Academic Freedom in the Neo-Liberal Order: Governments, Globalization, Governance, and Gender (Abstract)

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This paper seeks to examine the meanings and challenges of academic freedom for African universities and intellectuals as they confront old and new pressures from globalization, governments, and the general public. It is argued that as the "development" university of the 1960s and 1970s shifted to the "market" university of the 1980s and 1990s, threats to academic freedom became less political and more economic. The essay begins by discussing various definitions of academic freedom in Western and African contexts, then proceeds to explore the role of governments, the impact of globalization, the dynamics of internal governance, and finally the gender dimensions of academic freedom.

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