

Job Description:

Professor of the Practice of IT Entrepreneurship

Carnegie Mellon University in Africa (CMU-Africa) invites qualified individuals to apply for the position of Professor of the Practice in IT Entrepreneurship. Carnegie Mellon University (CMU), a world leader in engineering education and research, extended its global reach into Africa in 2012 when it opened the location in Kigali, Rwanda, in a partnership with the Government of Rwanda. As a unit of CMU's College of Engineering, with full-time resident CMU faculty and staff, CMU-Africa extends CMU's culture of innovation to Africa and prepares students to become technology thought leaders through two CMU master's programs: the Master of Science in Information Technology (MSIT) and the Master of Science in Electrical and Computer Engineering (MS ECE). Based in one of the fastest growing economic regions of the world, the Center of Excellence faculty, students and graduates are ideally positioned to understand and take advantage of Africa's unique opportunities.

Africa's economic transformation will largely depend on its ability to build ecosystems that support research, innovation, and entrepreneurship to develop contextually relevant products and services, moving Africa from a consumer culture to a maker culture. Towards this end, the CMU-Africa campus is hosted in the Regional ICT Center of Excellence (RICT CoE), strategically located within Kigali Innovation City—a community that will host multinational and local companies as well as quality tertiary education institutions. There are plans for the RICT CoE to also host an Innovation Incubator to nurture new companies started by CMU-Africa graduates and support all graduates in developing their entrepreneurial and professional skills. The Innovation Incubator aims to be adapted to the African market environment and integrated into the regional business and innovation ecosystem.

The professor of the practice in IT entrepreneurship will be expected to engage with the faculty, students and regional industry. Key roles include:

- Teach courses each year focusing on entrepreneurship, innovation and professional skills.
- Participate in the curricular design recommendations for the IT Entrepreneurship concentration of the MSIT program and its strategic plan for appropriate growth of the concentration.
- Advance wider student and program initiatives on entrepreneurship and innovation.
- Lead the development of the RICT CoE Innovation Incubator:
 - adapted to the opportunities and challenges of the African market
 - integrated with the regional ecosystem of research, entrepreneurs, capital and industry.
 - sustainable through industry partnership and fund raising
- Develop an environment that will nurture research-based innovation and innovation-driven entrepreneurship for CMU-Africa students and alumni that is integrated with CMU-Africa master's programs.

Candidates for this position should have the following qualifications:

Education:

Master's degree in business, public administration, accounting, economics or related fields/disciplines.

Experience:

Five years of relevant and progressively responsible administrative, accounting and/or program coordination experience in an educational or professional setting; and demonstrated knowledge of overall business climate, key business contacts, venture capital markets, and other areas critical to entrepreneurship, preferably in Africa.

Preferred Experience

Ten years of successful and effective professional practice in IT entrepreneurship and related activities such as venture capital fund raising. Personal experience in managing business start-ups and/or innovation incubators in sub-Saharan Africa. Understand research that applies to the profession. The candidate should be able to evaluate research results, devise applications of the research, and teach the results to students.

Required Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

- Be an effective teacher of the IT entrepreneurship and innovation.
- Financial acuity; effectiveness in securing and managing resources.
- Strong operational and project management focus.
- Effective at networking and building communities.
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills.
- Ability to make independent judgments and act accordingly.
- Possess strong project management skills.
- Demonstrated success at growing and sustaining an organization.
- Demonstrated ability to effectively collaborate with multiple constituents.

Applications

Applicants for this position should submit the following five documents to director@rwanda.cmu.edu :

- Cover letter describing the reasons the applicant is interested in the position and highlighting the key qualifications and experiences of the applicant that make her or him distinctively qualified for the position.
- A complete résumé with descriptions of jobs and responsibilities that are particularly relevant to the position.
- A brief statement describing the applicant's teaching interests (key areas of expertise) and teaching philosophy. (No more than two pages.)
- Copies of two (2) documents representing relevant work by the applicant. Relevant documents include published articles, project reports, company reports, business plans, course syllabi, etc.