

Editorial – Farewell and welcome message from the outgoing Editor

2018 saw me succeed my friend and co-founder of the African Accounting and Finance Association, Prof. Jane Ande, a well-known careers scholar, as Editor-in-Chief of the AAFJ. I published the Journal's Vol. 2, No. 1 Special edition a year later. Vol. 4 Special Issue on “Methodological Issues in African Accounting Research: Towards Alternative Theories and Methods” was published in 2022 after Vol. 3 was published in 2021. With great pleasure, I now present Volume 5 of the Journal. The editorial board put a lot of effort into raising the journal's prominence, particularly after the special issue was released in 2022.

Being AAFJ's Editor-in-Chief has been an honour and a high point of my career. Even though I have enjoyed my work for the Journal, I have decided to step down as its Editor-in-Chief after nearly five years of service and due to exigencies, that come with being President of the African Accounting and Finance Association (AAFA) President.

In light of this, allow me to officially announce Professor Collins Ntim as the next Editor of the African Accounting and Finance Journal (AAFJ). Collins has over 20 years of international experience in higher education teaching, research, leadership, and administration. He is a passionate accounting academic and a professionally trained chartered accountant (CPA). He has held several high-level positions, including Associate Dean, Head of Department (Chair), and Deputy Head of Southampton Business School (Dean). He has published over 100 outputs in the process, of which more than 70% have appeared in the top FT 50, ABS 4*/3*, and ABDC A*/A Journals around AFG topics. His research focuses on how Accounting, Finance, and Governance (AFG) can drive Development and Sustainability around the world, especially the developing world (e.g., China, Sub Sahara Africa, Middle East and North Africa). His publications have been widely cited by academics and the popular global media. We have every reason to believe that Professor Ntim will elevate the African Accounting and Finance Journal. Once again welcome, Professor Ntim!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of my friends and colleagues who have served as associate editors and editorial advisory board members for their contributions to the Journal. The editorial team members contributed their time and skills to assist authors in publishing strong articles, which was a major factor in the journal's success. Along with Trevor Hopper, Charles Cho, Musa Mangena, Twaha Kaawaase, Irene Nalukenge, Kelum Jayasinghe, Teerooven Soobaroyen, Philippe Lassou, Chandana Alawattage, Danture Wickramasinghe, Wafa Khlif, Sami El Omari, Olayinka Moses, Collins G. Ntim, Nelson Waweru, Mumbi Maria Wachira, Pawan Adhikari, J.C. Munene and of course many others of their ilk, I would also like to thank the esteemed scholars who have published in AAFJ. Furthermore, I would like to express my gratitude to the senior editorial board members, including Professors Mathew Tsamenyi and Venancio Taurigana, for their insightful advice.

I have offered to stay involved with the editorial team in whatever role the new editorial board sees fit. On behalf of the current and outgoing editorial team I extend my best wishes to the AAFJ and look forward to its ongoing success.

Professor Stephen Korutaro Nkundabanyanga, PhD.