

Resources from meetings

PHD APPLICATIONS.

PhD Application Series: Part 1(12-02-2025)

In February 2025, the CMU-Africa Research Club launched its PhD Application Series to guide students through the application process. For Part 1, we hosted Hadiza Yusuf, MSEAI Class of 2024, who is currently pursuing her PhD at the University of Michigan-Dearborn. She shared key steps for PhD applications, her journey from CMU-Africa to securing full funding, and the resources she used. Hadiza also highlighted how students can leverage their CMU experience to access global PhD opportunities.

Recording:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1-l4sY9f9vHw05TuaUTZVH2oj4YgoxrZ4/view?usp=drive_link

Hadiza Shared a Sample PhD Application Tracker

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1e8JjA2xtGTWe_mOpvDzQd6EhUZgDVN_gcHTxGadakg8/edit?usp=sharing

PhD Research Chat with Ozioma Paul (17-02-2025)

Recording:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1beecGczup74gP5QalG4l67VDMAjApWKz>

Slides:

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1Y8SsEyPgaxZxQOv_v2_IL0IYbu0Tc_h5/edit?usp=drive_link&ouid=111605363174404080048&rtpof=true&sd=true

PhD Application Series - Part 2: *Crafting a strong SOP, CV, and finding PhD supervisors*

Steven Kolawole spoke on building a strong research profile, crafting an impactful Statement of Purpose, writing a compelling Curriculum Vitae, and reaching out to professors whose work aligns with your interests. He shared the lessons he learned from previous application rejections and how those experiences helped him refine his application materials—eventually securing a direct PhD offer from CMU LTI while still completing his undergraduate finals.

Slides - [here](#) -

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/17sx343ZPMk4CyK8CByCcDFJNJDAxyHdpW1zlT0iFGXM/edit?usp=sharing>

Recording - [here](#)

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1wcDQgZ_01FBuoMn_UHeEfOluRfvfqmWTgiqGjusLxLM/edit?tab=t.0#heading=h.xd3lwjfy1rc5

PhD Application Information Session with Faculty – 10 October 2025

Description: In October, Prof Tim Brown, Prof George Okeyo and Prof Ismaila Dabo Joined us for a panel session discussing about PhD experience and how students can adequately leverage their CMU-Africa experience in preparations for PhD Applications. This session was highly informative covering experience in different countries like UK, US, How to prepare, the myth about publication requirements, position yourself to get good recommendation letters and more important informations were shared

Recording:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1XX7jLCZDi5NzPafLVlorrZ9TJXh9d-a4/view?usp=sharing>

Academic Resources (Tab 2)

Research Club Workshop - LATEX: A Mini Tutorial - [Link](#)

Slides: [here](#)

Research Poster Workshop with Prof. Emily Aiken

Description: In April 2025, the Research Club hosted a Hands-on Research Poster Workshop led by Dr. Emily Aiken. The session offered Tartans valuable insights into how to effectively structure a research poster and the key visual elements that contribute to a compelling design. This workshop proved essential in helping students prepare their posters for the Student Research Showcase held at the end of the Spring 2025 semester. To revisit the session, watch the recording here and review the slides here.

Presentation:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1WyQfdwRK5wjsr9FdNjd1WIErC1zmWMqu/view?usp=sharing>

Recording:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/14nXw5cwmBdbFecll0fJ56VDKQ_o1YqVs/view?usp=sharing

Research Club Past Events (Tab 3)

Spring 2025 Activities Recap – CMU-Africa Research Club

The Research Club successfully organized and supported the following events in Spring 2025:

For each event - We have a short description and then the details of maybe slides, recording or just the Description of the event (Make default space for each) - Some might already be reported under the PhD resources as well

- **CMU-Africa Students Research Showcase – 6 May 2025**

Description:

To mark the end of a successful semester, the [CMU-Africa Research Club](#) hosted the Student Research Showcase, the first of its kind on our campus, focusing on course-based research!

This event highlighted innovative, research conducted by students during the Spring 2025 semester. A few students gave live research presentations, receiving thoughtful feedback from faculty, guest researchers, and peers in attendance.

We also featured a digital poster session, where students took turns presenting their work and engaging with attendees, a dynamic, interactive way to share their ideas and learn from each other.

While this initiative spotlighted course-based projects, it's also worth noting that students involved in independent research and MSIT Research Project participated in a separate session with posters and short presentations to showcase their work.

At [Carnegie Mellon University Africa](#), we are committed to raising the next generation of African tech leaders and research is one of our most powerful tools in that mission.

- **Research Poster Workshop – 15 April 2025**

Description: In April 2025, the Research Club hosted a Hands-on Research Poster Workshop led by Dr. Emily Aiken. The session offered Tartans valuable insights into how to effectively structure a research poster and the key visual elements that contribute to a compelling design. This workshop proved essential in helping students prepare their posters for the Student Research Showcase held at the end of the Spring 2025 semester. To revisit the session, watch the recording here and review the slides here.

Presentation:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1WyQfdwRK5wjsr9FdNjd1WIErC1zmWMqu/view?usp=sharing>

Recording:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/14nXw5cwmBdbFecll0fJ56VDKQ_o1YqVs/view?usp=sharing

- **PhD Application Series: Part 2 – 5 March 2025**

- **A PhD Research Chat with Ozioma Paul (Alumna)** – 17 February 2025
- **PhD Application Series: Part 1** – 13 February 2025
- **How to Take Advantage of Research Opportunities at CMU-Africa** – 23 January 2025

Description: On 21st of January, the first meeting of the year happened where we had an insightful session with Prof. Okeyo on how to take advantage of research opportunities at CMU in 2025

Fall 2025 Activities Recap – CMU-Africa Research Club

The Research Club successfully organized and supported the following events in Fall 2025:

PhD Application Information Session with Faculty – 10 October 2025

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1XX7jLCZDi5NzPafLVlorrZ9TJXh9d-a4/view?usp=sharing>

Panel Session: Students' Perspective on Research at CMU-Africa – 3 October 2025

Recording:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1e-_kQDewJOrvZZs19pvK7VoEMZuYvPGF/view?usp=sharing

ACM SIGCOMM 2025 African Remote Point of Delivery (PoD) – 8-11 September 2025

Your Research Roadmap: Navigating Graduate Research at CMU-Africa - 4 September 2025

Recording:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1j6oKsm397sJcamFYaY-gDPmUiESF0V2J/view?usp=sharing>

Research Chat with Steven Kolawole (CMU PhD, AI & NLP) – 14 Aug 2025

Slides:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1x_OUQF9y2JiU-faI4RU8COn0ygR6R74G/view?usp=sharing