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**Special Issue Dedicated to the Late
Professor Christopher Freeman**

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(Editors-in-Chief)

We dedicate this issue to the late Professor Christopher Freeman who was both amongst the originators and the leading thinkers along with Bengt-Åke Lundvall, Richard Nelson and Luc Soete on innovation studies. He wholeheartedly supported the initiative to start, found and institutionalise an African Journal of Science, Technology, Innovation and Development.

As late as the year before Chris Freeman departed from this world, he graciously offered to help us launch the journal by stating the following generous message of support:

For many reasons, I heartily welcome the launch of an African Journal of Science, Technology, Innovation and Development. On the one hand, a number of non-African powers colonised parts of South, Central, West, East and North Africa and imposed a variety of administrations, including policies for innovation. On the other hand, the original inhabitants of all the regions of Africa succeeded to some degree, in spite of overwhelming and sometimes brutal repression in maintaining and preserving more traditional and respected ways of thinking and behaviour. Consequently, there is a very rich variety of technology and modes of innovation. These are, of course, mainly of interest to the Africans themselves but the variety is so great, the experience so diverse and the origins so disparate that I would expect this journal to circulate widely outside as well as inside Africa. In any case, I wish the journal every success and look forward very much to reading the first issue in 2009. I am delighted to offer a very warm welcome to this latest addition to our young and growing family of innovation journals (see the link 'Home' at: www.ajstid.com).

His inspiring welcome to AJSTID makes us to work very hard to create an intellectual publishing outlet for younger African innovation scholars by building AJSTID as one of the highly rated and internationally recognised journals, and thanks to South Africa's generous SARCHI initiative funded by the Ministry of Science and Technology (DST) and managed by the National Research Foundation (NRF) that has made it possible to open for Africa such an opportunity. In addition the senior scholars from the GLOBELICS international network who wish to promote a novel approach towards a North-South research cooperation by bringing the best of the North to work with all those in the South with aspirations to emerge as researchers in innovation studies, and others from the Aalborg University (Denmark), the Georgia Institute of Technology (USA), and the UNU-MERIT (Netherlands) have supported the journal's development. As a consequence we are planning to produce four issues of the journal starting from 2011. The best way of remembering Chris Freeman is to develop and deepen the production of both highly trained African innovation scholars and creating a strong outlet for their creative production. For this, we believe that journal initiatives such as AJSTID and book series initiatives that come regularly and used productively for training are necessary. These will help accelerate and sustain Africa's overall intellectual development by contributing to the diverse efforts to forge the development of the Greater African Research Area (GARA).

Chris Freeman and the leading innovation scholars through GLOBELICS and UNU-MERIT's Twinning are making deliberate and focused efforts to create a new relationship between Northern and Southern research collaboration. The way research cooperation has evolved through the donor system has shown that those who fund the research also largely dictated formally or informally the research agenda. This has not helped research initiatives that combine basic and applied research to be anchored in Africa. Although most of the donor driven research has been policy orientated, much of policy-making in many African countries does not appear to have learned or benefitted from this. There is still no African research area and basic research and scientific publications and patents in Africa remain relatively low compared with other regions of the world.

It is when we recognise this context how significant it is for Chris Freeman to inspire African emerging innovation scholars by encouraging them with hope and optimism that the Africa that the builders rejected has the opportunity to become the cornerstone of the arch. Chris Freeman left to Africa a legacy of hope that Africa will make it, challenging strongly those who characterise Africa as a hopeless continent. His numerous works such

as the classics -- the *Economics of Innovation*, *The Economics of Hope* and many others endure to inspire and nourish the younger generations of innovation studies scholars for years to come. Chris Freeman's work will live on given increasingly much of the innovation studies scholarship is now being applied to economic development and a new field of innovation and development is emerging with new journals and books.

In this issue we have a reprint and a contribution from Chris Freeman and Luc Soete, a 1995 paper on "Building Information Society for us All." It is a paper that provides a comprehensive thought piece on the information society and how through the Information Computers and Communication Revolution dramatic changes are taking place in society affecting the following: education and training, governance, services, the organisation of work, the structure of firm, job creation and destruction, regional cohesion, health services, media and culture, democracy and citizen's private life and security.

Amongst the other papers: Loesse Jacques Esso discusses "Human Capital, R & D and Endogenous Occupational Choice" studying how human capital markets influence economic growth and convergence through technology. Kassim Mwtondi and Khamaza Maunda, in their paper on a consensual approach to domain-partitioning of a cancer data sample space drawing lessons from Tanzania recommend how to structure future cancer studies by taking ethnic and geographical variations into consideration. Jo Lorentzen analyses why and what is wrong with Ghana's national system of innovation by examining key innovation system variables such as management of human capital development, institutions, and weaknesses in linkages of system components. Abolaji D. Dada, Godwin A. Ali, Oladele O. Afolabi, and Williams O. Siyanbola examine how innovative approaches to the industrial utilisation of cassava in a developing economy -- Nigeria are taking place. The production of cassava in the food and non-food sectors requires capacity building, product development, strengthening the cassava sector value chain and effective linkages of supply and demand. Olusiji Samuel Ayodele's paper discusses, "Remote Sensing and Geological Investigation of Okemesi Area, Southwestern Nigeria" and draws some general policy lessons for applying remote sensing technology in African countries. Adrian D Kamotho Njenja's paper on user pattern analysis of mobile payment systems from Nairobi analyses trends in the utilisation of mobile based electronic payment systems in Kenya.

The Research Notes and Commentary section carries from Luc Soete and Bart Verspagen on remembering Chris Freeman. Also, the personal profile of Professor Banji Oyeyinka, one of the early SPRU graduates from Africa (Nigeria), telling an inspiring story of how he joined science, technology and

innovation as a PhD researcher writing scientific papers and books related to innovation in Africa.

The research notes on efforts to build sustainable African research and innovation capacity by Kizza, Muchie and Waema came with the imagination to bring together ICT doctoral researchers with Innovation and Development Studies researchers by founding the African Globelics Doctoral Academy (<http://agda.uonbi.ac.ke>). This work is linked to building the Greater African Research Area (GARA) by connecting through research imagination fields that exist in silos to break out and create learning and training networks. For example, a theorist like Einstein, connected through sheer application of a research imagination to non-connected entities in physics such as mass, space, energy and time to encapsulate a synthesis with a neat formula: $E=MC^2$. There is a need in Africa, for example, for thinking out of the box to create highly trained, innovative and venturesome research scholars by bringing natural and engineering science scholars together with innovation and development scholars.

The research note on the art of business incubation systems by Joshua Mutambi, Joseph K. Byaruhanga, Lena Trojer and Kariko B. Buhwezi explores how incubators and start-ups have grown across the world whilst at the same time showing Africa lagging behind. The need for research for both the rest of Africa and each of the countries like Uganda cannot be understated.

The book Review section includes: a review by Desiree and Muchie on: *Building Science, Technology and Innovation Systems in Africa: Experiences from the Maghreb*, authored by Abelkader Djeflat; and another review by Sanya Osha on *Rorty's Deconstruction of Philosophy and the Challenge of African Philosophy*, authored by Anthony Onyemachi Agwuele.

It is encouraging that more and more African researchers are producing peer reviewed papers in AJSTID along with scientists coming from the rest of the world. For this Special Issue to remember Chris Freeman, it is indeed notable that nearly all the scientific papers, research notes and book reviews are written by both senior and emergent African scholars. What Chris Freeman inspired, AJSTID is becoming true to the project to facilitate the publication of papers from emerging African scholars. The proof of Chris Freeman's encouragement and hope is reflected in this issue where the scientific contribution is mainly from African researchers. We dedicate this special issue to remember Chris Freeman as proof that his undying inspiration lives in the works, research and continuous training of the younger generation of scholars not only in Africa but also around the world.