

Chief Editor's Introduction

It is a pleasure welcoming members of the research community and the general readers to the maiden edition (i.e. Volume 1, Issue 1) of this journal – *African Journal of Management Information System*. It is an open access quarterly journal which is mainly online, with minimal print editions.

Just as with the preceding sister journal (*African Journal of Computing & ICT*, ISSN 2006-1781) which was first published in 2008 and is still in circulation, the primary goal of the new journal is to advance the cause of socio-economic and technological development of the African continent in particular and the world in general. The specific objective of the journal is to contribute to the solution of challenges relating to effective management, leadership and governance in Africa via the instrumentality of information technology (IT).

In general, while some individuals are adjudged to have performed creditably well in managerial positions at different levels particularly in Africa, others are not so well-rated. The pertinent questions include the following: What is management? What is the relationship of management with leadership and governance? What is it that makes some people to be effective managers while others are not? What is the connection between theoretical knowledge of management and practical success in management? Who is a good manager? Why is it that the African continent does not appear to have been blessed with effective managers/leaders in the governance of nations? Other questions to ponder on include: What are the signposts which guide the populace or workers in an organization in determining whether a manager is effective or not? In what non-trivial ways can IT be used to improve business performance in an organization? What is the role of effective information flow in realizing the objectives of an organization, including profit optimization? What is the connecting thread among all areas and fields of endeavours which have management as prefix or postfix e.g. construction management, personnel management and management science?

The above and other related questions will be the focus of *African Journal of Management Information System*. In essence, the journal will be dissecting all issues pertaining to the traditional 5Ms of management, namely money, men, machines, materials and methods. It is hoped that the principle of Management by Objectives (aka Management by Results), as canvassed by Peter F. Drucker (1909 - 2005) and other scientific management theorists, will be brought to bear directly and indirectly in the submissions to this journal.

The journal welcomes papers from scholars, practitioners, industrialists, opinion leaders and others who are knowledgeable in the theoretical and practical aspects of management. All forms of technical and professional papers are welcome, including full length papers, technical notes, industrial case reports, survey paper etc.

In this maiden edition, five papers appear. The paper by Oluwakemi Sade Ayodele and Bamidele Oluwade compared the execution time of three sorting algorithms, namely Quicksort, Mergesort, and Insertionsort, using C, Java and Python programming languages. It was shown, among others, that the

same algorithm which has been implemented using different programming languages and implementation styles (iterative or recursive implementation) has slight differences in execution time. The paper is on data management.

In her paper on library management, Mercy Enefu Okwoli used a focused group approach to seek information from the University Librarian and four IT server administrators of the National Open University of Nigeria. The author found out that there are efforts and willingness in embracing cloud computing for effective library services.

Morufu Amusa and Bamidele Oluwade, in two serial papers on drug management, examined the malaise called counterfeit drugs from the perspective of the use of information technology in its management. The first paper dwells on prevention of counterfeiting while the second focuses on the issue of detection. The authors sampled opinions of a total 1391 persons in all the six geopolitical zones of Nigeria, namely Southwest, Southeast, Southsouth, Northeast, Northwest and Northcentral zones. It was observed, among others, that fake drugs are not easily identified by Nigerians, even though there is a high level of awareness in the prevention and detection of these drugs.

And last but in no means the least, the paper by Oluwakemi Christiana Abikoye, Temitope Ayanladun Oyelakun, Taye Oladele Aro and Rachael Oyeranti Obisesan presents a design and implementation of a personnel record management system for a typical Nigerian university. The programming languages used for the implementation were MYSQL, PHP and JavaScript, and the case study of the paper was Ladoke Akintola University of Technology, Ogbomosho, Oyo State. The paper is on personnel management.

To end this introduction, some opinions on leadership and governance from some opinion leaders who are Africans and non-Africans are hereby quoted below. These were documented by the Chief Editor of *African Journal of Management Information System* (in his unpublished book of memoirs dating back to the early 1980s):

- *“Leadership is suffering, as exemplified in its quintessence in the life of (Chairman) Mao Tsetung”.*
(Tai Solarin (1922-1994) in his Nigerian newspaper column in the early 1980s; he was an educationist, social critic and school proprietor).
- *“Responsive leadership must take the long view of all its actions. It is vacuous, puerile and dangerous for leaders to pin their faith in the eternal now, for it is not the orchestrated chorus (largely from sycophants and opportunists) that is important; what is important is the verdict of posterity and history. Good leadership steers the present, guides the future, and reflects on the past. And especially in Nigerian politics, where sycophancy and opportunism are the rules rather than the exceptions, it is not what people say of a leader now that is important, but what they say of him after his exit”.*
(Tam David-West (b. 1936) in his newspaper writing in the early 1980s; he is a university professor/academic and social commentator).

- *“Leadership always carries power with it. The proper exercise of power always involves ethical considerations”*.
(Elechi Amadi (1934 – 2016) in his book ‘Ethics in Nigerian Culture’ (Heinemann Educational Books (Nigeria) Ltd, Ibadan, 1982, p.94); he was a Nigerian novelist).
- *“...This event brought me once again face-to-face with Africa’s leadership charade. What do African leaders envision for their countries and their people? I wondered yet again. Have they not heard that where there is no vision the people perish? Does the judgment of history on their rule mean anything to them?”*
(Chinua Achebe (1930 – 2013) in his book ‘There Was a Country: A Personal History of Biafra’ (Penguin Books, 2012, pp. 257-258; he was a university professor, novelist, poet and social critic)
- *“...a paternalistic notion of leadership is clearly only materialistic in content, is not only palpably simplistic in outlook, it is equally inherently dangerous. People do not only need material efficiency, they also equally need and demand and expect moral leadership from their leaders. Material euphoria is essentially superficial, demonstrating only to our ‘baser’ sentiments while moral ‘wealth’ is more sustaining because it impinges on the ‘sublimar’ aspects of our being”*.
(Niyi Oniororo (d. 2005) in ‘The People’s News’ in 1981, a community newspaper established by him in the defunct Ondo State of Nigeria; he was a journalist/writer and social critic)
- *“Power kept within its proper bounds may add greatly to happiness, but as the sole end of life, it leads to disaster, inwardly if not outwardly”*
(Bertrand Russell (1872 – 1970) in his book ‘The Conquest of Happiness’, Liveright Publisher, 1930, p.18; he was a British mathematical philosopher, author and 1950 Nobel Literature Laureate).
- *“You may have power, then with your power, help others, for your power is only lent to you to see how you will use it or abuse it...Remember also that the prince of today is the beggar of tomorrow, and the beggar of today is the prince of tomorrow. No matter how rich, how powerful one has been in past lives, when one comes to the last life in this round of existence, one comes to trouble, to lack of comfort, to hardship and misunderstanding”*.
(Lobsang Rampa (1910 – 1981), originally born as Cyril Henry Hoskin, in his book ‘Chapters of Life’, 1967, p.201; he was a British metaphysical writer).

- “*God give us Men! A time like this demands;
Strong minds, great hearts, true faith and ready hands;
Men whom the lust of office does not kill;
Men whom the spoils of office cannot buy;
Men who possess opinions and a will;
Men who have honour; men who will not lie;
Men who can stand before a demagogue;
And damn his treacherous flatteries without winking;
Tall men, sun crowned, who live above the fog;
In public duty and in private thinking*”
(Josiah Gilbert Holland (1819 – 1881); American poet and novelist)

Finally, this is to express appreciation to all authors of papers appearing in this edition, reviewers, members of the editorial board and well-wishers on the successful publication of this journal.

Welcome to the maiden edition of *African Journal of Management Information System!*

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