

**Andro Rurua, PhD**  
Professor and former Rector, Business and Technology University (BTU)  
Doctor at the Faculty of Science and Engineering, University of Limerick, Ireland

1. **Nationalities:** Georgian, Irish

2. **Education:**

(Date from – Date to)	Degree(s) or Diploma(s) obtained:
1992-1997	BEng, Control Engineering
1998-2004	PhD, Science and Engineering

3. **Membership of professional bodies:** Member of the Management Board for the Centre for European Studies, University of Limerick, Ireland

4. **Key Positions held:**

Rector and Professor, Business and Technology University (2018 -2019)

Doctor at the Faculty of Science and Engineering, University of Limerick, Ireland (since 2004)

Manager and Coordinator, “Georgia Education and Enterprise Project GEEP”, University of Limerick, Ireland (since 2005)

Associate Professor in Applied Economics (2011 - 2019), Ilia State University of Georgia

Director, Georgian Economic and Social Applied Research Institute GESARI (2011 - 2014), Ilia State University of Georgia.

5. **Key qualifications:**

PhD from the Faculty of Science and Engineering, University of Limerick – Andro Rurua is a Doctor at the Faculty of Science and Engineering, University of Limerick. He has managed a number of interdisciplinary international projects with the focus on education and economic development funded by Tempus, Irish Department of Foreign Affairs, New Zealand Government.

**Associate Professor in Applied Economics and Director of The Georgian Economic and Social Applied Research Institute (GESARI), Ilia State University of Georgia (2011 - 2018).** Experience in working with international organisations such as UNDP, OECD, ESRI Ireland, Vienna Institute of International Economics, World Bank and EU Delegation in Georgia etc.

**Key experience:**

Lake Taupo Development Company, New Zealand. By invitation of the New Zealand Government – Project involved **setting up a third level institute and Technological Park based on the successful model of the University of Limerick** in Taupo, New Zealand.

**Programme for University Industry Interaction PUII, University of Limerick, Ireland** – Identifying skills and competencies needed for future employability and provision of education to meet these requirements in Ireland.

**Georgia Education Enterprise Project GEEP** funded by Irish Aid at the Department of Foreign Affairs of Ireland – **In partnership with the Government of Georgia, Research and explore the role to be played by education and training in economic development of Georgia.** Main partners in the projects: Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia, Georgian Higher Education Sector, the University of Limerick, the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia, Ministry of Regional Development of Georgia, Office of the Georgian Prime Minister and other local and regional development bodies.

**Rector:** Business and Technology University (BTU)

Main responsibilities: **Capacity Building of the University and its strategic Development.** During this period, the University was one of the most dynamic and fast developing universities in Georgia.

The University applied to extend the quota of its students. As part of this process the Strategic Development Plan – which included every department and other constituent parts of the University - was reviewed and updated. The University successfully passed the re-authorisation process and extended the quota of the students by 1,500.

Also, the University had a record number of incoming students and was amongst the top Georgian universities by the average CAO points for the incoming students.

## 1. Selected professional experience

Date	Location	Comp/ Org	Position	Description
2002-2004	Limerick	<b>University of Limerick</b>	Research Assistant	Research supervision of a group of undergraduate and postgraduate students in designing remotely accessible control engineering laboratories and user interface for delivering remote lectures combined with remote laboratories. The work has been applied to control engineering module at the University of Limerick.
1995-2000	Ireland Georgia	Tempus Programme	Researcher	Topic: <b>Curriculum development (training):</b> Redesigning Engineering Curriculum at Georgian Technical University, Tbilisi, Georgia
2001 – 2002	New Zealand	<b>New Zealand Government</b>	Researcher	Topic: <b>Educational and Economic Development:</b> Setting up a third level institute and Technological Park based on the model of University of Limerick in Taupo, New Zealand.
2003-2006	Limerick	University of Limerick	Researcher	Topic: <b>Education Industry Interface for Economic Development</b> Identifying skills and competencies needed for future employability and provision of education to meet these requirements in Ireland.
Sept 2007 Sept 2008	Georgia	Irish Aid Programme	Coordinator of the project	Topic: Education Establishing a Business School in Ilia State University of Georgia
Sept 2007 Sept 2008	Georgia	Irish Aid Programme	Project Manager	Topic: Education Establishing a Centre for European Studies in Ilia State University of Georgia. The centre was officially launched by the Irish Minister of Foreign Affairs Michael Martin in November 2008.
July 2005 - ongoing	Ireland Georgia	Irish Aid Programme	Project Manager	Topic: Education Industry Interface In partnership with the Government of Georgia, Research and explore the role to be played by education and training in economic development of Georgia. Main partners in the projects are the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia, Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia, Ministry of Regional Development of Georgia, Office of the Georgian Prime Minister and other local and regional development bodies.
October 2006- October 2007	Ireland, Georgia, Sweden, Lithuania	Tempus project	Coordinator of the project	Establishing Quality Assurance Service in the Georgian Higher Education Institutions. Through the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia helping Georgian Higher Education Institutions to establish Quality Assurance Services in the Higher Education Institutions of Georgia.
February 2011	Georgia	Ilia State University of Georgia	Founding Director	The Georgian Economic and Social Applied Research Institute (GESARI) has been established to address the need for providing technical resources and capacity for detailed economic analysis to inform public policy making and the development of a long-term planning framework of Georgia. The institute builds Georgian capacities and skills in policy research and development, and operate at best practice international standards. GESARI is based on best practice from comparator economies internationally and works in partnership with ESRI in Ireland, WIIW in Austria, Infyde in Spain, and the OECD, and the UNDP, EU and World Bank delegations to Georgia

## Teaching and Research Interests

- Economic and Regional Development in emerging economies
- University Enterprise Interaction, Innovation Management
- Education for Economic Development