NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

he University of Johannesburg acquired The Thinker in April 2019 from Dr Essop Pahad. Over the last decade, The Thinker has gained a reputation as a journal that

Frenkel, as the incoming editor, plans on maintaining the pan-African scope of the journal while increasing its coverage

The Thinker is a 'hybrid' journal, publishing both journalistic pieces with more academic articles and contributors can now opt to have their submissions peer reviewed. We welcome Africa-centred articles from diverse perspectives, in order to enrich both knowledge of the continent and of issues impacting the continent.



Prof Ronit Frenkel

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS EDITION - All contributing analysts write in their personal capacity

Abeiide Ade-Ibiiola holds a PhD in Computer Science (Artificial Intelligence) from the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa. He is currently an Associate Professor of Artificial Intelligence and Applications in the Department of Applied Information Systems at the University of Johannesburg, and the Founder/Lead of the Research Cluster on Formal Structures, Algorithms, and Industrial Applications. Abejide is NRF-Rated and mainly interested in Problems and Algorithms in Al, Innovations for driving the 4th Industrial Revolution, the Applications of Formal Grammars (String or Picture grammars) in the Synthesis of Things, Programs (Analysis, Comprehension, and/or Synthesis). Special-purpose Compilers, and Theoretical Computing. In his 11 years of experience in academia and the software industry, he has left a trail of 90+ awards, 50+ publications, and an incredible record of top-notch delivery of algorithmic solutions. Abejide is the recipient of the UJ CBE Dean's Top Senior Lecturer Award 2018, SA Department of Public Service (DPSA) Ignite Hack Innovation Award 2018, the UJ Vice-Chancellor's Distinguished Award for the Innovation of the Year 2019, SA Department of Communications Living 4IR Hackathon Overall Best Innovation of 2019, and Two SA State IT Agency (SITA) Public Service Innovation Awards of 2019.

Tapiwa Chagonda, DLitt et Phil (Sociology), is an Associate Professor of Sociology at the University of Johannesburg in South Africa. His research interests mainly centre on Zimbabwe's socio-economic and socio-political challenges since 2000. He has published numerous articles on Zimbabwe's crises in journals such as the Review of African Political Economy and the Journal of Contemporary African Studies and popular media such as The Conversation. Tapiwa is a member of the South African Sociological Association (SASA), the International Sociological Association (ISA) and the Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA).

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