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**Introduction to the issue – Dr. David Adewuyi, Managing Editor**

The authorial spread of the approved articles in this issue speaks to the fact that *The African Symposium* is gaining more popularity and acceptance in many other African countries apart from Nigeria. The eleven articles in the issue were contributed by authors from Nigeria, Republic of Benin, Botswana, and Morocco. Even within Nigeria, articles were sent from many states that were not earlier represented. Some articles were also received from other continents but were not approved for publication. The affected authors have been advised to do more work on their papers and resubmit for consideration as suggested by the reviewers.

**Emmanuel Majekodunmi Ajala's** study examined the impact of workplace spirituality on employees' wellbeing at the industrial sectors. The author contends that while spirituality at work is an abstract concept, the empirical findings of the work showed that each of the three dimensions of spirituality at workplace (meaningful work, purposeful work, and sense of community/interconnectedness) has a positive and significant impact on the wellbeing of employees. **Adeleke Adegbami** examined the attitudes of underemployed workers to work and identified the effects of underemployment on the employees of local a government in Nigeria. The study concluded that, underemployment or disguised unemployment is a serious constraint to organizational progress and grassroots' development.

**Kenneth Dipholo** and **Idowu Biao** made a case for a revalorization of all indigenous knowledge in general and African indigenous knowledge in particular. The authors advise the adoption of pragmatic and Afrocentric educational theories, which will integrate African indigenous knowledge and current educational systems, thereby promoting the development of a holistic African educational system. **Fabian Ugwu, Ike Onyishi, and Winifred Tyoyima** explored the relationship between academic burnout, self-efficacy and academic engagement among Nigeria university undergraduates (college students). The results of the regression analyses revealed that academic burnout was negatively related with academic engagement, while self-efficacy was positively related with academic engagement. Implications of the findings to learning in Nigerian university context were discussed.

**Yemisi Famakinwa** discussed the 'senselessness' and 'meaningfulness' of some English (verbal/non-verbal) expressions. Her paper considered the notion of 'making sense' from three different perspectives: the sense of signs and symbols, affixation, and the alphabet, employing two linguistic approaches of grammar and semantics for analysis. The study concluded that 'senselessness' and 'meaningfulness' are intertwined because some senseless expressions can make meaning.

**Veronique Van Lierde, Jack Kalpakian, and Nada El Jarid** argued that instruction within the classroom generally helps students develop mathematical thinking skills. The research was conducted in a North African context, where students often face the challenge of thinking, learning and talking in different languages. **Kehinde Fakanbi** and **Olarotimi Raji** discussed what they called "a plethora of cataclysmic social tornadoes," which they thought carried the capacity and potential to precipitate the disintegration of Nigeria. The paper was an attempt to lay bare the grey areas of Nigerian federalism which were at variance with global practice of federalism. The study also examined the pattern and trajectory of unrest that are fall-outs of the "unfederal" character of the Nigerian state.

**Toyin Akanbi** explored the influence of familial factors, personality traits and self-efficacy on entrepreneurial behavior among 470 vocational-based students in the two public Colleges of Education in Oyo state, Nigeria. The outcomes of the study were discussed and it was suggested that counselling practitioners should take care of familial variables while handling issues relating to entrepreneurial intention among students. **Isiaka Gambari, Moses James and Charles Olumorin** investigated the effect of cooperative, competitive and individualistic instructional strategies on the performance of high, medium and low academic achievers using video instructional package. Findings indicated that there was significant difference in the performance of high, medium and low achievers' groups in favor of cooperative learning strategy. Students' achievement levels had significant influence on their performance in competitive and individualized instructional settings.

**Oluwole Coker** and **Mohammed Ademilokun** studied how the new generation of writers has grappled with the age-long issue of languages of expression for African literature with a view to determining if there was a paradigm shift in linguistic choice especially by third-generation Nigerian writers. The authors analyzed the language strategies employed in two selected Nigerian novels. The researchers found that third-generation writers were not only sensitive to the vexed issue of medium of expression of African literature; they also injected fresh strategies to accommodate linguistic diversity and portray the transnational tilt of their works. This ultimately made the creative productions accessible as globalized art forms. **Adedunni Adegun** and **Oyesoji Aremu** examined the effectiveness of Career Development (CD) and Cognitive Reframe (CR) therapy in reducing irrational career thoughts of secondary school students. A sample of 96 Senior Secondary School one students with irrational career thoughts were purposively selected from three randomly selected Senior Secondary Schools in Ogun State Nigeria for the study. CD and CR were found to be effective in reducing irrational career thoughts of secondary school students. Implications of these on career development in Nigeria were discussed.

As usual, we wish to thank our reviewers for their selfless service to the African Educational Research Network. The next summit of AERN will take place at Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria in June 2014. Many of our authors will be invited to make presentations at the summit. Please be on the lookout for more information.

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