



Call for submission of papers for the
Journal of Student Affairs in Africa (JSAA),
 Vol. 6 (2018):

**“Space, language and identity politics in
 21st century higher education”**

Guest editors: Philippa Tumubweinee and Munene Mwaniki

As a way of introducing the theme to be tackled in the first 2018 guest-edited issue of the *Journal of Student Affairs in Africa*, it is worthwhile to pose a question, albeit a rhetorical one: Why would a journal dedicated to theoretical, practice-relevant, and reflective contributions from across the scholarly and professional field of Student Affairs entertain a special edition on space, language and identity politics in higher education?

The short answer would be: everything. The long answer to this question, however, is to be found in an exposition by Benedict Anderson in *Imagined Communities* (2006). In Anderson’s view, *style* has the potential of producing further assumptions about *space* and *time*. ‘Style’ in this case would refer to *JSAA* which, in the Student Affairs terrain and discourses in Africa, has provided the intellectual and technical means for representing the kind of imagined community that is the Student Affairs fraternity on the continent – fraternity which comes with its largesse and baggage in the form of the scope of *JSAA*.

It is instructive that the ‘representation’ under reference occurs primarily through the medium of a code i.e. *language*. In the imagined community created by *JSAA* – which existentially approximates the Student Affairs terrain in Africa and even beyond – the multitude of actors are nonetheless bounded by *space* and *time*. They are connected by the same encircled, fixed landscape within which they all simultaneously exist. In following this logic through, the commonalities of code and simultaneities of space and time exemplified by *JSAA* are at the heart of the ways in which actors in the Student Affairs fraternity on the continent, and possibly beyond, consider themselves part of a community, and therefore strive to build an *identity* informed by the fraternity’s imaginary.

By design therefore, this guest-edited issue will address itself to the **politics of space, language and identity in higher education**, in Africa and globally. The contributions in the guest-edited issue will singularly and collectively grapple with the nuances attendant to the intersections amongst space, language and identity in higher education.

Key topics to be pursued in this issue include:

- Higher education spaces and the politics of space in higher education
- Space and identity, symbols and signs in the post-colonial university
- Politics of identity: student protests, language, institutional culture

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- Institutional policies and their impact on (the politics of) practice (e.g. language policies)
 - Social cohesion, diversity and citizenship
 - Intersections of language, curriculum, educational access and transformation
 - Curriculum, decolonisation, and epistemic injustices | freedoms
 - Student experience, student identity, and student politics of diverse student groups (e.g. LGBTIQ+ students).

JSAA is an independent, peer-reviewed, multi-disciplinary, open access academic journal that publishes scholarly research and reflective discussions about the theory and practice of Student Affairs in Africa. *JSAA* is published twice a year by the *JSAA* Editorial Executive in collaboration with Stellenbosch University and African Sun Media.

The journal is indexed in international indices and available full-text open access from ERIC, DOAJ, AJOL as well as on its own website hosted with Stellenbosch University. Since 2017, *JSAA* has been accredited by the South African Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) as a subsidy-earning journal on the SA list of scholarly journals. Authors publish free of charge; there are no processing or page fees.

Submission Process and Important Dates

Manuscripts due: 30 September 2017 (or by arrangement with the guest editors)

Envisaged publication date: March 2018

Please submit abstracts to the guest editors for guidance or contact them for further information:

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Please submit final manuscripts by email to Ms Philippa Tumubweinee.

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JSAA: Submission Preparation Checklist – please see online at www.jsaa.ac.za