

Foreword

Ten years ago, a group of law students decided to start the Strathmore Law Review (SLR), with no guarantee that it would work and no promise that anyone would read what they produced. They abounded with curiosity about the law and enough conviction to believe their questions mattered.

SLR turns ten this year and we now have a decade of evidence that those students were right. This accomplishment came to be because each generation of student editors understood something important: a law review is only as good as the intellectual honesty it brings to the law. When students choose to publish work that challenges conventional thinking, insisting on clarity over complexity, and refusing to let mediocre reasoning hide behind impressive citations, they create scholarship that practitioners read, that judges cite, and which other scholars build upon.

The students who founded SLR may not have predicted that their journal would become a forum for some of the most thoughtful legal writing in Africa. They might not have foreseen that their work would influence young lawyers who now practice across the continent, and the world. They could sense, though, that legal education needed a space where students could grapple with the law's hardest questions, where theory could meet practice, where the next generation of lawyers could sharpen their thinking and writing skills.

Over ten years, SLR has published work on constitutional interpretation, intellectually property rights and other human rights, environmental regulation, among other important fields of law. The quality of the publication has been consistently high because the editorial standards have remained unquestionable. Student editors have learned what every good lawyer must learn, that is, precision matters and arguments must be tested and articulated through deep thinking and meticulous writing.

Law journals and law reviews are often seen as the intellectual haven of a law school, and over the past decade, SLR has promoted this spirit relentlessly. The tenth anniversary edition is therefore an important milestone in this journey

of intellectual excellence. Besides, it is proof that student-led scholarship can thrive when this responsibility is embraced fully. True to tradition, this volume tackles current legal problems with the incisiveness that readers have come to expect from SLR.

Now, it falls to the current and future generation of editors to uphold the tradition of intellectual prowess that has made SLR a journal that matters. If they continue to demand the best from themselves and their contributors, then SLR will maintain the respect it has so far earned and garner an even wider following.

Congratulations to each one who has made this journal what it is. Looking forward to the next decade of growth and excellence!

Dr. Jane Wathuta,
Dean, Strathmore Law School (SLS)