

Reflections from the IBM and Shuri Alumni Event

As a Shuri Fellow and East of England Regional Alumni Lead, attending the recent Shuri and IBM Alumni Event gave me the opportunity to reflect on what makes the Shuri community so unique. While the day explored important topics such as AI, workforce transformation, leadership and innovation, what stood out most was the continued impact of the alumni network.

The sessions highlighted how leadership evolves beyond the fellowship. Hearing alumni share their experiences reinforced that growth is not just about personal achievement, but about creating opportunities for others, sharing learning and building communities that enable people to thrive. Discussions on the future of healthcare were equally thought-provoking, from AI and workforce development to initiatives such as IBM Skills Build and the ambition for a Single Patient Record. What was particularly encouraging was the focus on ensuring people are equipped with the skills, confidence and support needed to embrace these changes and shape the future of healthcare delivery.

For me, the greatest value of the day came from the conversations between sessions: reconnecting with alumni colleagues, exchanging ideas, hearing different perspectives and learning from one another's experiences. It was a reminder that some of the most meaningful opportunities arise through relationships, collaboration and shared purpose.

A huge thank you to Felicia Akubue Central Alumni Lead, Alexis Edwards IBM and everyone involved in bringing the event together.

The fellowship may end, but the Shuri journey continues. The alumni network is where learning becomes action, connections become collaborations, and support becomes lasting impact. My message to fellow alumni is simple: stay connected, stay engaged, and keep investing in this remarkable community.