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**COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES (GRADUATE PROGRAMME)
PROCEEDINGS OF CONGREGATION
JULY 21, 2018**

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ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

Saturday, July 21, 2018 at 2:00 p.m.

Procession

- Members of Convocation
- Council

(The Congregation is asked to stand)

National Anthem

Welcome/Declaration of Purpose: **Dr. Ama Essel,**
Member of Council

Vice-Chancellor's Address: Professor Ebenezer Oduro Owusu,
Vice-Chancellor

Congregation Speaker: Mr. Franklin Sowa

Valedictorian Address: Ms. Golda Anambane

Conferment of degrees:

Presentation of graduands from the College of Humanities
(Graduate Programme)

- PhD · MPhil · EMBA · MBA
- EPM · MPA · MSc · MA

Chairman of Council dissolves Congregation

University Anthem

Recession

(The Congregation is asked to remain seated until officials and graduands have left the Hall.)

**OPENING ADDRESS BY CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL
(REPRESENTED BY MR. REINDORF BAAH PERBI,
MEMBER OF COUNCIL)**

Vice-Chancellor,
Pro-Vice-Chancellors,
Registrar,
Provost and Deans,
Guest Speaker,
Chairman and Members of the Advisory Board of the College of
Humanities,
Members of Convocation,
Staff and Students,
Alumni,
Graduands,
Invited Guests,
Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen

On behalf of His Excellency Mr. Kofi Annan, Chancellor of the University, I welcome you all warmly to this afternoon's ceremony. I also extend Mr. Annan's greetings and best wishes to all of you gathered here on this important occasion. Mr. Annan would have liked to be here today as the congregation ceremony scheduled for today and tomorrow will be the last during his tenure as Chancellor. Official duties however prevent him from being here.

As you may know, the University of Ghana adopted the collegiate system of governance in 2014, and since that time, congregation ceremonies have been organised on college basis.

Congregation ceremonies are very important to the University of Ghana because it provides us the opportunity to reflect on how well we are doing in terms of providing the needed academic services and corporate support to ensure that students graduate and graduate on time. Management of the University is committed to improving upon graduating rates and student

satisfaction and will continue to do all in its power to provide students with a memorable student experience.

During today's ceremony, graduates and undergraduates of the College of Humanities(Graduate Programme) who have satisfied the requirements for graduation will be presented and graduated.

Graduands I wish you the very best on this very important occasion. We share in your joy on the successful completion of your programmes of study and we are very proud of you.

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, it is my pleasure to declare this afternoon's assembly, duly constituted for the award of degrees 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 representative of the Vice-Chancellor to present the Vice-Chancellor's Address.

Thank you.

**VICE-CHANCELLOR'S ADDRESS PRESENTED BY
PROFESSOR FRANCIS DODOO, PRO-VICE-CHANCELLOR
(RESEARCH, INNOVATION & DEVELOPMENT)**

Chairman of Council representing Chancellor
Members of University Council
Pro Vice-Chancellors
Registrar
Members of College Advisory Boards
Provost and Deans
Guest Speaker
Chairman and Members of the Advisory Board of the College of
Humanities
Members of Convocation
Staff and Students
Alumni
Graduands
Parents / Guardians
Invited Guests
Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen

WELCOME

It is a great pleasure to welcome you all to this congregation ceremony. A total of 3,184 students will be graduating at various levels from the four Colleges of the University, namely: College of Health Sciences; College of Humanities; College of Education; and College of Basic and Applied Sciences.

This afternoon's ceremony will confer degrees on undergraduate students from the College of Humanities.

Another congregation ceremony will be held in November this year for students from all four Colleges, and a third batch, made up mainly of Distance Education students, will graduate in April 2019.

Let me use this opportunity to express my gratitude to faculty, administrators and other stakeholders for their support in keeping alive our

role as custodians and making this day possible. I will also like to appreciate the time parents and invited guests have taken off their busy schedules to respond to our invitation to this ceremony.

Update on the State of the University

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, kindly allow me to provide update on exciting developments at the University of Ghana.

Admissions

Our admissions process reflects the diverse nature of our student population. I am happy to note that during the 2017/2018 admission cycle, a total of 14,128 students, made up of 11,707 undergraduates and 2,421 graduate students accepted offers of admission and enrolled in various programmes run on the Main, Korle-Bu and Accra City Campuses, as well as by Distance Learning. These numbers include 389 international/visiting students from across the world.

Review of 4-Year Degree Programme

After eight years of implementation of our 4-year undergraduate programme, the University has set in motion a process reviewing the 4-year degree programme and the Grading System. The report from the Review Team has already been discussed by Management, Colleges, and the Business and Executive Committee. The composite report is being finalized for implementation.

New Programmes and Courses

A number of new courses and programmes have recently been approved by the University Academic Board. These include the Executive Master of Science in Fisheries Administration and Management, Doctor of Philosophy in Health Physics and Radiation, and a functional law course for undergraduate students. The Academic Board has also approved revisions to the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, Bachelor of Science, Master of Science and Master of Philosophy in Nursing and Midwifery programmes.

The new courses would be made available once they receive accent by the National Accreditation Board.

The West Africa Centre for Crop Improvement (WACCI), has received international accreditation for its postgraduate programmes from the Agency for Quality Assurance through Accreditation of Study programmes (AQAS), Germany, a noted body for accreditation of higher education institutions and programmes. This accreditation opens the doors for strategic collaborations with other institutions.

Governance

National Accreditation Board Cyclical Review

The University recently underwent a statutory cyclical review by the National Accreditation Board. The four day review focused on governance, institutional development, internationalization, growth, research and grants, community service, academic matters, future outlook, information resources and finances. Meetings were held with university management, faculty and staff, as well as with students. Management of the University is committed to implement the recommendations from the review, which will enable us improve on our efforts at providing high quality teaching, learning, and research experience for our students and employees.

Review of Collegiate System

Chairman of Council, the University adopted the collegiate system of governance in the 2014/2015 academic year, mainly to promote efficiency, reduce bureaucracy and free senior management to have time for the most important administrative functions. The statutes of the University were amended to make way for the creation of the four colleges, i.e. Basic and Applied Sciences, Education, Health Sciences and Humanities. Four years after the adoption of the system, a panel has been set up to review the collegiate system. The remit of the panel are to: review of the current collegiate system of governance with the view to identifying the short comings in the governance structure and making recommendations for

improvement; make new proposals to improve the governance structure to achieve the twin goals of effectiveness and efficiency; and develop a set of governance principles, policies, standards, and practices that optimally support the university's strategic priorities.

The panel, chaired by a former Vice-Chancellor of University of Ghana, Professor Akilakpa Sawyer is currently interacting with major stakeholders of the University and will present its recommendations soon.

Strategy Execution

The nine strategic teams that were constituted in November 2016 to drive the transformational agenda of the University of Ghana have been working very hard and have already made some gains.

The Independent Power Supply Team

The University of Ghana currently spends about 29 million Ghana Cedis every year on electricity which is equivalent to 10 Megawatt amperes (10 MWA). The Strategic Team on Energy was therefore set up to find a sustainable way to reduce this huge cost by 40% using an energy mix (solar, biogas and others).

The Team in collaboration with the Electricity Company of Ghana has installed a net meter at the Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research (NMIMR), which provides data on the amount of energy used at the Institute and the excess energy made available to the rest of the University. I am delighted to inform you that the data from March 2018 indicates that NMIMR pumped into the University system excess energy of 4,498 Kwh from the solar cell facility.

On the issue of double billing, the University of Ghana Electricals Unit and the Building and Revenue Unit of the Electricity Company of Ghana have estimated a reduction of the University's energy bill by 13% every month. This is based on a reconciliation of energy bills paid directly by residents and commercial tenants of the University.

Through an initiative of VSL Holdings a demonstration of the impact of using energy saving devices has been completed. This would be used as a basis for scaling up at other residential facilities. All the traditional halls of residence at the University and some academic buildings are currently migrating from the use of CFLs to LED lamps.

The Danish Government is to provide funds towards the construction of a Biogas Facility at Livestock Production & Research Centre (LIPREC) to generate electricity to power the Research Centre and also for training purposes. This project if completed, will enable Livestock Production & Research Centre to properly manage its waste; produce manure, generate about 53,000KWh of electricity per annum and serve as a facility for teaching and research. The University is in the process of piping the biogas produced at the Alexander Kwapong Hall to the restaurant of the same hall for cooking purposes.

Arrangement for the refurbishment of streetlights (installation of 150 LED street lights) along major streets of the University of Ghana has been completed. Ministry of Energy is in the process of installing an additional 150 LED street lights from Okponglo to the link gate, GIMPA.

As part of efforts to complete the University Stadium, the Energy Strategic Team is exploring the possibility of roof top solar or solar car ports as potential energy sources for the facility.

Bui Power Authority is to install a 600 kW wind turbine on UG campus. A site has been identified and they are waiting for the arrival of wind mast to gather data (wind speed and direction) before the installation of the wind turbine.

University of Ghana is to be a key beneficiary of the ongoing “Race to Retrofits & Renewables” Program under Compact II, which seeks to promote Energy Efficiency Retrofits and Renewable Energy technologies in selected public institutions. Four (4) buildings (Academic Affairs, Vice-Chancellor's Office wing, Great Hall and UGCS) were selected for the exercise. Preliminary Energy Audits and Investment Grade Energy Audits for the 4 buildings were conducted. The first phase of the implementation involves changing of: non-LED light fixtures to suitable LED fixtures;

existing air-conditioning and refrigerating systems to suitable minimum 3 star rated inverter type air-conditioning and refrigerating systems; existing fans to super energy efficient fans; and the installation of 15 smart meters at the feeder level and at different floors along with internet communication system and software. The second phase will see the installation of: Four (4) voltage stabilizers; and Solar PV modules for power generation.

I wish to take this opportunity to extend my sincere gratitude to the Ministers of Energy, Finance and Education and the Managing Director of the Electricity Company of Ghana Ltd., (ECG) for endorsing our initiative to migrate unto renewable energy. I would also like to acknowledge the technical support received from representatives from the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Energy, ECG, Energy Commission and members of the team from the University.

University of Ghana Regional / World Ranking Team:

Through the hardwork of the Team, the University of Ghana has been ranked within the 101-150 band on the Times Higher Education (THE) Golden Age University Ranking 2018. The Golden Age ranking uses Times Higher Education data to cast a spotlight on the world's best universities established for more than 50 years, but less than 80 years. Institutions from 44 different countries were included in this year's edition of the world's Golden Age University Rankings. Thus makes the University of Ghana the only ranked university in Ghana and the number one ranked University in West Africa.

Institutional Advancement Team:

The Team successfully spearheaded the launched of the 70th anniversary of University of Ghana on Tuesday 20th February, 2018 at the Great Hall on the theme “Celebrating Excellence, Shaping Futures.” As part of the anniversary, the UG Endowment Fund was also launched by the President of the Republic of Ghana, His Excellency Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo on Monday 7th May, 2018. The endowment fund will be used to support scholarships, bursaries, tuition waivers, research grants for students and faculty, additional facilities and resources to enhance research and teaching through the provision of equipment, teaching aids and space,

upgrading the quality of internet coverage in all University of Ghana campuses and improving on library resources.

I wish to cease this opportunity to reach out to all stakeholders to contribute generously to the fund.

The Green project Team is partnering a number of institutions to re-design our grounds to ensure that there are enough trees and green coverage, as well as develop and complete a waste disposal system that will rely on separation of waste, to serve as a model for Ghana. Some of the institutions and organizations that are supporting the University in this drive are; the Forestry Commission, ADRA, WECARE, Y & M Regeneration Limited and the Republic Bank. The tree planting and landscaping initiatives were recently launched in separate events under the auspices of the Green Team.

Since the launch of the tree planting exercise on 1st December, 2017, the Green Project Committee and the PDMSD have led the University Staff (TEWU, GAUA, FUSSAG and UTAG) and some Student Groups to plant over 7,500 tree seedlings on the main campus of the University and the Staff Village. The Green Project Committee and the PDMSD are also supporting two students groups, CIYZOE-Legon and Technology without Borders, to implement the University of Ghana Plastic Recycling Project (UGPRP) which begins in the 2018/2019 academic year. The project involves awareness creation aimed at attitudinal and mindset change, and to effect waste segregation at source. Special bins will be positioned at vantage points at the halls of residence and hostels for students to drop empty water sachets and plastic bottles.

A unique feature of this initiative is that it is students-led. I will like to commend the groups and entreat the entire students' body to embrace the concept to facilitate the proper disposal of waste on campus. As a prelude to the implementation of the project, the student volunteers have already launched a programme to discourage littering during this congregation. I am appealing to you all to cooperate with them and drop waste in the bins that have been provided.

In addition, plans are far advanced to institute a comprehensive waste management system for the University to serve as a model for the country. This will involve compost production using litter fall from trees and biodegradable waste from commercial centres and eateries. The compost that is generated will be used for grassing, horticulture and crop production by the University.

The University of Ghana Mining Research Group: Our Director of the Institute for Environment and Sanitation Studies sent out a message to the University research community on the need for the University of Ghana to provide a holistic solution to the “Galamsey” issue. Over 50 researchers from all Colleges of the University responded and came together to form the University of Ghana Mining Research Group. The broad objective of the group is captured in the acronym STIMULATE: Solutions Targeting Illegal Mining Using Legislation, Appropriate Technology and Education. The Group, with the support of Office for Research and Development and the Center for Climate Change and Sustainable Studies, organized a symposium on the theme “Engaging the Artisanal Mining Industry in Ghana: Practical Ideas toward Sustainable Livelihoods and Ecological Stability”. An interaction between the group and a team from the University of York has yielded some dividend with the later agreeing to commit some core funding to support its staff to do research work in Ghana. Members of the mining research group have also been involved in the roll out of the Government's flagship programme the 'Multi-Sectoral Mining Integrated Project' (MMIP) which is being implemented by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources.

Research, Innovation and Development

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, the University of Ghana is committed to re-defining itself as a research intensive institution and actively encourages faculty to engage in research activities. We seek to engage in policy relevant research that will inform the development agenda of our dear nation and the African continent at large. The University's investment in research is yielding fruitful results, and already the quantity and quality of research being carried out at the University of Ghana have improved tremendously. In addition, the University has won landmark research

grants, which have been utilized to enhance its research profile. In view of this, the Office of Research, Innovation and Development (ORID) is taking the lead in ensuring that we meet our set goals.

Research, Faculty Development and Conference Grants

ORID received a total of 148 applications for conference grants. Out of this number, 72 grants with a total value of approximately US\$ 118,000.00 (one hundred and eighteen thousand dollars) were awarded. The 11th call for proposals for research grants was made using the InfoEd Grants Management Software and yielded seventy-five (75) applications. Fifty-seven applications qualified for review and are currently being processed.

Agreements

From August 2017 to date, ORID has reviewed and signed 53 research agreements amounting to approximately Eighteen Million United States Dollars (US\$ 18,000,000.00). In addition, 13 MoUs, 1 copyright agreement, 2 Material Transfer Agreements and 1 non-disclosure agreement have also been signed.

The Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research (NMIMR) won grants to initiate 16 new projects during the year. Altogether a total of 128 research projects were initiated at the Institute during the period under review. The Institute continued to function as the as World Health Organisation (WHO) recognised National Influenza Center for Ghana, the WHO Regional Reference Laboratory for Polio as well the WHO supported Reference Centre for the Identification of Rotavirus. It is also the Lymphatic Filariasis Support Centre for Africa, and host to the West African Centre for International Parasite Control (WACIPAC) project. It is worthy of note that the Institute continues to excel and has become a great icon in the world of health research.

Capacity Building

The University of Ghana and its consortium of five African partners have been awarded an amount of €1.3 Million (one million, three hundred

thousand euros) from the European Commission within the framework of the EU-Intra Africa Mobility Programme to implement a project titled: Harmonization of Entrepreneurship Education for Sustainable Development in Africa (HEED-Africa) for a period of 5 years. The project seeks to facilitate academic mobility to enhance individual capacities and institutional capabilities in entrepreneurship across thematic disciplines in Africa. The programme will offer scholarships for Masters and PhD students as well as capacity building for academic and administrative staff of the partner Universities.

The West African Centre for Crop Improvement (WACCI) received a grant from the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) for the production of early generation seeds in partnership with a private sector player, the Legacy Crop Improvement Centre (LCIC). WACCI is currently undergoing production of breeder and foundation seed of the three improved hybrid maize varieties released in June 2017. The project “Commercialization of West Africa Centre for Crop Improvement released maize hybrids for increased productivity in Ghana” seeks to improve household food security by facilitating the commercialization of the three WACCI hybrids.

Additionally, WACCI has led a consortium to win a US\$1 million grant from the African Union (AU) to work with government and industry partners on Crop and Soil Health Improvement for sustainable Agricultural Intensification towards Economic Transformation in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). The 3-year project aims to address issues related to the food and nutrition security objectives of the African Union under its Competitive Research Grants Scheme supported by the European Union.

Faculty and Student Fellowships

Faculty members have also benefited from the Cambridge-Africa Partnership for Research Excellence (CAPREX), Canadian Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee (QES) Advanced-Scholars Grant, the Commonwealth Doctoral Scholarships and the Fox International Student Fellowship Scheme. For the CAPREX award five applications were recommended by University of Ghana to Cambridge for further matching,

out of which three have been successfully matched to Cambridge-based collaborators with the remaining two likely to be matched with “South” collaborators with support from collaborators in Cambridge.

In collaboration with the University of Alberta (U of A), the School of Nursing and Midwifery (SoNM) won the Canadian Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee (QES) Advanced-Scholars Grant. The Grant will give 7 faculty members of the School the opportunity for a minimum of 90 days stay in Edmonton, Canada. The scholars will have the opportunity of mentorship for research and grantmanship.

Ladies and gentlemen, the University will continue to dedicate resources towards research as it strives to attain its vision of becoming a research-intensive university.

Innovation

The Institute of Applied Science and Technology (IAST) was established in 2012 to advance the development of Ghanaian industry through the conduct of industry-led research and serve as a vehicle for the transfer of knowledge, technology and innovation from the University to industry. The long term plan of the Institute is to establish a Science and Technology Park. This is intended to provide a holistic state of the art infrastructure for industrial research, transfer of technology and innovation.

The expected location will be at the link gate/GIMPA bypass which was originally zoned for a science park. This facility will be a property based development, providing the requisite infrastructure, associated services and modern amenities. The proposed Science and Technology Park will therefore be a master planned community with the establishment of specialized buildings and facilities to accommodate: Start Up businesses; Incubator Centres and Laboratories; Education/Research/Visualization Centres for programmes; “State of the Art” Office accommodation, facility and business to aid research and development among others.

The Institute has started helping students to set up their own ventures and develop skill sets in innovation and entrepreneurial training. This training

shapes the mindset of students to holistically express themselves and act on their innate creative potential. It also creates sustainable model of environment where students are immersed into creative and entrepreneurial endeavors through collaborations, activities, and channeling their entrepreneurial potential into all facets of their lives. The Institute believes that today's skills are not necessarily the ones needed tomorrow. Therefore, our students should be given first-hand experience of the link between academics and entrepreneurship/innovation. It is usually said that today's digital natives are the most adept at using technology, but at the same time they are less certain of the innovative processes that created them. The younger generation needs to learn how to create value in the digital economy, and embrace the opportunities that abound in science and technology.

Partnerships/Collaborations

Partnerships are very critical in the delivery of relevant and comprehensive knowledge and skill sets to learners in higher education institutions. Effective collaboration with external stakeholders from various fields of specialization provide unique platforms for sharing knowledge and skills that are mutually beneficial. In furtherance of this ideal, the University has forged new institutional partnerships to promote research, exchange of students and faculty with a number of institutions in North America, Europe, Asia, Australia and Latin America. New partnership agreements are currently underway and expected to be signed soon.

The School of Engineering Sciences, the CLUE Incorporated from Japan and the Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research (NMIMR) are monitoring the performance of the solar panel farm at NMIMR. The monitoring process includes monthly recording of the kilowatt hour excess electricity pumped into UG by the solar panels using a net meter installed by Electricity Company of Ghana. In order to evaluate the current state of each solar panel, the School of Engineering Sciences and CLUE Inc., will employ the use of drones equipped with infrared sensor to study the surface of the solar panels by flying over the panels. This will help to identify damages and micro cracks on the solar panels that are not visible to the naked eye but affects the conversion efficiency of the panels.

Following the signing of an MOU between the University and Toyota Ghana Limited in April 2017, the parties have gone a step further to put together a project Partnership Agreement which is being finalized for signing soon. Under the partnership, Toyota will support the School of Engineering by building an ultra-modern training Centre to train students, provide equipment worth \$2 million to the School over 10 years, provide a bus to convey students to the Centre as well as provide scholarship worth \$10,000 per year to brilliant but needy students.

A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between the University of Ghana and Ghana National Petroleum Corporation (GNPC) to establish a Research Chair in Petroleum Geoscience at the Department of Earth Science, College of Basic & Applied Sciences. The Chair seeks to strengthen Petroleum Geoscience research and education capacity in the University of Ghana in order to support the optimal exploration, delineation and development of Ghana's hydrocarbon resources. Under the agreement, GNPC will commit \$1,000,000.00 (One Million US Dollars) to support the Chair.

Physical Development

Ladies and gentlemen, quality infrastructural facilities are critical to the achievement of the vision and mission of the University of Ghana. There are many ongoing projects on all our campuses, which will provide additional lecture halls, residential facilities and office spaces for our staff and students when completed. These projects include the multi-purpose School of Performing Arts facility, new blocks for the School of Pharmacy, multi-purpose GCB block, Faculty of Arts building, new blocks for Department of Earth Science, Extension to School of Public Health, Asphaltic Overlay of selected roads on campus and the UG Stadium. The following projects have been completed: Department of Economics Extension, Construction and Completion of 4 number B-Type Bungalows at Staff Village. The Confucius Institute building and the ultra-modern West African Centre for Cell Biology of Infectious Pathogens (WACCBIP) building have already been commissioned. The next in line for commissioning is the multi-purpose building for the West Africa Centre for Crop Improvement (WACCI).

We like to express our gratitude to our local and foreign partners who have contributed to funding for these projects, and as a University, we will continue to prudently source for funds to complete the ongoing projects.

The Graduate Students' Association of Ghana (GRASAG-Legon) has commissioned a number of projects as part of the Association's contribution towards the attainment of the University's vision of becoming a world class research-intensive institution. These include four refurbished reading rooms and one television room at the VALCO Trust Hostel, as well as the refurbishment of an ultra-modern Research Commons at the Korle-Bu campus. I commend these initiatives by GRASAG-Legon and hope that students will make good use of these facilities.

ICT

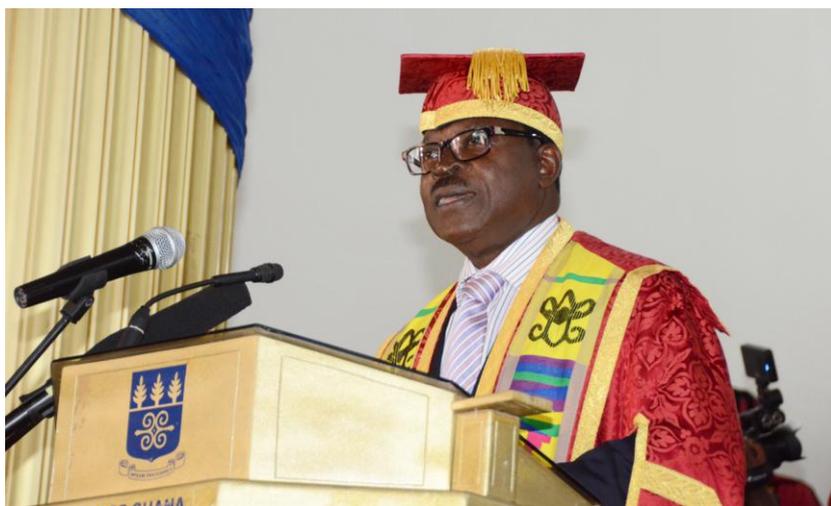
Distinguished Guest, Ladies and Gentlemen, the University has made some progress in the provision of ICT services. A total of about 950 Wi-Fi Access points have been installed in all the campuses of the University including the Research Centres and the Regional Distance Education Learning Centres. A progressive replacement and Wi-Fi network extension exercise is currently underway to address coverage and signal strength frustrations faced by students. The exercise is expected to be completed by the middle of the first semester of the 2018/2019 academic year. The University of Ghana Computing Systems (UGCS) has also received a 100 more Access Points to deploy at other critical places like the Library and departments in addition to some of the Halls.

The University has completed the deployment of a high-performance computing (HPC) infrastructure for West African Centre for Cell Biology and Infectious Pathogens (WACCBIP). This is mostly available to the Centre but could be made available to other units based on agreement.

UGCS in collaboration with the University Archives has completed several digitization records. For the period under review, 455 items were added to the University of Ghana Institutional Repository.



Officials, Members of Convocation, Guest Speaker and Valedictorian in a group photograph



**Mr. Reindorf Baah Perbi, Member of Council (Representing
Chairman of the University Council)
delivering the Welcome Address**



Prof. Ebenezer Oduro Owusu, Vice-Chancellor, at the ceremony



**Prof. Francis Dodoo, Pro-Vice-Chancellor,
Research, Innovation & Development (Representing Vice-Chancellor)
addressing the gathering**



Prof. Samuel Agyei-Mensah, Provost, College of Humanities, acknowledging International Students of the College



**Mrs. Mercy Haizel-Ashia, Registrar,
delivering the Opening Remarks at the ceremony**



Mr. Franklin Sowa, delivering the Guest Speaker's Address



Mrs. Mavis Otoo-Ayeh, College Secretary, College of Humanities, speaking at the ceremony



Ms. Golda Anambane, delivering the Valedictory Address



Graduands at the Congregation ceremony



Graduands being congratulated by Officials and Dignitaries



Some parents and guardians at the ceremony

Use of the SAKAI Learning Management System for the University's e-Learning programmes continues to improve with an average concurrent usage of 350 and an increase in courses created to 5, 611 as at the end of registration for second semester of 2017/2018 academic year.

Security monitoring of our infrastructure and services is currently ongoing. Security awareness bulletins are published weekly, and the UGCS has organized the first in a series of Cyber Security Awareness Workshops which aim at bringing awareness to the community on how to secure University and personal data.

Financial Aid to Students

Ladies and gentlemen, the Students Financial Aid Office (SFAO) has the mission of minimizing the financial barriers that prevent brilliant but needy students' access to studying at the University of Ghana. Donations to support needy students grew from approximately GH¢1,100,000.00 (One Million and One Hundred Thousand Ghana Cedis) in 2016-2017 to approximately GH¢3,000,000.00 (Three Million Ghana Cedis) in 2017-2018 academic year, representing about 155% increase over the previous year.

During the period under review a total of six hundred and fourteen students (614) out of nine hundred and twenty (920) applicants were awarded scholarships. This represented 66.7% of all scholarship applicants. The 614 scholarship awardees comprised 424 males representing 69.1% and 190 females representing 30.9%.

Management expresses its profound gratitude to all its revered donors for their regular support towards the reduction of the financial constraints of needy students.

Sporting Activities

University of Ghana Policy on Admission of Athlete Students (UG-PAAS), a policy that guides concessionary admission of students talented in sports who meet the minimum UG requirements is in its fourth year of operation. The first batch of students admitted through this policy would

be graduating this year. The policy has so far admitted 200 students of which 68 are female and 132 are male. Five students who were enrolled through this policy have obtained scholarships and are currently pursuing further studies in the United States.

The University of Ghana Sports Fund (UG SPORT FUND) is an initiative to motivate and support talented and needy student athletes of the University of Ghana, and to attract potential talents for admission into the University. It is the first and the only sport fund in any public university in Ghana. The fund has enabled the Sports Directorate to sponsor 20 students comprising 4 female and 16 male.

Incoming Chancellor of the University

Ladies and gentlemen, the tenure of His Excellency, Mr. Kofi Annan as Chancellor of the University of Ghana, expires on July 31st, 2018. Mrs. Mary Chinery-Hesse, who has been elected as the next Chancellor, will be sworn in by His Excellency, the President of the Republic, on August 1, 2018.

I wish to crave your indulgence to join University management to thank H.E. Mr. Kofi Annan for a very successful term, during which he achieved so much for the University, particularly in the area of fund raising, and paving the way for fruitful collaborations and partnerships. We wish H.E. Mr. Kofi Annan well, even as we welcome Mrs. Chinery-Hesse, as the tenth Chancellor of the University, and the first female to hold this high office.

Well Wishes to Graduands

And now, to the Graduating Class who are the reason we are here today, as well as their families who have provided for them throughout their study period. For you graduands, this is a moment that comes with a strong sense of achievement. Today, the University is officially dispatching you into the wide world as its able ambassadors.

I urge you and by extension, the youth of this nation to aspire for the values of discipline, integrity, honesty, modesty and contentment in all your

endeavors. Seek excellence, believe in yourself, work hard, plan ahead, be ethical in all your dealings and these virtues will guarantee you success. Eschew greed, quick fixes and crave for money, which are the roots of many evils in our society today.

I wish you well in your journey ahead, and once again, congratulate you on your achievements!

Distinguished Guest, Ladies and Gentlemen, I thank you for your attention.

**GUEST SPEAKER'S ADDRESS BY
MR. FRANKLIN AKPOR SOWA**

Member of Council representing the Chancellor,
Vice Chancellor,
Pro-Vice Chancellors,
Provosts,
Registrar,
Members of the University Council,
Members of the Advisory Board of the College of Humanities,
Members of Convocation,
Niime/ Naamei,
Hon. Ministers of State,
Your Excellencies,
Members of the Diplomatic Corps,
Alumni and Friends of the University,
Family members of Graduands,
Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good Afternoon!

On behalf of the Advisory Board of the College of Humanities of the University, it is my greatest pleasure to welcome you all to this graduate congregation for the cohort of students who completed their study programmes in May 2018.

This group is made up of about 1000 students graduating with either

- PhD
- Master of Philosophy or
- Master of Arts (including EMBA, MBA, MPA)

from various disciplines such as business, arts, social sciences, languages and performing arts.

I am humbled by the invitation to be the Guest Speaker for this memorable event today. It brings back so many wonderful memories and experiences

to me. As somebody whose parents have always wished me to be a medical doctor, I started off as a science student but diverted to Arts after GCE O'Level. Then, I fell in love with Economics and was just certain I should pursue a career in Business. I have no regrets, especially knowing that God has a plan which makes all things work together for the good of His children. In the year 2000 when I completed Chartered Institute of Marketing, UK, Professional Postgraduate Diploma qualification and was successfully awarded the Chartered Marketer status, I did not find any need to return to the lecture room to study anything again. One thing I found so intriguing is the fact that everything I had studied in school in one way or the other comes in handy in my career to date. This improved my understanding that there is still value in adding on knowledge or even upgrading / refreshing oneself and that gradually ignited an interest in me to get back to school. This burning interest eventually made me return to the lecture room after 10 years to start my EMBA, here at UGBS. Another lifetime decision and reward that has contributed immensely to where I find myself today. The quality of lecturers, course contents, networking and everything else got me to a point of resolving that, as difficult as it may be, self-development through education is the springboard to my next career ambition. This, by the grace of God, reactivated a lot more confidence in me to aim higher and higher. I am grateful to all the great lecturers of the Business School, not forgetting Dr. Samuel Buame of blessed memory - may his soul rest in peace.

On completion of my EMBA in 2012, I again decided that it was the end of formal school for me, but after 4 years, I found myself back to the lecture room. Due to the innovation and foresightedness of the UGBS, which are informed by robust insights and deep understanding of peculiar needs of practitioners out there in the business world, the Master of Arts in Marketing Strategy sandwich programme was introduced and the module was so exciting that I enrolled immediately. I guess my course programme mates were the first cohort for that initiative. Thanks to the experienced lecturers who combined their theories and practical experiences, with those of students, to successfully add-value to myself and my colleagues here at the UGBS. At this point, one is sure of taking on higher career challenges to impact businesses and the lives of junior colleagues in the business world. The confidence to make a higher career move has a lot to do with what you have studied and experienced in life through the grace of God.

The Call to Action for you on this special day will be expressed in my 10 career philosophies per my experiences so far as a professional as follows:

1. Never despise humble beginnings: No matter how uncomfortable and menial you feel about your current job or task, that is what you have now so just do it. I have sold concepts, sold female hair products, sold airtime for radio, sold advertising space for newspaper, sold UPS and stabilisers, rented outdoor air-conditioners, sold outdoor / billboard sites, bought media across all media channels, etc. All these at some point might not have been too exciting and encouraging considering my qualifications and knowledge at the time but brought me new opportunities, met new people and kept me focused on the greater and better tomorrow daily.
2. Give your best shot to every opportunity: We are in the era of networking and referrals. One good work, backed by high professionalism in executing your current task could be the key to unlock the next breakthrough for you. Who knows? Probably, the owner or CEO of your 'dream job' or the partner to grow your company as an entrepreneur is the person seated in the audience, or there is somebody who knows a need of a certain organisation watching you. Do not forget that one day the chief cupbearer remembered Joseph (Genesis 41:9).
3. Still achieving, still pursuing: Never be complacent and comfortable with your current state; it could be better each day. Always set for yourself new goals and targets with practicable timelines and work at achieving each set of goals timeously. Always add value to yourself and to others. Keep moving, don't relax at any point.
4. Controlling is good, but checking is better: One of my Mentors made me believe it is always good to control things and people from afar, but better to follow-up and keep checking on everything yourself if the required standards, specifications and outcomes are being delivered. Do not make assumptions else you may be unpleasantly surprised.

5. Listen more, be humble/ respectful: No matter who and what you are, what you know or what you have, you do not know or have everything. Therefore, listen more, be humble and accept views of others in the team, remember, this adds value to the expected outcomes. Learn to respectfully correct wrong directions or perspectives without being arrogant or offensive.
6. Be Trustworthy/ Have integrity: Can you be trusted? Do you keep your word? You must lead by example, pursue excellence and always push for the best results. As far as you are concerned, what is said about you in your absence should not be different from what is said in your presence, be a consistent brand.
7. Be focused: When you focus on problems, you get more problems. When you focus on possibilities, you have more opportunities – Zig Ziglar. Therefore, remain focused and keep the main thing the main thing. Your agenda should always be to add value and leave a legacy, otherwise what is the point? I am a member of Paddies, a 'Whatsapp' group of friends with diverse professional backgrounds who share a common value to voluntarily support deprived communities with health and educational initiatives/ interventions. As the President of Paddies three years ago, I led the group to secure partnership with UNAIDS, the World Bank and other Corporate organisations to execute various projects that have positioned the group as an aspirational group till date. What are you doing with all these social networks, the WhatsApp groups you belong to?
8. Be positive about life - Everything is possible: Steve Jobs said, “Believe things will work out. How was I ever to know that the girl who broke my heart in university would be my soulmate? How was I to know that the 'dream job' I was rejected from out of college would lead me to a year of entrepreneurship and adventure in Spain? How was I to know that taking a miserable job back in the states would be just the push I needed to vow never to do something I wasn't passionate about again? Everything works out. I mean everything. As long as you believe it will. When you do, you will find the silver lining that will take you to the next level.”

9. Dare to be different: Never be scared to do things differently. Never be scared of being wrong, it is all part of learning each day. “Learn from every mistake, because every experience, particularly your mistakes, are there to teach you and force you into being more who you are.” – Oprah Winfrey. Adapt solutions and make them relevant to identified challenges.

10. Be Accountable and responsible: The consciousness that others are watching you should not be the only reason to be accountable, but you must naturally be excited that not under your watch should anything go bad. Take actions that improve expected outcomes and accept responsibility if it does not go well but ensure that it must succeed and it will succeed.

In conclusion, this part of our world is steadily accepting the mantra that things work differently here, and we are all seemingly encouraging this posture as our culture, but I dare to say it should not be so. Why should we accept the world is a global village when it comes to ICT but everything else, we want to maintain our typical mediocre style and approach?

Dear Graduands, what you have gained during your studies here at University of Ghana is supposed to contribute into efforts aimed at achieving a paradigm shift in our way of thinking and attitude to everything as a people, as a nation and as professionals. The stakes are high and Ghana needs you, you must make a difference.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, I cannot end without mentioning that in this ICT dominated era, it is imperative on everyone to understand, appreciate, accept and leverage the relevance of ICT in all you do, therefore none of you graduands should be alien to this narrative.

Remember, everything is possible to them that believe, only believe, work at it and there will be no restrictions to the height you could attain in this life.

My charge to you all is this, go out there and make a difference, it is possible. God bless you all. Best wishes.

Thank you.

VALEDICTORY ADDRESS BY MS. GOLDA ANAMBANE

Member of Council representing the Chancellor,
Members of the University Council,
Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ghana,
Pro-Vice-Chancellors,
Registrar,
Members of Advisory Board of the College of Humanities,
Provost of the College of the Humanities,
Members of Convocation,
Staff and Alumni of the University of Ghana,
Invited guests,
Fellow graduands,
Distinguished ladies and gentlemen,

Good afternoon to you all. I deem it a great honour and privilege to be asked to deliver a valedictory address on behalf of the July 2018 graduating class of my College. Glory be to God for the honour he has bestowed on us today. Undeniably, today is a happy day for us. It is a day on which our hard work, commitment, diligence, and respect for others is being recognised and honoured. Therefore, as graduands, we can draw on the popular phrase of Julius Caesar to say, “we came, we saw, we conquered.”

Beginning the journey for postgraduate degree, for most of us, was a mixed feeling; feeling of anxiety, excitement yet sadness, considering that some of us had to quit jobs for education. The dilemma was then whether to choose education; which is likely to give us a better future, or salary we were enjoying. Those who had to keep jobs, worried about how to combine schooling with work-life. We looked forward to living in a different environment, especially those of us who had obtained our first degrees from other universities. We had heard stories about how big the university of Ghana campus is and that as a new student, one could easily get lost on campus; we just could not wait to experience it. We also anticipated meeting new people and most importantly, gaining new knowledge. These expectations, I believe, have been met.

It is worth mentioning that some of us did not anticipate the level of commitment and diligence needed to pursue postgraduate studies. We encountered challenges which ranged from undertaking courses we were not so good at, to being bombarded with many different assignments and term papers. These were some of the unpleasant experiences from our perspective as students. Fellow graduands, would we ever forget the days of Kuhn-Tucker and Lagrangian formulae in Economics for Business? Not soon I guess; because these were tough but interesting times. I trust that graduands from other disciplines as well have several terms to recall. Aside the challenges relating to academics, some graduands had to combine studies with nurturing infants and picking up children from school everyday. The financial burden of pursuing postgraduate studies also, cannot be overlooked. But through it all, we are here today as graduands. We have not had only challenges but also have witnessed some pleasant moments. Mention can be made of fun times like GRASAG get-togethers, health walks, class parties, and attending wedding ceremonies of classmates.

Fellow graduands, today officially marks the end of our studentship at the University of Ghana at this level. We are bidding farewell to friends, lecturers and classmates, some of whom we may never meet again in this life. Let us take comfort in the words of Theodor Seuss that “don't cry because it is over but smile because it happened”. It happened so that we can have the opportunity to impact the lives of others. Now is the time to be positive change makers in society as a demonstration that we have been trained by the nation's premier university; hence equipped for every noble work.

As the valedictorian for this session, whose research focused on Entrepreneurship, my message to fellow graduands is that as we move into the world of non-existent jobs, let us join the call to support Entrepreneurship as it has been found to be the key to the economic progress of nations. David McClelland, a renowned American psychologist, in trying to explain the reason for the differences in developmental levels among countries in his book titled “The Achieving Society”, noted that countries with more entrepreneurs developed faster

than countries with fewer entrepreneurs. On this note, Entrepreneurship needs to thrive in Ghana. To those amongst us who are entrepreneurs already, keep on with the good work. We would be glad to hear names of our classmates being mentioned as employers in Ghana and Beyond. To those of us who are yet to tread that path and those who may never, we can support entrepreneurship in our own small ways like patronising the businesses of our indigenous entrepreneurs, offering advice to up-and-coming entrepreneurs, tuning attention to researching into the field, and considering small and medium scale businesses as cases for studies.

Moving forward, there are many people who have contributed in various ways towards our successful graduation today. Due recognition must be given them. To all lecturers and administrators of the University of Ghana, we appreciate your support and guidance in various ways during the period of undertaking our respective studies. To University of Ghana, we cannot deny that the core values of integrity, commitment, respect and loyalty has an impact on our lives. We have imbibed these values and they will reflect in us wherever we find ourselves. This address will not be complete without recognizing the efforts of people that have contributed towards our obtaining various degrees today; we appreciate all parents, guardians, siblings, spouses, and organizations that have supported us. We however use this opportunity to appeal to government, corporate organizations, donor agencies, educational institutions, and other stakeholders to increase scholarship opportunities available to students at the postgraduate level as it appears there are fewer opportunities, especially in humanities. And to everyone that honoured the invitation to witness our graduation, we are most grateful.

In conclusion, as graduands, we pledge that as we leave the graduation grounds, we will not forget the relevance of staying in touch with classmates and the university community for networking. Also, as we proceed with various endeavours of our lives, we will proceed with truth

and integrity to build a better Nation. Jack Johnson, the first African American world heavyweight boxing champion once said “Don't let your dreams be dreams”; hence, we would take steps to ensure our dreams come into reality.

Congratulations, Class of July 2018.

Long live University of Ghana, long live Mother Ghana.

Thank you.

**CLOSING ADDRESS BY CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL
(REPRESENTED BY MR. REINDORF BAAH PERBI, MEMBER
OF COUNCIL)**

Distinguished Guest Speaker,
New Graduates,
Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen;

You agree with me that this afternoon's ceremony has been very successful. As we end the ceremony, I would like to salute all who have worked hard to ensure a successful event, especially all those who played various roles in the planning and organisation of this event.

Our new graduates have all worked hard over the periods that they have been students at this University and they deserve all the laurels that they have acquired.

I congratulate you on your achievements and urge you all to be worthy ambassadors of the University of Ghana. I wish you success in your future endeavours. But whatever you do, always remember the University of Ghana and the University of Ghana's 70th Anniversary endowment fund.

On behalf of management, I would also like to thank all teachers and the management teams of the various units who have worked together to ensure that your stay in the university has been fruitful. The University appreciates all the efforts that have been put in this enterprise.

We are happy that so many family members and friends of the graduates were able to join in this celebration. I say a special congratulation to the parents of the graduates.

I also thank the guest speaker for today, for the very inspiring message to all of us. To our invited guests, alumni and friends of the University be assured that we appreciate your presence and participation in the ceremony. I wish everyone a safe journey back to your destinations.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, it is now my privilege and duty to

declare today's congregation officially dissolved.

Thank You.

