

University of Tourism,
Technology
and Business Studies

9TH EDITION

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"**EXCELLENCE**
is Doing the RIGHT
thing even when
no one knows"

Mm Zulfat MUKARUBEGA

Founder & Legal Representative
UTB

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(ALUMNI STORIES)





Mm Zulfat MUKARUBEGA

UTB Founder And Legal Representative

Doing the right choice will
make you be **EXCELLENT** and
UNFORGETABLE

Even when no one knows you are doing the right
thing even when times are difficult

The Founder

Mrs Zulfat MUKARUBEGA

Reflecting on this past year, the **University of Tourism Technology and Business Studies (UTB)** experienced a new height of success from enhancing the research department to launching an international job and internship program starting with 5 star hotels in **Qatar** and **Dubai**.

At UTB, we are committed to reinforce an interdisciplinary learning environment that encourages our students to push boundaries to pursuit knowledge and solving complex problems facing our community through research and innovation.

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the commitment, resilience and hard work from UTB students, alumni, staff, board of governors, government bodies, partners and friends for making the academic year 2021-2022 a successful year.

UTB is becoming stronger than ever, thanks to the commitment of our community.

I would also like to speak on behalf of the whole UTB community and congratulate our graduating class of 2022 and I look forward to celebrating your tremendous accomplishments.

Your Journey Forward

As you move forward in your life journey towards contributing to the development of our country, I would like to thank you for your resilience of studying and achieving this success despite different circumstances that occurred as a result of COVID-19 pandemic. This is an indication that you are fighters and can strive towards what you believe in.

What makes people **LEGENDARY**

I am confident that you as leaders of tomorrow will preserve the legacy and success of those who have contributed to Rwanda being the country it is today. Indeed, when you know where you come from, where you are going and have a purpose, you gain a lot and become a good example to many.

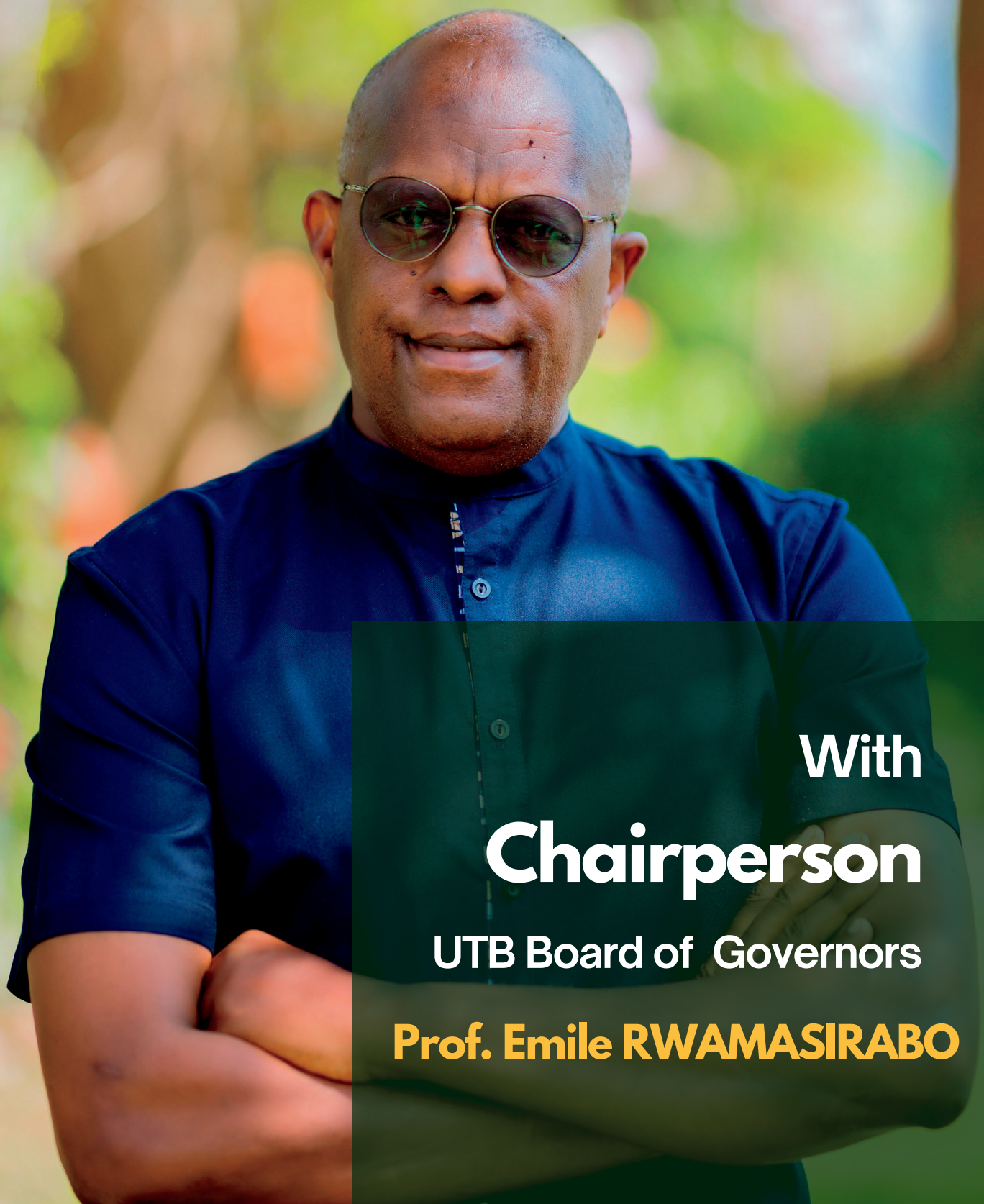
In the same light, I want you to ask yourself these two questions; "Who am I? What do I want?". Answering these questions will take you through your journey to **EXCELLENCE**.

Doing the right choice will make you be EXCELLENT and UNFORGETTABLE person, even when no one knows you are doing the right think or when times are difficult. That is what makes great people LEGENDARY.

I am confident that you as leaders of tomorrow will preserve the legacy and success of those who have contributed to Rwanda being the country it is today. Indeed, when you know where you come from, where you are going and have a purpose, you gain a lot and become a good example to many.

Will it be Challenging? **YES**, however it is not about coming up with the best business idea or innovation the first time you try, but how determined are you to keep learning about you, your strengths and your capability, as you go along. And to do that will not only require the education you have received at UTB, but also a desire to be **EXCELENT**.

I encourage all of UTB alumni and friends to join us in our mission and call of "Making the Difference" within Hospitality, Tourism and Technology sectors and contributing to Rwanda's long-term prosperity and within the region as a whole.



With
Chairperson
UTB Board of Governors
Prof. Emile RWAMASIRABO

MEET UTB BOARD OF GOVERNORS



**Hon. Amb.
Fatuma NDANGIZA**
Vice Chairperson



Mr Faustin KARASIRA
Member



Mrs Diana UWAMAHORO
Member



Mr Saidi SIBOMANA
Member



Mr Jeff STRACHAN
Member



Mr Twaha HARUNA
Member

Message from The Chairperson

It has been another year of success for UTB. As we enter the Post-Covid period, the pandemic has taught us that we cannot continue to do things the same way and expect different results. It has forced us to adapt in many ways as UTB board members, management, staff and Students.

Our increasingly growing investment in education through infrastructure and internationalization programs including, Work and internship opportunities. This has exposed UTB students to global environment and fostered an inclusive- cultural diverse into their education experience.

Our internationalization program does not only provide industry exposure to our students, but is also a practical way to provide them with a jump start to their career aspirations and building a network of contacts within their field.

The **University of Tourism, Technology and Business Studies (UTB)** continues to undertake ground-breaking research and development. Working with different stakeholders to create sustainable solutions to industry problems including **WASAC, ICDL, EPRN, RISA, UNWTO and many others.**

UTB hosted the first World Tourism University Conference together with UNWTO in September 2022, at which a network of tourism industry leaders undertook cutting edge and challenge-led research with direct benefit to communities and people involved.

Discussions held in the conference provided our tourism students take-home tools that will guide their understanding and ability to find solution to rising problems.

I congratulate all UTB, **Decision makes, managers, staff, Students, parents and other stakeholders** for making the concluding year a year of success and resilience. UTB board of governors would like to give our graduates a combined best wishes to the journey ahead.

Rwanda is increasingly becoming a service-delivery focused economy in the region and beyond, **UTB works hard to ensure that vision becomes true within the various capacities we offer** including Hospitality, Tourism, Business and Technology.

At UTB, one of our most prevailing achievements since 2019 is to ensure all our graduates are Information technology literate, by introducing ICDL (International Computer Driving License), as a compulsory module for all.

UTB Management

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Executive and Senior Management



Prof. Simeon Wiehler

Vice Chancellor



Jean Bosco RURANGIRWA

DVC PAF



Dr Liliane UMUTESI

DVC Academics



Egide RUGAMBA

Director, Rubavu Campus



John Ntahemuka

**Dean,
Faculty of Hospitality & Tourism**



Richard NAHO

CFO



Flaubert HARUBWIRA

**Dean,
Faculty of Business & IT**



Mr Frank BAGABO

Human Resource Manager



Prof Wasajja KIWANUKA

**Director, Center of Language
& Communication**



Dr Appoline KABERA

**Director of Academics & Quality
Assurance**

— *Prof. Simeon
Wiehler*

Vice Chancellor

UTB Setting high Goals for success

The 21st century is an era for great visions and strategies. It is a time to aim high, to imagine great goals and work enthusiastically towards extraordinary achievements. Given the rapid growth in the Tourism, Hospitality, Business and Technology sectors in Rwanda,

UTB is well-positioned to expand ambitiously, both in terms of new university campuses, infrastructure and training-skills capabilities, but also in the breadth of our degree programs and the applicability of our jobs-related training.

Over the past three years Covid-19 has undercut progress in attaining these goals, but we now look upon a



post-covid world and strategize how to rebuild student enrollment, reinvigorate campus activities, and review our curricula to respond to on-going changes within our areas of focus.

In the next few months UTB will open its new Kigali Campus location, up on Rebero Hill, with nine hectares for expansion and a knock-your-socks-off view.

The expansive Main Building will house classrooms, computer labs, offices, a large meeting hall, library and resource rooms. In the planning phase are a Short Courses Training Center, with full training kitchen, hospitality educational center, seminar rooms and classrooms.

— Prof. Simeon Wiehler

Also in the plan are student hostels, a multi-purpose conference center, more classroom space and a library building, and innovation center, a Center for Aviation, and an operational hotel for hands-on training experience.

At the same time, UTB is planning to open a campus in the town of Ruhango. Our determination to make university degrees and skills enhancement available to students from rural areas remains strong. We anticipate the formal announcement of the opening of this new campus in the near future.

UTB Students in QATAR & DUBAI

UTB has worked hard to create opportunities for Rwandan youth to get internships and jobs in Qatar and Dubai. This program has placed **over 200 UTB students** in some of the best hotels which serve the elite global tourism jet set. This is a tremendous opportunity for our students, but also for the growth of Rwanda's hospitality sector when they return home with the knowledge of global standards and high aspirations for personal success.

For those who show exceptional diligence and skills attainment, the **six-month internship in Qatar or Dubai** can lead to a job contract. Their achievements are our achievements and we are proud of them.

Internationalisation Programs

UTB has been running an **IATA aviation technical training** program for years, but in the near future this will be transformed into a Department of Aviation.

UTB has signed an MOU with RwandAir, Rwanda Airports Company and Akagera Aviation to be the main trainer for aviation programs. This cooperation is aimed at creating the thousands of skilled employees that will be needed in three year's time when the new Bugesera International Airport opens.

UTB has also benefited from several other large grants, among them the Indigenous Culture and Heritage Preservation Initiative, which seeks for ways to preserve and elevate Rwandan culture and to develop its tourism potential. This is more than ever an important and crucial goal in the face of globalizing cultural norms that spread into Africa from other countries. There is another big change happening: increasingly students from other parts of Africa are coming to UTB.

As Vice Chancellor, my job is to build and strengthen the University's education-provision capacity, set high goals for success, and improve our infrastructure with the aim giving students value for money, and excellence in educational outcome, while addressing the current skills gap in the Tourism, Hospitality and Business-IT sectors.

As we refocus on providing a quality, skills-driven education, accessible to all, the UTB of tomorrow will build on the synergies of what has been accomplished over the past 17 years.

FOSTERING TEACHING LEARNING RESEARCH

Dr Liliane UMUTESI

**Deputy Vice Chancellor
(Academics)
UTB**

Welcome to the latest edition of our esteemed university magazine! We are excited to share with you the latest developments and achievements within our Academic Unit, our unwavering commitment lies in delivering quality teaching, fostering effective learning, and driving impactful research. We take immense pride in equipping our students with the necessary skills and knowledge to thrive in the ever-evolving world of entrepreneurship and the job market.

Hospitality, Tourism, business, and technology have long been the pillars of our academic unit. With a firm dedication to staying up to date with industry trends, we have carefully crafted a curriculum that reflects the current demands and challenges faced in these fields. Our qualified staff, possessing deep expertise and extensive industry experience, are devoted to imparting practical knowledge and guiding students towards success.

At the heart of our success lies our highly qualified staff, comprising dedicated educators and experienced professionals who are passionate about imparting knowledge. Their expertise, combined with their commitment to our students' development, ensures a stimulating learning environment that encourages critical thinking, innovation, and practical application of concepts.

We understand the importance of adopting

adequate teaching methodologies that promote engagement and active participation.

Our classrooms and labs are designed to facilitate hands-on learning experiences, where students can experiment, collaborate, and develop practical skills. Moreover, we embrace the integration of technology in our teaching approaches, leveraging its power to enhance the learning process and provide access to a wealth of resources.

In addition to our rigorous academic curriculum, we firmly believe in the value of experiential learning. Through our industrial attachment programs, our students gain invaluable exposure to the real world before completing their studies.

One of the key factors that set our academic unit apart is the emphasis we place on real-world exposure.

Through our industrial attachment programs, our students have the invaluable opportunity to gain hands-on experience and immerse themselves in the practical aspects of their chosen fields.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to our core values of excellence, innovation, and student-centeredness.

.We will continue to evolve, adapt, and embrace emerging trends and technologies to ensure that our students receive a holistic education that prepares them for success in their chosen careers.

We thank our dedicated faculty members, enthusiastic students, and supportive community for their unwavering commitment to our academic unit. Together, we will continue to make a positive impact in the realm of education, research, and entrepreneurship.



A photograph of a modern university building with a red roof and blue-grey facade. The building has multiple floors with balconies and large windows. In the foreground, there is a green lawn and a paved area. A large tree with green leaves is on the left side of the frame. The sky is blue with some clouds. The text 'UTB Campus' is written in a large, yellow, cursive font at the top, and 'Rebero & Rubavu' is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font below it.

UTB Campus

Rebero & Rubavu

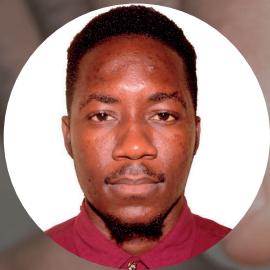
Rubavu
Campus



Rebero
Campus

SMART PHONE

SUPPORT or FAILURE?



Emmanuel S K Dekpah
Student, UTB

When I reached at University, I realized that this was the real time I need to understand properly what I am studying in class. Class time is important because you are learning about what you will need to know in your career yet most students use this time on their phones.

Those who are constantly looking down and not paying attention end up being the students who fail classes frequently or drop out of campus all together because it is "too hard". University takes dedication and time meaning everything else is put to the side for at least two to three hours every day to truly focus on school.

When University students' multi-task with digital devices in classrooms, it may hamper their ability to pay attention.

Ultimately, having your phone out while in class is disrespectful and shows that you are uninterested in the class.

ON THE FLIP SIDE

Nonetheless, the increasingly digitalizing world is making smart-phones a necessity in all life aspects, and Education is no different. Rather than viewing them as distractions, educators can harness the power of these devices to enhance the learning experience and prepare students for the digital future.

Personalized learning environment is one of those benefits with educational Apps and platform such as UTB's e-learning and MIS Systems, that can adapt to individual needs and cater to different learning styles.

Communication, project collaborations, creating interactive learning content such as video recording, images, are few of the many benefits of classroom smartphones.

Thus, Integrating smartphones into the classroom is a decision that embraces the realities of the digital age. By harnessing the power of these devices, educators can unlock new opportunities, As long as appropriate guidelines and boundaries are set within the classroom

.



Applying for a job can be a nerve-wracking experience for many people. Fear of not getting a job keeps many people from trying, and can make it even harder for those who do apply for jobs.

However, fear of job searching is something that everyone experiences at some point in their lives. Some people fear the process so much that they never get a job. Thus, if you're willing to put in the effort, finding a job is easier than you think.

The FOCUS Mind Game

One way to overcome the fear of job hunting is to reframe your mindset and focus on the opportunities that the job search process can bring. Instead of seeing it as a daunting and overwhelming task, try to view it as an exciting opportunity to explore new career paths and gain valuable experience.

Another way to overcome the fear of job hunting is to prepare and educate yourself about the process.



Mrs Gloria TUMUHAISE

***International
Placement Officer, UTB***

Research the job market and the industries that interest you, learn about the common job search strategies and techniques, and develop a clear plan for your job search. This will help you feel more confident and in control of the process.

It is helpful to seek support from friends, family, or a professional career counselor. They can provide you with valuable advice, encouragement, and accountability to help you stay on track and overcome any obstacles you may face.

Additionally, try to stay positive and focus on the benefits of finding a new job. This can help you maintain a positive attitude and keep your motivation high. Remember that the job search process may have its challenges, but it is also an opportunity to grow and improve yourself, and to ultimately find a job that is fulfilling and rewarding.

IS A SCHOLARSHIP AN OPPORTUNITY OR A CURSE?

When any students, irrespective of the level come across an advert for a scholarship to study abroad, it is enough to put a smile on a student's face. Not only the student but also the parents. Such opportunities come once in a while. Sometimes I think that the majority of students who get the scholarship are not the ones who deserve them. It is only that they were in privileged position to receive the information.

A Scholarship is a financial aid that is granted for the student mostly based on the academic achievements. Scholarship can be considered or described as an opportunity based on its merits to both recipient and the country in general. To earn a scholarship, it may not require a student to come from a household that earns a certain income. Since they are based on academic performance, the background of a student never gets involved in the process. It becomes an opportunity as it gives equal chance to all students.

Scholarship assist in realization of one's dreams. Many students who have received the scholarships have used them to become what they wished to be. Some are doctors, pilots, business owners, engineers and so on. It's not a command to work for the scholarship provider. It's a biggest opportunity to get a free high education without a contract that order you to work for the scholarship provider after graduating and forbid you to pursue your own chosen career.

I must reveal that international scholarships plays a big role in a nation's socioeconomic development. When scholarship recipients come back to their home countries after finishing their studies, they return with experience and greater knowledge, and influencing countries' development.

The Negative TWIST!

Scholarships some time brings trouble of different cases and may cause unimaginable pain to parents and family of beneficiaries.

There is no guarantee that you will find employment after it ends. This is usually possible if you have studied courses that are not known in your home country and this makes it hard to find a job. Many students finish scholarship and spend a long time unemployed which may result into desperation. Besides, the student has been gone for too long to start building new connection that can assist him/her to get a job.

Creation of generous scholarship programs by government and other NGOs for young people to study abroad on the understanding that they would return and contribute to their nations has at times been violated by beneficiaries.

This has caused Government to put very stringent requirements on the applicants which has in the long run deterred many to benefit, resulting to many good students unable to continue their studies due to financial inabilities.

I therefore believe that if anyone gets the opportunity to benefit in any scholarship abroad, do the right thing as spelt out in the scholarship agreement. This will guarantee the continuity of the program. Doing the opposite will be a disaster!



Ishimwe Pierrette
Student, UTB

INNOVATIVE IN TECHNOLOGY

BY : FABRICE SINDAMBIWE
STUDENT , UTB

In today's rapidly advancing technological landscape, the need for robust security measures has become paramount across various sectors. Industries, in particular, require specialized security systems to ensure the safety of machinery, processes, and personnel. Recognizing the limitations of existing methods employed at the Pfunda Tea Factory, one industrious individual embarked on a mission to devise an innovative solution. This article presents the groundbreaking electronic system built by the author, integrating GSM technology, micro-controllers, wired sensors, and robotics to revolutionize industrial security.

Industrial security encompasses monitoring and control, leveraging sensor technology and computer systems to supervise machinery and processes while minimizing human intervention.

The system developed by the author takes industrial

TECHNOLOGY FOR SECURITY AND SOCIAL GROWTH

security to new heights, surpassing mere mechanization by reducing reliance on human sensory and mental faculties.

The heart of the system lies in its embedded design, which enables real-time data transmission and facilitates reporting and record-keeping. At its core, the system utilizes a Node-MCU micro-controller as the central processing unit, effectively coordinating various wired sensors that serve as inputs.

he author's system addresses a multitude of potential dangers by monitoring an array of parameters. From the detection of fire

at its inception, monitoring humidity and temperature levels, identifying mechanical vibrations that may lead to machine distortion, and even monitoring alcohol consumption by operators, the system leaves no stone unturned.

Additionally, it can detect human presence in restricted areas and sense the presence of smoke, further fortifying industrial security.

The system excels in not only identifying potential dangers but also recommending appropriate actions to be taken. It achieves this through its ability to analyze collected data and autonomously execute tasks.

With its amalgamation of GSM technology, micro-controllers, wired sensors, and robotics, the electronic system developed by the author marks a significant leap forward in industrial security.



HOSPITALITY

Salton MUHETO
(Hospital Entrepreneur)



TOURISM

Mireille
MUKAYUHI
(Women in Tourism)



AVIATION

Isaac Mugabe
(Youth in Aviation)



UTB Alumni

SHARING THEIR SUCCESS JOURNEY



FROM HOTELIER TO ENTREPRENEUR

Salton MUHETO,
Alumni UTB
Founder: Muhe Hospitality

One key motivation for founding this company was the understanding that our society often undervalues the significance of events. Frequently, gatherings are modest affairs, or they are relegated to casual home settings. Recognizing this as an opportunity, I eagerly seized it with both hands, aspiring to reshape the landscape of events in our community.

Another compelling drive behind my entrepreneurial spirit was the desire to forge a career in events management. I longed to make a visible and meaningful contribution to my country

In the bustling world of Rwanda's hospitality industry, one name stands out as a shining example of dedication, expertise, and entrepreneurial spirit. Meet Salton MUHETO, a remarkable alumnus of the renowned University of Tourism, Technology, and Business Studies (UTB). With an illustrious career spanning over six years in some of the most prestigious hotels in the country, MUHETO has seamlessly transitioned from a seasoned hotelier to a visionary hospitality entrepreneur.

Throughout his professional journey, MUHETO honed his skills and accumulated invaluable experience in the hospitality sector. Having worked diligently in four and five-star establishments across Rwanda, his expertise encompasses all facets of the industry. From managing protocol services to orchestrating seamless staffing for high-profile events, and even spearheading brand promotion campaigns, MUHETO has become a trailblazer in the field of hospitality services.

In this exclusive feature, we delve into Salton MUHETO's remarkable journey, tracing his ascent from a UTB graduate to a highly respected figure in the hospitality industry.

How did your business come about?

In my quest to financially sustain and support myself during my university years, I embarked on a mission to establish a company. This effort aimed to not only assist in covering my housing expenses but also to facilitate the day-to-day life of a university student.

What inspires you to keep moving when there are tough times?

"First of all, good governance helps me. also, I personally the key points which help me to keep moving during tough times as a young entrepreneur are; **Adaptability and Innovation, Resilience, Focus on Relationships, Continuous Learning, Financial Planning and Diversification and Self-care and Well-being.**

Remember, being a young entrepreneur during tough times requires embracing a continuous learning mindset and being open to acquiring new skills and knowledge by reaching out to experienced entrepreneurs or industry experts who can provide guidance and mentorship also cultivate a growth mindset, which involves viewing challenges as opportunities for improvement rather than insurmountable obstacles.

Message to Young Entrepreneurs?

We are fortunate to inhabit a peaceful country, and it is crucial that we do not wait for external forces to provide us with employment opportunities. Instead, let us rise up and embrace the spirit of initiative, persevering even in the face of setbacks.



TRAVEL TO BE INSPIRED

Founder- MAMA Africa Tours

Mireille MUKAYUHI, a remarkable tour guide from UTB Travel and Tourism department, Her vibrant energy and passion for her work filled the room. Mireille shared her background, the reasons behind her choice to become a tour guide, the challenges she faces as a female in the tourism industry, her favorite places to visit, an amusing on-the-job story, and her ambitious future plans.

“I developed a deep affection for tourism and the joy of exploring new places, especially those immersed in nature. Despite pursuing accounting in secondary school, my true calling was ignited during my university years at the University of Tourism, Technology, and Business Studies (UTB)



Unveiling the Beauty of Tourism

As she continues to defy expectations, Mireille's unwavering determination and dedication to her craft shine through. With her vision of Mama Africa Tours flourishing, Mireille is poised to leave an indelible mark on the African tourism landscape, opening doors for exploration and connection in every corner of the continent.

Who is Mireille?

I was born and raised in the scenic western part of Rwanda, specifically in Rusizi district (Gisenyi). From a young age, I developed a deep affection for tourism and the joy of exploring new places, especially those immersed in nature. Despite pursuing accounting in secondary school, my true calling was ignited during my university years at the University of Tourism, Technology, and Business Studies (UTB). It was there that I delved deep into my passion for tourism, setting the stage for my career aspirations. Transitioning from accounting to tourism was not an easy decision, but with the support and encouragement of incredible mentors and valuable internships, I forged my own path."

Why did you choose to become a tour guide?

"Being a tour guide was a natural choice for me because I love being around people, assisting them, and sharing knowledge. The feeling of connecting with others and witnessing their fascination as I unveil the wonders of a destination is indescribable.

What is it like being a female tour guide?

Being a female in tourism, particularly as a tour guide, comes with its challenges. Many people underestimate and undervalue our capabilities

simply because we are women. It can be disheartening when our abilities are questioned, limiting our access to larger platforms and opportunities to showcase our talents. Additionally, encountering industry veterans who hold biased views based on gender, age, or assumptions about our experience can be quite challenging. However, I remain steadfast in proving that gender does not define our competence or passion for the work we do.

Can you share a funny on-the-job experience?

During one of my tours, we visited a museum with strict instructions not to touch any objects. However, I had a client who seemed determined to test my vigilance. It turned into a playful game of cat and mouse, with me ensuring they didn't touch the forbidden objects while they tried to outsmart me. We had a blast, and the laughter echoed through the halls of the museum. It was a delightful and unforgettable experience.

What is your favorite place to visit?

I have two destinations that never cease to captivate me, I am enthralled by the splendor of nature, particularly when it brings me closer to real animals, and museums because they are windows into culture, customs, and ways of life of a destination

Mireille Mukayuhi's journey is an inspiration to all who dare to pursue their passions and overcome societal barriers.



MEET ISAAC MUGABE

A RISING STAR IN AVIATION

Isaac Mugabe, a licensed aircraft dispatcher and flight operations officer, is making his mark in the revolutionizing aviation industry in Rwanda.

As an alumnus of UTB, Mugabe studied the IATA International certificate in airport operations, which paved the way for his successful career in aviation. With experience working for both **Rwandair** and **Ethiopian Airlines**, attending numerous aviation conferences, and serving as a guest speaker at various aviation events, Mugabe is a passionate advocate for empowering youth in the field. In an exclusive interview with The UTB Magazine, he shares his journey, breaking barriers, and redefining the boundaries of the industry.

When asked about his background and what sparked his interest in aviation, Mugabe reminisces about his childhood experiences in Uganda. During school tours, he was captivated by the airplanes and the professionalism exhibited by airport personnel. His fascination with aviation took root, ultimately shaping his career path.

Choosing to study aviation at UTB was a natural decision for Mugabe when He discovered that UTB was offering IATA courses. Recognizing this as his gateway to a career in aviation, he joined the IATA Airport Operations program without hesitation.

Overcoming Obstacles

Reflecting on his accomplishments, Mugabe expresses immense pride in his career journey. He acknowledges the challenges he faced along the way, such as financial constraints and negativity from skeptical friends and family members. Nevertheless, he credits his perseverance, resilience, and determination for his achievements. It serves as a valuable lesson that with a focused mindset and unwavering dedication, success can be attained.

Mugabe emphasizes the importance of mentorship and the positive impact it had on his career. He encountered inspiring individuals who provided guidance, support, and encouragement, helping him overcome his fears and conquer challenges.

Any word of advice to someone interested in Aviation?

For aspiring aviators considering a similar path, Mugabe offers valuable advice. He urges them to wake up, write down their dreams, and start working towards them. Dreams only materialize through commitment and hard work. He advises finding mentors or role models who can inspire and encourage them to reach new heights. Surrounding oneself with like-minded aviators and learning from negative experiences rather than dwelling on them are key factors in pursuing a successful aviation career.

When asked about preparing for an aviation career while still in high school, Mugabe advocates for early exposure to the industry. He encourages primary schools to organize visits to airports and airplanes, allowing students to explore their interests before it's too late. Furthermore, colleges and universities offering aviation programs should actively engage with high schools throughout the country, inspiring and motivating the younger generation to pursue careers in aviation.

“One of the most valuable lessons you learn from the international student exchange program is ways to interact with people from different cultural backgrounds and working in a busy schedule has challenged my knowledge and skills that I would not have had otherwise”

Karasira Vincent
UTBStudent in Dubai
(Marriot)

UTB STUDENTS, IN QATAR & DUBAI

The exceptional performances and numerous accolades received by UTB students affirm the program's effectiveness in preparing them for the international job market.

UTB's unwavering dedication to enriching student experiences and fostering their relevance in various fields is a testament to its commitment to producing globally competent graduates.



UTB Students Working in Qatar

. As the program continues to expand and evolve within different International markets, UTB remains poised to unlock a world of opportunities for its students, ensuring their future success in the international market of hospitality, tourism, business, and information technology.

The student international exposure program has become a catalyst for success, with participating students showcasing exceptional performances

and receiving a multitude of high-performance awards.

As UTB continues to expand its program, it aims to empower its students and enhance their relevance in the international market, particularly in the fields of hospitality, tourism, business, and information technology.

Unveiling Opportunities

UTB's International Student Exposure Program stands as a testament to the institution's commitment to providing its students with invaluable global experiences. By bridging the gap between theory and practice, the program opens doors to international job and internship placements within different countries including Qatar and Dubai.

This immersive journey equips students with hands-on industry knowledge and real-world skills, nurturing them into competent professionals ready to thrive in the international market.

It is also an opportunity to express the potential of Rwandan youth and development of different local industries.

Outstanding Performances and Recognition:

The students who participated in UTB's International Student Exposure Program have consistently dazzled their employers with their exceptional performances. Over 60 students were honored with high-performance awards, serving as a testament to their unwavering dedication and profound expertise in the hospitality domain. These accolades encompassed a wide array of categories, including pay raises, recognition as the top 10 performers within their respective departments, nominations as hotel brand ambassadors, and the **Best Performance Awards during the FIFA World Cup 2022**.

What is Next: Expanding Horizons and Relevance

remains steadfast in its commitment to further nurture student experiences and enhance their relevance in the international market.

Recognizing the importance of industries such as hospitality, tourism, business, and information technology, UTB continually refines its curriculum and forges strategic partnerships. By doing so, the university ensures that its students are equipped with the necessary skills and knowledge to thrive in a globalized world.

UTB's International Student Exposure Program has emerged as a transformative force, catapulting our students to success in the ever-changing hospitality industry.



UTB STUDENTS, INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE



M

Meet **Flora MIREMBE**,
Chosen as Sheraton Brand
Ambassador in Qatar.
working for Sheraton Grand
Doha. Front office
department.

Working abroad is a little bit challenging however not in a bad way, of course being away from home is a bit challenging and weather, food, water, especially for ladies to wash hair, just be well prepared for some changes.

Good enough you can still cook your favorite food after work, depending on your shift schedules (this applies per department) but there is always free time!

Qatar is a great country, in terms of security, cleanliness, peace... we really like it. The very good thing with it you can explore it anytime you are free... the most interesting areas are open 24/7.

Qatar is a free country, so everyone is free to explore it and enjoy the whole of it at their own expense. I really feel like it's my second home. I had an opportunity of being one of the Irish harp Sheraton brand ambassadors this is the only hotel's official bar. The opportunity showed that we are all the same... they treat us equally. So this had put me at ease moments.

Flora emphasizes the significance of thinking big. Working with colleagues from various backgrounds, she navigates differences in values and cultures, fostering personal and professional growth

Q

Q & A with NZABANDORA Muhammed shared his insights and experience working from Qatar under the international placement.

Q: Which hotel you are working in and your department?

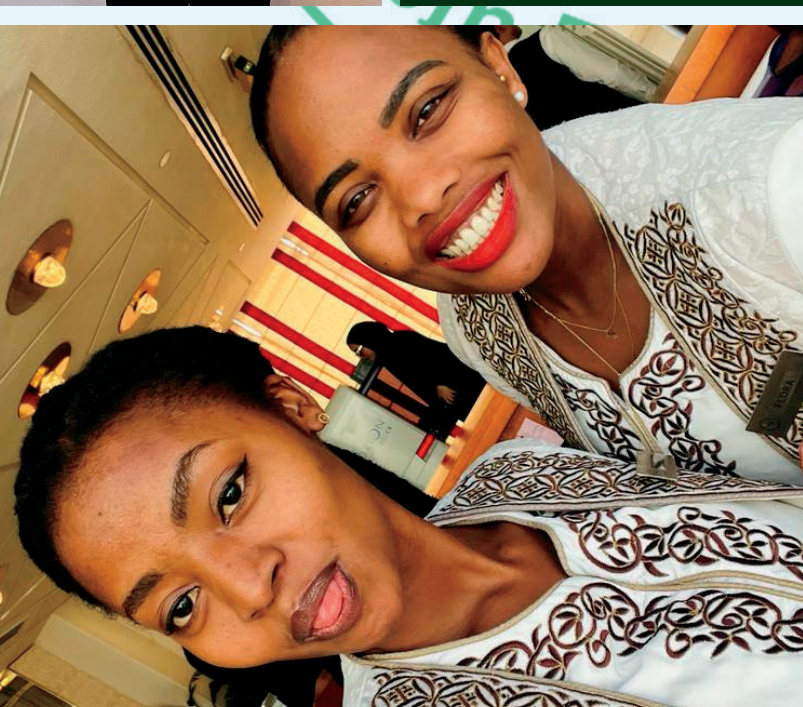
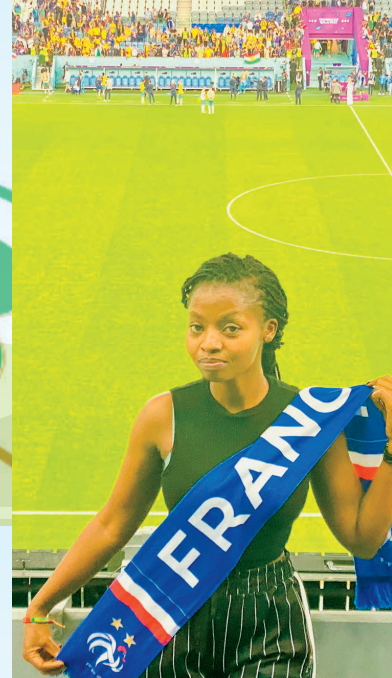
I am currently working in Sheraton Grand Doha Resort and Convention Hotel in Qatar. I am a service expert in the Pool Department, catering to guests who come to enjoy the resort's pool and beach facilities.

Q: How did UTB integrate your international work experience into your academic curriculum?

UTB's focus on the hospitality industry and practical training allowed me to bridge the gap between theory and practice. The program prioritizes courses that align with the competitive hospitality market, providing us with the necessary knowledge and skills to excel abroad. The combination of classroom learning and practical experience prepared me to deliver effectively in different work environments.

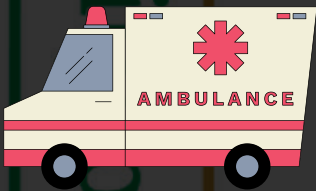
Q: Did you face any challenges or obstacles while working abroad, and how did you overcome them?

Working with colleagues from diverse cultures and adapting to their habits initially presented challenges. However, with time, I became accustomed to the multicultural environment. Developing skills to work effectively with people from different backgrounds and regions has been invaluable. Being friendly, objective, adaptable, resilient, and patient helped me overcome any obstacles that arose.



Events

Highlight



Emergency Exercise

International Youth Day



Tourism Day

Making the Difference



Rwanda Airport Company (RAC) conducts successful simulation exercise to ensure safety and readiness and UTB Aviation Students Participating and Learning from Industry Leaders.

On the 2nd of June 2022, the Kigali International Airport in Rwanda witnessed an extraordinary event as the Rwanda Airport Company organized an Aerodrome Simulation Emergency Exercise. This simulated drill was specifically designed to evaluate the airport's preparedness and capabilities in handling aviation-related emergencies, while also providing invaluable training to students from the University of Tourism, Technology, and Business Studies (UTB) who are pursuing aviation courses.

The airport management and stakeholders recognized the need for heightened preparedness to accommodate the expected surge in air traffic.

Airport Drill of Emergency Exercise

What set this exercise apart was its comprehensive approach to emergency preparedness. It extended beyond the airport's boundaries, emphasizing the importance of coordination with various agencies and services within the surrounding community including hospitals in the emergency department. This holistic perspective recognized the significance of cooperation and collaboration in mounting effective emergency responses.

Kabiruka Mugambi, the Senior Air Traffic Controller responsible for search and rescue operations, underlined the exercise's objectives, stating, "The purpose of the drill is to evaluate the preparedness and capabilities of the airport, its tenants, and local response agencies. It also teaches the process of preparing an airport to cope with an emergency occurring at the airport or in its vicinity to minimize the effects of an emergency, particularly in respect of saving lives and procedures for coordinating the response of different airport agencies and those agencies in the surrounding community that could be of support in responding to the emergency."



INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY

International Youth Day emphasizes the importance of intergenerational cooperation to achieve sustainable development

International Youth Day, celebrated this year with the theme "intergenerational solidarity: creating a world for all ages," highlights the urgent need for action from all generations to work together towards the Agenda 2030 and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The goal is to ensure that no one is left behind. Recognizing the barriers to intergenerational solidarity, particularly age discrimination, International Youth Day raises awareness of its detrimental effects on individuals and society as a whole.

In Rwanda, the youth hold a crucial role in nation-building and are instrumental in driving progress and social reform. **Prof. Simeon Wiehler**, the Vice Chancellor of UTB, emphasized the power of youth in shaping the future of the nation in his opening remarks. Their active participation and engagement are key to their own development as well as the development of their communities, equipping them with vital life skills, knowledge of human rights and citizenship, and the ability to promote positive civic action.

Mrs. Zulfat Mukarubega, the founder of UTB, emphasized that young people have a significant stake in shaping the country's future. As youth are directly affected by nearly all issues, their participation in civic life and decision-making brings valuable perspectives to the table.

The panel discussion concluded with a strong recommendation that youth play an integral role in their local communities. Their firsthand experience of community problems and their active involvement in activism and other initiatives make communities stronger and more resilient. Young people bring unique perspectives and valuable contributions to various issues, and their participation is essential for inclusive decision-making processes.

WORLD TOURISM DAY

World Tourism Day is an annual event celebrated on September 27th to raise awareness of the importance of tourism and its social, cultural, political, and economic value. The theme for World Tourism Day was "**Tourism and Rural Development.**"

The theme for World Tourism Day emphasized the role of tourism in promoting rural development, which is a crucial aspect of sustainable tourism.

Rural tourism can help to revitalize rural communities and create new economic opportunities, while also preserving traditional cultural practices and natural resources. One of the main goals of World Tourism Day was to raise awareness of the importance of sustainable tourism practices that promote rural development.

This includes promoting eco-tourism, sustainable transportation, and responsible travel. It also includes supporting local communities and businesses and preserving natural and cultural heritage sites.

rural development and the importance of sustainable tourism practices



During a panel discussion on World Tourism Day at UTB, several topics have been covered, including:

- The impact of COVID-19 on tourism and the recovery of the industry
- The role of sustainable tourism in promoting rural development
- The potential for digital technology to enhance tourism experiences and promote rural areas
- The challenges and opportunities for rural communities in developing sustainable tourism products and services

Overall, the panel discussion has explored the various ways in which tourism can support and promote rural development, while also balancing the need for economic growth with the preservation of cultural heritage and the environment.



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