

Canadian Association
of African Studies



Association Canadienne
des Etudes Africaines

CAAS Annual General Meeting

Assemblée Générale Annuelle de l'ACÉA

In-person: Founders College, FC 152 (Hybrid/Hybride)

Remote via Zoom: virtual platform [via the Congress website.](#)

Wednesday, 21 May 2023 @ 5:00 PM ET

Agenda

1. Call to order and welcome
2. Adoption of meeting agenda
3. Adoption of minutes from the last meeting AGM held on Tuesday, 17 May 2022 (Online)
4. President's Report – Nduka Otiono
5. Secretary-Treasurer's report – Nicole Haggerty
 Motion to Adopt 2022/2023 Financial Report
6. CJAS/RCEA report – Belinda Dodson
7. CAAS/ACEA Conference 2023 report – Philippe Frowd
8. 2022/2023 Award Announcement
 Lifetime Achievement Award for Contributions to African Studies and CAAS
9. Election of the CAAS/ACEA Board of Directors, 2023-2024

Elected Members

President – Grace Adeniyi-Ogunyankin

Past-President – Nduka Otiono (Carleton University)

Vice-President – To be elected

Secretary-Treasurer – To be elected

Member-at-large #1 Faculty – To be elected

Member-at-large #2 Faculty – To be elected

Member-at-large #3 Faculty – To be elected

Member-at-large #4 Graduate Student – To be elected

Ex-Officio Members:

Akin Iwilade, CJAS Editor

Belinda Dodson, CJAS Coordinating Editor

Chris Gore, CJAS Editor

Gillian Mathys, CJAS Editor

Jean Ntakirutimana, CJAS Editor

Jess Auerbach, CJAS Editor

Jonathan Roberts, CJAS English Book Review Editor

Lesley Braun, CJAS Editor

Martin Evans, CJAS Managing Editor

Melchisedek Chétima, CJAS Editor

Samba Diop, French Book Review Editor

Vanessa dos Santos Oliveira, CJAS Editor

Nominated Members

Finance Director – To be Nominated by the Board

Digital Innovator – To be Nominated by the Board

10. Discussions on CAAS 2024 Conference - Philippe M. Frowd - Nduka Otiono

11. Any other business

12. Adjournment

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Minutes

2022 Annual General Meeting

Tuesday, 17 May 2022 @ 2:00 – 4:00 PM ET

1. Call to order and welcome
2. Adoption of meeting agenda
 - a. Moved by
 - b. Seconded by
 - c. Approved.
3. Adoption of minutes from the last meeting AGM held on 9 June 2021(Online)
 - a. Moved by
 - b. Seconded by
 - c. Approved.
4. President's Report — Isaac Bazie
 - a. Summary points:
 - i. challenge was to find a conference chair for 2022. Isaac Bazie assumed responsibility for the Conference since we were unable to find another person. This consumed much of the President's time.
 - ii. 2 grant applications were prepared. Congress supplied some funding to CAAS.
 - iii. worked to increase collaborations with other associations – including Association of African Studies in India. Goal is for this to be a model in future. Currently awaiting signature.
 - iv. proposed by-law modifications were developed.
 - v. two challenges this year – finding Conference leadership and a host; finding board members for open positions.
 - vi. gratitude was expressed to conference organizing team and board members for their efforts.
5. Secretary-Treasurer's report — Nicole Haggerty (attached)
 - b. Motion to Adopt 2020/2021 Financial Report: Belinda Dodson

- c. Seconded by Jean Ntakirutimana
- d. Motion Accepted

6. CJAS/RCEA report — Belinda Dodson

- a. updates on editorial board, managing editor, new editors and departures were provided. Warm welcome extended to editors.
- b. update on journal metrics, submissions, issues emphasizing healthy growth. New information provided on special issue rules. Growth in submissions explains growth in editorships. Further insights include growth in article downloads, growth in African readership of journal including that articles have been downloaded in all 54 African countries.
- c. updates on journal relationship with Taylor & Francis – day to day business is working smoothly.
- d. New publishing models have implications for CJAS. Read and publish agreements that Taylor & Francis is negotiating was reviewed as they have negative revenue consequences for CJAS and negative accessibility for African universities who may not have resources for this model.
- e. Gratitude expressed to CAAS, former editorial team for strengthening journal during difficult past few years.

7. CAAS/ACEA Conference 2022

- a. reviewed the decision to participate in Congress in Fall of 2021
- b. Recognition of co-chair role with Dr. Ines Raimundo, PhD, (Associate Professor), Eduardo Mondlane University, Maputo Mozambique
- c. discussion of keynotes for 2022
- d. gratitude expressed for conference team including as Program Chair Dr. Phillippe Frowd University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Canada; As Review Chairs - Dr. Grace Adeniyi-Ogunyankin, Queens University, Kingston, Canada; Dr. Felix Idongesit Oyosoro at Obong University, Nigeria

8. CAAS/ACEA Prizes

2021/2022 Awards and Prizes

- Joel Gregory Prize— (first place) goes to Monica Popescu for *At Penpoint: African Literatures, Postcolonial Studies, and the Cold War*.
- Congratulations to Koni Benson who was a close runner up *Crossroads: I Live Where I Like*.
- Pius Adesanmi Early Career Research Excellence Award: James Yeku (1st place) and Melchisedek Chetima (2nd place).
- Fraser Taylor Prize for Graduate Student Paper and Presentation at CAAS Conference 2021 was Katie Carline

10. Election of the CAAS/ACEA Board of Directors, 2022-2023

- a. President Isaac Bazie expressed gratitude to Board members, and introduced President Elect Nduka Otiono. President Otiono introduced Board members.
- b. After introductions of Board, Nduka Otiono discussed using his term to continue nurturing connections to African scholars and to build connections between the African diaspora and colleagues in Africa and CAAS.

Elected members

President — Nduka Otiono (Carleton University)
 Past-President — Isaac Bazie (UQAM)
 Vice-President — Grace Adeniyi-Ogunyankin (Queens University)
 Secretary-Treasurer — Nicole Haggerty (Western University)
 Member-at-large #1 Faculty — Bonny Ibhowa (McMaster University)
 Member-at-large #2 Faculty — To be elected
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Nominated Members

Finance Director — To be Nominated by the Board
 Digital Innovator — To be Nominated by the Board
 CAAS conference 2023 organizer — follow discussions on agenda item #11 below

11. Discussions on CAAS conference 2023

- a. Phillippe Frowd was introduced as Conference Chair – discussed working on inclusivity and the return to in-person activities.
- b. Work will begin to identify volunteers for review chair(s) who will be able to stay on to assume responsibility in year 2 as program chair and year 3 as conference chair.
- c. A final volunteer and decision will also be sought for the location coordinator for the 2023 conference.

12. Any other business

- a. Meredith Terrata reported on the challenges of getting visas for African scholars visiting Canada. Championed by Sara Katz-Lavigne and Belinda Dodson from several years ago – data was collected to gather information visa barriers. The following website was provided <https://visabARRIER.ca/public/> which will collect data from African scholars and their experience of applying to visa's to Canada.
- b. Request is made to send out an announcement to membership about project in both English and French. Prof. Otiono expressed support and promote this project.
- c. Nduka O raised a question of the possibility of a special issue from this CAAS conference. Meredith T. presented some insight on how she worked to create a CJAS special issue on a special topic that was a subset of a past CAAS conference. Belinda D. reported that CJAS welcomes all CAAS presenters to submit but that it would not be possible to consider a new special issue outside of the CJAS new process.
- d. Idea about hosting a CAAS conference in Africa is a future. Nicole proposed a sub-committee explore nominate themselves to study and consider the issues in achieving this and bringing it back to the next board meeting. Volunteers included: Jean Ntakirutimana; Isaac Bazie and Kwabena Darko Akuamoah. Further volunteers will be sought from the community.

13. Adjournment

- a. Moved by Kwabena Akuamoah
- b. Seconded by Phillipe Frowd
- c. Approved.

Exhibit 1: CAAS Financial Update July 1 to April 30th, 2022

	July 2021 to April 30 2022
Opening bank balance	\$ 62,400.21
Deposits	\$ 30.24
GC 8098 or GIC in	\$ 17,552.01
E-Trans	\$ 175.00
Total in	\$ 80,157.46
Expenses	
Paypal monthly	\$ 110.25
Paypal MSP	\$ 7.83
cheques	\$ 154.00
Payment to Audace	\$ 6,000.00

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e-fees	\$ 15.00
Ignite 2021115	\$ 1,474.65
Corp Canada	\$ 12.00
Pheedloop	\$ 1,666.75
CJAS Taylor&Francis	\$ 3,779.60
Congress Fees	\$ 3,173.91
send etrans	\$ 38.46
Total out	\$ 18,432.45
Bank Balance	\$ 61,725.01
Plus GIC	\$ 10,164.43
Total at April 30th	\$ 71,889.44

Projected Inflows: Total = \$25,290

- 1) CJAS for 2022 – \$12,625
- 2) CAAS Conference Registration - \$5,340 (91 confirmed and paid registrants)
- 3) CAAS Membership - \$7,325 (61 members)

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Annual Report 2022-2023
Canadian Journal of African Studies
Presented to the Annual General Meeting of CAAS
May 31st 2023, York University

As this report shows, the *Canadian Journal of African Studies (CJAS)* is in good health, demonstrated across a range of metrics. The Journal successfully navigated the challenges of the COVID pandemic and continues to adapt within a fluid and evolving academic publishing landscape.

1. Editorial Team

2022-2023 has been a year of renewal and consolidation for *CJAS* following expansion of the editorial team in 2021-2022. The five new Editors have now been in place for just over a year and have brought added capacity as well as expanded disciplinary and regional breadth. As a reminder, they are Jess Auerbach (Cape Town), Lesley Braun (Basel), Melchisedek Chétima (UQAM), Chris Gore (Toronto Metropolitan) and Akin Iwilade (Edinburgh), along with French Book Review Editor Samba Diop (Oslo).

Philippe Frowd (Ottawa) reached the end of his term on June 30, 2022. We again express and record our gratitude to Philippe for his three years of work with *CJAS*. Editors who remain in place for a second three-year term are Gillian Mathys (Ghent), Jean Ntakirutimana (Brock) and Vanessa Oliveira (Royal Military College), all appointed in 2019. Jean Ntakirutimana serves as senior Francophone Editor. Belinda Dodson (Western/Carleton) continues in the role of Coordinating Editor. Martin Evans (Coventry) continues in the position of Managing Editor, which he took over from Roger Riendeau in mid-2021. Jonathan Roberts (Mount St Vincent) stays on as English Book Review Editor. Miriam Grant (UBC), former Secretary-Treasurer of CAAS, provides financial administrative support, as Martin cannot easily do that from the UK.

The Editorial Advisory Board (EAB) has been expanded through appointment of the shortlisted candidates who applied for Editor positions in 2021 but were not appointed as Editors in that round. This further enhances the EAB in terms of diversity of discipline, regional specialization, demographics and geography.

The expanded editorial team, with support from the EAB, places the Journal in a strong position for the coming few years. We anticipate turnover in the editorial team as Editors come to the end of their terms from 2025 onward, and open calls for new Editors will be made at the appropriate time.

2. Conference Participation

After disruptions owing to the COVID pandemic, in-person conference attendance resumed in 2022. Although our own CAAS 2022 conference was held virtually, other major African Studies

conferences were held in person. As reported last year, the hybrid African Studies Association of Africa (ASAA) conference in Cape Town in April 2022 was attended by Jess Auerbach (in person) and Belinda Dodson (virtual). Book Review Editor Jonathan Roberts attended the Ghana Studies Association conference in Tamale, Ghana, in July 2022. Managing Editor Martin Evans attended the ASA-UK conference in Liverpool in September 2022. Coordinating Editor Belinda Dodson, Editor Lesley Braun, and Book Review Editor Jonathan Roberts attended the ASA-US conference in Philadelphia in November 2022, where Belinda represented the Journal on a publishing panel. Conference attendance provides valuable opportunities to promote *CJAS* (and CAAS), solicit submissions, and identify prospective authors and reviewers. Members of the editorial team also took part in a number of online events, including a *CJAS* panel at the virtual CAAS conference in May 2022. An in-person Editors' panel will take place at this year's CAAS conference, scheduled for June 1st. A number of other *CJAS* Editors will be attending the European Conference on African Studies (ECAS) in Cologne from May 31st to June 3rd, which this year unfortunately clashes with CAAS.

A new addition to *CJAS*'s contributions to the CAAS conference is the Christopher Youé Memorial Lecture. Chris was a long-serving Editor, Book Review Editor, and Coordinating Editor of *CJAS*. After his passing in 2018, the Editors decided to establish an annual lecture to honour his legacy. The inaugural Youé lecture will take place on the morning of June 1st, accompanied by a complimentary breakfast. The inaugural lecture will be given by Dr. Nadège Compaoré, Professor of International Relations at the University of Toronto.

3. Current and Planned Issues

Volume 56 (2022) of *CJAS* was made up of three regular issues, following a string of Special Issues in previous years. The 2022 regular issues covered a variety of topics, with broad disciplinary and geographic coverage as well as diversity of authorship. The volume was made up of 29 articles, three of which were in French. All three 2022 issues are attracting a healthy number of downloads.

The first issue of volume 57 was published in March 2023, ahead of its April schedule. This is another regular issue with a mix of topics, disciplines and authorship, including three papers in French. All of these recent issues include a good number of book reviews. Increasing the number of articles and book reviews published in French remains a goal, with some signs of success but still work to do.

CJAS is now routinely publishing issues on or ahead of schedule, with individual articles published online ahead-of-print as soon as they are ready before being compiled into an issue. There is enough material already published online or in the pipeline for issues 2 and 3 of volume 57 (2023). There are papers under review for a themed section on "Youth in West and Central Africa", likely to comprise part of issue 57(3). Papers are also under review for a Special Issue on "People and Municipalities". This is likely to end up as a themed section rather than full Special Issue, with likely publication as part of volume 58 (2024).

Special Issues have been a central component of *CJAS* since the Journal's founding in 1967. Last year, the Journal revised its protocol for Special Issues. Instead of reviewing and accepting

proposals on an *ad hoc* basis, we now have an annual April 30th deadline for proposals, from which one proposal is selected for development into a Special Issue. This is to avoid uneven distribution of regular and Special Issues and ensure timely compilation of regular issues. CAAS members are encouraged to submit proposals for Special Issues of *CJAS*. Special Issues are sometimes subsequently published as books under Routledge's Special Issues as Books (SPIB) publishing program. In 2022, the 2020 *CJAS* Special Issue on Gender and Artisanal Mining, compiled by Doris Buss and Blair Rutherford, was published as a book.

4. Relationship with Taylor & Francis

CJAS (and CAAS) are now in the fifth year of a second seven-year publishing contract with Taylor & Francis, based in Abingdon UK. The contract will be up for renewal in 2025. The relationship with T&F provides technical support, marketing reach and promotional strategies that would be beyond our capacity as a stand-alone, in-house journal. Services provided by T&F include online publication of *CJAS* articles and issues, access to the Scholar One submission and review platform, copy editing and typesetting, print publication and distribution, marketing and promotion, handling institutional and other subscriptions (including for CAAS members), and training and support for journal editors. They track downloads and calculate metrics, providing us with regular annual publishing reports. They communicate directly with authors (for example to provide e-offprints, or alert them when their work has been cited) and with prospective readers to draw attention to articles in their areas of interest. In exchange, *CJAS* is paid an allowance for Editors' expenses, as well as earning royalties through subscriptions and downloads.

In addition to articles for which authors have paid a fee for Open Access, T&F offers temporary free access to selected articles to attract wider readership. At their initiative, to coincide with this year's CAAS conference, we have put together a free-access online collection of eight recent articles by authors who are based in Canada and/or affiliated with CAAS or *CJAS* (<https://www.tandfonline.com/journals/rcas20/collections/african-studies-in-canada>).

Routledge/T&F also produce an annual free-access collection of chapters and articles from their African Studies books and journals, titled "Directions and Provocations in African Studies" (<https://think.taylorandfrancis.com/african-studies/>). There are two *CJAS* articles in the current collection. Beyond these initiatives, T&F's STAR program provides free access to T&F journal content for researchers based in the Global South (including countries in Africa). The Journal benefits considerably from these various programs and initiatives.

There is ongoing discussion across the academic publishing industry, including at T&F, to address the cost of journal subscriptions and provide more Open Access to academic publications. *CJAS* is actively engaged in these conversations. We are conscious that most of our Africa-based authors cannot afford even discounted Open Access fees, meaning that their work remains behind paywalls that perpetuate North-South and Rich-Poor divides in academia. One recent development is the move to "Transformative" or "Read and Publish" Agreements, where universities pay a subscription that provides both reader access to journal content and Open Access publishing for researchers based at that institution. Open Access and wider publishing practices are in a state of ongoing transformation and flux. In all of this, *CJAS* remains committed to expanding diversity of authorship and lowering cost and other accessibility barriers to authors and readers, especially in Africa.

The editorial team's day-to-day working interaction with T&F remains smooth and collaborative. Copy editing and typesetting continue to show improvement after we expressed concerns. The annual report produced by T&F, which provides most of the data and metrics outlined in section 5 below, allows us to track performance and implement improvements. T&F are certainly satisfied with their partnership with *CJAS* (and with CAAS). The relationship remains of mutual benefit despite the inherent contradictions between the worlds of academia and corporate academic publishing.

5. Data and Metrics: submissions, acceptances, readership, citation

Being with T&F provides regular data and information on submissions, acceptance rates, online readership (downloads) and citations. T&F collate these data into an annual publishing report. The most recent report was sent by the Journal's T&F Portfolio Manager, Madeleine Markey, in late April. Through the Scholar One platform, we can also independently access and process data on submissions, reviewing and decisions.

In addition, on *CJAS*'s T&F website there is a "Journal Metrics" tab. This shows *CJAS*'s annual downloads, citation scores, and data on acceptance rates, review times, and speed of post-acceptance publication. Updated annually, these metrics are useful to prospective authors in deciding where to submit their work. Also via that site, anyone can see the "Most Read" and "Most Cited" papers, as well as the number of times an individual article has been downloaded.

The figures below present some highlights. Overall trends remain positive. After a slight decrease from 2020 (170) to 2021 (162), article submissions increased again in 2022 (173) (Figure 1). That amounts to between 3 and 4 submissions each week. 2020 was the first pandemic year, which saw a notable uptick in submissions across many academic journals. It looks like 2023 might see a slight decline, but indications thus far are that lower quantity might be compensated for by higher quality of submissions. The acceptance rate has declined each year from 31% (2019) to 10% (2022) (Figure 2). This is partly because of the increasing number of overall submissions, but also owing to the number of Special Issue article decisions in 2019 and 2020. Such articles have typically been pre-vetted, so they tend to have higher acceptance rates.

Nigeria remained the main source of submissions in 2022, with South Africa in second place, Canada third and the US fourth (Figure 3). Three of our top five submitting countries in 2022, and six of our top ten, were in Africa, although dominated by West and Southern Africa. Submissions in 2022 came from 54 different countries around the world, including 25 in Africa. We still aim to increase the number and geographic diversity of submissions from authors based in African countries, but trends are encouraging.

Trends in readership are also positive, indicated by the number of downloads. Figure 4 shows downloads from T&F Online. From just over 15,000 T&F Online downloads in 2015, these rose to approximately 60,000 in 2021 and 2022 i.e. a fourfold increase. Numbers for the year to date appear strong, up 12% over the equivalent period last year. *CJAS* readership is widely international, as demonstrated in Figure 5. We can still do more to increase African readership, for example by promoting the STAR program, but it is encouraging to see that 31% of our online readership now comes from Africa, just behind Europe at 33% and ahead of North America at

22%. The top 10 countries of *CJAS* readership include three in Africa: Cameroon, Ghana, and South Africa. Cameroon edged ahead of Ghana as the top downloading African country in 2022. The T&F report also notes that at least one article from *CJAS* had been downloaded in almost every country in Africa over the past 12 months, the exceptions being Cape Verde, Libya and São Tomé & Príncipe, and that nearly 21,000 downloads came from readers based in Africa, compared to 18,000 downloads over the same period in 2021-2022.

CJAS is included in various abstracting, indexing and citation databases. Figure 6 shows the Journal's CiteScore from 2017 to 2021. CiteScore counts the citations received in the previous four-year period and divides this by the number of articles published in the same period. Our CiteScore has increased from 0.6 in 2018 and 2019 to 1.1 in 2021. Although we would like this to be even higher, the continued positive trend is nevertheless encouraging. It is also encouraging to see the geographic spread of *CJAS* article citations (Figure 7). Three of the top ten countries where authors have cited *CJAS* articles since 2020 are in Africa, namely South Africa, Ghana and Nigeria.

Figure 1: Submissions 2019 – 2023 YTD (April)

Submissions & Peer Review – Submission Trends

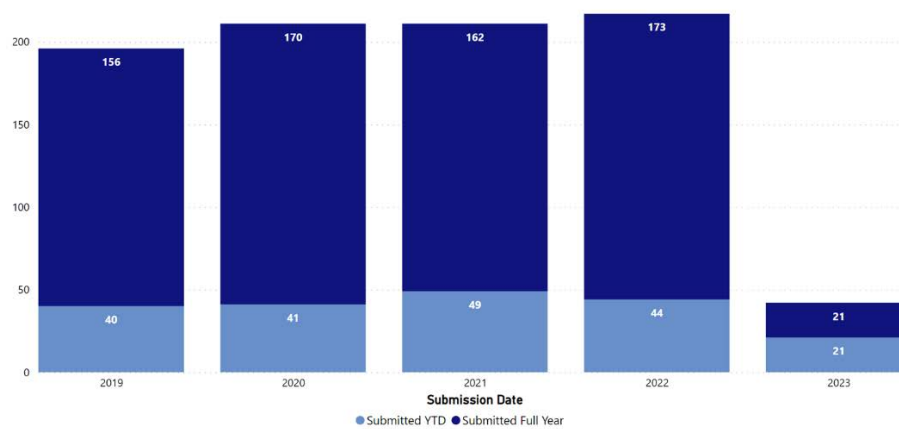


Figure 2: Acceptance rates 2019 – 2022

Final Manuscript Decisions

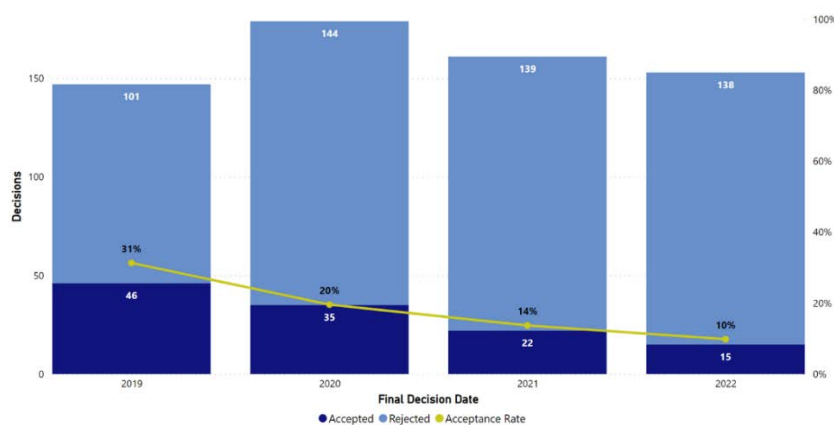


Figure 3: Geography of submissions 2019 – 2023 YTD (April)

Geography of Submissions

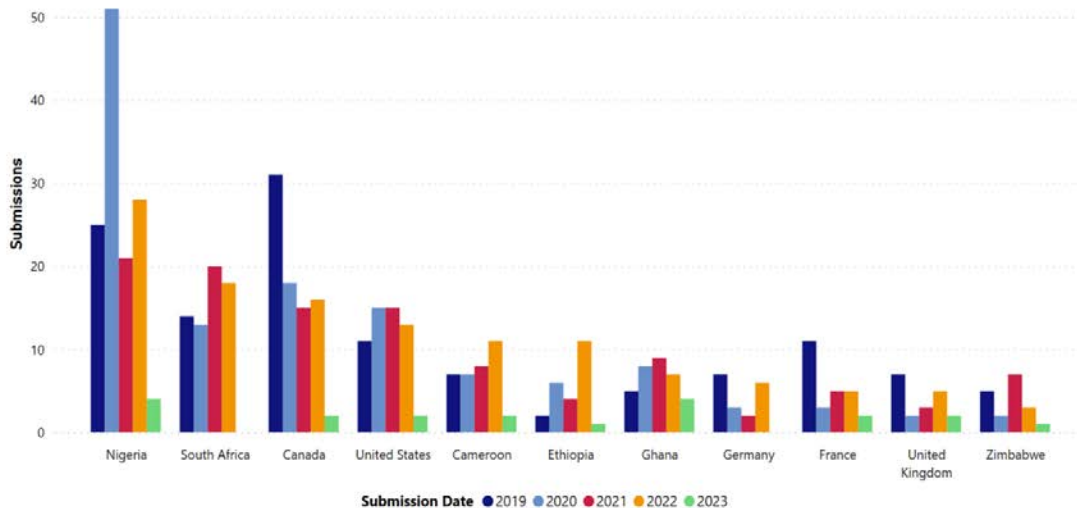


Figure 4: Full-text downloads 2015 – 2023 YTD (April)

Article Downloads - Taylor & Francis Online (TFO) Usage

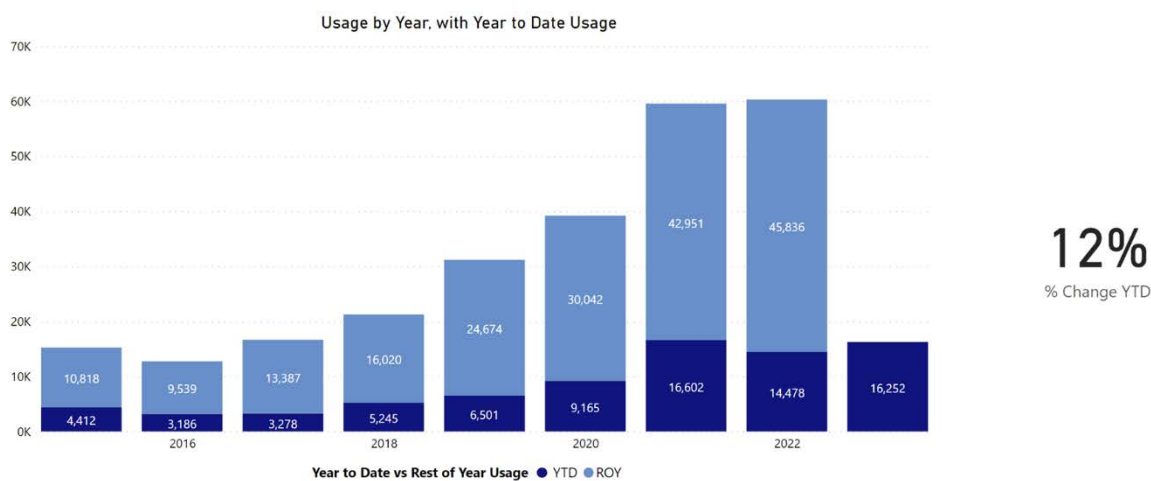


Figure 5: Downloads by region and top 10 countries (2022 + YTD)

Article Downloads - Usage by Country & Region

Usage shown is for the last full year, plus the current year.

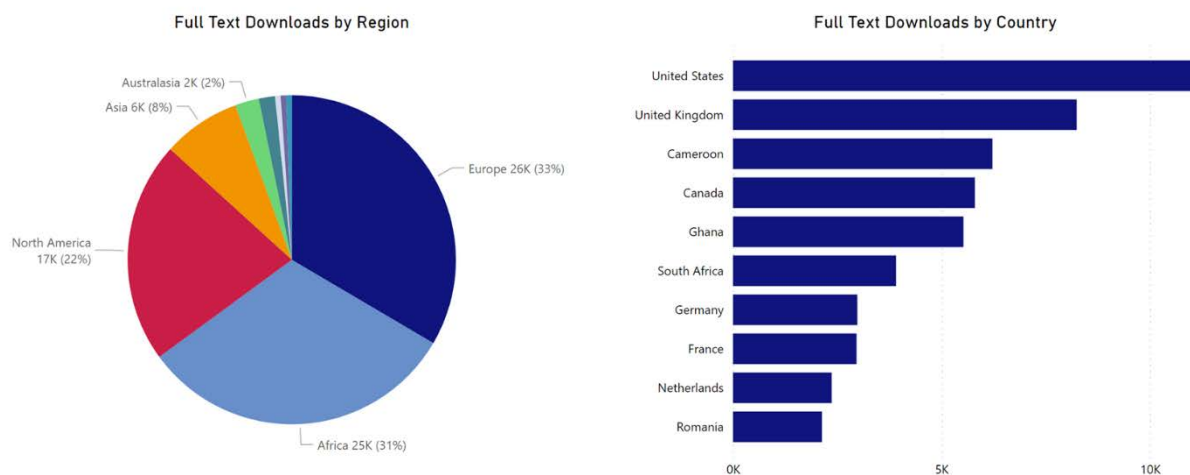


Figure 6: Citation scores

Citation Metrics (Scopus)

Sum of Year	CiteScore	CiteScore Rank	CiteScore Best Quartile	SNIP	SJR
2017	0.7	58 / 96 Demography, 143 / 210 Development, 165 / 342 Anthropology, 259 / 1090 History, 260 / 852 Cultural Studies, 630 / 1082 Sociology and Political Science	Q1	0.68	0.143
2018	0.6	65 / 104 Demography, 160 / 237 Development, 195 / 383 Anthropology, 305 / 980 Cultural Studies, 311 / 1216 History, 724 / 1218 Sociology and Political Science	Q2	0.64	0.165
2019	0.6	64 / 104 Demography, 170 / 239 Development, 200 / 398 Anthropology, 287 / 1259 History, 292 / 1002 Cultural Studies, 726 / 1243 Sociology and Political Science	Q1	0.73	0.262
2020	0.8	64 / 109 Demography, 178 / 257 Development, 180 / 411 Anthropology, 225 / 1328 History, 253 / 1037 Cultural Studies, 696 / 1269 Sociology and Political Science	Q1	0.90	0.239
2021	1.1	63 / 124 Demography, 165 / 443 Anthropology, 167 / 1499 History, 180 / 287 Development, 211 / 1127 Cultural Studies, 641 / 1345 Sociology and Political Science	Q1	0.75	0.372

CiteScore by Year

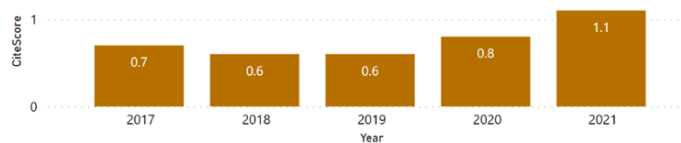


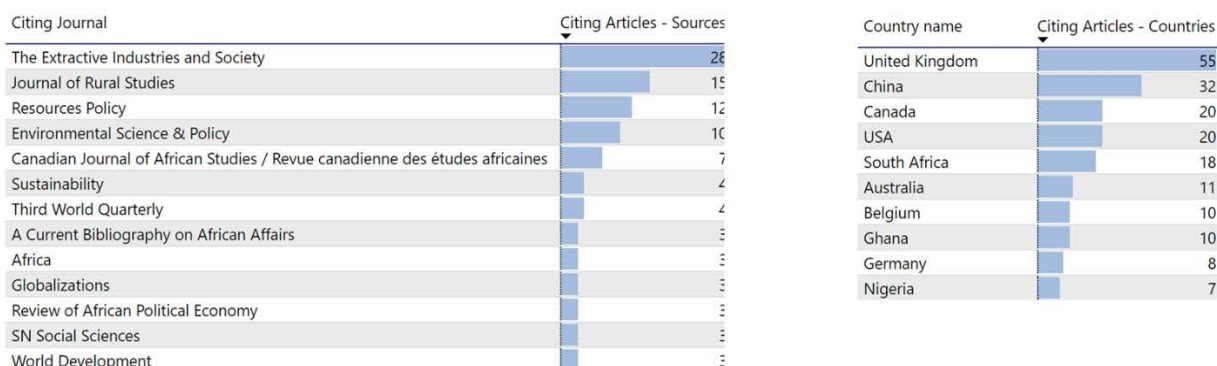
Figure 7: Top 10 citing journals and countries (by author)

Citing Sources & Regions

Top journals citing documents published online in the journal from 2020 onwards

Top countries citing documents published online in the journal from 2020 onwards. An article with an author from 2+ countries will count to all of those country counts.

Source: Dimensions



6. Finances (also see the Journal section of the CAAS Financial Statement)

CJAS and CAAS continue to benefit financially from the publishing partnership with Taylor & Francis. T&F pays the Journal an annual sum for editorial expenses, and in addition we receive royalties based on subscriptions, Open Access fees, and article downloads. As per a 2020 agreement between *CJAS* and CAAS, one third of the royalty revenue goes to CAAS to spend on Association business and activity. The unpredictability of royalty revenues from year to year presents something of a challenge. The move to Read and Publish Agreements and other forms of Open Access is likely to result in decreased royalty revenues for *CJAS* and similar journals, so this is something to keep an eye on over the next few years. Royalties for 2022, however, remained steady.

7. Social Media

CJAS created a Twitter account (@*CJAS_RCEA*) in 2018. The account now has over 2400 followers and generates considerable interest. Twitter has proved a useful vehicle for announcing new articles and alerting people to new issues. CAAS often retweets *CJAS* Twitter posts and *vice versa*. Journal content is also regularly shared via Routledge/T&F's various social media accounts, including T&F Africa, Routledge Politics and International Relations, and Routledge Area Studies. Also available via the Journal's T&F Online page is the Altmetric score for individual articles. This shows how often an article has been tweeted, cited in media including sites such as Wikipedia and *The Conversation*, or appeared in Mendeley and similar platforms. It is likely that increases in submissions and readership over the past few years are due in part to this raised social media presence and profile.

Conclusion

There is ample evidence of *CJAS*'s overall health: sustained high numbers of submissions and downloads, rising citations, and widening geographic reach of authorship and readership – especially in Africa. The expanded editorial team enables us to sustain the Journal as a widely read and highly regarded publication attractive to emerging and established authors across multiple world regions. In particular, *CJAS* is building its base of authors and reviewers on and from the African continent, while continuing to promote African Studies in Canada as the journal of CAAS.

The *CJAS* team thanks CAAS President Nduka Otiono and other members of the CAAS Executive for their support. Thanks are also due to the staff of T&F, especially our Portfolio Manager Madeleine Heming Markey and Production Editor Carl Rejalde, for their work supporting the editorial team and producing articles and issues to high publication standards. As Coordinating Editor, I express my sincere appreciation to the whole editorial team for their hard work, collegiality and commitment over the past year.

Belinda Dodson, Coordinating Editor
May 19, 2023