

First Alan Gilbert Memorial Scholar arrives

The first Alan Gilbert Memorial Scholar, Joseph Murenzi (pictured), has arrived at Manchester for a masters degree in Engineering Project Management.

The Alan Gilbert Memorial Scholarship was established to honour the memory of the University's former President and Vice-Chancellor, Professor Alan Gilbert, who personally led the development of the Equity and Merit Scholarship programme. This programme offers talented students from developing countries the chance to study for life-changing Masters training programmes that are not available in their home nations. The Alan Gilbert Memorial Scholarship is awarded to the most outstanding student from Africa in each academic year.

Prior to coming to Manchester, Joseph worked as a Civil Engineer in charge of Public Investment (infrastructure) in a new unit in the Rwandan Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning. Upon completing his studies and returning to Rwanda, he will rejoin the team and will be working on a substantial project to build a new international airport.



"Being the very first scholarship holder is a great honour. Alan Gilbert was a great man who believed in the important role that education can play in transforming lives."

On receiving the scholarship Joseph commented; "Being the very first scholarship holder is a great honour. Alan Gilbert was a great man who believed in the important role that education can play in transforming lives. This scholarship will develop my skills significantly and hopefully thereby help to fulfill Alan's dream."

The University continues to welcome gifts large and small from those who wish to mark the life and achievements of Alan Gilbert towards the Alan Gilbert Memorial Fund, a permanent endowment which will see the continuation of an annual award to at least one African student per year.