

We are proud to introduce this historic issue of *Ufahamu*. After nearly 40 years of print publication, *Ufahamu* is now available exclusively online and free of charge. In keeping with the spirit of the founding goals of the journal as a space for marginalized writers, *Ufahamu* is now also more accessible to marginalized readers. Utilizing the tools of the virtual age, we hope that this new era of improved access will usher in a new era of increased dialogue and enriched scholarship for Africanists around the world.

While our own digital transformation indexes significant global trends in publishing, the content of this issue mirrors a similar historical transformation in development on the Continent. Featured articles discuss the challenges and prospects in urban development, rural development, education, and art with reference to colonial influences and the effects of globalization.

UCLA's own Michael Bulfin, in "Bursting at the Seams: Water Access and Housing in Luanda," considers the historical roots of current challenges in clean water and formal housing provision in Luanda, Angola. While Bulfin cites increasing urbanization and migration as forces the city's colonial infrastructure is unprepared to accommodate, he also considers current efforts and shortfalls of the government and NGOs to improve water and housing access.

Also employing an historical analysis, Cris Chogugudza's "Social Work Education, Training, and Employment in Africa: The Case of Zimbabwe" critically examines the colonial influences on the social work system and training in Zimbabwe, salient changes instituted post-independence, as well as the impact of emigration and globalization on social work employment.

Nicholas Makana in "Peasant Response to Agricultural Innovations: Land Consolidation, Agrarian Diversification and Technical Change" responds to a long-held view that African peasants are static and inflexible regarding agrarian innovations. Makana chronicles the interplay between state agricultural policies and peasant responses in the Bungoma district in Kenya and argues that appropriate state policies that account for peasant economic interests can help facilitate effective rural development.

The final article represents a shift for *Ufahamu* in that it includes both the French transcription and English translation of an interview. "The Global Perspectives of her Art," written and translated by Heather Brady, James Bukari, and Dan Bansley, documents an interview with Véronique Tadjó conducted by students and faculty at Monmouth College. Following an introduction of her life and work, Tadjó discusses the pedagogical value of traveling, her experience of acculturation, the influence of her African roots on her perspective and artistry, as well as the challenges of creating art in multiple genres.

We conclude with several books reviews—an area we hope to expand in coming issues. Emad Mirmotahari offers two separate reviews. The first, *The Beautiful Things that Heaven Bears*, by Dinaw Mengistu, details the life of a young Ethiopian refugee as he adjusts to living in Washington, D.C. after fleeing the Red Terror. *Amina*, by Mohammed Umar, focuses on the dual role of Islam as a source of both regression and progress. Jevdet Rexhepi reviews José Cossa's *Power, Politics, and Higher Education in Southern Africa: International Regimes, Local Governments, and Educational Autonomy*, which takes a look at the manifestations of power in the relationship between

international donors and institutions of higher education in Africa.

The content of this issue underscores *Ufahamu's* continued commitment to publish relevant scholarship for African Studies and related fields, embracing both the scholar and practitioner. We appreciate the support of all our readers and hope the content and new format of *Ufahamu* inspire further reflection and critical responses to issues on the Continent.