



EDITORIAL

The Nigerian Journal of Technology (NIJOTECH) has come a very long way from a tiny fledging outlet for publishing local research findings in 1975, to a leading wide-scoping STEM Journal that is fully online. We now have over 700 visits on the website daily and some papers have been downloaded more than 5400 times as at 19:25pm on March 12, 2022. We have already undergone evaluation for **Scopus indexing** and have been asked to make minor modifications and re-submit for indexing. But we are not resting on our oars yet. We have constantly strived to make necessary adjustments in order to serve both authors and readers better. As you well know, our Journal is fully open access to all and sundry, and will remain so. The open access model is the current revolution in the world of knowledge and information dissemination. Even the biggest players in the field of scholarly publication are now switching to the open access model. However, open access article publishing is quite financially demanding on the author. Unfortunately, many authors from middle and low income countries find it nearly impossible to pay the very exorbitant charges for open access publication which can be as high as 1000 USD. And this is where we come in.

In recognition of the fact that most researchers in developing countries do not have grants for their works and usually fund these researches by themselves, NIJOTECH serves as a very affordable medium for these researchers to convey their findings to all parts of the globe without any restrictions or limitations whatsoever. The assignment of a digital object identifier (DOI) to every article affords your articles perpetuity of global visibility and availability. DOIs assigned to our published articles are not activated automatically. They become active as soon as AJOL (our non-profit partner) activates them with CrossRef. We are making even more radical moves to make article publication most affordable to our numerous authors. Some of the changes we have made are listed below.

- We have knocked out the initial submission/processing fee of four thousand Naira.
- We have reduced our article processing/publication charge (APC) to a minimal rate of forty thousand Naira or one hundred Dollars only per accepted paper.
- We have now imposed page limits on manuscripts. Original research manuscripts should not exceed 16 pages, typed in Times New Roman font 12 with 1.5 line spacing and an all-round margin of one inch. This includes references, figures and tables.
- We have introduced a reward system for our reviewers which enables them to accumulate points for peer review assignments. A reviewer who is rated an average of 4 stars or higher for four consecutive reviews will be eligible for 20% discount on APC for their next article publication.
- From next year (2023), we will be publishing quarterly, amounting to four issues per annum. This is to enable us improve on the quality of published articles and to save editorial resources in compensation for the reduction in APC.
- We have discontinued the mass production of hard (print) copies of the Journal. Print copies will now be produced on demand, at an additional printing and postage fee.
- As required by the Scopus Evaluation Board, we now include article history for every published article.

I am sure you will agree that these changes are very crucial. We will keep on working to make you proud of your preferred Journal. Our job is to ensure that your paper gets published in the shortest possible time, at the cheapest possible cost, and with the most thorough and constructive peer reviews. This is a promise we intend to keep to the letter.

Prof. Chidozie Charles Nnaji

Editor-in-Chief