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**REMEMBRANCE SERVICE IN MEMORY OF THE
LATE PROFESSOR ALEXANDER ADUM KWAPONG**

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BIOGRAPHY

The late Alexander Adum Kwapong was born on March 8, 1927, at Akropong, the capital town of the state of Akuapem to the late Emmanuel Adum Kwapong, and the late Theophilia Amma Opokua Kwapong. He started primary school at the Akropong Presbyterian Junior School in 1934 and entered Standard Four at the Akropong Presbyterian Senior Boarding School or Salem in 1938. After three years in Akropong Salem where he completed Standard Six in 1940, he left Salem to go to Achimota College in January 1941 to begin his secondary education. He was in Achimota from 1941 to 1948 and completed the Cambridge School Certificate in 1944 and the London Intermediate B.A degree in 1947. He taught as a junior member of the Achimota teaching staff from 1947 to 1948 and then proceeded to King's College, Cambridge University, England for his university training, on a scholarship awarded to him by Achimota School. He was awarded a triple first in Classics (the tripos).” (Source: Biography from family).

ASSOCIATION WITH UNIVERSITY OF GHANA

After completing his BA degree in Classics in 1951 he returned to Ghana to join the staff of the newly established University College of the Gold Coast as a Lecturer in the Department of Classics in 1953. While teaching at the University College, he was able to write his PhD dissertation and present it to the University examiners in Cambridge in September, 1956. After an oral examination a year later, he was awarded the PhD degree in 1957. Professor Kwapong was promoted to the position of Senior Lecturer in 1960, and while a Visiting Scholar at Princeton University, USA in the 1961-1962 academic year, he was appointed Professor of Classics at the University of Ghana. He taught Greek, Latin, Ancient History and Classical Literature at the Department of Classics, University of Ghana. In 1961-62, he went on sabbatical as a visiting Professor of Classics at Princeton University, U.S.A. which awarded him an honorary degree in 1974.

Professor Kwapong served many terms as a member of the University's Academic Board, and on numerous other university bodies. He was a tutor of Akuafu Hall for many years. Professor Kwapong was a member of the Council of the University of Ghana between 1962 and 1964, was elected as Dean of the Faculty of Arts in 1962. He served as Pro-Vice Chancellor between 1963 and

1965 when Connor Cruise O'Brien was Vice-Chancellor. In 1966 he was appointed the first substantive Ghanaian Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ghana, a position he held from 1966 to 1975.

STERLING CONTRIBUTIONS

During his tenure as Vice-Chancellor he was a prolific fundraiser from institutions such as the Ford Foundation, the Rockefeller Foundation, the Carnegie Corporation and many more for institutional development and capacity building at the University of Ghana. He helped to bring into being several units of the University, among them were:

- Institute for Statistical Social and Economic Research (ISSER)
- Regional Institute for Population Studies (RIPS)
- Development of the Law Faculty, (through a relationship with Wadham College, Oxford, through Mr. Peter Carter, in the 1960s and 70s.
- Facilitated the development of the School of Administration (now the University of Ghana Business School)
- The University of Ghana Medical School
- Institute of Adult Education (which became the Institute of Continuing and Distance Education)
- School of Communication Studies
- Initiating the establishment of the Home Science Department by University of Guelph, Ontario

He sought funding for building bungalows for staff and faculty at Little Legon (Ayido Valley) and the Ford Foundation Flats (now the University Guest Centre). He sought scholarships and linkages to be established with Universities worldwide, such as the Fulbright and Rhodes scholarship schemes.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE UNIVERSITY LOGO/MOTTO

When after independence it was thought that the time had come to Africanise the University's logo, as Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Kwapong was tasked in 1963, to supervise a small group to work out a new logo in keeping with the spirit of Ghana's independence. So he put together a few people, including the late Prof. Mawere Opoku and Prof. Harvey, who came up with a new logo. Based on the meanings of the Adinkra symbols proposed by Prof. Mawere Opoku, Prof. Kwapong provided the Latin rendition of the motto, "Integri Procedamus". As

Prof. Kwapong himself put it in an interview he granted, “I put forward the motto for good or ill”. Both the logo and motto were accepted by the University Council and have stood the test of time.

RECOGNITION OF ACHIEVEMENTS

As a classicist and an authority on higher education in development, Professor Kwapong also held honorary degrees from several Universities. In 1989, he was conferred an honorary degree, D. Litt. from the University of Ghana at a Special Congregation.

In recognition of his achievements, his promotion of excellence in education and scholarly advancement in Africa and Ghana in particular, the University of Ghana has named a hall of residence after him- the Alexander Adum Kwapong Hall. Prof. Alexander Kwapong, while alive expressed his profound gratitude to the university for the gesture, which he described as unprecedented and rare for people during their lifetime. "It is normally after they had died that, if they are lucky, they are granted such privileges," he was quoted as saying at the inauguration of the hall.

TRIBUTE ON BEHALF OF AKUAFO HALL READ BY REV. PROF. GEORGE ANKRAH-BADU, AN ALUMNUS

The late Prof. Kwapong was appointed Fellow of Akuafu Hall on 17th May, 1954 and was therefore a Foundation Fellow of the Hall of Excellence. He became the Senior Tutor from 1960–1962 and handed over to the late Prof. Adu Boahen so that he could take up the post of Pro-Vice Chancellor of the University.

As a man of excellence, he took up challenges with panache. After excelling in the Cambridge School Certificate Examination he was confronted with the choice of a future career. His father wanted him to do Medicine. His uncles saw him as the incarnation of Rev. Theophilus Opoku and wanted him to take on the mantle of priesthood. His Latin teacher however cajoled him to read Classics. Seeing that the young scholar had his eyes on Medicine, the crafty teacher challenged him with this statement “Every fool can do Medicine but only people with exceptional intellect like you can study Classics”. With this flattery, the young Kwapong accepted the challenge and got a First Class degree in Classics at Cambridge University.

A man of excellence serves as a beacon for others to follow. When Prof. Kwapong returned from U.K. in 1954 to lecture in the University, his parents brought him to meet my father who was a relative and the local priest in Koforidua. My mother quickly called me to come and catch a glimpse of the 'man of letters' and urged me to emulate him. I ended up in the professions that Prof. Kwapong avoided i.e. Medicine and the priesthood and the two vocations brought me closer to him in later life. Among the more intellectual alumni that Prof. spawned are Dr. T. Mensah, Justice Date-Bah, Rev. Prof. A.S. Ayettey and Prof. E.V.O. Dankwah.

A man of excellence has confidence in himself and is prepared to face anyone in the discharge of his duties. In 1972, while he was Vice-Chancellor of this University, a platoon of soldiers were sent to the campus to arrest a senior member. The platoon commander, a very sensible Captain, decided to inform the Vice-Chancellor before the arrest was effected. Prof. Kwapong immediately

phoned General Acheampong, the then Head of State for a dialogue. Needless to say, the arrest order was reversed and the soldiers retreated to the barracks. Prof. had a charm that wowed all the Heads of State he had dealings with in his official duties at Legon. They included Osagyefo Dr. Kwame Nkrumah, General Ankrah, Prof. Busia, and General Acheampong.

True excellence is constitutional or innate and not acquired by osmosis. Prof. Kwapong excelled wherever he found himself – Achimota College, Cambridge University, University of Ghana, United Nations University, University of Dalhousie, and Commonwealth of Learning, Vancouver.

True excellence is expansive. Prof. Kwapong became a master of languages. He mastered Twi at home, English in Achimota, Greek and Latin in Cambridge, Ada in the bedroom and could engage people in Fante, Ga, Japanese and Arabic. In short he had a self-acquired glossolalia, i.e. speaking in tongues. He even used Twi, English, Greek and Latin Bibles simultaneously for his personal study of the Scriptures at home.

True excellence engenders wisdom. Prof. Kwapong was a man of immense wisdom and he was appointed the Chairman of the Council of State during H.E. President Kufour's first term of office. The constitution conferred on him the post of Chief Advisor to the President. Whether this was de jure or de facto is moot. He however, strengthened the office of the Council of State during his tenure.

Finally, a life of excellence leaves a message and the message Prof. Kwapong has for the Legon Community and the entire nation is a scripture passage he gave me in Latin in January: “Cui multum datum multum quæriturabeo”. “To whom much is given, much is expected”: Luke. 12:48.

Prof. Alexander Adum Kwapong, quondam Senior Tutor of Akuafu Hall, quondam Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ghana, we, alumni of Akuafu Hall, the Hall of Excellence attest that your life was paradigmatic of excellence and may current and future generations of the University and the Nation emulate your shining example.

**TRIBUTE ON BEHALF OF AKUAFO HALL ALUMNI, 1958–1962
BY PROFESSOR J. S. DJANGMAH READ BY
REV. PROF. CEPHAS OMENYO**

Following trade with Europe, slavery and colonisation, all of which pitched the African in a weaker position relative to other races, if any proof was needed to show that African students were the intellectual equals of European students, the exploits of people like Alex Adum Kwapong demonstrated that brilliantly in Cambridge University. We had heard about his great academic achievements before we entered Legon! We were most excited to see him at Akuafu Hall.

In Professor Kwapong's generation in Cambridge was another giant intellectual, the future Prime Minister of Singapore, Lee Kwan Yew, from another British colony. From Cambridge, Lee Kwan Yew went back home immersed himself in the politics of his country, and in the process he is credited with transforming his island state from a third world country into a first world economy. What if Alex Kwapong's life trajectory has been different?

In our country, Professor Kwapong thrown into a leadership position relatively early in his academic career, together with the few Ghanaian lecturers played major roles in transforming the University College of the Gold Coast they met in the mid-50s into a full-fledged university by 1961.

Dr. Alex Kwapong was a Senior Tutor of Akuafu Hall when my generation entered the University College in October 1958. For most students, irrespective of subjects studied, even in departments where there was no African presence, Professor Kwapong's generation of very bright young men, provided us with the confidence that knowledge and its acquisition knows no racial boundaries. The student population was just about 600. Each one of us was a proud occupant of a room. We were served three meals a day at the expense of independent Ghana. So was tuition.

The University College of Ghana was isolated at the time on Legon Hill surrounded by bush as far as the eyes could see. There was no Airport Residential Area, no Dzorwulu, no East Legon, no Medina, no Haatso, and no Kwabenya.

The free drive on Mercedes Benz buses from lecture rooms, located at Achimota College, along the bush road to the University grounds at Legon was a most pleasurable experience. The concrete jungle which has taken the place of the greenery is not a plus for sustainable development!

Thirteen government-assisted secondary schools produced the students who fed Legon and the Kumasi College of Technology. The University College of Cape Coast was to be announced by Prime Minister Dr. Kwame Nkrumah at a political rally in 1961. So we students at the time were witnesses to the beginnings of Ghana's university system. The population of our country was just six million. Today with a population of 25 million Ghana's public university system has about 134,000 students, private university population of about 69,000, polytechnic student population of about 55,000, Colleges of Education student population of about 34,000; and the entire tertiary student population numbering 307,517. This is a far cry from our generation of privileged students at Legon and also Kumasi!

By 1961, Professor Alex Kwapong and few Ghanaian Professors were on the highest academic stage in Ghana. They were the role models for the cream of the secondary school population yearning to enter the University College, and the Kumasi College of Arts, Science and Technology. The University College of Ghana, a college in a special relationship with the University of London, has transformed into the autonomous University of Ghana, ready to award its own degrees.

One day in 1962 a delegation from my class who had earned the BSc General (London) degree in 1961 marched to the office of Professor Alex Kwapong. We went to seek assurance from him that having enrolled at the University in 1958 as students of a College which awarded London University degrees, the Special Honours degree examination we were about to write, would earn us London University degrees! Rather than throwing us out of his office and pouring scorn on us for what we were, he gave us the assurance we needed. He was most polite to us. He suffered our colonial mentality calmly, knowing fully well that the law was on our side! He knew we respected and adored him; besides he was too bright to defend the indefensible. We saw the man who was to be a Vice-Chancellor in 1966. He was a colossus who walked the Legon, Ghanaian and the



Rev. Dr. S. Asuming-Brempong, Chairman, Chaplaincy Board



Rev. Prof. Ankrah-Badu reading a tribute on behalf of Akuafu Hall. Behind him are Dr. George Akanlig-Pare, Master of Akuafu Hall (Right) and Rev. Prof. Cephas Omenyo, Provost, College of Education



Rev. Prof. Cephas Omenyo, Provost, College of Education, Reading the Akuafo Hall Alumni Tribute on behalf of Prof. J. S. Djangmah



Prof. E. Kofi Ackah, Head of the Department of Philosophy and Classics. In the background are some students from the Department



Mrs. Praise Nutakor, United Nations University-INRA



Prof. Isabella Quakyi, Member, Ghana Academy of Arts and Sciences



Prof. Ernest Aryeetey, Vice-Chancellor



Rev. Dr. Godwin Nii Noi Odonkor, Chairperson, Ga Presbytry delivering an Exhortation at the service



Ms. Opokua Kwapong delivering the vote of thanks on behalf of the family



Some members of the Winneba Youth Choir and the Ghana Armed Force Band performing at the service



Family members, invited guests and members of the University Community at the Service

Commonwealth Academic stage for well over ten years! His huge foot prints on Legon campus, on Ghana's education system and on higher education internationally, are a source of pride to us and the generations after us!

In spite of many ups and downs of Ghanaian politics and psyche, Professor Kwapong and his generation served Ghana and black Africa well!

I believe that my generation in Akafo Hall and the entire University of Ghana mourn with the Professor's wife, his children and the entire family.

May Professor Kwapong's Soul Rest in Perfect Peace!

**TRIBUTE ON BEHALF OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
PHILOSOPHY AND CLASSICS READ BY PROF. E. KOFI ACKAH,
HEAD OF DEPARTMENT**

In 2003, in retirement, Prof. Kwapong delivered a paper at the 1st Faculty of Arts Annual Colloquium. Speaking to the theme “The Arts and National Development”, he recalled the difficult choice he had to make between the study of Medicine and Classics. This is what he said: “After consulting my father, who wisely left the choice to me, it did not take me too long to decide in favour of Classics rather than Medicine. Ever since then, I have never had cause to regret that choice.”

But why should any African study Classics? He gave two reasons. The first refers to David Balme's published justification for establishing a Department of Classics at Legon. Professor Balme had argued that “It is civilization rather than culture that universities can influence. The Classics are studied as a basis of world civilization”. The second reason is Prof. Kwapong's own contribution: “If the Classics are truly concerned with a vital fragment of human history, then it is essential that we in Africa have a direct experience of them”.

But, if you now imagine yourself to be listening to a discussion about graduate employability or about the relevance of university programmes of study to industry, you are likely to hear dismissive and derogatory remarks about Classics; remarks made, without the support of argument, by persons who presume to know what it means to be educated, persons quick to judge and condemn, even when they have not taken an opportunity to read a single text in Classics. When I am lucky to meet any such persons, my standard response is a reference to Professor Kwapong; and the debate is logically over.

In an era when a chronic lack of employment opportunities is repeatedly blamed on curricula dysfunction – Classics sometimes being singled out; and when our students have increasingly come to expect university education as no more than a training for decent jobs; in an era when the link between education and how best

we ought to live has so broken down that our public spaces have been littered with sickening spectacles of pettiness, dishonesty, corruption and incompetence; in such an era, remembering Prof. Kwapong is especially significant: because he embodied and affirmed the link between education and the good life, between education and good citizenship, between education and good public service (local and international). He is, for us, a monument of how education, fully received, must do more than just prepare us for jobs: it must, as we believe it did for Prof. Kwapong, transform our being and empower us to be efficient and effective in all positions, but also honest and incorruptible in all situations. Prof. Kwapong, we believe, embodied, affirmed, and practised the transformational and humanistic values of Classical education. This is why we, in the Department of Philosophy & Classics, will forever miss him, even as we proudly glory in his eternal honour and dignity.

Prof. Alexander Adum Kwapong, May Your Good Soul Rest in Eternal Peace.
Damerifa Due, Due, Due Ne Amanehunu

**TRIBUTE ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED NATIONS
UNIVERSITY-INSTITUTE FOR NATURAL RESOURCES IN
AFRICA (UNU-INRA) READ BY MRS. PRAISE NUTAKOR**

“In life, there are things that we don't want to happen but have to accept, things we don't want to know but have to learn, and people we can't live without but have to let go”.

It is indeed very difficult for us at the United Nations University to come to terms with the death of Prof. Alexander Adum Kwapong.

As an African legend, Professor Kwapong was actively involved in the establishment of the United Nations University-Institute for Natural Resources in Africa (UNU-INRA), as the first UN University institute in Africa. This is because of his strong belief that Africa is endowed with rich natural resources which need to be managed in a way that improves livelihoods.

For us at the UN University-Institute for Natural Resources in Africa (UNU-INRA), Professor Kwapong was a mentor, a counsellor and a teacher. His desire was to see the Institute develop and he was always willing to offer advice on how to strategically position UNU-INRA to fulfil its mandate of promoting the sustainable management of Africa's natural resources.

Even in his retirement, Prof. always opened his door to the Institute anytime we called on him. One of such calls was when we requested for a write-up on the history of UNU-INRA early this year to be featured in our newsletter. He did not hesitate and gladly granted our request. Little did we know that was going to be the last request.

Professor Alexander Adum Kwapong, UNU-INRA will forever miss your wise counsel. Being the only Founding Member in Ghana, it was always easy for us to fall on you for advice. You have left a huge vacuum that will be difficult to fill. But we can only take consolation in the saying that when a great man dies, for years the light he leaves behind him, illuminates the paths of men. Your commitment to the development of the UN University as a whole will remain a lasting legacy for generations to come.

Prof. Rest in Perfect Peace! Adieu Prof.

TRIBUTE ON BEHALF OF GHANA ACADEMY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES READ BY PROF. ISABELLA QUAKYI

Professor Alexander Adum Kwapong is a Foundation Member of the Ghana Academy of Arts and Sciences established by an Act of Parliament in November 1959.

In a citation presented to him in November 1999, the Ghana Academy of Arts and Sciences noted that since his designation as a Fellow of the Academy 40 years previously, Prof. Kwapong's work in Academia and other endeavours had become even more outstanding. Indeed Prof. Kwapong spared no time and expense in participating and contributing to discussions on scholarly and other burning issues affecting scholarship and socio-economic development. The Academy therefore acknowledges the great honour Prof. Kwapong has brought to the Academy as the Vice-President of the Arts Section from 1969 to 1970.

The Academy was delighted that as a Fellow, Prof. Kwapong was awarded the coveted National Honour of **Order of the Volta of Ghana** in 1977; **Order of the Star of Ghana (Civil Division)** in 1999 and then to crown it all, was appointed Chairman of the Council of State in the Fourth Republic, from 2001 to 2004.

Ever the prolific writer, Prof. Kwapong produced seminal work especially on the subject-matter of higher education, which we believe the nation must revisit. A few of the titles should suffice to make the point:

- “The Importance of Basic and Applied Research in Universities and other Institutions” in the Proceedings of the Association of Commonwealth Universities, 1969
- “Higher Education and Human Development in Africa Today”, Second Annual Distinguished African Lecture, Phelps Stokes Fund, New York, May 1973
- “University Autonomy, Accountability and Planning”, New York, 1974

- “Capacity Building and Human Resource Development in Africa”, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Canada, 1990, etc.

But perhaps, the view point for which we can be grateful for the life of Prof. Kwapong was an observation he made during the maiden Kwame Nkrumah Memorial Lecture which he delivered and which was subsequently published in the GAAS Proceedings, 2003 on the topic, 'The Founding of the Academy and its Role in National Development'. In that presentation, Prof. Kwapong noted that inspite of ideological differences between another Foundation Fellow, J.B. Danquah and the President of the Academy, Kwame Nkrumah at the time of the establishment of the Academy, the latter actually saw it fit to “invite Danquah, to become a member of the new body...”, an invitation which Danquah accepted. He said “we the founding members were all very much encouraged by the early spirit of conciliation that seemed to prevail between the two most powerful political figures in Ghana at the time, which apparently is in stark contrast to the existing situation today”.

We at the Academy find it instructive, that an observation Prof. Kwapong made 11 years ago seems so relevant today. As we mourn this illustrious, patriotic and selfless son of the land, let us resolve to agree to disagree in a spirit of tolerance, and conciliation.

For us at the Academy this would be a fitting tribute by which to remember and celebrate the life of our Hero. We pray for the repose of his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed.

Prof. Kwapong, Rest in perfect peace.

TRIBUTE ON BEHALF OF THE UNIVERSITY OF GHANA READ BY PROFESSOR ERNEST ARYEETEEY

*Now praise we great and famous men,
The fathers named in story;
And praise the Lord, Who now as then
Reveals in man His glory.
In peace their sacred ashes rest,
Fulfilled their day's endeavour;
They blessed the earth, and they are blessed
Of God and man forever.*

The words of the hymn aptly describe Professor Alexander Adum Kwapong, certainly one of the greatest Ghanaians of our time, who leaves a legacy of service and commitment that is hard to replicate.

Professor Kwapong's long association with the University of Ghana, dates back to his admission to Achimota School in 1941, the start of his teaching career at Achimota in 1947, and his return to the Gold Coast in 1953 to join the teaching staff of the Department of Classics in the University College of the Gold Coast as a lecturer in Greek, Latin, Classical Literature and Ancient History.

Professor Kwapong was promoted to the position of Senior Lecturer in 1960, and while a Visiting Scholar at Princeton University, USA in the 1961–1962 academic year, he was appointed Professor of Classics at the University of Ghana.

Professor Kwapong served many terms as a member of the University's Academic Board, and on numerous other university bodies, and was a tutor of Akafo Hall for many years.

Professor Kwapong was a member of the Council of the University of Ghana between 1962 and 1964, was elected as Dean of the Faculty of Arts in 1962, served as Pro-Vice Chancellor between 1963 and 1965, and was appointed the first Ghanaian Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ghana in March 1966.

Professor Kwapong was passionate about the University of Ghana, and was extremely successful in placing Legon firmly on the academic map of the world.

His contribution to the academic community of Africa, and indeed the entire world, is outstanding. His was definitely the firm yet at the same time gentle hand that was needed to guide the University in its infant days, through its turbulent teenage years, and into a period of maturity which today sees the University of Ghana as one of the best and most respected universities on the African continent. It would not be far-fetched to state that the beginnings of the University of Ghana as a centre of excellence can be placed squarely at Professor Kwapong's feet.

While Vice-Chancellor, Professor Kwapong made it his mission to promote international cooperation between the University of Ghana and other universities; and was able to attract significant assistance for the development of the University.

A few of such links were the twinning arrangements between the Department of Economics and the University of Western Ontario, Canada, and between the Department of Home Science and the University of Guelph. He also championed the mobilisation of support from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) for the Faculty of Agriculture, and spearheaded the Danfa Rural Health Project, a collaboration between the University of Ghana Medical School and the University of California Medical School, projects totalling over 10 million dollars; a truly exceptional feat! He was also instrumental in the establishment of the Regional Institute for Population Studies; the Institute of Statistical, Social and Scientific Research (ISSER); and the expansion of the then Faculty of Law.

Professor Kwapong was passionate about staff development, and his tenure saw the introduction of numerous scholarships for academic and administrative staff to study in prestigious institutions the world over.

Outside the University, Professor Kwapong was a founding member and fellow of the Ghana Academy of Arts and Sciences upon its inception in 1959, and between 1966 and 1967 served as Chairman of a government-appointed Committee reviewing education in Ghana. He was Chairman of the Association of Commonwealth Universities from 1970 to 1971.

Professor Kwapong was committed to academic excellence, and gently, yet firmly guided the University through the times of turbulence that gripped the

University during his tenure, frequent politicization of internal matters, and attempts at interference in the University's business by the many different governments in office during his tenure, often culminating in staff and student agitation and strikes. To quote from the report of the panel which considered the renewal of Professor Kwapong's appointment as Vice-Chancellor, "The University of Ghana is fortunate to have such a dynamic personality as its leader at this critical time in its development". While Professor Kwapong listened readily to all, he did not suffer fools, and would not hesitate to sharply establish who was in charge in often noisy and laborious meetings.

Professor Kwapong's efforts at preserving the autonomy of the University and standing firm against political interference are well documented, and as a University, we owe the academic freedoms we enjoy today to Professor Kwapong and other leaders of his ilk. Together with other colleagues he fought to have the statutes of public universities in Ghana changed, so that heads of state were no longer automatic Chancellors of the University, thus able to meddle in and politicise internal matters, such as the appointment and promotion of academic staff. Indeed, Professor Kwapong was a tower of strength and served with distinction during a critical period in the history of the University when the academic integrity of the institution was under threat.

Professor Kwapong's tenure as Vice-Chancellor saw the establishment of many new departments, the recruitment of large numbers of local faculty and oversaw increases in the number of graduate programmes offered by the University.

Professor Kwapong was passionate about the University of Ghana, and it would be difficult to find in a single person such rare personal qualities and such a high sense of dedication and devotion to service.

The University of Ghana awarded Professor Kwapong a well-deserved Honorary Doctor of Letters Degree in 1989; and in 2011 one of the newly constructed halls on the southern side of the Legon campus was named after him: the Alexander Adum Kwapong Hall.

Even after he left the University in 1975 to take up other appointments, Professor Kwapong maintained close ties with the University. He visited often, and was always eager to offer advice when approached. Well into his eighties, he

was a constant feature at university events, and his presence, his wise counsel, and his infectious laugh, will be sorely missed.

Professor Alexander Adum Kwapong, you played such a big role in the making of the University of Ghana, that it is difficult to separate the history of the University from your personal story. Your legacy will forever live on in the men and women who were trained at your feet, where they learnt the virtues of honesty, hard work and determination. The University of Ghana is proud to have had you as its first native Vice-Chancellor, and we pledge to carry on the mission of making the University of Ghana a world class institution, which you supported whole-heartedly.

Prof, you lived a long and full life, and to paraphrase the University of Ghana anthem, you have indeed proceeded in truth and integrity, and made your nation extremely proud. The University of Ghana wishes you a well-deserved rest.

