

My Dear Colleagues and Friends:

I am delighted to pen this letter for two main reasons: The first is to thank you all for your continued support. You have continued to provide the Journal of Sustainable Development in Africa (JSDA), the suggestions and papers it needs in order to provide ideas about sustaining the economic, socio-cultural, environmental and political systems of the countries of Africa. JSDA's readership has



grown exponentially and publishers have been asking for permission to include published articles in their books. We will continue to ask for your unwavering support in years to come. The members of the editorial board have begun to wrestle with the idea of increasing the number of issues published annually because of the excellent papers tendered for consideration for possible publication. We will be publishing special issues of JSDA in order to accommodate the enthusiasm and tenacity of our authors who work very hard to provide us with the best papers on issues confronting our beloved continent.

This issue has not deviated from what JSDA has come to be known for. It has papers that cover the wide spectrum of academic disciplines. As one reads the papers, one discovers that the authors' passion and concern for resource management and protection are deep and the authors provide possible solutions for the conservation and protection of Africa's human and natural resources. The socio-cultural papers wrestle with matters of cultural integrity and the papers that concern themselves with political-economy provide sobering suggestions for moving regions or countries forward. All and all, the papers focus on matters of sustainability and sustainable development.

The second reason for my wanting to get this particular letter to you is to seize the occasion to announce the establishment of the Sustainability Institute at Clarion University (my current academic home). This Institute will be valuable for operationalizing sustainability and sustainable development concepts locally, regionally, nationally and internationally. It is from the Institute that the editorial work of JSDA will be done. It is hopeful that the Institute will enable the increased workload of the staff of JSDA to be handled smoothly. This is the platform

for making your work, as an author viable. Many institutions around the world are now establishing sustainability programs and it is hopeful that all the work published in JSDA would inform the development of sustainability curriculum around the world.

We look forward to your continued contributions and support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Valentine James". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "V" and "J".

Valentine James, Ph.D.; CES; CAQS  
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Clarion University of Pennsylvania  
Clarion, PA 16214