

# Academic promotion politics in Uganda, (post)coloniality, and the predicament of African publication outlets - Webinar 4: African research and the global science system series



**6 December 2022**

00:21:14 Silvenus Konyole: pls put the links to the publications here

00:21:29 Bashir Mutebi: Kindly share the links for the publications.

00:22:26 CGHE Webinars: We will aim to make the links available on the event page after the webinar: <https://www.researchcghe.org/events/cghe-seminar/academic-promotion-politics-in-uganda-postcoloniality-and-the-predicament-of-african-publication-outlets-webinar-4-african-research-and-the-global-science-system-series/>

00:22:47 David Mills: Here is one: Ssentongo, Jimmy Spire. "Which journal is that?' Politics of academic promotion in Uganda and the predicament of African publication outlets." *Critical African Studies* 12.3 (2020): 283-301.

00:23:57 David Mills: And the other: Ssentongo, Jimmy Spire, and Mary Cecilia Draru. "Justice and the Dynamics of Research and Publication in Africa: Interrogating the Performance of" *Publish or Perish*." Uganda Martyrs University, 2017.

00:40:48 David Mills: All welcome to start posting questions and responses here..

00:45:42 Adamseged Abebe: Thank you for the presentation. My question is : given the much compliant and criticism of publication requirements and standards by many early career scholars which includes both white and non white and African and non African (and as part of the move away from structuralism and positivism and all other critical theories), I want to ask how African scholars' criticism of the current knowledge production via publications is unique compared to other general early career scholars.

00:46:59 Abigail Branford: Thank you for the fantastic talk. Completely agree about the high 'mortality' rate/busy cemetery. What do you think might be the key to improving the longevity of journals - or should we look beyond the model of academic journals all together?

00:48:37 Takako Mino: Thank you for the presentation! While you point out the problem of conforming to western standards, what do you mean by low quality submissions to African journals? Do you argue for alternative standards?

00:48:40 Silvenus Konyole: good presentation there. To the busy cemetery add a busy maternity too as we get busy creating new journals fairly often

00:50:08 Pete Leihy: Long-form reading is getting worse in many of the wealthiest countries (although young people deal with a complete saturation of information in other, digital forms). Is that the case in Uganda?

01:00:51 Abigail Branford: "Impact for who" - 🙏

01:04:00 Milton Wabyona: Fields such as music composition in Africa are greatly disadvantaged by the western publication politics.

01:04:13 Milton Wabyona: Music composition...

01:06:21 Bashir Mutebi: Thank you, Dr. Spire. Why is it that we need western approval for almost all our inventions. ? Do they set the standards for everything?

01:09:07 Antony Tebitendwa: Thank you Dr. Spire. Yes, there is need to continue this conversation to achieve the desired outcomes

01:09:33 CGHE Webinars: Thank you for joining us today. A recording of this session will be posted on the CGHE site: <https://www.researchcghe.org/events/cghe-seminar/academic-promotion-politics-in-uganda-postcoloniality-and-the-predicament-of-african-publication-outlets-webinar-4-african-research-and-the-global-science-system-series/>

01:09:41 Samuel Nyende: Thank you very much Dr. Spire

01:09:56 CGHE Webinars: Our next webinar, "International academics in mainland China: what do we know and what do we need to know?", will take place on Thursday from 2pm (UK). You can register here: <https://www.researchcghe.org/events/cghe-seminar/international-academics-in-mainland-china-what-do-we-know-and-what-do-we-need-to-know/>

01:12:04 Peace Musiimenta: Actually the younger generation is turning away from reading and this has affected their writing skills. I have students who write to me as a lecturer in their WhatsApp language which I don't understand

01:12:15 Charlotte Mafumbo: Dr Spire thank you. A quick question, who decides what is predatory?

01:12:56 Anding Shi: Thank you for the presentation! You mentioned that some African scholars may publish articles that cater to Western publishers.

Can you explain what the " catering " is in this case? For example what kind of indigenous research themes, research methods, research theories might be neglected?

01:15:27 Peace Musiimenta: It also seems that publishers from Africa/black don't have faith in our publications, apart from Spire and a few others, I have seen scholars who

don't even share their own publications with their students- maybe for fear of blowing own trumpets. Who is to blame for this behavior?