

## **Editorial: Inaugural Issue of FUNAI Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences**

We are delighted to present the inaugural issue of FUNAI Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences (FJHSS). The call for papers for this inaugural issue attracted sixty manuscripts. Following the Journal's editorial processes, each manuscript was read by the editorial team to assess relevance to the aims of the journal, breadth of interest and potential impact, after which suitable manuscripts were forwarded to reviewers for reviews. During this preliminary review by the editorial team, a significant number of the manuscripts were judged to be below FJHSS standard and had to be dropped. The promising manuscripts underwent up to three rounds of revision before eventual acceptance or rejection.

Although FJHSS editorial approach is rigorous, there is an emphasis on providing developmental reviews to authors, so that the Journal makes an important contribution to the development of academic talent. Hence, when we see manuscripts with potential success, we work with authors to realise this potential. This can be an arduous process and its success in every instance cannot be guaranteed. However, it is, in our judgment, the best way to develop good quality manuscripts and contribute to meaningful production of knowledge. The eight articles appearing in this maiden issue are among the best of the sixty manuscripts submitted for consideration. The other few accepted manuscripts will be published in subsequent issues of the Journal. The eight articles in this maiden issue are grouped into two sections (Social Sciences section and Humanities section). There are four articles under the social sciences and humanities section respectively. These eight papers generate new and exciting insights and have provided pointers at new areas of research on the subjects addressed. We believe the papers have set the stage for what would become a stimulating forum for discussions of innovative work.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to the associate editors, Kelvin Nwogu, Philip Omoke, Gloria Emezue, Benedette Okezie, Donatus Ajaegbo, Smart Otu, Emenike Anyaegbunam and Onyebuchi Chima for their dedication, commitment and tireless work on behalf of the Journal. The members of the Editorial Advisory Board -Austin Chukwu, Emeka Nwabueze, John Otu and Okanalawon Adediji - were extremely helpful in providing input and guidance into the editorial strategy of the journal and we are grateful for their commitment and contribution. We would like to also express our gratitude to the numerous anonymous reviewers who provided their time and expertise to review manuscripts for this maiden issue and who provided feedback to aspiring authors. Publication of this maiden issue would not have been possible without their critical, timely, and highly-constructive reviews. We are also grateful to the editorial assistant, Nelson Nkwor for his hard work and attention to detail.

We recognise the crucial role authors play in shaping a journal's content, quality, and impact and our thanks go to all the contributors (of both the selected and unselected manuscripts) for responding to the call for papers and for their patience throughout the review process. For the scholars whose work were not accepted for publication, we hope that the feedback from the reviewers will help in the development of your work, as it is our intention at FJHSS that the

review process be constructive and developmental for all authors regardless of the outcome. We hope that you will continue to consider FJHSS as a potential publication outlet.

Moving forward, in order to encourage submission of high quality scholarly work to the journal, the Editorial Board proposes to demystify academic publishing among early career scholars by organising periodic capacity building workshops on academic publishing. The workshop will be aimed at prospective contributors to the journal (authors) who have yet to publish papers in top tier journals, for whom writing academic paper is a daunting task. The workshop will be coordinated by the Editorial Board of FJHSS and academics with established experience of publishing in high quality journals. The information about this workshop will be advertised in the journal website in due course. The Journal will also be seeking an impact factor as early as possible, working in line with the Journal Citation Reports' normal procedure. We aim to be included in the major indexing services (e.g., Thomson Reuters, Social Science Research Network, and SCOPUS).

Finally, our goal is to make FJHSS the best Humanities and Social Sciences journal published in Nigeria. We invite and encourage authors from different parts of the world to submit their best work to the journal, and to help us advance the humanities and social sciences field through the publication of new and innovative ideas and rigorously conducted empirical research with theoretical and applied relevance. Submission of a manuscript to the journal also carries an implicit *quid pro quo*: willingness to review for FJHSS. Authors who submit manuscripts to FJHSS for review are expected to reciprocate by reviewing for FJHSS if called upon to do so. Thank you all for your help and support in launching this exciting new journal! We are confident that you will enjoy reading papers published in this maiden issue and subsequent issues. Happy reading!

**Lucy Ekwueme and Afam Icha-Ituma**  
Editor-in-Chief and Managing Editor