victoria University, Melbourne, Australia

1. Academic Leadership

- Associate Professor in Community & International Development at Victoria University. Former Senior Lecturer and Lecturer in the same institution.
- Active in postgraduate supervision and academic editing. Served on the Executive Committee of the Development Studies Association of Australia (DSAA).
- Consultant for English Language/ESOL and Communication in Victoria University's Language Across the Curriculum Grant (2006–2007).
- Contributed to the problem-based learning (PBL) program in engineering, conducting discourse analysis of student reports and reflective journals to support learner retention.

2. Specialized Expertise

- Earned his Bachelor of Education (First Class Honours) in 1993 and an earlier Bachelor of Education in 1983, both from the University of Malawi, establishing his strong grounding in pedagogy and educational leadership.
- He further advanced his specialization with a Master of Arts in Applied Linguistics from the University of Warwick in the United Kingdom in 1997, which deepened his expertise in language, discourse, and communication.
- His scholarly journey culminated in a PhD in Applied Linguistics from Victoria University, Australia in 2006, where he focused on discourse analysis and communication in development contexts.
- Complementing these degrees, he also obtained a Graduate Certificate in Higher Education Teaching from Victoria University in 2008, equipping him with advanced skills in curriculum design and learner-centered pedagogy.
- Educator, communication for development specialist, and applied linguist.
- Research interests include international community development, human global mobility, diaspora studies, discourse in development, network analysis among emerging communities, and knowledge democracy movements.

3. International Representation

- Extensive experience working with civil society organizations overseas in long-term development and social mobilization, particularly in girls' education and health.
- Commissioned evaluator of national development programs funded by the World Bank, with focus on information, education, and communication (IEC) functions.

4. Research Productivity & Editorial Works

- Established a strong record of scholarly productivity in the fields of international development, applied linguistics, and communication for development. His research spans diverse areas such as diaspora studies, discourse in development contexts, and knowledge democracy movements, reflecting both theoretical depth and practical engagement. He has contributed to advancing discourse analysis in problem-based learning (PBL) environments, particularly in engineering education, where his work has helped identify student learning progress and challenges.
- Plays an active role in academic publishing and peer review. He serves as an academic editor of The Asian English for Specific Purposes Journal and regularly reviews manuscripts for journals in the social sciences and language studies. His editorial expertise ensures the quality and rigor of scholarly outputs, while his peer review work supports the advancement of interdisciplinary research. He has also been recognized with awards for excellence in research and research training, underscoring his commitment to both knowledge creation and mentoring the next generation of scholars.
- His editorial and research activities are complemented by his engagement with professional associations such as Engagement Australia and the Development Studies Association of Australia (DSAA), where he has contributed to shaping scholarly and sectoral conversations on development, education, and social economy.

6. Engagement in Policy & Practice

- Has been actively engaged in shaping policy and practice within the fields of international development, education, and applied linguistics. His involvement extends beyond academia into civil society and professional associations, where he has contributed to advancing knowledge democracy and the social economy, particularly in relation to the Global South. Through his work with grassroots organizations and multilateral bodies, he has influenced development strategies that prioritize community participation, gender equity, and sustainable education initiatives.
- He has played a significant role in the Development Studies Association of Australia (DSAA), serving on its Executive Committee during its formative years, where he helped establish frameworks for scholarly collaboration and policy dialogue. His participation in Engagement Australia further reflects his commitment to bridging academic research with community engagement, ensuring that higher education institutions contribute meaningfully to social development.
- His policy engagement is complemented by his practical experience in evaluating national development programs funded by the World Bank, with a particular focus on information, education, and communication (IEC) functions. These evaluations not only informed program effectiveness but also provided evidence-based recommendations for improving communication strategies in large-scale development initiatives. His contributions demonstrate

a consistent effort to integrate research, practice, and policy, reinforcing his role as both a scholar and practitioner in international development.