



SEPTEMBER ACTIVITIES REPORT

By School of Architecture and Built Environment

SABE Students Workshop with Trier University

From 15th to 18th September, a delegation from Trier University held workshops at SABE, running from 1PM to 5PM, to enhance students' creative and technical skills. Prof. Dirk Wachowiak guided participants in creating custom typefaces using FontStruct in the GridType workshop. Prof. Valerie Schmidt's Between Light and Pattern session explored photography through light, shadow, and pattern, inspired by renowned artists. Prof. Christian Bruns introduced modern 3D and AI techniques transforming fashion design. The workshops fostered collaboration, innovation, and cross disciplinary creativity among students.



SABE staff Members with Trier University staff members Discussing on Workshop.

Public Lecture

On 17th September 2025, from 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM, Prof. Matthias Sieveke from Trier University of Applied Sciences delivered a public lecture on "Bauhaus" at the SABE Auditorium, Sabyinyo Block, University of Rwanda. The lecture explored the history and influence of the Bauhaus, a revolutionary German art school active from 1919 to 1933, founded by Walter Gropius, which transformed design by merging fine arts and crafts with a focus on functionality, simplicity, and geometric forms. The event took place alongside a series of workshops led by the Trier University delegation.



The students and SABE staff were around in Public lecture

The Aalto University WiT Programme



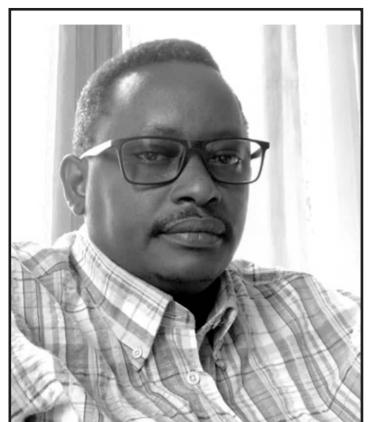
Jovanis Rutayisire, Lecturer in Architecture and Design



Fanny Musabwa, a lecturer in Civil Engineering and Environment



Jeanne Uwanyirigira, a lecturer in Civil Engineering and Environment



David Nkusi, a lecture in college of Arts and social Sciences

Three CST staff members and one from CASS participated in this programme

The Aalto University WiT Programme team participated in the Case Rwanda: Healing Environments project at Kirehe Hospital. The multidisciplinary team included Jovanis Rutayisire, a Lecturer in Architecture and Design from Rwanda; Fanny Musabwa, a Lecturer in Civil Engineering and Environments from Rwanda; Isabelle Middleton, an Architect from the UK; and Tamara Cindric, an Architect from Germany and Norway. Together, they collaborated to explore how physical, social, and natural environments can enhance healthcare spaces and promote healing in Rwanda.. 4 UR staff members, 3 from CST +1 from CASS - WITLAB Program. They are in Aalto University, Finland from 1st sept to 14 oct and they will be in case study countries form 15th oct to 31st December

Deputy Dean Reunion for Exchange Visit



Deputy Dean of SABE Dr. Ernest Uwayezu travelled to Reunion islands

Under the prestigious Erasmus + program “mobilités internationales de credits”, Dr. Ernest Uwayezu received an invitation to the University of Reunion Island (26th September – 2nd October 2025). During his visit, he actively engaged with both graduate and postgraduate students in the Department of Geography, delivering thought provoking sessions on urban development.

The Research Capacity Workshop

As part of the EIFL funded research capacity strengthening initiative, the University of Rwanda (through the College of Science and Technology) collaborated with the University of Johannesburg (South Africa), the University of Lagos (Nigeria), and Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (Ghana) to host a Research Capacity Building Workshop. The event was held on Monday, 29th September 2025, at 10:00 AM in Muhazi Hall, CST (former KIST campus), with both in-person and virtual attendance.



The Research Capacity Workshop closed with Taking a Picture of all participants



Prof. Ignace Gatare Openned and welcomed the Adress

Under the theme “Developing Research Skillset and Academic Competences for Sustainable Impact”, the workshop brought together staff and students to strengthen research skills, share knowledge, and foster cross-institutional collaboration. Key highlights included sessions on career pathing, grant writing, navigating academic publications, strategies for academic scholarships, and extending research impact beyond borders.



The Universities partnership expanded in this Research

The workshop was graced by distinguished hosts Prof. Ignace Gatare, Prof. Telesphore Kabera, Dr. Ernest Uwayezu, Mr. Bernard Nsanzimana, and Dr. Emmanuel Muyombano and facilitated by renowned scholars including Prof. Clinton Aigbavboa, Prof. Bankole Awuzie, Dr. Douglas Aghimien, and Prof. Oluwaseun Dosumu.

SABE Represented by Deputy Dean Dr Ernest Nduwayezu with students from CEM students.

The event successfully provided an important platform for staff and postgraduate students to build research capacity, exchange ideas, and strengthen academic collaborations across institutions.



GUEST ARCHITECT GISELA LINDE

On 1st October 2025, the University of Rwanda hosted a captivating public lecture titled “Creative Placemaking: Sharing 5 Decades of Experience” delivered by Architect Gisela Linde. Held at Area 4A, Sabyinyo Block, the session brought together students, staff, and guests who had the opportunity to engage with Ms. Linde’s rich professional journey spanning over five decades. She shared insightful reflections on how creativity, design, and community engagement intersect to shape meaningful places and sustainable environments.



Year Three Students Met with Architect Gisela Linde

Together with the Dean of the School of Architecture and Built Environment, Dr. Josephine Malonza, Architect Gisela Linde met with Year Three Architecture students to share her professional journey as an architect. During the session, she reflected on her extensive experiences, highlighting the challenges, lessons, and inspirations she encountered over the course of her career. The interaction was highly engaging, as students were given the opportunity to ask questions and learn directly from her personal journey. Many expressed how inspired they felt by her story and were delighted to be visited by such a seasoned professional.

SABE Alumni News

SABE Alumni Architect awarded the Techwomen fellowship (2025-26)

A SABE alumni girls, Arch. Sylvie Dufitimana (class of 2021) won the TECHWOMEN FELLOWSHIP this year. She has been working with MASS since her graduation.

Sylvie, a licensed architect with a Bachelor's in Architecture from the University of Rwanda, is an architect at MASS Design Group and serves as Communication Manager for the Global Health Corps Alumni Rwanda Forum. Passionate about empowering women, she co-founded Rwandan Ladies in Architecture to mentor female students and promote architectural awareness in Rwanda.

