

1. Procession
2. National Anthem
3. Introduction of Chancellor

4. Chancellor's opening remarks:

**OPENING ADDRESS BY CHANCELLOR,
UNIVERSITY OF GHANA,
NOVEMBER 2019 CONGREGATION**

Members of the University Council,
Vice-Chancellor
Pro Vice-Chancellors,
Registrar
Provosts, Deans and Directors,
Guest Speaker,
Chairman and Members of the Advisory Board
of the College of Humanities,
Members of Convocation,
Staff and Students,
Alumni,
Graduands,
Invited Guests,
Members of the Press Corps

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen;

Good morning

I will like at the onset to welcome all of you gathered here on this important occasion.

During today's ceremony, undergraduate students from the College of Humanities, who have satisfied the requirements for graduation, will be presented and graduated.

Ladies and Gentlemen, the 2019 Congregation ceremonies are programmed to be span three days, delivering seven sessions. It is evident that the number of students graduating from the University of Ghana is increasing each year. We deem it a good opportunity on these occasions to reflect on how well Management, Faculty and Staff are discharging our responsibility of providing the appropriate academic services and support, to ensure that students have a positive student experience, and also satisfy the requirements for graduation and, indeed, are able to graduate on time.

I can assure you, distinguished ladies and gentlemen, that Management of the University remains committed to improving upon graduation rates and student satisfaction. University Management undertakes as well, to continue to do all in its power to provide students with a memorable student experience.

This year has not been without some challenges, as are wont to happen in any human institution. My personal concern has been that the name and reputation of the University would be preserved under any circumstances. It has therefore been worrisome on those occasions when especially press coverage of certain situations has carried the risk of tarnishing the image of the University in the media.

One such occasion has related to difficulties with newly admitted students securing on-campus accommodation.

University Management recognizes that the current number of beds cannot cater for all of our students, and is therefore engaging with

various private entities towards the provision of additional hostels in the near future.

We have in this regard taken note of the positive contribution of some Alumni in resolution of this particular problem. I refer to the Old Vandals taking the initiative of providing hostel facilities. As has happened with other prestigious Universities around the world, it is to be hoped that the Alumni of the University of Ghana would be more intimately involved, among other things, in the provision of facilities, and mobilization of resources, especially through the Endowment Fund.

The University was also rocked by allegations of sexual harassment involving some members of faculty. I am satisfied with the measures put in place by management of the University to interrogate the issue, while warning all against indulging in behaviour that contravenes the University's Code of Ethics. University Management is fully committed in ensuring that the campus environment would be completely free from all forms of sexual harassment.

I repeat that the University of Ghana will not condone any form of sexual harassment, and mechanisms are currently being championed led by the Vice Chancellor, to ensure that there would be zero tolerance to such abuse.

Global statistics lend credence to the fact that such negative practices are common in universities around the world. Management is determined to set an example worthy of emulation by other similar institutions by putting in place robust policies towards this end.

I encourage all of our students to take advantage of the structures put in place, and report such behaviour, if they do occur. I give the assurance that no one will suffer any form of victimization as a result of reporting.

To our Graduating Students, I hope that on the occasion of your graduation, you will take stock of what you have achieved and make a conscious decision to let your experiences guide you in your future endeavours.

You have played your part, by putting in enormous amount of hard work, spending

sleepless nights burning the midnight oil. Your presence here this morning is proof that your efforts have not been in vain.

I take the opportunity to wish you the graduands, who are being presented today, the very best on this very important occasion. We share in your joy on the successful completion of your programme of study and we are very proud of you.

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen, I am delighted to declare this morning's Assembly, duly constituted for the Award of Degrees of the University of Ghana to successful graduands.

It is customary for the Vice-Chancellor to give a report at Congregation, on developments in the University over the last academic year. I now call on the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ebenezer Oduro Owusu, to present the Vice-Chancellor's report.

5. Vice-Chancellor's address

6. Introduction of Guest Speaker

7. Guest Speaker's address

8. Valedictory address

9. Instructions to graduands

10. PRESENTATION AND CONFERMENT

a. Presentation of BFA graduands by **Acting
Dean of the School of Performing Arts**

Conferment of degrees by Chancellor

**Acting Dean of the School of Performing Arts
by Authority vested in the Chancellor of the
University of Ghana, I, Mrs. Mary Chinery
Hesse, Chancellor of the University of Ghana,
hereby pronounce the students presented
duly graduated.**

Bachelor of Fine Arts, Aanyekoo!

b. Presentation of BA graduands by Dean of the School of Social Sciences

Conferment of degrees by Chancellor

Dean of the School of Social Sciences, by the Authority vested in the Chancellor of the University of Ghana, I, Mrs. Mary Chinery Hesse, Chancellor of the University of Ghana, hereby pronounce the students presented duly graduated.

Bachelor of Arts, Aanyekoo!

11. College Secretary's remarks to end conferment

12. Chancellor gives the closing remarks and dissolves Congregation

CHANCELLOR'S CLOSING REMARKS AT CONGREGATION

Members of Council,

Vice-Chancellor,

Pro Vice-Chancellors,

Registrar

Chairman and Members of the Advisory Board
of the College of Humanities,

Members of Convocation,

Distinguished Guest Speaker,

New Graduates,

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen;

As we end this Ceremony, I would like to salute all who have worked hard to ensure a successful Event. I especially recognize all the Teachers, the Management Teams and Staff of the various Units, who have worked together to

ensure that the time that our Graduates spent in the University has been fruitful.

The University appreciates the effort that has been put into this enterprise by all stakeholders.

New Graduates, you have all worked hard during the time that you have been students at this University; you deserve the laurels that you have acquired.

Never forget that you are special, having graduated from the Premier University in Ghana. As you step out today into the world with your Certificates in your hands, always be conscious of the fact that successful Graduates who excel in the School of life are the University's best asset. The more you shine in the world of work, the more you will bring glory to Legon.

I am recruiting you to be part of the Brigade, dedicated in your attainments in whatever station you find yourself, to uplift the image of your Alma Mater, in order to improve how we

are ranked globally in the academic world. I urge you to maintain your links with the University, and to be active members of the University of Ghana Alumni Association.

You have graduated with knowledge and skills which are essential for the development of Ghana, the Continent of Africa and indeed the world at large. You have been given so much, and it is just fair that you also give back to the society which has nurtured you. I wish you every success in your future endeavours.

My hearty Congratulations.

We are happy that so many family members and friends of the Graduates were able to join in this celebration. I have no doubt that the Graduates appreciate the sacrifices and prayers of Parents, Guardians, Spouses and Friends.

Let us recognize their contribution with a clap offering.

I thank our Guest Speaker as well as our invited guests, Alumni and friends of the University for

your presence and participation in the Ceremony. I wish you all safe travel back to your homes.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, it is now my duty to declare today's congregation officially dissolved.

Thank you all for coming, and God bless us all.

12. Announcements

13. University Anthem

14. Recession