ABSTRACT

*Campus Voices Echoed: Lesotho and Zimbabwe Imagined* is an anthology of short stories from the National University of Lesotho and the Midlands State University, Zimbabwe. As a collaborative effort, this anthology exemplifies the long-standing academic fraternity that has existed between Lesotho and Zimbabwe since the latter’s struggle for Independence. The manner in which the stories are told shows that the differences between Maseru and Harare are so miniscule that one would not be blamed if they were to say that they honestly do not know where Maseru ends and Harare begins, in these short tales. The sensibilities in these stories generally range from the impact of colonial/protectorate occupation, through migrant labour relations to post independence experiences. While Zimbabwean authors are specifically preoccupied with issues of politics, bribery, venality, corruption, mismanagement and love, Basotho authors explore concerns germane to the migrant labour system, the conflict between tradition and the modern world, advocacy for living with HIV/AIDS and other burning issues of our time. Here and there, the writers’ passion for ordinary experiences such as love, poverty, infidelity, politics and cultural issues overlap.