

## REPORT ON SELECTION OF CANDIDATES TO BE AWARDED TELLS PROJECT SCHOLARSHIP AT THE UNIVERSITY OF RWANDA

The meeting for shortlisting candidates to pass interview for the award of a TELLS' scholarship was held at Rukara Campus on May 13, 2022. This report focuses on the background of the call for application, selection criteria and the meeting outcomes (selected candidates and guiding questions for interview).

### 1. Agenda

- Shortlisting candidates for interview
- Designing guiding questions for interview
- AOB

### 2. Invitees

SN	Names	College	Position	Attendance
1	Dr Mathias Nduwingoma	College of Education	Project Manager	Absence with apology
2	Assoc. Prof. Beatrice Yanzigiye	College of Education	Project member	Present
3	Assoc. Prof. Wenceslas Nzabalirwa	College of Education	Potential Supervisor	Present
4	Dr Philothere Ntawiha	College of Education	Potential Supervisor	Present
5	Dr Gabriel Nizeyimana	College of Education	Potential Supervisor	Present
6	Dr Michael Tusiime	College of Education	Potential Supervisor	Present
7	Dr Irénée Ndayambaje	College of Education	Potential Supervisor	Present
8	Dr Jean Leonard Buhigiro	College of Education	School of Education, Postgraduate Studies Coordinator - Chair	Present
9	Dr Jean Baptiste Ndagijimana	College of Education	Potential Supervisor	Present

10	Assoc. Prof. Eugene Ndabaga	College of Education	Potential Supervisor	Absent with apology
11	Assoc. Prof. Evode Mukama	College of Education	Potential Supervisor	Absent with apology
12	Assoc. Prof. Richard Musabe	College of Science and Technology	Project member and potential supervisor	Absent with apology
13	Dr. Frederic Nzanywayingoma	College of Science and Technology	Postgraduate Studies Coordinator, Project member and potential supervisor	Present
14	Dr. Alfred Uwitonze	College of Science and Technology	Project member and potential supervisor	Present

### 3. Brief background

The Transformative Education and Lifelong Learning (TELLS) project is a joint effort between Makerere University, Uganda, University of Rwanda, Jimma University, Ethiopia, and the University of Agder, Norway. Our Bachelor’s, Master and Ph.D. programs reach out to over 100,000 students. It is funded by NORAD with NORHED II program.

Important topics on the TELLs education and research agenda are life-long learning, new certificate structures, digital inclusion, embracing diversity, gender equality, 21st-century “soft-skills”, enhanced capacity by using artificial intelligence, new pedagogical models, virtual student and staff exchange, and policies for the digital age.

The Project enhances existing master programs for teachers, and creates programs for life-long learning for teaching professionals. It will co-create open Ph.D. courses for future digital education to lay the foundation for new Ph.D. programs. Generally, the work in TELLs is based on an open and inclusive approach that is characterized by a culture of co-creation. The Project is committed to research-based education as the basis for the renewal of our study programs. Embracing diversity, gender equality, and digital inclusion are critical success factors. It will create a program for life skills with special focus on female students and teachers, to prevent their withdrawal from studies and social exclusion.

TELLs Project undertakes PhD and Postdoc Research in strategic areas to influence future education and inclusion activities at all university partners. These include “**Research on management and policies for future universities**” to address technology-enhanced teaching and learning practices and “**Research on artificial intelligence in educational solutions**” to enable individualized, adaptive learning experiences that benefit students and teachers for better future qualified workforce competitive at the global labour market.

At the University of Rwanda, the NORHED II funds will support the development of various key structures, policies, and frameworks in digital education that effectively enable the development of research at the university and the enhancement of research outputs.

Policies have also been developed to guarantee quality higher degree provisions. These include regulations and frameworks for both Ph.D. and Master's programs by research and by coursework.

In that perspective, the TELLS project supports for research equipment and facilities for Ph.D. students conducting fieldwork will be an important investment with cascading impacts for UR research support – other researchers, including staff and students working on similar long-term projects, will also benefit from these investments.

The Ph.D./Postdocs fellows, who will precisely conduct research in digital education, future educational technology, and new pedagogical practices will bring a new change in the education system and will enhance how ICT and related pedagogies influence modern education.

In February 2022, TELLS through University of Rwanda Centre for Postgraduate Studies issued a call for application for two scholarships in **Research on management and policies for future universities** to address technology-enhanced teaching and learning practices and **Research on artificial intelligence in educational solutions**. Application requirements and required documents were the following:

### **Application requirements**

For PhD by research on Management and Policies for future universities:

- ✓ The applicant should:
  - Be a Rwandan Nationality;
  - Hold a Masters' Degree in Education (Educational Policy, Planning, Leadership, Management, Administration, Etc.), Masters of Public Policy (MPP) or equivalent education;
  - Have a relevant background in Management and Policy making and Strong analytical and communication skills.

### **Required documents**

The interested candidates should submit the following documents:

1. A Motivation Letter
2. Detailed curriculum vitae(CV)
3. Notarized Master's degree or equivalent from Rwanda High Education Council (HEC),
4. Notarized Academic Transcripts of Master's degree Programmes;
5. Copies of Previous degrees
6. Two recommendation letters from academic referees who are knowledgeable about the applicant,
7. Copy of National identity card or Passport ;

8. Commitment letter testifying that the training will be finished in due time.

#### 4. Meeting outcomes

##### 4.1 Procedures

After analyzing key aspects on *Policy and procedures for scholarship awards at UR*, the participants agreed to:

- Respect confidentiality during the whole selection and interview process
- Respect what is in the call for application, for instance, to consider two recommendation letters as stated in the advertisement
- Declare conflict of interest thus participants who recommended applicants or are their referees will not be allowed to participate in their interview (Assoc. Prof. Evode Mukama for Esperance Mukarutwaza; Assoc. Prof. Wenceslas Nzabairwa for Jean Baptiste Mushimiyimana and Francis Kamanzi; Dr Jean Baptiste Ndagijimana and Dr Philothere Ntawiha for Pontien Macumi; Dr Florian Nsanganwimana for Salomon Nshimiyimana). However, they remain part of the team because of their skills as potential supervisors or panel members according to UR policy.
- Give opportunity to compete to UR administrative staff as the call for application does not exclude them
- For the College of Education, candidates with a background in education and with Projects which fit with current accredited programmes will be given a priority.

##### 4.2 Analysis of submitted documents per candidate (see Annex I)

###### 4.3.1 Pre-selection outcomes / UR - CE

Project titles	Pre-selected applicant names	Gender	Institution (if from UR indicate also the Department/School/College; employment status (full/part time employee, Academic/Administrative)	Decision (Selected for interview/not selected for interview)	Observations (provide reasons behind the decision)
Project I: <i>The Reflexion on higher educational Reforms in</i>	Angelo Kimenyi	M	-	Not selected	Did not Provide a copy of ID and commitment letter

Rwanda: effect of Policy reforms on graduates' employability					
<b>Project 2:</b> <i>Impact of management strategies and ICT education policy assessment implementation on performance of public university in Rwanda</i>	Bonaventure Niyonshuti	M	Secondary School Teacher GS Kimironko Gasabo District	Selected for interview	Provided all required documents and fulfil other requirements
<b>Project 3:</b> <i>Innovative higher education in Rwanda: assessing the implementation of agile project management practices in</i>	Esperance Mukarutwaza	F	Higher Education Council Higher Learning Quality Assurance Specialist	Selected for interview	Provided all required documents and fulfil other requirements

<i>higher learning institutions</i>					
<b>Project 4:</b> <i>An investigation into the influence of Continuous Professional Development training on Teacher Professionalism in Rwanda</i>	Francis Kamanzi	M	UR_CE School of Education Department of Foundations, Management and Curriculum Studies	Selected for interview	Provided all required documents and fulfil other requirements
<b>Project 5:</b> <i>An investigation into factors that affect the process of teaching learning in distance training programme at university of Rwanda, College of Education</i>	Pontien Macumi	M	UR_CE School of Education Department of Foundations, Management and Curriculum Studies	Selected for interview	Provided all required documents and fulfil other requirements
<b>Project 6:</b> <i>Exploring the integration of</i>	Mushimiyimana Jean Baptiste	M	UR_CE School of Education	Selected for interview	Provided all required documents and fulfil other requirements

<i>ICT in early childhood education: focus on teachers role in Teacher Training Colleges</i>			Department of Early Childhood and Primary Education		
<b>Project 7:</b> <i>The contribution of higher institutions of learning towards socio-economic development in Rwanda: case of Kigali independent university ( ULK) , Rwanda</i>	Faustin Nizeyimana	M		Selected for interview	Provided all required documents and fulfil other requirements
<b>Project 8:</b> <i>Enablers of scientific innovation in higher learning institutions ; a case study of university of Rwanda</i>	Pascal Kiiza	M	University of Rwanda College of Medicine and Health Science Academic Registrar	Selected for interview	Provided all required documents and fulfil other requirements

<p><b>Project 9:</b> <i>University-Industry Collaboration in Technological Innovation in Teaching and Learning: An examination of the University of Rwanda Experiences since its creation in 2013</i></p>	<p>Salomon Nshimiyimana</p>	<p>M</p>	<p>University of Rwanda College of Education Campus Administrator</p>	<p>Selected for interview</p>	<p>Provided all required documents and fulfil other requirements</p>
<p><b>Project 10:</b> <i>ICT integration factors in teaching and students learning in private higher learning institutions in Rwanda</i></p>	<p>Jeanne Umutesi</p>	<p>F</p>	<p>Secondary School Teacher GS Murambi Kicukiro District</p>	<p>Selected for interview</p>	<p>Provided all required documents and fulfil other requirements</p>

#### 4.3.2 Pre-selection outcomes UR – CST/SoICT



<b>Project titles</b>	<b>Pre-selected applicant names</b>	<b>Gender</b>	<b>Institution (if from UR indicate also the Department/School/College; employment status (full/part time employee, Academic/Administrative)</b>	<b>Decision (Selected for interview/not selected for interview)</b>	<b>Observations (provide reasons behind the decision)</b>
<b>Project 1:</b> Enhancing Quality of Education In Rwanda Schools Using Artificial Intelligence Technology	God Mutabaruka M	M	2015-Present: Head of Communications, Communication and Information Systems, Department – MOD/Office of the President 2012–2015: TREASURER FAGER-MINEDUC, Rwanda National Students Union (MINEDUC Building) 2012–2015 Students’ leader in KISTAS (KIST students association), Vice President, Executive committee, UR Academic Senate Member 2012 to July 2013: KIST Computer Lab Technician, 2010-2011: Economic Development and Social Welfare Officer of Murundi Cell in Kayonza District 2010-2011: Depute headmaster of GS Buhabwa	Selected	Provided all required documents and fulfil other requirements
<b>Project 2:</b> Development and Implementation	Alexandre Kanyeshuli	M	28 January, 2009 - 30 July, 2015: Assistant Lecturer /School of Engineering/CST 28 January, 2009 - 30 July,	Selected	Provided all required documents and fulfil other requirements

of AI-Education Platform for Eradicating Educational Barriers in Developing Countries Case Study: University of Rwanda			2015: Tutorial Assistant in the Electrical and Electronics Engineering Department, School of Engineering/College of Science and Technology		
<b>Project 3:</b> AI Based Techniques to Solve the Intrusion Detection Problems in Educational Data.	Emmanuel Mugabo	M	2021-Present: Field Test Engineer at Thundersoft Ltd. 2020-Present: Procurement assistant and Translator at China State Construction. 2016- May 2019: Researcher at Lanzhou University of Technology in the project entitled Research on Intrusion Detection Method for Mobile Intelligent Terminal in Cloud Environment supervised by Prof. Zhang Qiuyu (Lecturer at Lanzhou University of Technology)	Not Selected	No bachelor transcript
<b>Project 4:</b> Artificial Intelligence and Smart Technology Skills for	Ngaruyintwari Severin	M	2017 September-2020: Chef of International apartments at Northeast Electric power University Teaching in Chinese school (july2018-september2018 and January 2019-Mars 2019)	Selected	Provided all required documents and fulfil other requirements

Elearning in Africa					
<b>Project 5:</b> Impact of Artificial Intelligence in Education Solution	Emmanuel Hakizimana	M	2015 to 2018: Lecturer RWANDA POLYTECHNIC/IPRC MUSANZE 2012 to 2014: Teacher ESSA RUHENGARI 2011-2012: Teacher GROUPE SCOLAIRE DE BUMBA	Selected	Provided all required documents and fulfil other requirements
<b>Project 6:</b> Application of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Students' Assessment and Timely Feedback Provision	Jean Luc Ziravuga	M	Rwanda Public Procurement Authority (RPPA) 2020-2022: E-Procurement application and database Specialist Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning (MINECOFIN) 2015-2020: E-Procurement application and database Specialist Rwanda Public Procurement Authority (RPPA) 2008-2015: Database and Application Administrator 2008-2010: INES-Ruhengeri, Part-time lecturer of Information Technology	Not Selected	No bachelor transcript

#### 4.4 Guiding questions for interview

The participants designed the following guiding questions:

	Guiding questions	Responsible
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Panel introduction	Self-introduction	Chair
1.Applicant's presentation ability	Tell us about yourself	Chair
2. Applicant's proven ability to conduct research in a scientifically rich environment	(i) Why do you want to do a PhD? (ii) What do you think is the difference between a PhD and other degree programmes such as Master?	Vice Chair
3.Project summary (scientific merit and feasibility)	Tell us about your PhD research project (Why did you choose this project?).	Panel members
4.Project problem and outputs	Describe your research problem and associated outputs.	Panel members
5.Description of the Project Research methodology	Describe your research design, population, sampling, data analysis, etc.	Panel members
6. The relevance with UR and Rwanda research agenda	What will be the contribution of your research to UR and Rwanda development agenda?	Panel members
7.Candidate's academic merit and potential for successful research (graduate record, publication record, and letters of recommendation)	(i) What makes you the best candidate for this programme? (ii) What do you think are your strengths and weaknesses to undertake this programme?	Programme Lead
8.Applicant's ability to work	(i) What difficulties would you expect to encounter during your PhD research? (ii) How do you plan to solve them?	Panel members

independently or in a group		
9. Project policy implications	How is your research going to influence policies?	Panel members
<b>Total marks</b>	45	

5. Conflict of interest

The participants elaborated the following text to be used for lack of conflict of interest by the panel members. The form will be signed by panel members per each candidate.

**Declaration on lack of conflict of interest**

Reference made to the partnership contract between The University of Agder, Makerere University and the University of Rwanda regarding Transformative Education and Lifelong Learning for Sustainable Growth (TELLS) art. 14 and the University of Rwanda *Policy and procedures for scholarship awards at UR of 2020, I, .....*, hereby, declare not to have any conflict of interest in processes related to selection of potential candidates to be awarded a scholarship through the aforementioned Project.

The meeting which has started at 9:00am was adjourned at 3:00pm.

Names, date and signature



Chair and Rapporteur  
 Dr Jean Leonard Buhigiro  
 May 14, 2022



Approved by  
 Dr Mathias Nduwingoma, Project Manager

**Annex I: Checklist for submitted documents / UR- CE**

<b>S N</b>	<b>Names / Gender</b>	<b>Motivation letter</b>	<b>C V</b>	<b>DEGREE/ Med</b>	<b>Med trans</b>	<b>Previous degrees</b>	<b>Two recommendation letters</b>	<b>ID/Age</b>	<b>Commit</b>	<b>Concept</b>	<b>Employment</b>
1	Angelo Kimenyi (M)	v	v	V <b>Option :</b> Master en Sciences de l'Education	v	V <b>Option:</b> Bachelor of Arts in Education. Major: Educational Psychology	V	x	x	<i>The Reflexion on higher educational Reforms in Rwanda: effect of Policy reforms on graduates' employability</i>	Till Nov 2021: Soma Umenye
2	Bonaventure Niyonshuti (M)	v	v	V <b>Option:</b> Education – Planning, Management and Administration	v	V <b>Option:</b> Education: Integrated Sciences (Primary teacher Ed)	V	V: 33years	v	<i>Impact of management strategies and ICT education policy assessment implementation on performance of public</i>	Secondary school teacher

										<i>university in rwanda</i>	
3	Esperance Mukarutwaza (F)	V	V	V <b>Option</b> Business Administration (Project Management)	v	V <b>Option</b> Education: Pshychopedagogie	v	39	v	<i>Innovative higher education in Rwanda: assessing the implementation of agile project management practices in higher learning institutions</i>	HEC
4	Francis Kamanzi (M)	v	v	V <b>Option</b> Education Management and Administration	v	V <b>Option</b> Education (Secondary)	V	v44	v	<i>An investigation into the influence of Continuous Professional Development training on Teacher Professionalism in Rwanda</i>	UR-CE

5	Pontien Macumi (M)	v	v	V <b>Options</b> (i)Arts in Education; (ii) Sociology	v	V <b>Options</b> Education (Psychopedagogy)	V	V 43	v	An investigation into factors that affect the process of teaching learning in distance training programme at university of Rwanda, College of Education	UR-CE
6	Mushimiimana Jean Baptiste (M)	v	v	V <b>Option</b> Education (Curriculum and Instruction)	v	V <b>Option</b> Education (English)	V	V 39	v	Exploring the integration of ICT in early childhood education: focus on teachers role in Teacher Training Colleges	UR-CE



7	Faustin Nizeyimana (M)	v	v	V <b>Option</b> Arts Project Planning and Manageme nt	v	V <b>Option</b> Economic Sciences and Management	v	V 43	v	<i>The contribution of higher institutions of learning towards socio-economic development in Rwanda: case of Kigali independent university ( ULK) , Rwanda</i>	Rwanda Housing Authority
8	Pascal Kiiza (M)	v	v	V <b>Option</b> Educationa l Manageme nt	v	V <b>Option</b> Sc with Education (Biology – Chem Ed)	v	V43	v	<i>Enablers of scientific innovation in higher learning institutions ; a case study of university of Rwanda</i>	UR-CMHS

9	Salomon Nshimiyimana (M)	v	v	V <b>Option</b> Public Administration	v	V <b>Option</b> Arts in English	v	V 37	v	<i>University-Industry Collaboration in Technological Innovation in Teaching and Learning: An examination of the University of Rwanda Experiences since its creation in 2013</i>	UR-CE
10	Jeanne Umutesi (F)	v	v	V <b>Option</b> Planning, Management and Administration	v	V <b>Option</b> Science (Bio-Organic Chemistry) PGDE	V	V35	V	<i>ICT integration factors in teaching and students learning in private higher learning institutions in Rwanda</i>	Secondary school teacher

**Annex 2: Checklist for submitted documents / UR – CST / SoICT**

S N	Names / Gender	Motivatio n letter	C V	DEGREE / Msc	Msc tran s	Previous degrees	Two recommenda tion letters	ID/Ag e	Commi t	Concep t	Employment
1	MUTABARUK A M GOD	v	v	v	v	v	v	V/35	v	v	2015-Now Head of communication s in the department of communication and Information systems/Minist ry of Defense/Office of the president
2	KANYESHULI Alexandre	v	v	v	v	v	v	v/43	v	v	2015-Now : Assistant Lecturer in department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering
3	Emmanuel MUGABO	v	v	v	v	X No bachelor transcrip t	v	v/31	v	v	2020-Now: Procurement assistant and translator at China State Construction 2021-Now: Field test

											engineer at thunder soft ltd
4	Ngaruyintwari Severin	v	v	v	v	v	v	v/34	v	v	6 months working in ministry of Justice (2016) 2 year Secondary School teaching (2010-2012)
5	EMMANUEL HAKIZIMANA	v	v	v	v	v	v	v/37	v	v	2015-2018 : Assistant Lecturer at IPRC Musanze
6	Jean Luc Ziravuga	v	v	v	v	X No Bachelor Transcript	v	v/40	v	v	2020-Now: e-procurement application and database specialist / RPPA 2015-2020: e-procurement application and database specialist/ MINICOFIN