

SPEECH BY THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF AT THE LAUNCH OF JASAB'S MAIDEN PRINT EDITION

The Honorable Chairperson, our esteemed Keynote Speakers, the Vice Chancellor, the Vice Chairperson, Special Guests, Members of University Management, Distinguished Colleagues, Contributors, Guests, faculty, Members of the Media, students, Ladies and Gentlemen.

Good afternoon.

It is with great joy and a deep sense of gratitude that I address you at the official launch of the **maiden issue** of the *Journal of Applied Sciences, Arts and Business (JASAB)*. This moment marks the culmination of dedicated teamwork, careful planning, and a shared commitment to academic excellence at Christian Service University.

The *Journal of Applied Sciences, Arts and Business (JASAB)* is an open access peer-reviewed academic journal published by Christian Service University, Kumasi, Ghana. We aim to promote rigorous research and diverse scholarly dialogue across three broad disciplines: **Applied Sciences, Arts, and Business**.

Following the inauguration of the editorial team in October last year, we undertook several strategic steps to position the journal for long-term impact. I am pleased to report that the following milestones were achieved.

International Visibility

1. In line with global best practices, we constituted an Advisory Board comprising distinguished scholars from Ghana, Nigeria, Eswatini, Australia, Denmark, and New Zealand. All contacted members have graciously accepted our invitation and pledged their support toward the journal's academic and strategic direction.

2. We successfully acquired International Standard Serial Number (ISSN) registration for both print and online versions of the journal.

3. Additionally, the JASAB website was developed and integrated with the Christian Service University portal to enhance online visibility and accessibility.

5. A professionally designed journal cover, layout template, and a unique logo were developed to distinguish JASAB's identity and visual appeal.

Peer Review Policy

JASAB operates a rigorous **double-blind peer review system**:

- a. All submissions undergo plagiarism screening, allowing no more than 25% similarity.
- b. Manuscripts that meet preliminary checks are assigned tracking numbers and forwarded to at least two independent reviewers.
- c. Reviews are based on clarity, originality, relevance, significance, methodological soundness, referencing, grammar, and subject mastery.
- d. Editorial decisions include: *acceptance, minor revisions, major revisions, resubmission after revision, or rejection.*
- e. Authors are expected to respond to revision requests within two weeks, submitting updated manuscripts with tracked changes and a completed Author Revision Form.

Published Articles in this Issue:

Through an extensive call for papers circulated both electronically and physically, we received **30 submissions**. After a rigorous review process, **15 articles**—comprising **13 research papers** and **2 book reviews**—were selected for publication. These contributions come from scholars across **four countries**—Ghana, South Africa, Kenya, and Nigeria—and from **12 academic institutions**, including:

- University of Ghana
- Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST)
- Trinity Theological Seminary
- All Nations University
- Valley View University
- University for Development Studies
- South African Theological Seminary
- Baptist College of Theology, Igede, Nigeria

The articles in this inaugural issue span a diverse range of subjects, including:

- Biblical and Theological Studies
- African Hermeneutics
- Political Theology
- Economic and Development Studies
- Education and Pedagogy
- Business and Marketing
- Public Health and Gender Studies
- Linguistic Theology
- Historical and Contemporary Christian Practices

This rich variety underscores JASAB's commitment to interdisciplinary research and its relevance to Africa's socio-religious and developmental realities. To enhance academic credibility and digital visibility, each published article has been assigned a Digital Object Identifier (DOI) registered through CrossRef.

Projections

Looking ahead, the JASAB team is undertaking several initiatives to strengthen and expand the journal's impact:

a. Indexing and Abstracting:

We are preparing to apply for inclusion in reputable indexing databases such as AJOL, DOAJ, Scopus, and others to increase JASAB's visibility and citation reach.

b. Capacity Building Workshops:

We plan to organize author and reviewer training workshops to build internal capacity and ensure adherence to high publication standards.

c. Special Issues and Thematic Volumes:

Plans are underway to publish special issues focusing on pressing African themes such as climate change, entrepreneurship, postcolonial theology, digital transformation, and public health.

d. Enhanced Digital Infrastructure:

We aim to transition to a robust Open Journal System (OJS) platform to streamline the submission, review, and publication workflow.

e. Partnership Development:

We seek to build collaborative networks with other universities, research institutions, and academic journals for knowledge exchange and co-publication opportunities.

f. Funding and Sustainability:

The editorial board is exploring grant opportunities, sponsorship models, and institutional support mechanisms to ensure the journal's long-term sustainability.

Commendation

Honourable Chairperson, I wish to commend the University Management and faculty for their support. I also commend the **editorial team** comprising:

Managing Editor

Rev. Dr. Isaac Boaheng (Director, Quality Assurance and Academic Planning Unit, CSU)

Associate/sectional Editors

- Dr. Cynthia P. Akuoku (Faculty of Health and Applied Sciences)
- Dr. Mrs. Ama Quartey (School of Business)
- Rev. Dr. Emmanuel Twumasi-Ankrah (Faculty of Humanities)

Language editors

- Prof. Asuamah Adade-Yeboah (HoD, Communication Studies, CSU)
- Dr. Kwasi Sarfo-Adu (Head of English Department, CSU)
- Mr. David Kwao-Sarbah (Lecturer, Planning Department; Quality Assurance Unit)

Administrative assistants

- Mr. Kwaku Boateng
- Mrs. Vivian Amponsah

Conclusion

In conclusion, Honourable Chairperson, the publication of JASAB's maiden issue is both a **landmark achievement** and the beginning of a promising journey. We remain committed to nurturing JASAB into a **globally respected journal** that reflects the interdisciplinary strength, academic depth, and contextual relevance that Christian Service University aspires to embody.

May JASAB continue to inspire impactful scholarship for years to come.

Thank you, and God bless you.

Rev. Prof. Yaw Adu-Gyamfi

Editor-in-Chief, JASAB

Christian Service University