



## Professor Alexandre Lyambabaje Appointed 3rd University of Rwanda Vice Chancellor

The University of Rwanda is pleased to announce the appointment of Professor Alexandre Lyambabaje to the post of Vice Chancellor, following the Cabinet Resolutions of Tuesday, 02 February 2021. The appointment is the culmination of a rigorous search process for an inspiring leader for the country's only public university to succeed Prof. Phillip Cotton, whose tenure of office wound up last October. The announcement of the search for the Vice Chancellor was advertised internationally and over 60 candidates submitted CVs.

The University was seeking a leader with a strong record of effective leadership of human, financial and physical resources; skill and experience in promoting excellence in teaching, research, administration, and governance; and deep integrity in academic, financial and communications. It is clear that Professor Lyambabaje has the appropriate background and the executive qualities required for transformational leadership of the University.

Professor Lyambabaje studied in Africa, Canada and Europe between 1979 and 1992. He holds a PhD in Mathematics and Applications from the University of Rennes in France, a Master of Sciences in Mathematics from the University of Montreal in Canada, and a BSc in Mathematics and Physics from the National University of Rwanda.

Prior to his appointment as Vice-Chancellor, he held the job of Executive Secretary at the Inter-University Council for East Africa, where he served from November 2015 to August 2020. While there, among other achievements, he presided over the declaration of EAC as a Common Higher Education Area by Heads of State and Government in 2017. He also oversaw the development of benchmarks for Mathematics, Engineering, Health Sciences, Agriculture and Education programs. Notably it was during his term of office at IUCEA that 24 Regional Centers of Excellence for post graduate studies spread over Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia were established. Professor Lyambabaje is an excellent resource mobilizer with a rich network in the global arena.

Professor Lyambabaje also has a distinguished leadership record in Rwanda. He has served as member of the Rwandan Cabinet in the portfolio of Minister for Commerce, Industry, Tourism and Investment Promotion. Prior to that he held the position of Secretary General (SG) in the Ministry of Education. Right before the SG and after the ministerial jobs, he was and continued as an active member of academic institutions. At the former National University of Rwanda he was a lecturer and Vice Dean up until 2011.





By the time he joined IUCEA he had enjoyed stints at INES Ruhengeri and at UR College of Medicine and Health Sciences as Associate Professor of Mathematics and Senior Research Fellow.

Prof. Lyambabaje was recommended as Vice-Chancellor to the Honorable Minister of Education and to HE the President of the Republic by the Board of Governors of the University. The Board and the Chancellor are deeply grateful to His Excellency for naming Prof Lyambabaje to this extraordinarily important position.

In accordance with article 86 of the Constitution of the Republic of Rwanda of 2003 revised in 2015, Prof Lyambabaje will officially take his office after endorsement process of his appointment by Senate of Parliament.

*Done in Kigali, on 4 February 2021*

**Dr. Paul Davenport**  
**Chair of the Board of Governors**  
**University of Rwanda**

