

CALL FOR PAPERS

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Advancing the scholarship of integration for impactful, sustainable and holistic student success

Sustainable and holistic student success arises from practice and scholarship of integration. Boyer (1990) coined scholarship of integration (SoI), describing it as “doing research at the boundaries where fields converge” (p. 7). This approach promotes “interdisciplinary, interpretive and integrative” work resulting in dramatically reshaping the boundaries of human knowledge. Scholarship of integration, according to Boyer (1990) promises to give deeper meaning to the work of the university through multi-disciplinary, integrated and evidence-based approaches. This kind of engaged and multi-disciplinary scholarship of integration holds the promise to align the disparate parts of traditional student affairs and student development theory, described by Torres et al. (2019) as a theoretically low-consensus field.

Madiba (2022) calls student affairs professionals closer into scholarship by virtue of being members of universities (or higher education). So too, Schreiber (2014) calls on researchers and scholars to embolden the co- and extra-curriculum agenda via multi-disciplinary and evidence-based approaches. Through research and scholarship university members within student affairs and services assert credibility, embolden the student affairs community of practice, develop the profession (Wildschut & Luescher, 2023) and participate in the core business of higher education institutions via knowledge production and capacity building.

By 2030, Africans are expected to comprise 42% of global youth. This implies that the global leadership potential sits in Africa. To meet global challenges of a complex, dynamic and highly stressful world, the education sector needs to rethink, among others, its methodologies. Embedding scholarship of integration into the overall higher education practices promises to take efforts around student success to higher impact and sustainability.

Reimagining African education harnesses the developmental potential of Africa (and beyond), for the future world and for global sustainability. Scholarship of integration (i.e. multi-disciplinary and engaged research) advances our knowledge, our leadership and student success. Holistic student development and student success calls for interconnected, multi-disciplinary and engaged approaches that challenge traditional research cultures and enable and accelerate transformation and decolonisation.

Therefore, this JSAA Call for Papers is aimed at advancing student affairs scholarship and research which underpins evidence-based decisions for holistic student success. Papers that address the following themes, are invited:

- professionalisation of student affairs;
- research and scholarship in student affairs;
- methodologies and theoretical approaches;
- graduate attributes, including approaches that view graduate attributes in their integrated sense (i.e. in and outside classroom) and blended activities that are integrated into the holistic experience of students;
- holistic success, including integrated notions of success;
- student leadership development, this may include work within student governance, student representative councils, activism, student leadership programs, etc.;

- student development, incorporating, but also extending
 - student health and wellness,
 - conducive living and learning environment,
 - underserved and marginalised students,
 - sports and recreation,
 - inclusive education policies and practices, and
 - sustainable development, beyond the university setting into the adult life of students, for creating proactive citizenship within the broader society;
- student success strategies;
- scholarship approaches and debates; and
- integrating the classroom and co-curriculum.

About JSAA

JSAA is an independent, peer-reviewed, multi-disciplinary, open access academic journal that publishes scholarly research and reflective discussions about the theory and practice of student affairs in African higher education. JSAA is published twice a year by the JSAA Editorial Executive in collaboration with the University of Pretoria and African Minds. The journal is full-text hosted on the website of the University of Pretoria at <https://upjournals.up.ac.za/index.php/jsaa>, as well as co-hosted by AJOL, DOAJ, and ERIC, and indexed in international indices. JSAA is accredited by the South African Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) as a subsidy-earning journal on the SA list of scholarly journals. Authors publish free of charge; there are no processing or page fees. Please register on the JSAA website and consult the JSAA Author Guidelines for information about formatting, referencing and submission requirements.

Submission process and important dates

Submission of abstract proposals (250-350 words)	30 September 2023
Response on abstracts to authors	31 October 2023
Full papers due for editorial vetting and peer review	28 February 2023
Responses from editors/peer review process	30 April 2024
Revisions from authors	31 May 2024
Galley proofs	30 June 2024
Publication of guest-edited issue	15 July 2024

Please direct any queries and submit abstracts by email to the guest editors:

Dr Neo Pule (lead): pulent@uj.ac.za

Prof. Matete Madiba: mmadiba@uwc.ac.za

Dr Irene Mohasoa: imohasoa@wsu.ac.za

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