

Servamus and Southern Business School join forces to publish an academic Journal

It was an idea that took five years to become a reality, but as they say, good things take time. On 26 November 2019, that idea culminated in **Servamus** and **Southern Business School (SBS)** celebrating the relaunch of the **JUST AFRICA Journal**.

Background

Five years ago, Prof Christiaan Bezuidenhout from the University of Pretoria's Department of Social Work and Criminology suggested that **Servamus** either becomes an accredited magazine or has a section of the magazine accredited in order to lure more academics to publish in the magazine. Accredited journals are research outputs that are recognised by the Department of Higher Education (DHET) because it meets specified criteria, such as that it is peer reviewed and therefore qualify for subsidies by the DHET. Academics who publish in accredited journals selected from the DHET lists, receive subsidies and recognition for the articles (Unisa, 2019). Following Prof Bezuidenhout's suggestion and consideration by the Board of Directors of SARP Publishers, the publishers of **Servamus** decided against going the route of changing the focus of the magazine to become academic in order to apply for accreditation. The reason was that we did not want to alienate our current subscribers or change the focus of the magazine to become an academic journal. Yet, we always kept the idea of becoming involved with such an accredited journal in the back of our minds.

Similarly, **Southern Business School**, with which **Servamus** has had a close relationship over many years, wanted to publish an accredited journal. It seemed a perfect fit for a publisher with a century-long involvement in policing and safety and security to join forces with a private tertiary institution to publish such a journal. After doing a lot of homework, we took a decision that 2019 would be the year to publish the journal.

Keeping a dream alive

In the meantime, the late Prof Neels Roelofse did his homework to publish a journal as he too realised the need for finding more outlets for scholars, researchers, practitioners and students to publish their research related to the criminal justice system which resulted in the publication of the **JUST AFRICA Journal**. Sadly, Prof Roelofse passed away in 2019 and since we shared the dream, **Southern Business School** and **Servamus** were granted permission to keep Prof Roelofse's dream alive by publishing the **JUST AFRICA Journal**.

Relaunch

During the relaunch of the **JUST AFRICA Journal** with the theme Global perspectives on safety in society from different perspectives, we celebrated the first publication under the auspices of **Servamus** and **Southern Business School**. We were privileged to have current and former academics contribute to this first edition and we hope to attract many more scholars, researchers and academics for future editions. As Dr Divya Singh, the Chief Academic Officer at STADIO Holdings said in her welcoming address at the event that was held at the SBS campus, we are all striving for the professionalisation of the police and the broader criminal justice system and that the **JUST AFRICA Journal** can make a significant contribution towards reaching this goal.

The **JUST AFRICA Journal** can be downloaded from <http://www.servamus.co.za/index.php/journal>



A very proud editor, Jeanette Smit from SBS and assistant-editor, Annalise Kempfen from Servamus with Dr Divya Singh from STADIO Holdings and also one of the contributors to the **JUST AFRICA Journal**

Invitation to contribute

The editorial team of the **JUST AFRICA Journal** invites submissions of articles for publication in its upcoming issues for 2020. Article submissions should be forwarded to the Editor: Jeanette Smit via e-mail: jsmit@sbs.ac.za The editorial policy and guidelines should first be requested from Annalise Kempfen by sending an e-mail to: annalise@servamus.co.za

Issue	Theme	Article submission date
Issue 1/2020	Alternatives to traditional policing	15 January 2020
Issue 2/2020	Towards a cyber-secure environment	15 April 2020
Issue 3/2020	The consequences of traffic infringements: demerits or incarceration?	15 August 2020