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**COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES
(GRADUATE PROGRAMMES)
PROCEEDINGS OF CONGREGATION
JULY 20, 2019**

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ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

Saturday, July 20, 2019 at 2:00 p.m.

Procession

- Members of Convocation
 - Council
- (The Congregation is asked to stand)*

National Anthem

Welcome/Declaration of Purpose: Prof. Baffour Agyeman-Duah,
Member of Council
Representing the Chancellor

Vice-Chancellor's Address: Prof. Francis Dodoo,
Pro-Vice Chancellor, Research,
Innovation & Development

Congregation Speaker: Dr. (Mrs.) Irene Stella Agyenim-Boateng

Valedictory Address: Mr. Frederick Boamah

Conferment of Degrees:

Presentation of graduands from the College of Humanities

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

Member of Council representing Chancellor dissolves Congregation

University Anthem

Recession

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

**OPENING ADDRESS BY CHANCELLOR
(REPRESENTED BY PROF. BAFFOUR AGYEMAN-DUAH,
MEMBER OF COUNCIL)**

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

I have the greatest pleasure in welcoming you all warmly to this afternoon's ceremony. On behalf of the Chancellor of the University, Mrs. Mary Chinery-Hesse, I extend her greetings and best wishes to all of you gathered here on this occasion.

Congregation ceremonies are very important to the University of Ghana because of the opportunity they afford us 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 on time.

Management of the University remains committed to improving upon graduation rates and students' satisfaction and will continue to do all in its power to provide students with a memorable experience at all times.

You graduands have played your part by working extremely hard and doing so with great discipline. Your presence here this morning is proof that your

efforts have not been in vain. I take the opportunity to wish you all who are being presented today the best wishes on this important occasion.

We share in your joy on the successful completion of your programmes of study. We are very proud of you. As you go out into the world, we count on you to give the University a reason to take delight in what you do outside the University and that you will not let the University down. We believe that you would uphold the good name of this University always.

The degree being awarded you today is a precious and powerful gift. Please, do remember that no one can take it away from you unless on legal grounds. We count on you today to make a difference in the world, always bear in mind that “to whom much is given, much is expected”. You have the trained mind leaving these walls, but you are going into a world of people without the benefit of your education but have a lot of talents and have contributed a lot to the development of this country. Be very modest and know that they are also an important part of this country, remember, it is very well known that nobody has the monopoly of wisdom in the world.

In our time when we left this University, these were very easy times. We could look forward to a job waiting for us in the civil service or anywhere else. Times are much tougher now and we recognize that no job is waiting for you and that even for the premier University, University of Ghana, this is a problem for the graduate. In spite of all this, we feel a sense of hope, that the government is putting in place measures that will hopefully yield results and drastically reduce the risk of unemployment after all your hard work. My hope is that you will meet a world of work which is a much kinder place. Hearty congratulation once again.

It is important to recall that you have not done this alone. You pursued this degree and you have been successful but you have enjoyed the support of your parents and guardians, entire family and friends and very loved ones. All of them are proud of your accomplishments which is why some have turned up in their numbers to celebrate with you. We welcome all of them.

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, I am extremely happy to declare this afternoon's assembly duly constituted for the award of degrees and diplomas of the University of Ghana. It is customary for the Vice-Chancellor to give a report at Congregations on the developments in the last academic year. I now invite Prof. Francis Dodoo, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research, Innovation & Development) to present the Vice-Chancellor's report to the Congregation.

Thank you very much.

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

Chairman and Members of Council
Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Academic and Student Affairs)
Registrar
Provosts 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

Good afternoon!

It is my pleasure to welcome you all to the fifth session of the July Congregation ceremonies for the 2018/2019 cohort. Congregation ceremonies will be held in November this year for another batch of the 2018/2019 cohort of students.

This afternoon's ceremony is dedicated to postgraduate students of the College of Humanities.

A total of 780 students are graduating today, which includes 55 PhDs. Altogether, the University will graduate 150 PhDs during this July Congregation ceremonies.

THE STATE OF THE UNIVERSITY

Academic Affairs of the University

Admissions

The University of Ghana registered a total of 11,216 (Eleven Thousand, Two Hundred and Sixteen) students into various programmes mounted at its campuses in the 2018/2019 academic year. This number consisted of 5,828 (Five Thousand Eight, Hundred and Twenty-Eight) male students and 5,388 (Five Thousand, Three Hundred and Eighty-Eight) female students, including 306 (Three Hundred and Six) International/Visiting students.

The total number reflects an overall admission ratio of 51:49 for males and females, implying that the University is steadily attaining its strategic objective of a 50:50 ratio for male and female student enrolment.

Affiliation of Six Colleges of Education to University of Ghana

As you may be aware, the Government of Ghana has initiated policy reforms in teacher education to improve the quality of teaching and learning at basic schools. As part of the reforms, all 46 public Colleges of Education are being converted into University Colleges of Education of public Universities that train teachers through a special affiliation agreement for a transitional period of four years to deliver the new four-year B.Ed. curriculum. This agreement is expected to guarantee the institutional integration of Colleges into their affiliated Universities.

In consonance with the above, six public Colleges of Education have been assigned to the University of Ghana with effect from October 2019. The Colleges are Accra College of Education, Enchi College of Education, Evangelical Presbyterian College of Education at Amedzofe, Peki College of Education, Gbewaa College of Education at Pusiga and Mount Mary College of Education at Somanya.

Strategic Teams

Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, strategic teams were set up in November 2016 to drive the transformational agenda of the University of Ghana.

The Independent Power Supply Team is spearheading the effort to re-condition the biogas plant at Hilla Limann Hall to generate gas for the four new Halls.

Through the instrumentality of the team, the Ministry of Energy recently donated electrical items to the University of Ghana. The items received include 1,000 pieces of Watts LED street lights, among others. The University has started utilizing some of the donations towards the management of the demand-side programme of power consumption and illumination of critical areas of the University campus. We are grateful to the Minister of Energy and his team for this strategic support.

As part of the efforts of the team, the University recently gave approval for Bui Power Project to undertake geological and geotechnical surveys, and transmission right of way, needed to conclude the feasibility studies for a proposed 2.5 Mw solar project.

The Green Team Project is also advancing on its mandate of increasing tree density, ensuring green coverage of campus grounds, developing paved walkways and improving waste management. The team has also earmarked a number of activities on the main campus this year. The University of Ghana Plastic Recycling Project's (UGPRP) effort at institutionalising source segregation of waste in the university community is progressing steadily. So far, it is estimated that about 23 metric tons of plastic waste has been collected and transferred for recycling. The recycling project is spearheaded by students.

The Institutional Advancement Team facilitated an official media launch of the UG @ 70 Alumni Homecoming Weekend on Wednesday, 10th July, 2019. The Alumni Homecoming, slated for Friday, 9th to Sunday, 11th August, 2019 is a thanksgiving event to climax the activities of the Platinum Anniversary of UG, and is aimed at attracting the University's

distinguished alumni to the main campus. Proceeds from the event are expected to augment the UG @70 Endowment Fund.

Meanwhile, the UG@70 Endowment Fund continues to receive donations from individuals and groups. I am happy to report that the President of the Republic of Ghana, His Excellency Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo has redeemed his pledge of GH¢5 million (Five Million Ghana Cedis) that he made during the launch of the Endowment Fund on May 7, 2018. I take this opportunity to express our profound gratitude to His Excellency the President for this noble gesture, and encourage our guests and members of the graduating class to also commit to support the University in this direction. I will also like to encourage members of the graduating class and alumni present to participate in the Homecoming event.

Fundraising Strategy to Modernize Laboratories and Research Facilities at the University of Ghana

Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, a fundraising strategy to modernize laboratories and research facilities at University of Ghana has been developed by the Laboratory Modernization Implementation Committee as part of the strategic initiatives. Establishing state-of-the-art laboratories and developing world class facilities at UG will help bridge and better link theory and practice. A well-resourced University with modern facilities for research can help deliver and advance Ghana's national agenda of self-sustaining development, as well as meet the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and Africa's Agenda 2063.

It is expected that all stakeholders will join our four-year fund-raising campaign to mobilize the target of US\$ 500 million needed to modernize our laboratories when the initiative is rolled out later this year.

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the chairpersons and members of the nine strategic teams for the good work done so far to move the University of Ghana towards becoming a “Go to University”.

Research Grants

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, University of Ghana remains committed to its vision of becoming a world class research-intensive University. It is heart-warming to note that landmark research grants have already been won, and these have helped to improve the University's research profile.

The Office of Research, Innovation and Development (ORID) has processed 81 research grant agreements from the beginning of the 2018-2019 academic year to date with a total grant value of approximately US\$ 35.8 m (Thirty-five Million and Eight Hundred Thousand United States Dollars). This represents over 1,000% (one thousand percent) increase in grant revenue over the last three academic years.

University Finances

Fiscal Discipline and Financial Reforms

Ladies and gentlemen, management of the University, with the support of the University Council, has resolved to build institutional systems and structures which will stand the test of time and usher the University into a prosperous future.

University Management and Council have therefore rolled out an initiative to ensure fiscal discipline and prudent financial management. This initiative seeks to free fiscal space and make funds available to undertake critical developmental projects, in line with Strategic Objective Six of the University's Strategic Plan, which seeks to enhance the mobilization and management of resources in the University.

Ladies and gentlemen, I am glad to report that since the introduction of these reforms, the University has made a lot of savings. The statement of financial performance of the University for 2018-2019 academic year shows that out of a budgeted expenditure for other operating expenses in the sum of approximately GH¢213 million (Two Hundred and Thirteen Million), the actual expenditure was approximately GH¢131 million (One Hundred and Thirty-one Million) indicating a saving of about 38%.

In a related development, Management has set up an operational committee called Internal Revenue Committee to help maximize the generation of internally generated funds, thereby reducing the risk associated with rent receivables.

I wish to appeal to all staff, students and stakeholders of the University to embrace and support the implementation of these reforms to ensure that, together, we make judicious use of our financial and other resources to promote efficiency.

University of Ghana Heritage Museum

As part of efforts to preserve the legacy and heritage of the University of Ghana, Management has set up a University of Ghana Museum Fund-Raising Committee to raise funds to establish a state-of-the-art University of Ghana Museum (UG Museum). The UG Museum is expected to store, conserve and exhibit objects of historical, scientific, artistic or cultural interest and significance as well as collections of high-profile personalities of the University.

Financial Aid to Students

Ladies and gentlemen, the Students Financial Aid Office has made it possible for less endowed but brilliant students to have equal access to quality education at the University of Ghana. I am glad to note that there has been an increase in donations from approximately GH¢ 1,000,000.00 (One Million Ghana Cedis) in the 2016/2017 academic year to approximately GH¢ 3,000,000.00 (Three Million Ghana Cedis) in 2017/18 academic year. This represents a 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 represents 66.7% of all scholarship applicants.

Well Wishes to Graduands

To you, ladies and gentlemen of the graduating class, as we celebrate this milestone with you, I would like to conclude with the words of Winston Churchill: “Success is walking from failure to failure with no loss of

enthusiasm”. Work hard, be determined and success will be yours. There is nothing better than trying and trying until you achieve success.

I therefore pray that your commitment to obtaining knowledge does not end with your graduation but that you will continue to seek knowledge to enable you to make significant changes in your lives and in society as a whole. Always endeavour to add value to yourself.

As you move on to the next stage of your lives, remember to uphold the values of the University – Respect, Commitment, Integrity and Loyalty. I wish you all the best in your individual endeavours.

Once again, congratulations.

Thank you.

**GUEST SPEAKER'S ADDRESS BY
DR. (MRS.) IRENE STELLA AGYENIM-BOATENG**

Member of Council representing the Chancellor
Members of the University Council
Vice Chancellor
Pro-Vice Chancellors
Registrar
Chairman & Members of the College of Humanities Advisory Board
Members of Convocation
Alumni and friends of the University
Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen
Graduands

It is indeed a great pleasure and a rare opportunity to be honoured as the guest speaker for such an august ceremony.

Since I left campus several years ago, I have had the opportunity to come around for one reason or the other; but today the nostalgia is obviously different. I still remember the day of my graduation and the good feeling associated with it.

Indeed, I salute and pay tribute to my lecturers who selflessly imparted knowledge and whose effort have contributed to my wellbeing. I believe it is not out of place to mention but a few of them; Professor Bill Pupilampu, Professor Quame Aboagye, Dr. Ohene Konadu, Dr. Onumah, Dr. Clement Hammah, Dr. Ansah Offei (of blessed memory) and a host of others. I salute you sirs.

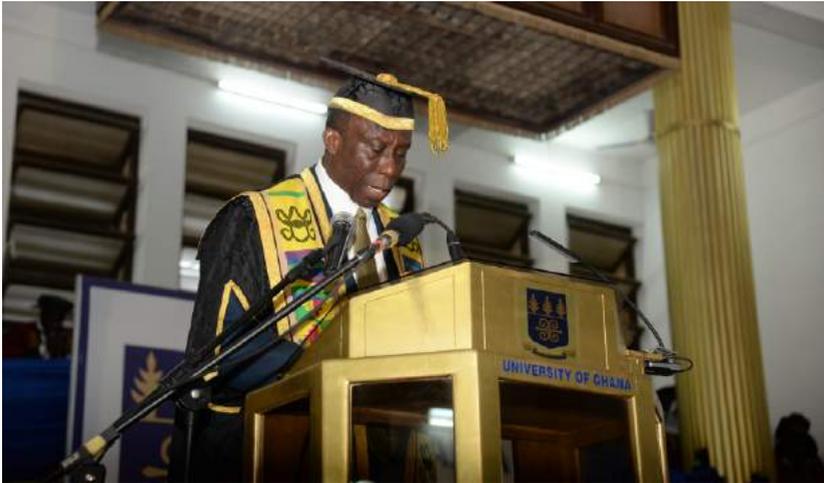
Ladies and Gentlemen, today we must celebrate the hard work of faculty and all members of the University community and other stakeholders including government and families who have supported these graduands to realise their dreams and aspirations.



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



**Prof. Baffour Agyeman-Duah, Member of University Council
delivering the Opening Address**



Prof. Francis Dodoo, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Research, Innovation & Development delivering the Vice-Chancellor's Address



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



Prof. Kwaku Tano-Debrah, Dean, School of Graduate Studies making remarks at the ceremony.



Mrs. Mavis Otoo-Ayeh, College Secretary, College of Humanities



**Dr. (Mrs.) Irene Stella Agyenim-Boateng delivering the
Guest Speaker's Address**



**Mr. Frederick Boamah, delivering the
Valedictory Speech**



Graduands at the Congregation ceremony



Parents, guardians and invited guests at the ceremony

Just like it was for me, this glorious and glamorous occasion must have been a dream to graduands. I am sure that when you first stepped foot on this campus, you least expected that this day will come so fast. We thank God for seeing you through and helping you enjoy the moments.

Even as you bask in excitement, I'm sure you will still permit me to share a few thoughts with you – nuggets to carry along as you journey through the next phase of life – career or otherwise.

Dear graduands, after today, your curriculum vitae and academic profiles will be amended to make room for new titles and letters after your names. As you enjoy the moment, pause to think of this statement in William Shakespeare's *Macbeth*: “to be thus is nothing but to be safely thus”... As an individual, quite apart from the Scriptures, I have been so guided by this statement because it is not enough to parade your academic achievements in the face of people but to be sure that you have a holistic view of life that makes you secure and relevant in whatever you pursue. You have gone through thick and thin, defying all odds to be here today to be celebrated but then “to be thus is nothing but to be safely thus”.

Clearly, one should not and must not celebrate whatever is described as “enough” because that is not a feast to be celebrated. “Enough” is only the starter, not the finish line. Having gone through such rigorous academic regime at the premier University must have already prepared you to know that what differentiates a successful person from the not so successful, is not necessarily the brain power but what use each of them makes of their latent abilities and the extent of hunger to achieve more. The magical route to success is when opportunity comes in contact with appropriate and adequate preparation supported by strategic positioning. Success is not a product of parading a cup of emptiness soliciting for drops of sympathy; for those who drop in the sympathy, tend to exact their pound of flesh when you least expected.

I have no iota of doubt that the preparation you have received in this University has been both appropriate and adequate but how you position yourself to take advantage of opportunities in your environment must not

be under-estimated. Striking the right balance between your ability and willingness must well be a light unto your career aspiration and a lamp unto the leadership profile you build for yourself. Organisations today are looking for people who have the right mix of ability and willingness. What is the use of a person who has all the abilities but lacks the willingness and attitude to apply same to put their organisation and society on a better pedestal?

Ladies and gentlemen, expectant graduands, Even if you have all the knowledge required for success and everyone can aptly describe you as a walking encyclopedia of information, with the best education and experience but lack integrity, leadership and strategic direction, all the attributes ascribed to you will be of little or no use for society and will only be dumped in the bin of “good – for – nothings.”

It is not an exaggeration to say that growth and comfort cannot be bed fellows. Growth is associated with executive maturity, ability to soak pressure from several angles, thinking on your feet, going the extra mile sometimes making unpopular but needed decisions and building your personal brand for glorious and timeless outcomes.

On the other hand, when you continue to live in your comfort zone, to celebrate “enough”, you will sow complacency and harvest extinction. The decision becomes yours; growth or comfort? Step out, be agile and stand out in your career and society, not as a sore thumb but as a beacon of hope for all. For as Charles Darwin, a naturalist, puts it, “It is not the strongest of the species that survive nor the most intelligent, but rather the one most adaptable to change”. There are many who have similar or even better profiles as you do so until you cultivate the attitude of positive visibility and readiness to adapt to change, you may not go far.

Ladies and gentlemen, being adaptable to change in my honest view is deciding not to live in your past glories, trumpeting your actions of yesteryears. Those who have gone that path have built their future castles in the air and only God knows what ladder can support them to enjoy those illusive castles. After your degrees and titles have been conferred on you

today, they soon will join the myriad of past glories you may have in your closets; what will matter to yourself and society at large will be the application of these academic laurels and titles so conferred on you to the realities of life more meaningfully. After all, your history will never be written without your titles, but your best story should be the unending one, telling how you have impacted society.

Though in recent times, the cliché “thinking outside the box” has become the way to go, I dare say that your sense of creativity and innovation should not confine you to only focus on finding all answers outside the box – sometimes it pays to think both within and outside the box. In essence, it is important that in taking your career and life decisions, you explore all possibilities and potential influencers before arriving at conclusions without ignoring what at first instance may not present itself in a manner that seems to meet expectation. Sometimes the solutions to our challenges lie within us. However more often than not, we are quick to look for solutions where they do not exist for the sake of “thinking outside the box”. Nobody has the responsibility to make you relevant but yourself, so create your relevance. The truth is that what you intensely think about consciously or unconsciously becomes what you get as your reality. Absorb your environment as much as a sponge would if it came into contact with water so you can have command over your circumstances.

After acquiring academic laurels, everyone feverishly seeks for what is termed “big positions”. Unfortunately, in their quest to seek for whatever these “big positions” are they do not realise that no such position is like a fruit hanging on a tree ready to be plucked by passers-by, but it is the totality of humble beginnings of diligent and efficient execution of little jobs that propels a person to occupy the so called “big position”. It cannot be attained by sudden flight. Your readiness to learn at the feet of the “big position” holders you admire will give you a sound footing to achieve your dream. Luckily, you are blessed to be surrounded by many of such big position holders. Ask them and they will tell you that you can never be a serious competitor to anyone for a job if your mantra is “this is not in my job description.”

Ladies and gentlemen, as you hit the job market, some of you will have initial difficulties securing jobs. As university graduates, you have been trained to be innovative, have business acumen, be independent and self-sufficient. Therefore, start thinking of how you can set up your own businesses by falling back on the knowledge you have acquired here. If half of you here are able to create your own businesses and employ others, you will reduce the graduate unemployment figures in the country by several hundreds.

Before I take my seat, I want our graduands to also remember this: the race will not always be for the swift but for those with positive and open minds. However, any attempt or effort by one to open another person's closed mind will yield no gains. The only person who holds the key to the door of the closed mind is the owner of that mind. Have an open mind and do away with puffed up ego, parochial thinking and the deceptive imagination that you have a weakness that cannot be corrected. Let the occasion today be the key to open that closed mind.

I wish you all the best as the next phase of your lives unfold.

Thank you very much for your attention.

**VALEDICTORY ADDRESS DELIVERED BY
MR. FREDERICK BOAMAH**

Members of Council representing the Chancellor
Members of the University Council
Vice-Chancellor
Pro-Vice-Chancellors
Registrar
Chair and Members of the College Advisory Board
Provosts, Deans and Directors
Distinguished Guest Speaker
Members of Convocation
Staff and Students
Alumni
Parents and Guardians
Invited Guests
Members of the Press Corps
Fellow graduands
Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen

Good afternoon.

A big thank you to everyone present for making time to join us at this graduation ceremony. I have every reason to believe that today will be a success because you made the decision to be present. Today I feel proud, very excited and most importantly humbled and it feels good because we made it and I get to share the journey of my year group as adult learners.

For many of us, embarking on a journey in pursuit of academic laurels has had enormous implications. It required numerous sacrifices not only from our family, friends, colleagues but ourselves. Many of us have lost loved

ones and many years of friendship because we could not afford to commit our time and other resources to the numerous social activities we were invited to. Today, thankfully, we have reached the end of the journey and we are looking forward to making up for all our lapses. I congratulate you my colleagues for the endurance and perseverance shown throughout the duration of our study. We all know this journey was really tough but we should take pride in the knowledge we have gained by embarking on this journey.

Taking the decision to undertake postgraduate studies is a big decision for any prospective candidate. Once enrolled, you get confronted with many uncomfortable deadlines from your supervisors. The stressors, as I call them, from the demands of academic work, gave many of us moments where we questioned our decision to pursue further studies. Some of our colleagues who could not find enough time and reasons to continue with the programme dropped off along the line or sought additional time to reorganize themselves.

Life on campus was exhausting mentally, financially, emotionally and socially. The financial and mental exhaustion gets to its peak when you have to undertake a PhD or an MPhil programme, which are research loaded, with little or no funding grant.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, we all know that a good PhD is about high quality research which produces knowledge that is applicable and relevant to the needs of society. Quality research can support societies, especially, highly volatile ones like ours to be prepared for the future. Yet conducting research is very expensive and mostly unbearable for many PhD candidates if it has to be financed from personal sources.

Member of Council, distinguished ladies and gentlemen, our humble

appeal is simple, we cannot continue to pay lip service to addressing the funding grant challenges for producing quality research if we want to be recognized as a world-class University. If academia must contribute in a meaningful way to our societies, it must be premised on its contributions to quality research.

We must be supported to produce credible research that looks at our unique requirements or helps to find practical yet sustainable solutions to our problems. The world around us is advancing quickly with cutting-edge research; our counterparts elsewhere are moving into the fourth industrial revolution with artificial intelligence (AI) and robotics propelling their advancement. We need to catch up quickly or be captives of a new kind of slavery. A seat around the table can only be secured if we invest in research. I am happy to note that, the University of Ghana, is spearheading innovations and committing resources towards improving the research environment on campus.

Life as a graduate researcher has been eye-opening as it gave my colleagues and I the opportunity to meet some very intelligent respondents who clearly understood the issues, knew how to handle them within their context but were helpless and constrained by many other factors beyond their control.

Life as a graduate student conducting research can be very exciting when you meet local folks who hold so much indigenous knowledge that is relevant to our context, yet there is very little opportunity in the formal settings to utilize indigenous information in shaping policy discourse. However it gets frustrating when we are not funding research enough to prepare our societies for the challenges/opportunities of the future. If we are to advance as a society and a continent, we need to trust national capacity for solutions that are tailor-made to our local context and conditions.

The opportunity to study again, gave me a deeper understanding of the true meaning and demands for academia, policy makers and industry to engage in a more progressive way to fashion solutions that are home-

grown and fit into our development context as a people.

Chancellor, members of the University Council, distinguished guests, I make the humble plea that we must work together to achieve productive partnerships that responds to our unique needs and aspirations as a nation and a continent.

Today, as I recall some of the positive and not so positive experiences, I feel extremely proud that my colleagues and I have survived this journey.

To the many people who have helped us on this journey; we are grateful. We can see further today because of your support and this is the reason why I cannot conclude without extending our deepest appreciation to;

- All of you gathered here today to celebrate with us.
- To the Community of teaching and non-teaching staff at the University of Ghana, we are indeed grateful.
- Our parents, spouses, children and the wider family, we say thank you for supporting us through this journey. It would not have been possible without your support.
- To the ever faithful pillar in our lives, Our Lord and personal saviour, thank you.

Thank you all for your kind attention and enjoy the rest of the day.

**CLOSING ADDRESS BY CHANCELLOR
(REPRESENTED BY PROF. BAFFOUR AGYEMAN-DUAH,
MEMBER OF COUNCIL)**

Members of the University Council
Vice-Chancellor
Guest Speaker
Members of the Advisory Board of the College of Humanities
Members of Convocation
Staff and Students
Fresh Graduates
Invited Guests
Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen

As we end this ceremony, I would like to salute all of you who have worked so hard under the guidance of Management to ensure that we have a very successful event especially those who played a variety of roles in the planning and organization of this afternoon's ceremony. Our new graduates have also worked hard as stated earlier over the long period as students of this University and they deserve all the laurels for what they have acquired over the years. You have been part of the changes that have taken place at this University and we look forward to receiving some of you back very soon as faculty, graduate students or administrators to spearhead the University's drive to become a first-class University.

The University is also grateful to all the teachers, faculty, the management team and managers of the various units who have worked hard together to ensure that your stay in the University has been very fruitful. The University appreciates the efforts that everyone has put in this enterprise. We are delighted that so many parents, guardians, family and friends were able to join us in this celebration.

Our new graduates, you have all worked hard during the time you have been students at this university and you deserve the laurels that you have acquired. Never forget however that you are a special group of Ghanaians

as you step out today into the world with your University of Ghana degree in your hands; a degree from the premier University of Ghana, I mean.

I wish to assure you that University of Ghana is the most prestigious highly ranked University in Ghana. You must therefore hold your heads up high as you have graduated with knowledge and skills which are essential to the development of mother Ghana. You are expected to make every effort to excel in this regard. Remember, "to whom much is given, much is expected".

Ghana is waiting to feel your impact in the field of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. I exhort you to build on what you have acquired. Take hold of every opportunity and shine like the brightest star in the universe.

While congratulating you on your achievement, I urge you as well to be worthy ambassadors of your alma mater. The more you excel in the world of work, the more you bring glory to the University of Ghana. I am recruiting you to be part of the brigade dedicated in achievement in whatever station you find yourself to uplift the image of this university in order to improve our global ranking in the academic world.

I also expect you to maintain your link with the university and be ardent members of the Alumni Association in order to foster a mutually beneficial relationship.

I wish you every success in your future endeavours.

