Letter from the Guest Editor

This issue of the occasional paper series, like the previous issues, is the result of effective collaboration and cooperation between and among hard-working SICA colleagues dedicated to the continued advancement of our mission. From developing the concept through calling for proposals to requesting peer reviews, it has been both a pleasure and joy to work with all our collaborators to pull this off during the terribly busy Spring and Summer semesters as we transitioned to “normalcy” from the COVID-19 pandemic.

On my part, it was indeed a privilege to serve as Guest Editor and to work closely with the SICA Chair, OPS Editor, and contributing authors with exceptional talent and dedication. They made my role easier and enjoyable, and I would like to thank everyone for exhibiting such great collegiality and professionalism in putting this eye-opening issue of food insecurity together.

As the SICA Chair, Dr. Meghna Sabharwal concisely lays it out, we could not have found a more appropriate theme than “Global Food Insecurity” within a period of pandemic and climate change challenges. In putting it squarely within the context of the UN’s World Food Program, Dr. Sabharwal pinpoints the magnitude of the problem, one that deserves greater global attention than has been the case. In line with this globalism, and as the coverage indicates, contributors address the theme expertly from a global perspective, drawing both from the Global South regions (Africa, Latin America, and South Asia that have been hit the hardest) and from the Global North (US and Canada). Perhaps, this is one realistic way to approach administration and management in the emerging post-Covid-19 world.

The contributors have done an excellent job in providing stimulating discussions and analyses that will motivate further research into this existential threat. They blend unique regional experiences with empirical thought to offer geo-strategic solutions that the broader SICA community will find rewarding to read. On their part, they will find satisfaction in the opportunity to tell their part of the story of the urgent issue of our time: food insecurity. As guest editor, I have had the honor of assisting them in accomplishing that goal, and I will be happy to do so again if the opportunity arises.

-- Peter Haruna, Ph.D. Guest Editor and Professor, Texas A&M International University, Laredo Texas.