



BOOK PROPOSAL CHAPTERS

An Initiative of the South African Young Academy of Science (SAYAS)

PUSHING FRONTIERS:

MULTI-DISCIPLINARY REFLECTIONS OF SCIENCE POST COVID-19

Book Aims and Scope:

The COVID-19 pandemic within a short space of time has had tremendous global impact. Regrettably, the tragic cost in the loss of human life, including untold physical and mental suffering, features across the world. Minister of Health in South Africa, Dr Zweli Mkhize has called for “hard combat” in fighting the COVID-19 pandemic. This has led to calls for a multi-stakeholder approach in addressing this fight. Science as a discipline is not spared. On the ground in South Africa and globally, is evidence of efforts such as a) trying to flatten the curve; b) the development of protocols; c) efforts towards vaccines and possible treatments and d) the necessity for community education and awareness. A silo approach clearly would not assist in fighting the COVID-19 pandemic. The importance of a collaborative multi-stakeholder approach is heightened.

Focus, and rightfully, has been on how in the present, a range of stakeholders including disciplines such as science have tried to fight the pandemic. This work and effort is laudable. An equally important step that is needed is the work to re-build post-COVID-19. There is need not only to understand but potentially prepare for such a world. Despite this being an unknown, what is clear borrowing from efforts in the present, the role of science and collaborative engagement is crucial.

Bearing all this in mind, the [South African Young Academy of Science](#) (SAYAS) proposes a book dedicated to re-imagine this new world, post-COVID-19.

Book Chapter Streams:

The proposed book will be split into the following five chapter streams:

a) POST-COVID-19 & SCIENCE COMMUNICATION & AWARENESS

Science communication and awareness is pegged as important in conveying messages and strategies useful in fighting the current COVID-19 pandemic. Chapters in this stream can potentially tackle (and not limited to) aspects/lessons/reflections on the role that science communication and awareness has played in view of COVID-19 and juxtapose future imaginations of what we can learn for the future, in a post-COVID-19 world. This can include addressing issues related to information (e.g. fake news), risk communication, media coverage of pandemics, the role of social media, and studies that explore how communication and advocacy around issues of pandemics/epidemics should happen when learning from the current crisis.

b) The POST-COVID-19 WORLD OF WORK

An aspect that will be affected by the current situation of COVID-19 is the world of work. Chapters in this stream can focus on exploring how the future world of work will look in a post-COVID-19 world. This includes reflections around how the work of scientists will frame out in such a world and how the future world of work post-COVID-19 will incorporate issues such as career advancement, work-life balance, social distancing and work, stress, and wellbeing.

c) SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS & POST-COVID-19

Chapters here address issues related to sustainable development issues. The focus here could center on issues that not only relate to the human race but also aspects of ecology. Chapters can also explore

how a post-COVID-19 world is going to explore aspects of geo-spatial living bearing in mind lessons learnt around social and physical distancing in the present. Chapters can also propose innovative ways of addressing issues of infrastructure challenges especially within poor communities.

d) RE-IMAGINING KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTION & DISSEMINATION POST-COVID-19

An important work done by scientists is around knowledge production and dissemination. In South Africa and globally, research, teaching and learning have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. In South Africa, the effect of this has been glaring as it has also revealed disparities not only around access but also issues of how the socio-economics status affects how universities operate. Chapters here need to explore the future of knowledge production and dissemination, especially research, teaching and learning, bearing in mind the current crisis.

e) DISCIPLINARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO POST-COVID-19 FUTURE

We acknowledge the need to be expansive beyond the four streams identified in our post-COVID-19 future reflections. We also welcome other angles of exploration, point of debate, disciplinary focus and interventions outside those identified.

Book Chapter Abstract Submission Process:

Authors need to first submit an abstract and show how their proposed chapter fits within the book chapter streams. An abstract needs to include:

- A title of the chapter.
- A brief context detailing the main argument that the chapter seeks to make in view of the current COVID-19 pandemic bearing issues such as contextual and global relevance.
- The author(s) framing of a post-COVID- 19 world in view of the contextual and global setting that has been set.
- A clear contribution of the proposed chapter in view of the ambit of the project. This may include: a) new knowledge being generated; b) interventions that inform policy and practice; c) interrogative inquiry into future vistas and pockets of knowledge in view of the challenge of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Word limit: 500 to 800 words.
- SAYAS members are welcome to be either sole author or work with other SAYAS members or non-SAYAS members. We also appreciate submissions individually or in a group from those who are not SAYAS members.
- Submissions are also welcome from scholars on the African continent guided by the same proposed chapter streams.
- Indicate full contact details and current institution and those of co-authors, if applicable.
- For further information contact: Prof Willie Chinyamurindi – wchinyamurindi@ufh.ac.za
- Email book chapter abstract to: Edith@assaf.org.za
- Access more information about SAYAS at: www.sayas.org.za
- **Deadline: 31 August 2020**

Please Note:

SAYAS guided by Government Gazette of the Republic of South Africa, Vol 597 – 11 March 2015 No.38552, Section 6: Books and Chapters in books intends:

- this proposed book project be **peer reviewed** with the intent of **disseminating original research and developments** within specific disciplines, sub-disciplines, or fields of study.
- This proposed book be an extensive and in-depth scholarly treatment of a topic by one or more scholars, largely comprising significant and original (own) research, embedded in relevant literature.
- The proposed book will have an International Standard Book Number (ISBN) or an e-ISBN.
- The length of the book must be a minimum of 60 pages, excluding references, bibliography, index and appendices, this being above the minimum norm of 49 pages proposed by the UNESCO definition of a book.
- The target audience of the book must be specialists in the relevant field.