



The African University in Knowledge Production and Dissemination Paradigms

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Published: 07 August 2000 | **Received:** 26 April 2000 | **Accepted:** 14 July 2000

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DOI: [10.5281/zenodo.18719835](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18719835)

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Abstract

African universities play a pivotal role in knowledge production and dissemination across various fields of study, including African Studies. This study focuses on understanding how Nigerian universities contribute to these processes. This study employs ethnographic methods, involving participant observation, interviews with academics and administrators, and document analysis to gather insights into university practices in Nigeria. Findings indicate that Nigerian universities predominantly use a collaborative research approach where faculty members often work together on projects. This collaboration is evident in both thematic content (e.g., education reform) and geographic scope (covering multiple regions). The study concludes by highlighting the importance of university-led initiatives in shaping knowledge production and dissemination, particularly in addressing local challenges. Recommendations for future research include a deeper examination into the impact of these collaborative efforts on policy outcomes and broader societal impacts.

Keywords: *Africanization, Cultural Studies, Ethnography, Pan-Africanism, Postcolonial Theory, Reflexivity, Ubuntu*

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