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**PROCEEDINGS OF 2014 MATRICULATION
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2014**

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ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

- 8.45 a.m.-9.00 a.m. – Maticulants/Guests to be seated
- 9.00 a.m. – Procession
- Statement of Welcome by Registrar,
Mrs. Mercy Haizel Ashia
 - Vice-Chancellor’s Address:
Professor Ernest Aryeetey
 - Cultural Performance: Ghana Dance Ensemble
 - Administration of Matriculation Oath
by Registrar
 - Expectations: Ms. Rukaya Moro, School of Law
 - Signing of the Matricula
 - University Anthem
- 9.45 a.m. – Recession
- Reception

WELCOME/DECLARATION OF PURPOSE REGISTRAR, MRS. MERCY HAIZEL ASHIA

Good morning Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the management of the University of Ghana, I welcome all of us to this morning's ceremony.

We are gathered here this morning to matriculate students who have enrolled for courses leading to undergraduate and postgraduate degrees, diplomas and certificates at the University of Ghana, in the 2014/2015 academic year. We will confer on them, membership of the University of Ghana, in line with the University Statutes and Regulations. Visiting students and other short stay students who are studying at the University for a Semester or two are not included in this ceremony. However, such non-matriculated students are expected to observe the same rules and regulations as matriculated students, while they are here.

At the University of Ghana the required dress for matriculation is a black gown worn over formal clothes. I am happy to see that our students are in appropriate academic dress for the ceremony.

The ceremony is in three parts:

Part 1:

We will hear an address from the Vice-Chancellor. He will also tell us the significance of the Matriculation Oath and what the University expects from its students.

Part 2:

Students will swear the Matriculation Oath to be administered by the Registrar. Each student was expected to collect a copy of the Oath from the designated point.

After the Oath, one representative of the students will articulate the expectations of the 2014-2015 cohort of students and ceremonially sign the Matricula. For this year we have selected a student from the College of Humanities, to represent the students.

Part 3:

The third part of the ceremony takes place after we disperse. Each student will sign the Matriculation Oath and return it as a record that indeed you are here. The signed Oath will be returned after this ceremony in the following order:

- Resident students will return the signed oath to their halls of residence
- Students studying at the City Campus will go to the City Campus, and,
- Non-resident students will go to the Information Centre.

During the course of the year, we will hold separate matriculation ceremonies for students in the Distance Education programme, the Sandwich programmes and the other programmes which start in the second semester.

I will now call on the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ernest Aryeetey, to deliver his address.

VICE-CHANCELLOR'S ADDRESS AT MATRICULATION: PROFESSOR ERNEST ARYEETEEY

SALUTATION

Chairman and Members of the University Council;
Pro-Vice Chancellors;
Registrar;
Provosts, Deans and Directors;
Heads of Departments and Heads of Halls;
Senior Tutors;
Members of Convocation;
Freshmen and Women;
Parents and Guardians;
Distinguished Invited Guests;
Ladies and Gentlemen:

INTRODUCTION

It is my pleasure to extend to you, on behalf of the University Council and the University of Ghana, a warm welcome to this year's Matriculation ceremony. Hearty congratulations to our freshmen and women who have successfully gained admission into various programmes available at our University.

The Matriculation ceremony is essential not only because it marks the formal admission of students into the University, but also because it is the occasion during which matriculants pledge their allegiance to the authority of the University. It is the occasion during which matriculants are enjoined, through the administration of the Matriculation Oath, to be obedient to the Vice-Chancellor and other Officers of the University. In pledging to be of good behaviour, new students are committing themselves to avoid indiscipline and disorderliness for the duration of their time as students.

Freshmen and women, to arrive here today, you have accomplished a great deal. Through your intellect, drive and perseverance you have gained admission to the premier university in Ghana. Today, as you officially start the

next stage of your educational career, I would like you to focus on a few things. In front of you, as in a long winding road, you will find several tremendous opportunities, experiences and challenges that will last you a lifetime. They will define your university experience and set you on the path of professional and personal development. Seeing you here today reminds me of the beginning of my own academic journey here in 1975, and the many twists and turns that have brought me this far. As you embark on your own educational journey, I hope you will take inspiration from the good men and women you will meet here, and work hard to achieve all your dreams.

OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

To show you the opportunities that University of Ghana affords you, let me mention a few. Today UG is one of only 3 universities in sub-Saharan Africa outside of South Africa that have been ranked in the QS World University Rankings at the 701th position. This is the very first time sub-Saharan universities have been ranked, thus showing the major improvements taking place in some universities in the region. In the Webometrics rankings of sub-Saharan African universities, UG moved from the 18th position in 2013 to the 15th position in 2014.

These achievements come in the wake of several reforms and investments that UG has made. We continue to improve our infrastructure steadily. We are investing in science equipment, academic buildings including lecture rooms, laboratories and offices, roads, ICT, and the library. Today we have the best structured PhD programmes in the whole of Africa, one that others are eagerly trying to learn from. As many as 62% of our lecturers have PhD now compared to 43% only a decade ago. We have been able to rise in the rankings because we have focused on the things that any decent university must do, namely do the proper research and publish the outputs.

The fact that UG is steadily rising does not mean that there are no serious challenges here. You will face challenges with water and it is only because there is not enough water coming to the University. We continue to work on ameliorating conditions in that respect. Again, you will face power challenges and I am sure you know why. It is for this reason that we are working with the SRC and GRASSAG to acquire a power generator for each hall of residence before the end of the semester. You will face challenges with my administration as you seek answers to questions we may not readily be in a

position to answer; but please bear with us as we work to improve the administration of the University with a new decentralised structure. One of the biggest challenges we are all forced to confront today is noise pollution. They come from three main sources: public transport operators trying to take over the campus, students celebrating hall week and religious groups that erroneously believe that prayer is most effective when it is loud. It has been extremely difficult to tackle these in view of the changing social dynamics of this country. I will appeal to you consider how best you can help us to contain the situation before it gets out of hand.

ADMISSIONS

Admissions into the University of Ghana continue to be very competitive. Once again, the University made it possible for students who completed their WASSCE in May, to enter the University in the same year of writing the examinations. For the first time, the University took up the additional challenge of admitting students in the West African sub-region who wrote their final senior high school examinations in May 2014. This is commendable especially because many other public universities in Ghana were unable to admit even the Ghanaian students who completed Senior High School this year, and I salute the teams who worked hard to make this a reality.

One major challenge we have faced over the years is that applicants complete and submit their online application forms before the release of results by the West African Examinations Council. After the release of the results, some applicants realise that they do not have the aggregate required for the programmes they have chosen. To reduce this burden, for this year's admissions, applicants were given the chance to go back to their online application forms to review and make changes to the programmes selected if they so wished, after results were released in August. The re-opening of the system had its advantages and disadvantages. Guided by last year's cut-off points, most applicants were able to make changes to the programmes they had selected. As we all know, the cut-off points are determined by the quotas set by the University and the general performance of applicants at their final examinations. With general performance dropping this year, a few people who had made changes were disadvantaged.

The University continues to receive large numbers of applications for admission each year. However, due to the limited facilities and human resources in the University, we are forced to once again turn down the applications of many otherwise qualified applicants.

For the 2014/2015 academic year, the University received a total of 37,326, applications made up of 30,083 undergraduate applications and 7,243 graduate applications. This is an increase of 1,033 more applications than the University received 2 years ago. As you are aware, last year was a peculiar year in which the University received over 54,000 applications as a result of the fact that 2 cohorts of students wrote the WASSCE in May 2013.

For the 2014/2015 academic year, the University admitted students into programmes on the Main Campus, the Korle Bu Campus and the Accra City Campus, and was able to offer admission to **14,883** applicants made up of **11,944** undergraduate and **2,939** graduate students. Out of the number offered admission, **7,275** have registered, made up of **5, 336** undergraduate students and **1,939** graduate students. The cut-off points for the 2014/2015 admissions were as follows:

Programme	Cut-off	Affirmative	Requirement
Bachelor of Science in Agriculture	20		
Bachelor of Science in Agric. Extension	20		
Bachelor of Science Family & Consumer Sci.	20		
Bachelor of Science in Administration	10	11	
Fee-paying	12	13	
City Campus		24	1st Choice
Bachelor of Science in Engineering Sci.			
Agricultural Engineering	9	10	
Biomedical Engineering	7	8	
Computer Engineering	8	9	
Food Process Engineering	9	10	
Material Science & Engineering	9	10	
Bachelor of Science in Actuarial Science	10		B3 in Elec. Maths
Bachelor of Science in Information Tech.	12		
Bachelor of Science			
Animal Biol. & Conservation Science	17		
Biochemistry, Cell & Mole. Biology	9		

Botany	17		
Chemistry	17		
Computer Science	11		B3 in Elec.Maths
Earth Science	14		
Marine & Fisheries Sciences	17		
Mathematics	17		B2 in Elec. Maths
Nutrition & Food Science	14		
Physics	17		B3 inElec. Maths
Psychology	16		
Statistics	17		B2 in Elec.Maths
Bachelor of Laws (L. L. B)	9		
Bachelor of Arts			
General Arts Background	16	17	
English			B3 in Eng. Lit.
Economics			C5 in Elec. Maths
French			B3 in French
Geography			C4 in Geography
Mathematics			B3 in Elec. Maths
Psychology			C4 in Int. Science
Spanish			C 6 in French
Statistics			B3 in Elec. Maths
Fee-Paying	20	21	
Business/Science/Vocational Background	12	13	
City Campus	24		1st Choice Only
Bachelor of Fine Arts	20		
Bachelor of Medicine & Bach of Surgery	7		
Bachelor of Dental Surgery	7		
Bachelor of Pharmacy	8		
Bachelor of Nursing	8		
Bachelor of Sc. in Allied Health Sciences			
Dental Laboratory Sciences	10		
Dietetics	10		
Medical Laboratory Sciences	10		
Occupational Therapy`	10		
Physiotherapy	10		
Radiography	10		
Doctor of Veterinary Medicine	15		



Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Ernest Aryeeteey, delivering his Address.



Matriculants seated at the matriculation grounds



Mrs Mercy Haizel Ashia, Registrar, Welcoming Matriculants to the ceremony



Some University officials at the ceremony



Ms. Rukaya Moro delivering an address on the Expectations of University Life, as her colleague freshmen/women listen attentively.





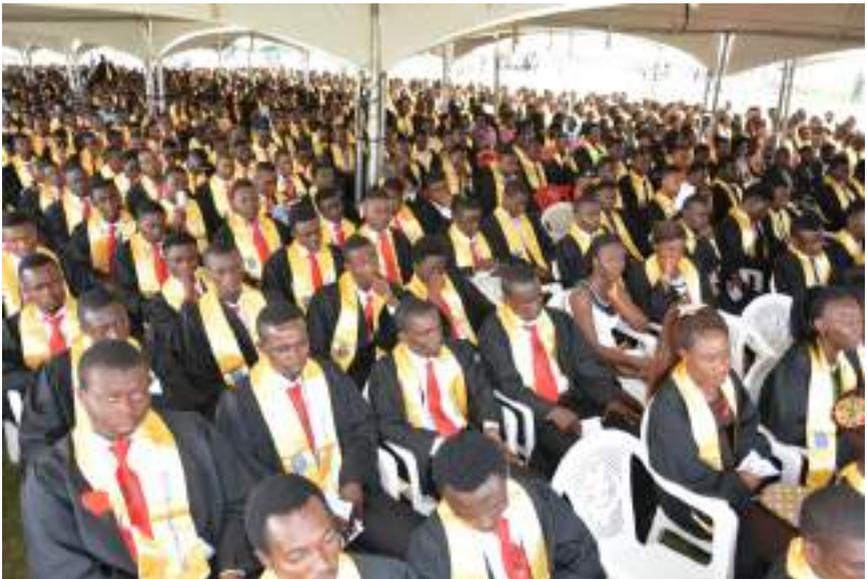
Ms. Rukaya Moro signing the Matricula under the supervision of Mr. Enoch Amartey, Director, Academic Affairs Directorate.



Matriculants taking the Matriculation Oath.



Matriculants at the matriculation grounds



The University continued with its policy of giving the opportunity of university education to applicants from Less Endowed Schools on concessionary basis. For the 2014/2015 academic year, following the approval by the University Council of the policy on the Admission of Student Athletes, the University for the first time, offered admission to talented sportsmen and women based on their sporting abilities. Students admitted under the policy must first satisfy the general entry requirements of the University, and also show proof of athletic ability. We especially welcome the first batch of students admitted under this policy, and we trust that you will cooperate with officials of the Sports Directorate who will work with you to assist you effectively combine your participation in sporting activities with your academic work.

DISTANCE LEARNING

The Distance Learning programme has been restructured and is an opportunity for applicants to earn a University of Ghana degree without leaving the comfort of their homes. The mode of delivery will be through e-learning and face to face interactions. The programmes available will be the Bachelor of Science programme in Administration and the Bachelor of Arts programme. The bouquets for the Bachelor of Arts programme have been reduced to 3 attractive bouquets. 2 new programmes have been introduced and these are the Bachelor of Science programme in Information Technology and Bachelor of Science programme in Nursing for professional nurses who already have the Diploma in Nursing certificate from recognized Nursing Training Colleges in Ghana. As these programmes will be run in the regions, these professional nurses can remain at post while pursuing their degree programmes. The aggregate for WASSCE applicants applying into the Distance Learning programme should not exceed aggregate 30. These new changes will take effect from February 2015, which is the beginning of the academic year for the Distance Learning programme. Applications into Distance Learning will remain open until January 15, 2015, when admissions are expected to be completed. Applicants writing the 2014 November/December WASSCE examinations are eligible to apply.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

International students in any university add to the cultural enrichment of the social as well as the academic setting. It is also our firm belief that any world-class university should have a vibrant multi-national population. In our drive to attract more international students to this University, international students who wrote their final secondary school examinations in May/June 2014, were

also offered admission. A total of 1,550 international students of various nationalities have been admitted into various programmes, made up of 449 undergraduate students and 1,101 graduate students. These include students from countries such as Algeria, Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, China, Cote D'Ivoire, France, Gambia, Germany, India, Japan, Kenya, Liberia, Mali, Nigeria, Pakistan, South Korea, Taiwan, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, United Kingdom, United States of America and Zambia. Out of the numbers admitted, 57 undergraduate and 722 graduate students have registered. We would like to extend a warm welcome to all our international students and urge them to enjoy their stay in Ghana, feel at home, and make use of the services offered by the International Programmes Office.

THE COLLEGIATE SYSTEM

The University of Ghana migrated onto the collegiate system at the beginning of the 2014/2015 academic year. The new colleges created under the collegiate system of administration, and each headed by a Provost are:

- 1) The College of Humanities, made up of:
 - School of Law
 - School of Arts
 - School of Languages
 - School of Social Sciences
 - School of Performing Arts
 - University of Ghana Business School
 - Institute of Statistical, Social & Economic Research
 - University of Ghana Accra City Campus
 - Institute of African Studies
 - Regional Institute for Population Studies
 - Centre for Social Policy Studies
 - Centre for Gender Studies & Advocacy
 - Centre for Migration Studies
 - Language Centre
 - Legon Centre for International Affairs & Diplomacy

- 2) The College of Basic and Applied Sciences, made up of the following:
 - School of Agriculture
 - School of Engineering Sciences

- School of Biological Sciences
 - School of Physical & Mathematical Sciences
 - School of Veterinary Medicine
 - Institute of Environmental and Sanitation Studies
 - Institute of Applied Science and Technology
 - West African Centre for Crop Improvement
 - Biotechnology Research Centre
 - Livestock and Poultry Research Centre (LIPTREC), Legon
 - Soil and Irrigation Research Centre (SIREC), Kpong
 - Forest and Horticultural Crops Research Centre (FOHCREC), Kade
- 3) The College of Health Sciences, made up of the following:
- School of Pharmacy
 - School of Medicine & Dentistry
 - School of Nursing
 - School of Public Health
 - Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research
 - Centre for Tropical, Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics
- 4) The College of Education, made up of the following:
- School of Information and Communication Studies
 - School of Education and Leadership
 - School of Continuing & Distance Education

The purpose for the collegiate system is to decentralize the academic functions of the University. This system will provide more room for innovations at the school and college levels and the semi-autonomous nature of the colleges will enable them take more decisions on their academic programmes and administration.

ACCOMMODATION

The University continues to work towards finding a lasting solution to the chronic accommodation problem faced by students. Four new halls, housing over 7,000 students have been put up, and the 5 traditional halls have been extensively rehabilitated and decongested. Additionally, security in the halls of residence was stepped up. Halls managed by University of Ghana Enterprises Limited (UGEL), as well as some privately owned residential facilities now

operate as halls of residence with all the services available to students in the traditional halls. The University is enhancing the regulation of the operations of private hostel operators on the campus to ensure that their residents have access to the same level of services that the University makes available to students.

Students testify that they are now more comfortable and feel more secure, and that their rooms and halls of residence in general are now more conducive and enable them to have the right frame of mind for academic work. The Office of the Dean of Student Affairs will continue to assist students desirous of being resident, but who were unable to secure accommodation, and the University welcomes private investors to assist in the provision of accommodation. The University is governed by rules and regulations and there are procedures for engaging in various activities. I therefore urge all students to carefully read the regulations which are available on the University's website and follow the procedures accordingly. I assure you that if you do this, your days in the University shall be happy and fruitful. Guard against occultism and the peddling and usage of narcotic drugs and study diligently and you will achieve excellence.

CONCLUSION

As I conclude my speech, I would like to remind all matriculants that your primary aim in coming to this University is to go through your chosen academic programme and graduate with flying colours. You should therefore begin with the end in mind. You are adults now, and we shall treat you as such. There is no more rising bell, no 'prep' and no dining time. Enjoy your freedom but use it responsibly. Being at the University is special for many different reasons. For many of you, this is the first time in your life that you will be truly living independently. This is an opportunity to grow and learn as a person, to discover who you are, and of course to make new friends.

You have been prepared well for this day by your parents, family and teachers. Many of your loved ones have sacrificed so much so that you may enjoy the privilege of a university education. Honour their sacrifice by behaving responsibly and making the most of this extraordinary opportunity.

Make time for social activities like scholarly lectures, sports and religious activities if you are so inclined, but do not allow these to make you lose sight of the main reason why you are here.

No doubt, some of you are entering the University with a good idea of what you want to do with your lives. Some of you are certain that you want to be doctors, lawyers, engineers or lecturers. I am also sure that the vast majority of you do not have a clue what you want to do with the education that you will go through here. My advice to you is that there is no need to worry. You have at least four years to figure this out. Always keep an open mind, as you may discover your passion in unexpected places.

Life in the University can be very exciting both intellectually and socially. The University's Counselling and Placement Centre is available to offer assistance if required. Do make time to read notices, listen to Radio Uniers on 105.7 FM and regularly visit the University's website www.ug.edu.gh since important information will be communicated to you through these media.

On behalf of the Council of the University, members of Convocation, and on my own behalf, I would like to wish you a refreshing stay at Legon. Once again, welcome to the University of Ghana community. Take advantage of every facility available to develop yourselves fully and to prepare for future opportunities and challenges. Education comes with responsibility and those of you who are fortunate enough to be here have an obligation to use your education for the benefit of others who are not so fortunate. I pray that the good Lord will crown all your efforts with success.

Thank you and God bless you all.

EXPECTATIONS OF UNIVERSITY LIFE BY MISS RUKAYA MORO

Vice-Chancellor,
Pro-Vice-Chancellors,
Registrar,
Members of Convocation,
Invited guests,
Parents and guardians,
Fellow Matriculants,
Ladies and Gentlemen.

Gaining admission into this renowned university was a dream come true and it exceeded my wildest expectations to be called upon to deliver a speech at the 2014/2015 matriculation ceremony. I, therefore, deem it an overwhelming privilege to stand before this august audience to deliver a speech on the “Expectations of University life”.

As the great poet Maya Angelou once said, “If you continue to be normal, you will never know how incredible you can be”. I am sure that my fellow matriculants will agree with me that if we had stayed in our comfort zones and had not studied hard and made it our goal to make it into this great university, we would probably not be here today.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, the common purpose of a university is to provide an avenue for students to gain expertise in their field of study. However, this is a simplistic view of its activity. I believe that a university education is a major transitional period which involves new experiences, new people and new surroundings. It is deemed a time of boundless anticipation often with equal measures of excitement and fear of the unknown.

Students from all walks of life converge at this noble establishment with diverse opinions of what they expect at the end of their period of study. While some students expect to become mature individuals with totally different outlooks on life, others might just want to build upon their principles.

Fellow matriculants, I believe I speak on behalf of all of you when I say that it is our expectation to excel in all our academic endeavors and at the end of it all

emerge as individuals who are ready for the competitive job market, thus making a rewarding career out of our respective field of study. I know that as students we are all excited to be in the premier university. However, we should learn to prioritize so that we do not end up forgetting our main purpose for being admitted into this prestigious university.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentleman, “Success is never final, failure is never fatal; it is courage that counts.” On this I absolutely concur with Winston Churchill. Although studying can be frustrating and tough most of the time, it is pleasing to know that it can be rewarding and satisfying in the long run. It is comparable to climbing mountains-it can be a tedious journey, and sometimes when conditions get tough you wonder: why bother? But getting to the top can be very fulfilling.

However, life in the university definitely comes with its own challenges, including: peer pressure, sexual harassment and abuse of drugs. We should therefore make it a point to stay away from any illegal activity which will tarnish the good name of this institution, and rather make it a habit to abide by the rules and regulations laid down by the school authorities. Furthermore, we should learn to tolerate, respect and appreciate the views of others. We should also endeavor to be each other's keeper because we are one big family who are bound by a common goal.

Mr. Vice-Chancellor, all our academic goals will not be possible without the help of the appropriate authorities to pave the way for us. We expect to receive guidance and assistance as we begin this journey which will determine our future. We anticipate that the various schools and our lecturers will lend us a helping hand to enable us stay on track through their lectures, consultations and other educational programs. Concerning the non-academic aspect, we look forward to the university management working hand in hand with the leaders of the SRC and the various JCRs to facilitate the organization of social events and extra-curricular activities, thereby creating a favorable environment which caters to both the academic and social needs of students.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, we hope to complete this university as proud alumni, who will not only contribute our quota to the development of Ghana, but also to the world at large. It is also our fondest hope to elevate this university's name to greater heights and attempt to build upon the legacy left by our predecessors.

I would personally like to entreat my fellow matriculants to go to all lengths to remember their ideal purpose for being in the University of Ghana and not to get lost in the whirlpool of events, but rather remain focused and acknowledge the Almighty God in all their undertakings. Always remember that the future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.

God bless Ghana and God bless the University of Ghana.

Thank You.

