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Publisher's Note

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the Fall/Winter issue of Chimera. As the USA/Africa Institute marks significant changes in global affairs since the publication began, we have assembled articles in this issue that speak to the basic economics of Africa. Sub-Saharan Africa has a population of over 682 million. This represents tremendous potential both in terms of African and global development. Developing this potential will require us to look both in and out of the continent for resources and take into account local needs and global dynamics. Members of the African Diaspora are thriving in most nations of the world and have remarkable abilities. Creating a framework for constructive engagement will be critical.

Dr. Teboho Moja begins this issue with a comprehensive review of curriculum development in South Africa as the basis of a continent wide model in higher education. Drawing on existing studies, Dr. Moja prescribes a method of developing education in Africa to meet local needs while preparing a workforce for global competition. It forces us to consider whether African students in the lower levels are being adequately prepared to be successful later in undergraduate and graduate programs.

For those who have left the continent and those who remain, Dr. Amadu Jacky Kaba provides some startling insights into the costs and benefits of emigration to Africa. He

reveals an invisible nation of over 151 million individuals of African descent in the western hemisphere alone, representing significant political and economic power. This is certainly a resource for development in Africa that needs to be developed and that can inform the process of development from a global prospective.

Dr. Kwabena Dei Ofori Attah makes a strong case for distance learning programs. We note the value to creating education systems that are transferable on the global scale, allowing students in Africa to earn degrees without leaving the continent, and preparing students, children as well as adults, to meet the social and economic needs of their states, continent and world.

We close with a case study of the Botswana Development Corporation, by Dr. N.S. Bonu that shows how public private partnerships have worked in Africa to create value and economic development. He also makes some astute observations of how the market forces shape private sector participation and how Africa can use this model to develop local investment.

These dialogues will be of particular importance to organizations such as the African Union and NEPAD as they seek to develop policy for a new Africa. It is our hope that the necessary discussions take place on a global scale and that we start to recognize the economic value and opportunities presented in the 21st Century by Africa.