Josef Schmied has held the Chair of English Language & Linguistics at Chemnitz University of Technology since April 1993. His main research interests are in language and culture (sociolinguistics, English in Africa and SE Asia, Academic English) and in language and computers (corpus-linguistics, e-learning, www English and Wiki+). He has been active in the ICE (International Corpus of English) and ESSE (European Society for the Study of English) networks. His current research projects focus on credibility in the language of digital agents within a Special Research Programme on "Hybrid Societies", the use of digital internet data in linguistic analysis, disciplinary conventions of academic writing, and national and subnational variation of Englishes in Africa and China. He is currently on sabbatical as a Guest Professor at Modena University.