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Biographical Information: Dr Ernest Fokoue is Professor in the School of Mathematical Sciences at Rochester Institute of Technology. Prior to joining RIT, Dr. Fokoue was a faculty member in the Mathematics Department at Kettering University in Flint, Michigan. Before that he was an Assistant Professor at Ohio State University (still a true Buckeye fan) and a Postdoctoral Research Fellow/Visiting Assistant Professor at the Statistical and Applied Mathematical Sciences Institute (SAMSI)/Duke University.

He obtained his first degrees (Licence and Maitrise) in Mathematics and Computer Science from his native Cameroon, then travelled around the world for two years with yogi monks before returning home to teach for two years at the Catholic University of Central Africa. Dr. Fokoue then obtained a British Government scholarship to study for his Masters of Science degree in Neural Computation at Aston University in Birmingham, after which he moved up north to the University of Glasgow where he earned his Ph.D. in Statistics under the supervision of Professor Mike Titterington.

Dr. Fokoue's main research interest is Statistical Machine Learning, Baysesian Statistics, Data Science and Artificial Intelligence. He is the co-author of the book entitled "Principles and Theory for Data Mining and Machine Learning", published by Springer-Verlag, New York. Dr. Fokoué was the winner of the Best Young Researchers' Award from the International Association of Statistical Computing in August 2000 in Utretcht - Netherlands. Dr. Fokoue has published several scientific articles in a variety of international journals. He currently serves as editor or reviewer for many journals. He is the recipient of a 2012 Leadership Award from the American Statistical Association (ASA) for his inspiring revival of the Rochester Chapter of the ASA. In 2012, Dr. Fokoue received the distinction of elected member of the International Statistical Institute (ISI), a recognition bestowed on him as a result of his contribution to statistical science.

Professor Fokoué is the grateful father of his 12-year-old princess daughter, Ellie, with whom he enjoys sharing joyful moments spent reading, exploring mathematics and/or playing his favorite game of soccer. He also loves and plays table tennis and enjoys learning new languages for the fun of it. Dr. Fokoue's favorite way to serve his community are coaching soccer (11 years of experience), mentoring youngsters, and inspiring pre-college students to excel at mathematics through programs like the Flint Mathematical Circle that he founded while he was in Michigan. Dr. Fokoue is a guitar enthusiast and an amateur singer, and enjoys sharing his musical talents as a member of the choir at his church, or just entertains friends by playing various songs from around the world on his guitar.

Dr. Fokoue has interests in both theoretical and applied statistics, and likes to think of himself as a compassionate teacher moved by the desire to help students acquire all round statistical sophistication. Dr. Fokoue is continually receptive to being a thesis advisor to any student willing (and able) to explore the fascinating world of statistical science and machine learning.