



Preface

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It is a great honour and privilege to write this preface as a Dean who joined the Faculty of Law at the University of Johannesburg in March 2021. The era of COVID-19 fast-tracked us into the realities of the Fourth Industrial Revolution and demanded resilience, strength, and agility to adapt to changing conditions. While the full impact of COVID-19 remains uncertain, it is generally accepted that it will continue to fundamentally transform all aspects of our occupational and personal lives. This was the backdrop to our discussions at our Dean's Committee when the idea was sparked to do a book project on the impact of COVID-19 on Law. At this Committee, the title of the book "*The Impact of COVID-19 on the Future of Law and Related Disciplines*" was birthed.

This book brings together a collection of 11 research papers dealing with the impact of COVID-19 across a span of different legal disciplines (international law, constitutional law, environmental law, law of persons and the family, law of delict, civil procedure, labour law, and legal research methodology). I am proud that this book not only reflects a range of legal disciplines but also reflects the work of legal academics across ranks, from junior lecturers to full professors. The authors of this book, each in their own way, critically analyse, challenge, and rouse us to think deeply about the future of law.

I want to thank all the authors who contributed to this book. My deep appreciation goes to Prof Murdoch Watney for taking up the leadership in running the project and bringing this book project to fruition.



