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**COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES
(UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMMES)
PROCEEDINGS OF CONGREGATION
JULY 19, 2019**

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ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

Friday, July 19, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.

Procession

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

National Anthem

Welcome/Declaration of Purpose: Prof. Yaw Twumasi,
Chairman of Council

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

Congregation Speaker: Mr. Andy Mensah

Valedictory Address: Mr. Dennis Siayor

Conferment of Degrees:
Presentation of graduands from the College of Humanities

- BSc

Chairman of Council 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. YAW TWUMASI,
CHAIRMAN 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
Graduands
Invited Guests
Members of the Press Corps
Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen

I have the greatest pleasure in welcoming you all warmly to this morning'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 morning'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, so I now invite the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ebenezer Oduro Owusu to present his report to the Congregation.

Thank you very much.

**VICE-CHANCELLOR'S ADDRESS BY
PROF. EBENEZER ODURO OWUSU**

Chairman and Members of Council
Pro-Vice-Chancellors
Registrar
Provosts, Deans, Directors, Heads of Department
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 morning!

It is my pleasure to welcome you all to the second 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 ceremony is dedicated to students of the College of Humanities. A total of 1,100 students are graduating this morning.

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 endeavor 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
MR. ANDY MENSAH**

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

Words failed me to express how I feel, standing before you as the guest speaker, on this auspicious occasion of such huge milestones in the lives of the graduands, parents, faculty, and distinguished invited guests gathered here today. I never saw this coming and I am very grateful to the University of Ghana for giving me such an honour. However, the task given me is also my challenge, and I have been thinking of what to tell this congregation. To be honest, I do not remember what the guest speaker said during my graduation some 17 years ago, and therein lies my challenge, to say a few words that would resonate with you as you finally step out of this great institution as a graduate, words that I sincerely hope would inspire some of you, would engender belief in others as well as give the needed oomph to face the challenges that will come your way.

I do hope the lessons from my experiences these past years, would help give you some guidance as you consider what life will throw at you as you step out into the world.

You are responsible for your own success – it does not matter what success means to you, however you define success, from now on, you cannot blame anyone for your future or for how you end up. You have achieved what most struggle for, you have attained what many are still home striving and



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



**Prof. Yaw Twumasi, Chairman of Council
delivering the Opening Address**



Prof. Ebenezer Oduro Owusu, Vice-Chancellor, delivering the Vice-Chancellor's Address



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.



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



**Mr. Andy Mensah delivering the
Guest Speaker's Address**



**Mr. Dennis Siayor, delivering the
Valedictory Speech**



Graduands at the Congregation ceremony



Parents, guardians and invited guests at the ceremony

praying to have – a university degree. This should be your launching pad to success; you can be anything you want to be from now on. Your minds have been opened, you have been trained– it is now time to explore the world. Do not be boxed in the degree you are graduating with, learn more, continuously develop yourself, learn a trade, read a book, by all means do something with your life positively, never waste a day. Have a mentor to guide you, build networks of good people who can influence your life positively, people who can call you and say to you, stop that and you would stop.

Have a purpose – You must have an aim by now, you should know what you want to be by now. It is sad when you meet a graduate looking for a job, and they tell you “I can do anything”. I don't believe it is the right attitude – you must have a target career or occupation, and all you do from now on is just to attain that. You might not get there straight away, but you know you are on a journey towards that. If you do not know where you are going, you may enter into any car at the lorry station – when that happens, your destination is in the hands of the driver, he takes you where he is going, not where you want to go. You must drive your own life's career, do not let anyone decide this for you. You must be the driver of your destiny. You must have something that makes you wake up every morning. Let no one who says it cannot be done stop you from doing it. Believe in yourself.

Do not compare yourself to others. Yes you are all graduating together, you may all have sat in the same class, you may all be first class students...but you are not the same. In a few years time you may meet some mates, doing well, and you may not have gotten to where you want to be. Our paths to greatness or success are not the same, discover your path, work hard towards it, when friends are successful be happy for them, but never let someone's success make you look down on yourself. The fact is that others wish they were where you are. Keep your focus, believe in yourself, as long as you are on your track to greatness, never waver.

Do not look for money – seek to provide value. There are many graduates who set their minds on making money. From my experience those who only want money settle for any job that gives them money and in the end

they are not fulfilled. The truth is, money does not lead to ultimate satisfaction. When you create value for an organization, they reciprocate by rewarding you. In doing what you love to do, you become more fulfilled. Sometimes you actually have companies competing for you, because you deliver value they cherish and are willing to pay for.

Remember you are not a finished product, do not overrate yourself, be humble, ready to learn, to be someone's apprentice, to learn the ropes of the job, this builds you up when you have a bigger role.

Be honest – integrity and good character have great reward. There are so many people looking to cut corners, looking for the short cuts, cutting deals with suppliers and vendors, etc, but all these people never get to bed to rest, they actually sleep with an eye opened. There is nothing better than the feeling of having worked honestly and being paid for it. Companies these days also reward honesty. Be a worker who gets to the office on time, actually works and not just shows up.

When you work, do your best. There are many people walking around today, who have worked many years but still very unfulfilled, they go to work because they have to, not because they love what they do. They do not give their best, thinking its not for them. They do not help to create a company culture and are not missed when they do not come to work.

You are ambassadors of UG, we will not like to hear of any of you on the front page of the newspapers, having done something wayward. We hear of all the things happening in our country, I pray that you will be the generation that takes us out of the woods to be like the countries we wished Ghana was.

You will fail a few times but you know what, failing does not make you a failure, when you believe you are a failure, that is when you fail. When you repeat the same mistake, that is when you are a failure. What I will tell you is to fail fast, by that I mean when you fail, learn from it and move on. The experience you gain from failure is worth much more than what any lecture or training programme gives you. Tell yourself, this is not failure and try

again. You may attend an interview, they will make you feel useless...but do you come out telling yourself you are useless? No way – go back, correct your mistakes and put in another application elsewhere. Have a growth mindset – everything is possible with a lot of practice.

Never be afraid to start low – You will not get what you aim at straight away, some may get it, others may not. As I said in the beginning, the main thing is to start off with a purpose, a goal. As long as you do not lose sight of the goal, it doesn't matter where life takes you, or the disappointments that comes your way, you still hold on to that vision, that dream of becoming the next big thing in Ghana. Sometimes this will mean taking a low grade job, a pay cut, or even moving to an area you think does not offer much – I tell you, I have been through all that. But in those moments, my decisions were based on what that path could lead me to. Life, or the path to success is not a straight course, there will be dips, lows and highs, happy and sad times, but look at the bigger picture, ask yourself – will this low paying job lead me to my dream job? Will this path ultimately lead me to the dream?

Be innovative and take the initiative – You are in an age where almost everything is possible. Technology has made things easy and better, you have the world in your hands, you are able to connect with anyone anywhere in the world – take advantage of these opportunities. Think and dream. No one will give you lecture notes again, you have to find the ways yourself. Have a world view of issues, your competition is not only against Ghanaians, but the world, you must be at your best to compete. Be a continuous learner.

Love God, Honour your parents – I believe strongly in all the things I have shared, but I also know, without God I wouldn't be where I am today. There are people who have come my way, favours I have received, that I can only explain as the doing of the Lord. I do not believe in chance – I believe in the grace of God. When God's hand is upon you, it doesn't matter how long you stay in the wilderness, He will bring you to the promised land. The horse is prepared for the day of battle, but victory is of the Lord – trust in God for every aspect of your life.

I also want to say, do not neglect your parents, no matter how far you go in

life, continue to honour them, had it not been for them, you may not have been here today, being awarded a degree. Seek their blessings in the major decisions of your life, respect them and you will never regret it.

I would like to bring my address to an end by charging you all with a quote I saw...“cowardice asks the question - is it safe? expediency asks the question - is it politic? vanity asks the question - is it popular? but conscience asks the question - is it right? There comes a time when one must take a position that is neither safe, nor politic, nor popular; but because it is right” Martin Luther King.

Be ‘upstanders’, not ‘bystanders’, be problem solvers not complainers, speak against evil, be the best you can be, be nice to all you meet, work to make our country, Africa and the world better than it is. You will make yourself proud, make your parents proud and the world would be better because you passed through.

God richly bless you all.

**VALEDICTORY ADDRESS DELIVERED BY
MR. DENNIS SIAYOR**

Chairman of the Council representing the Chancellor
Members of Council
Vice-Chancellor
Pro-Vice Chancellors
Registrar
Provosts
Distinguished Guest Speaker
Chairman and Members of the Advisory Board of the College of
Humanities
Members of Convocation
Staff
Alumni
Invited Guests
Parents and Guardians
Fellow graduands
Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen

It is truly an honour to stand before you as the valedictorian for the Bachelor of Science in Administration class of 2019.

Osagyefo Dr. Kwame Nkrumah once said, “those who judge us merely by the heights we have achieved would do well to remember the depths from which we started”. I believe this statement represents us very well because most of us started from the bottom and now we are here.

Four years ago, we stepped into a journey that was meant to play a vital role in our lives. Although most of us may have anticipated life as university students, some of us were anxious, and others were frightened by the journey that lay ahead of us. We had heard stories about university life but did not have the faintest idea of what or what not to expect. We had

questions but did not know who or where to find the answers. For some of us, the university journey was merely a continuation of education. For others, this was a whole new beginning. A few of us gave up, a few fell off the wagon, but many of us are here today.

In our time here, we were privileged to gain practical knowledge and learnt a lot of valuable lessons from lecturers, friends and many others through academic assignments, social activities and others' experiences – with some of the most important lessons learnt outside the lecture halls. These lessons and experiences have shaped us into what we are now. Today we step out refined and prepared to meet the challenges of this dynamic world, hoping to make an impact and make it a better place.

Oh yes! as the famous Latin quote goes: 'we came, we saw, and we conquered.'

However, remember that as conquerors, we cannot climb the ladder of success without specific skills or knowledge in our chosen field or industry. If it were not so, Shatta Wale would have been the Speaker of Parliament, and probably a university Professor would have been a dancehall artiste. It is almost impossible to succeed in this competitive world without skills, and the skill of doing something is acquired by doing it. So, you must get your hands dirty. Have a purpose, vision and defy all odds, just like Patapaa, to pursue whatever you believe you are skillful at doing.

Each of us is born with a unique set of characteristics that differentiates us from others. Some of us may not excel in academia but may probably be better off in music, an art or a craft. Whichever be the case, we have now learnt that it is our sole responsibility to identify that one thing that lightens up our face, gives us an adrenaline rush and makes us feel a sense of purpose. The unfortunate thing, yet inspiring, about life after school is that there is no curriculum or order for doing things. You choose what to do at any point in time. For this reason, you must immerse yourself in your work and dedicate your life to mastering your skills. That, ladies and gentlemen, is the secret of success.

As we exit this noble institution, we have the conviction that there will be challenges, but challenges exist to teach us. Embrace the struggle because there is beauty in success. Our last few weeks here were blurry ones. It happened so fast. The time passed quickly, with most of us drowning in long essays, past questions, emails and text messages as the night candle burnt out. We withdrew from many social media platforms such as Facebook and faced our books fully. The outcome is what we are witnessing today. Here we are holding the batons of victory from this marathon we so graciously run. No matter which speed or grade point we crossed this finish line with, we all crossed it earnestly.

However, this would not have been possible without the motivation and support of our parents and guardians. Shall we all appreciate them with a round of applause! Without you, we would not be where we are today. In our highest moments, you jubilated with us, and in our lowest moments, you held our hands to keep us from falling or giving up. To our lecturers and administrators, you pushed us far beyond our capabilities to enable us to become the best and refined version of ourselves today. For that, we say a big thank you to you. To each of us Class of 2019 sitting here today, we evolved from total strangers into one big family to support each other to this very day and hope to extend this bond outside. Also, we cannot forget the technology inventors of our time – such as Larry Tesler, the man who invented copy and paste and Bernard Satia, the brain behind mobile money – who helped our social, economic and academic journeys by making life relatively more comfortable for us. Ultimately, we also give thanks to the Almighty God for starting this journey with us and bringing it to a perfect end today, though we know He is not finished with us yet.

Ladies and gentlemen, I would like to end with a quote by the late American entrepreneur and the founder of Apple, Steve Jobs. In his words: “The people who are crazy enough to think they can change the world are the ones who do”. Your time is limited, so do not waste it living someone else's life. Do not be trapped by dogma – which is living with the results of other people's thinking. Do not let the noise of other's opinions drown your

inner voice. Most importantly, have the courage to follow your heart and intuition.”

Congratulations, Class of 2019. Ayekoo.

Thank you.

**CLOSING ADDRESS BY CHANCELLOR
(REPRESENTED BY PROF. YAW TWUMASI,
CHAIRMAN 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 come to the end of this ceremony, I would like to thank all of you who have worked so hard to ensure that we have a very successful event, especially those who played a variety of roles in the planning and organization of this morning'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.

I congratulate you all on your achievements and urge you to be worthy ambassadors of your alma mater, wherever you may be and wherever you may find yourselves. This year, as we climax the 70th anniversary celebration of the University with an Alumni Home Coming from 9th to 11th August, 2019, I hope that the fresh alumni who have just graduated will participate to the fullest in these and show what they have achieved over the years. The invitation also goes to all University of Ghana alumni gathered here who are parents and well-wishers and friends of the 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 had 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.

To our guest speaker for today, our invited guest, alumni, and friends of the University, let me assure you that we appreciate your presence and participation in this ceremony. I hope and pray that your journey back home would be as safe and pleasant as the outward journey of this ceremony. Thank you all very much for coming.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, it is now my privilege and duty to declare today's congregation officially dissolved, thank you for your attention.

