**A successful PhD defence**

Dr. Allan Mazimwe, Assistant Lecturer Department: Department of Geomatics & Land Management successfully defended his PhD on Tuesday 14th December in an event that was physical in the CEDAT Conference room but also virtual attracting participants from all over the globe.

His success attracted a lot of congratulatory messages from fellow staff who commended him for the resilience and the many years of hard work. Similarly, the Dean Prof. Moses Musinguzi and the entire Department of Geomatics and Land Management was appreciated for the new addition of a PhD.

Dr. Moses Musinguzi in his remarks noted that the defence by Dr. Mazimwe attracted participation of the opponent who was in Sweden, one supervisor in Tunisia, while one other panelist was in Nairobi and over one hundred people attended the public defense that lasted over four hours.

Dr. Mazimwe’s Thesis was titled Pattern Driven Data Interoperability in Situation Awareness Systems: A Case of the Disaster Community in Uganda.

The study among other things established that existing disaster management vocabularies have a very low adherence (19.54%) to FAIR recommendations and best practices. This implies that finding, accessing and reusing interoperable ontologies to organize disaster data is rather difficult because of non-existent domain repositories.