

Preface

In 2022, towards the end of their tenure, the Humanities Institute Postdoctoral fellows (PDRFs), funded by the National Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences (NIHSS) (2020 – 2022), identified a number of key research focuses in Higher Education, they considered as important for research transformation, currently. These were:

- African Societies and Social Cohesion;
- Critical Identity Studies in African Contexts; and
- Transforming Postgraduate Education in Africa.

We are grateful to the editors of this volume, Prof Michael Anthony Samuel, School of Education, University of KwaZulu-Natal, and Prof Hyleen Mariaye, Mauritius Institute of Education, Mauritius, for taking on the project on *Transforming Postgraduate Education in Africa*. We also want to convey our sincere thanks to all the authors and reviewers who participated in the project, and contributed to the production of this excellent volume. As the project developed, through its phases, it also importantly thematised some seminal emerging matters, to which we have some substantial contributions, and on which the academic discourse will be continuing. These are:

- Transforming Postgraduate Education in Africa;
- Supervisors' and Students' Engagement with Postgraduate Education; and
- Inter-institutional, National and Transnational Discourses.

Amongst others, these are focuses which are also seminal for both the Humanities Institute's research, catalytic and affiliated projects, as well as the PDRF projects funded by the NIHSS. They are all contextually relevant, in research orientation, coupled with conceptually relevant and innovative knowledge production, for the deepening, furtherance and enhancing of quality doctoral research, and research supervision and mentoring in South Africa, and the African continent. Thank you, Colleagues, for an excellent volume.

Finally, we also want to extend our sincere thanks to the NIHSS for the funding of the project, as part of our PDRF Working Group Research program, at UKZN. You are providing substantial leadership in epistemic and epistemological research funding transformation in South Africa, as well as continentally.

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