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**COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES
(UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMMES)
PROCEEDINGS OF CONGREGATION
NOVEMBER 15,16 & 17, 2018**

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ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, November 15, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.

Procession

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

National Anthem

Welcome/Declaration of Purpose: Mrs. Mary Chinery-Hesse,
Chancellor

Vice-Chancellor's Address: Prof. Ebenezer Oduro Owusu
Vice-Chancellor

Congregation Speaker: Mrs. Omodele Elizabeth
Olympio-Emanuel

Valedictory Address: Mr. Nathaniel Ocquaye

Conferment of degrees:

Presentation of graduands from the College of Humanities

· BA

Chancellor dissolves Congregation

University Anthem

Recession

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

ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

Friday, November 16, 2018 at 2:00 p.m.

Procession

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

National Anthem

Welcome/Declaration of Purpose: Mr. Reindorf Baah Perbi, Member,
University Council
(Representing Chancellor)

Vice-Chancellor's Address: Prof. Kwame Offei,
Pro-Vice-Chancellor,
Academic and Student Affairs

Congregation Speaker: Mr. Elikem Nutifafa Kuenyehia

Valedictory Address: Mr. Jackson Kwame Gyamfi

Conferment of degrees:

Presentation of graduands from the College of Humanities

- BA

Mr. Reindorf Baah Perbi, Member, University Council
(Representing Chancellor) dissolves Congregation

University Anthem

Recession

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

ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

Saturday, November 17, 2018 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, University Council
(Representing Chancellor)

Vice-Chancellor's Address: Prof. Ebenezer Oduro Owusu
Vice-Chancellor

Congregation Speaker: Mr. Henry Baye

Valedictory Address: Mr. Daniel Amoako Glah

Conferment of degrees:

Presentation of graduands from the College of Humanities

· LLB · BFA · BA

Prof. Baffour Agyeman-Duah, Member, University Council
(Representing Chancellor) dissolves Congregation

University Anthem

Recession

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

**OPENING ADDRESS BY MRS. MARY CHINERY-HESSE,
CHANCELLOR
(THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2018)**

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

It is my pleasure to be here at Legon for the November Congregation Ceremonies, for the first time as Chancellor of the University of Ghana to confer degrees on students graduating from this noble and great University as prescribed by the University of Ghana Act 2010, Act 806. Ladies and Gentlemen, I want to remind you, that you are participating in a unique event; This is the very first time that congregations at the University of Ghana has been convened by the authority of a female Chancellor in its 70 years of existence. Indeed, I want to tell you that, you have literally written yourself into history. I challenge you to congratulate yourself again with a clap offering.

Congregation ceremonies are very important to the University because of the opportunity they afford us to reflect on how well we are discharging our responsibility of providing the needed academic services and corporate support to ensure that the students graduate and on time. Management of the

University remains committed to improving upon the graduation rates and student satisfaction and undertake to continue to do all in its power to provide students with a memorable student experience.

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

Graduands, not many years ago, you were chosen among your school mates and admitted to this prestigious University. To have successfully completed your study is indeed an achievement because not all of those you started the course with are here graduating. I hope that on this very important occasion, you will take stock of what you have achieved and make a conscious decision to let your experiences count in your future endeavors. I want to assure you that, we share in your joy on the successful completion of your programs of study and we are very proud of you.

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, it is my pleasure to declare this morning'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 over the last academic year. I now have the pleasure to call on the Vice-Chancellor, Prof Ebenezer Oduro Owusu to present his report.

**OPENING ADDRESS BY CHANCELLOR
REPRESENTED BY MR. REINDORF BAAH PERBI,
MEMBER OF COUNCIL (FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2018)**

Members of University 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 the Chancellor of the University, Mrs. Mary Chinery-Hesse, I welcome you all warmly to this afternoon's ceremony. I also extend Mrs. Mary Chinery-Hesse greetings and best wishes to all of you gathered here on this important occasion. As the Registrar indicated Madam Chancellor attended the morning session during this November congregation ceremonies. She has requested me to stand in for this afternoon's session.

My duty here is to confer degrees on students graduating from the noble and great University we know as prescribed by the University of Ghana Act 2010, Act 806. Ladies and Gentlemen, I want to remind you, that you are truly participants in a unique event; This is the very first time that a congregation at the University of Ghana has been convened by the authority of a female Chancellor in its 70 years of existence. Indeed, I want to tell you that, you have literally written yourself into history. I challenge you to congratulate yourself again with a clap offering.

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**OPENING ADDRESS BY CHANCELLOR
REPRESENTED BY PROF. BAFFOUR AGYEMAN-DUAH,
MEMBER OF COUNCIL (SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2018)**

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

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**VICE-CHANCELLOR'S ADDRESS: NOVEMBER 2018
CONGREGATION CEREMONIES**

Chancellor;
Members of the University Council;
Pro-Vice-Chancellors;
Registrar;
Chair and Members of the College Advisory Boards;
Provosts, Deans and Directors;
Guest Speaker;
Members of Convocation;
Staff and Students;
Niimej, Naamej, Nananom;
Alumni;
Graduands;
Parents and Guardians;
Invited Guests;
Members of the Press Corps;
Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen;

WELCOME

It is a great privilege and pleasure to welcome you all once again to the University of Ghana campus for the November, 2018, Congregation ceremonies. Let me crave your indulgence to extend a special welcome to our Chancellor, Mrs. Mary Chinery-Hesse, who is presiding over Congregation for the very first time since assuming office as Chancellor of the University of Ghana on 1st August, 2018.

As you may already be aware, Mrs. Mary Chinery-Hesse took over from Mr. Kofi Annan, who sadly passed on barely two weeks after successfully ending his tenure as Chancellor.

While wishing our new Chancellor the very best in her new role, permit me to once again pay glowing tribute to the late Mr. Kofi Annan for his immense contributions to the growth and development of the University of Ghana,

Ghana, Africa and indeed to humanity in general. May his gentle soul rest in peace.

Madam Chancellor, the November, 2018, Congregation ceremonies will witness the graduation of the second batch of students who completed their respective programmes of study in the University during the 2017/2018 academic year. The first batch graduated last July 2018, and a third batch, made up mainly of Distance Education students, will graduate in April 2019. A total of 4,908 students will be graduating at various levels from the four Colleges of the University, in six (6) sessions over the next three (3) days. This is made up of: 31 PhDs; 1,774 Masters; 3,060 Undergraduates and 51 Diplomas. This will bring the total number of students who graduated from the University in the 2017/2018 academic year to 8,092.

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 would 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

Admissions

Our student population is diverse in nature. I am happy to note that for the 2018/2019 academic year, out of the number admitted, 11,216 students have registered for programmes on all our campuses. This number is made up of 5,828 male students and 5,388 female students. These numbers include 306 international/visiting students of various nationalities across the world. The total number also reflects the overall admission ratio of 51:49 for males and females, suggesting a quantum leap from the ratio for male and female students of 60:40 some few years back. It is worthy of note, judging from the admission figures, that the University is on the verge of attaining the strategic objective of a 50:50 ratio in male and female enrollment.

The University has continued with concessionary admission policies of giving the opportunity for university education to applicants through:

- The Affirmative Action Policy for female applicants;
- The admission of applicants from Less Endowed Schools;
- The Admission of Student Athletes; and
- The Admission of Students with Special Needs.

New Programmes and Courses

1. 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.
2. The Academic Board has also approved revisions to some programmes, including:
 - Doctor of Veterinary Medicine;
 - Bachelor of Science;
 - Master of Science, and Master of Philosophy programmes in Nursing and Midwifery.

The new courses will be made available once they receive assent by the National Accreditation Board.

3. 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, internationalisation, growth, research and grants, community service, academic matters, future outlook, information resources and finance. Meetings were held with university management, faculty and staff, as well as with students. Management of the University is committed to implementing the recommendations from the review, which will enable us to improve on our efforts at providing high quality teaching, learning, and research experience for our students and employees.

Review of Collegiate System

Madam Chancellor, 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 more important administrative functions. Four years after the adoption of the system, a panel has been set up to review the collegiate system.

The remit of the panel is to:

- Review 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 the University of Ghana, Professor Akilagpa Sawyerr, is working to 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. I wish to briefly enumerate some of the achievements of the Strategic Teams so far:

a. The Independent Power Supply Team:

Madam Chancellor, in line with the transformational agenda of becoming a world-class research-intensive university, UG is vigorously putting in measures to create an environment where staff, students and visitors can undertake their activities safely at all times. During the period under review, Management continued its efforts at improving security and safety on campus by increasing the lightening system. Under the auspices of the Independent Power Supply Team, the refurbishment of streetlights along major streets of the University of Ghana has been completed by Prefos Ghana Limited in collaboration with the Electricity Company of Ghana (ECG). This project has enhanced security and safety on the main campus.

In an effort to ensure efficient use of energy, the Independent Power Supply Team, in collaboration with the Electricity Company of Ghana, has installed a net meter at the Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research, which provides data on the amount of energy produced by the solar plant, how much is 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 to October 2018 indicates that a substantial amount of excess power has been pumped from the solar cell facility at Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research into the University system.

In addition, 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 bills paid directly by residents and commercial tenants of the University.

As part of efforts to complete the University Stadium, the Team is exploring the possibility of roof top solar or solar car ports as the energy sources for the facility. The Ministries of Youth & Sports, and Energy have officially endorsed the main project, and we are hoping to finalize the inclusion of solar as part of the stadium roof.

I wish to take this opportunity to extend my sincere gratitude to the Ministers of Energy, Finance, Education, Youth and Sports, and the Managing Director of the Electricity Company of Ghana (ECG) for endorsing our initiative to migrate onto 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 University's Independent Power Supply Team.

b. Green Team:

Madam Chancellor, a Green Team has been constituted as part of the strategic directions of the University, whose mandate is:

- to create an environment that is green and healthy to provide the needed congenial atmosphere for teaching and learning;
- to re-design our grounds to ensure that there are enough trees and green coverage; and
- to develop and complete a waste disposal system that will rely on separation of waste, to serve as a model for Ghana.

During the July Congregation, I announced that the Green Project Committee and the PDMSD are supporting two student groups, Recycle Up! Ghana and CIYZOE-Legon to implement the University of Ghana Plastic Recycling Project

(UGPRP). Today, I am very excited to say that, the University of Ghana Plastic Recycling Project commenced at the beginning of the 2018/2019 academic year.

The University of Ghana Plastic Recycling Project (UGPRP) aims at institutionalising the culture of source segregation of waste among members of the university community. Facilities for segregating plastic bottles and empty water sachets have been provided in the halls of residence for use by the students. Arrangements have also been made for regular collection of the material and transfer to recycling facilities off-campus. Some of these collected plastics are used for pavement blocks, stitched into bags and also for export.

Within nine weeks of implementation, 8 metric tons of water sachets and plastic bottles have been collected, thus saving the landfill. It is expected that the project will be up-scaled to the other sections of the main campus and the satellite campuses.

I take this opportunity to entreat our graduating students to embrace this culture, and replicate it wherever you find yourselves.

c. Institutional Advancement Team:

The Institutional Advancement Team successfully spearheaded the launch of the UG Endowment Fund in May, 2018, as part of activities to mark the 70th Anniversary of the founding of the University of Ghana.

The Endowment Fund is one of the University's strategies to deal with the challenge of diversifying sources of internally generated funds and to reduce the burden on students even as they make a fair contribution. There is, therefore, the need for a plan on funds mobilisation from many different sources. In the light of this, the University has dedicated the 70th anniversary as a fundraising effort towards the UG@70 Endowment Fund to support research and graduate studies, in line with our strategic objective of becoming a research intensive University.

Madam Chancellor, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, I am happy to report with appreciation that after the launch, the '93 Year Group of the University of Ghana Alumni has redeemed GHGH¢50,000.00 out of their pledge of GH¢ 100,000.00 to the UG@70 Endowment Fund. The University of Ghana Chapter of the University Teachers Association of Ghana (UTAG) has also donated GH¢ 120,000, while the Ghana Association of University Administrators (GAUA), University of Ghana Branch, has made a donation of GH¢ 50,000.00 to the Fund.

The University is grateful, and I take this opportunity to reach out to all stakeholders to contribute generously to the fund.

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. 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 utilised 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.

In furtherance of this, the Office of Research, Innovation and Development has been restructured into six (6) teams, namely:

1. Pre- and Post-Award Services,
2. Intellectual Property & Technology Transfer,
3. Capacity Development,
4. Human and Animal Research Ethics Services,
5. Research Performance
6. Publications, Dissemination & Translation.

The purpose of the restructuring is to better organise and coordinate the delivery of research support services across the university.

UG Research Grants

The 11th Call for Research Proposals sponsored by the UG Research Fund was announced on 21st February, 2018. A total of seventy-five (75) proposals were submitted in the three grant categories, out of which sixty (60) proposals were found to be eligible. After the review process, fourteen (14) proposals were selected to receive funding. The Office of Research, Innovation and Development is awaiting final documentation from the successful applicants to confirm the awards.

UG Conference Grants

From January 2018 to date, two (2) Calls for Applications have been announced for UG Conference Grants, which yielded a total of 66 applications with 33 submitted in each Call. 31 applicants received awards in the sum of US\$44,622.00

Agreements

Since January 2018, the Office of Research, Innovation and Development has facilitated the review and negotiation of a total of 53 research agreements/contracts on behalf of the University with a total value of US\$10,651,648.

Intellectual Property Committee Protection

The Committee reviewed the following documents prepared by the consulting firm, ETCube International, for the University:

- University of Ghana Technology Transfer Office Management Model.
- Strategies to enhance visibility of University of Ghana's Technology Transfer Office to Academia and Industry.

- IP protection and commercialization strategies for University of Ghana.

These documents have been developed to further deepen and enhance the university's intellectual property processes and procedures.

ORID has received two invention disclosures, which will be processed for review by the IPC at its next meeting, and filed 1 (one) patent application for a *smokeless and sustainable cook stove*. A national patent application was filed for the cook stove and the inventor has already identified an industry partner who has committed to supporting the pilot test of the cook stove in 4 (four) palm oil mills.

Partnerships/Collaborations

Partnerships are critical in the delivery of relevant and comprehensive knowledge and skill sets to learners in higher educational 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 continues to forge new institutional partnerships to promote research and the exchange of students and faculty with several institutions in North America, Europe, Asia, Australia and Latin America. New partnership agreements are currently underway and expected to be signed soon.

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 US\$2 million to the School over 10 years, provide a bus to convey students to the Centre as well as provide scholarship worth UD\$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 to

support the optimal exploration, delineation and development of Ghana's hydrocarbon resources. Under the agreement, GNPC will commit US\$1,000,000.00 (One Million US Dollars) to support the Chair.

The Mellon Foundation has agreed to fund two grant proposals in support of capacity building and faculty research in the Humanities, to the tune of 1.6 million US Dollars, while the German Federal Ministry for Education and Research (BMBF) has established a Merian Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of Ghana, to provide a hub for residency for research and advocacy on issues on sustainable governance in Africa.

Physical Development

Ladies and gentlemen, you will all agree with me that 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. The projects include:

- New classroom and office blocks for the School of Pharmacy,
- A multi-purpose block partly funded by GCB,
- The School of Arts building,
- The School of Performing Arts building
- A new block for Department of Earth Science,
- Asphaltic Overlay of selected roads on campus, and
- The UG Stadium.

We would like to express our gratitude to our local and foreign partners who have made contributions towards these projects. As a University, we will continue to prudently source for funds to complete these ongoing projects.

We also like to commend the Graduate Students' Association of Ghana (GRASAG-Legon) for sponsoring a number of projects on campus. 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.

ICT

Madam Chancellor, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen, the University has made significant 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 Learning Centres of the School of Continuing and Distance Education.

The University of Ghana Computing Systems (UGCS), in collaboration with the University Archives, has completed digitisation of several records. For the period under review, more than 455 items have been added to the University of Ghana Institutional Repository.

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 ICT infrastructure and services is currently ongoing. Security awareness bulletins are published weekly, aimed at bringing awareness to the community on how to secure University and personal data.

Initiative to install State-of-the-art CCTV System on University of Ghana Campus

Ladies and gentlemen, many decades ago, university campuses in Ghana including the University of Ghana, were regarded as safe havens, secluded from the violence and criminal activities of the outside world. Over time however, some criminal activities have occurred on the campuses, and these once peaceful environments have suffered a number of security breaches. The

increasing growth in student numbers and physical infrastructure over the decades has presented obvious security challenges.

Management is fully aware that security on campus cannot be adequately secured by relying solely on unarmed uniformed security personnel, and therefore, sees the need to consider alternative approaches to combating crime, and improving safety on campus. Initial assessments have been concluded, and a crime density map developed. On the basis of the crime density map the appropriate solution design has been formulated and costed. The design anticipates a future handshake with a nation-wide CCTV solution for National Security.

I am happy to report that plans are far advanced towards the deployment of state-of-the-art electronic surveillance system including Close-Circuit Television (CCTV) cameras at all locations on Campus. Already, the Public Procurement Authority (PPA) has granted UG the permission to engage Huawei Technologies (Ghana) S.A. Limited to provide CCTV solutions using single-source procurement method. The total cost of the project will be US\$4,169,586.41 (Four Million, One Hundred and Sixty-nine Thousand, Five Hundred and Eighty-six US dollars).

Due to funding constraints, implementation will be done in two phases with our immediate focus on the identified high crime areas, including the Balme Library area, student and staff residential areas, principal streets and the banking area. We will appreciate the support of our Alumni, stakeholders and partners and individuals in funding this laudable initiative.

Financial Reforms and Savings

Madam Chancellor, Management has resolved to build strong institutional systems and structures, which will stand the test of time, and lead UG into a prosperous future. I am pleased to inform you that following the restructuring of the Internal Audit Directorate and enforcement of fiscal disciplines in accordance with the financial reforms being implemented, the University has recorded savings of approximately GH¢ 2,122,000 (Two Million, One Hundred and Twenty-Two Thousand Ghana Cedis) during the 1st Semester of

the 2018/19 academic year. We propose that the savings made will be channeled into special monumental projects for the university, and labelled as such.

Madam Chancellor, let me use this opportunity to congratulate all colleagues who have carried the message of prudent use of financial resources so far, and have contributed in no small way to ensure that the university runs efficiently by cutting down costs and adhering strictly to the value-for-money culture. It is our intention to intensify the reforms and secure a buy-in by requesting Heads of Units to submit periodic reports on what they are doing to achieve savings and

how much they have saved. This, we believe, will make them own the savings culture.

In a bid to institutionalize and strengthen the structures to sustain the financial reforms, and enhance visibility, a number of policies, and initiatives have been developed recently, namely:

- i. Internal Audit Charter.
- ii. Constitution of the Audit Committee.
- iii. UG Branding strategies: Branding Manual, Marketing Communications Policy, and Customer Service Policy.
- iv. Risk Management Policy.
- v. Restructuring of the Internal Audit Directorate.
- vi. Restructuring of Finance Directorate. The report of the Audit committee is out, and will be placed before Council soon.
- vii. Restructuring of the Procurement Unit to a Logistics Directorate. Already, two sensitization seminars have been held as part of the implementation processes.

- viii. Adoption of International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS).
- ix. Crisis Communication Team.

I wish to take this opportunity to appeal to all employees, students and other internal and external stakeholders of the University to embrace the implementation of these reforms to ensure that, together, we make judicious use of our financial and other resources to promote efficiency as we march towards becoming a world-class research-intensive University. As is natural with human societies, there are bound to be agents who will surely resist the wind of changes currently taking place. I appeal to such agents to come on board with transformed hearts and minds, in the interest of the future of this great institution, which is undoubtedly, a huge national asset and heritage.

Financial Aid to Students

Ladies and gentlemen, the Students Financial Aid Office (SFAO) has the mission of minimizing the financial barriers that would prevent brilliant but needy students from having access to studying at the University of Ghana. Donations to support needy students grew from approximately One Million, One Hundred Thousand Ghana Cedis (GH¢ 1,100,000.00) in 2016/2017 to approximately Three Million Ghana Cedis (GH¢ 3,000,000.00) in the 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 represents 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 donors for their regular support towards the reduction of the financial constraints of our needy students and we encourage other individuals and corporate bodies to come on board to support us in this venture.

Sporting Activities

The University of Ghana Sports Fund (UG SPORT FUND) is an initiative to motivate and support talented but 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 so far enabled the Sports Directorate to sponsor 4 female students and 16 male students.

The UG policy for admission of athlete students with the acronym UG-PAAS which we introduced a few years ago, has yielded significant positive results. I am pleased to note that the University of Ghana team excelled at the just ended West Africa University Games held at the University of Port Harcourt, Nigeria, and returned to Ghana with a record number of medals in various events. UG placed 3rd with thirty-eight (38) medals, setting a new record unparalleled by any Ghanaian University in any international competition.

Well Wishes to Graduands

And now to the graduating class who are the reason we are here today. 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.

As ambassadors of this great University, be guided by, and exhibit the core values of the University: Loyalty, Respect, Integrity and Commitment. Besides these values, I urge you, and by extension, the youth of this nation, to also aspire to be disciplined, honest and modest in all your endeavours.

Seek excellence, believe in yourself, work hard, plan ahead, and be ethical in all your dealings; these virtues will lead you on the path to success.

Remember that in life, there are no short-cuts. Therefore, eschew greed, quick fixes and craving for money, which are the roots of many evils in our society today.

**GUEST SPEAKER'S ADDRESS BY
MRS. OMODELE ELIZABETH OLYMPIO-EMANUEL
(THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2018)**

The Chancellor
Chairman and Members of the University Council
Vice Chancellor
Pro-Vice Chancellors
Registrar
Provosts
Deans
Chairman and Members of the Advisory Board of College of Humanities
Members of Convocation
Graduating Students
Parents and Guardians
Members of the Diplomatic Corps
Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen
Alumni and Friends of the University
Graduands

I am greatly honored and indeed humbled at the invitation to be the Guest Speaker of this Congregation. Graduation Day is the culmination of all the years of hard work, anxieties and endurance of academic life.

At almost every graduation ceremony the world over, there's a speech which likens this moment to the beginning of a journey. I'd like to break from that tradition and suggest to you that it is more than a journey. You see, a journey is premised on three things:

- that you know where (and who) you are
- that there's a need or desire to move from that place and
- you have a destination in mind.

When I cast my mind back to 2001, I did not know where I was, or who I was, for that matter. All I knew was that I was done with school. I was tired. Exams

had drained any zeal I had for adventure and, there to find out that I could not graduate because I was missing some credits sealed the deal for me. I was filled with regret, and perhaps, on hindsight, naivety and youthful exuberance. I decided I was ready to conquer the world without my degree. Never mind the 4 years of study as a Biological Science student with the aim of becoming a doctor. At that point in my life, the only destination I had in mind was “anywhere that was not school.” I could have taken those credits during the grace period, but no, I was done with school. Journeying was nowhere in my scope. That state of inertia was only temporary, however, because there was no way you could sit down and do “nothing” in my parents' home. More on that later...

Rather than a journey, I see what lies ahead of you as opportunities for growth. You will go on a journey, but it's only one, if you grow. How does growth happen? By responding to the change that is an inevitable part of life. I'll quote Jim Clemmer, one of North America's leading transformation and improvement thinkers:

“At home or in the workplace, change is an inevitable fact of life. How we choose to respond to it - as leaders or as followers - determines our personal and professional growth.”

Today, I'd like to share with you some of the tools and opportunities of growth that I have learned, sometimes through difficult circumstances, since leaving Legon; but, first, a little bit more about me.

In no particular order, I am an entrepreneur, a passionate advocate for social change, a mother and a wife. I completed Achimota School at age 17 when my father was already on pension, after an illustrious service as an Electrical Engineer with Ghana Water & Sewerage Corporation, then known, for well over 40 years. My mother had resigned from her nursing career to be a work-at-home mom. She is my earliest recollection of an entrepreneur and role model. She baked, cooked, sewed and braided hair and run a kenkey eatery, all from home. Her hands were gifted, and I realize today that, if she had had the benefit of today's technology and marketing tools, she would easily have become a millionaire because she gave it her all. I'm hoping to make those millions on her behalf. I learnt sewing, cooking, hairdressing, and just about

everything else in-between. I was the “handygirll” under my parents' roof together with my brothers. These skills have become my bread and butter today. Upon completing Achimota School, my mother signed me up for the NVTI Examination in Beauty and Hair Therapy, which I passed and was awarded the Certificate.

Out of my sense of responsibility, I felt the need to work during my course of study. My mother worked much too hard and these reasons probably influenced my early decision to be financially-independent; not as a goal in itself, but in order to create opportunities for personal growth and to give back.

On his deathbed, my father made me promise to go back to school and complete my degree. In 2007, I returned to the University of Ghana and this time, I was more mature, more driven and more passionate. During my time away from school and out in the “real world”, I had gained invaluable lessons and a new perspective that served me well as an older student. In 2010, I graduated with a double major in Linguistics and Political Science! I took the undergraduate program twice!

Your actions and decisions determine your future. When you come to the realization that you have erred, do not hesitate to start afresh when the opportunity presents itself. You are the common denominator in all your failures and successes and taking personal responsibility is crucial.

I worked in various sectors and learnt vigorously on the job acquiring skills along the way. When I wasn't sure how to do a specific task, I inquired, researched and then gave it a good shot. I am involved in the construction and build industry, promoting the use of alternative technology in building affordable housing units and have rolled out multiple projects in both the private and public sectors. My company is a member of GREDA (Ghana Real Estate Developers Association)

Though a series of life events, I grew sometimes with vim and vigour and other times with pain and few. I am still growing because I believe the moment you stop growing you wither and eventually die.

Three years ago, we decided to venture into the hospitality industry and set out plans to open a Jamaican restaurant, which would also serve as a cultural center in sharing the arts and history of both Ghana and Jamaica; in so doing celebrating and promoting Pan-Africanism. This is the first of its kind. We encountered several obstacles, but we persevered and were not deterred. Today, I can happily report that JamRock has gained traction after a faulty start and several hiccups. We aim to franchise the brand in Ghana and West Africa in the coming years.

In creating JamRock, we took risks but stayed the course. There's something about taking ingredients, putting them into a pot and cranking up the heat, that reminds me of this journey of growth. I love meeting and interacting with people. Community is life. I get to do life alongside some very special people, like my husband, Raphael, and my children Jason, JahMarcus-Raphael, Aaliyah and Zayah. My mother is retired now, and we sit down and reminisce.

I am thankful for the relationships I have. They make growth and life possible. Nurture your relationships. They will sustain you. When you look back on your life, you'll see that, indeed, it has been a journey of growth.

Here are the non-negotiables I have learnt along the way:

1. Personal Integrity is critical – it defines you.
2. Passion and Purpose are crucial – they are your fuel.
3. Accountability to oneself and to society is important – it keeps you focused.
4. Relationships matter – Because you cannot go the distance alone.
5. You need to pay it forward – Generosity benefits others and nourishes you.
6. Failure – You will learn more from your failures than your successes.
7. Faith grounds you – It gives you perspective.
8. Comparison can derail you – Everyone is different.
9. Creativity is key – think outside the box, however you define the box. The answers are not always found in the traditional places.
10. Invest in yourself and others – and pay the dividends to your community. Society will be richer for it.



**Officials, Members of Convocation and Guest Speaker
in a group photograph (Thursday, November 15, 2018)**



**Officials, Members of Convocation, Guest Speaker and Valedictorian
in a group photograph (Friday, November 16, 2018)**



Officials, Members of Convocation, Guest Speaker and Valedictorian in a group photograph (Saturday, November 17, 2018)



Mrs. Mary Chinery-Hesse, Chancellor delivering the Opening Address (Thursday, November 15, 2018)



**Mr. Reindorf Baah Perbi, Member of University Council
Representing the Chancellor (Saturday, November 16, 2018)**



**Prof. Baffour Agyeman-Duah, Member of University Council
Representing the Chancellor (Friday, November 16, 2018)**



Professor Ebenezer Oduro Owusu, Vice-Chancellor, addressing the gathering



**Prof. Kwame Offei, Pro-Vice-Chancellor,
Academic and Student Affairs delivering the
Vice-Chancellor's Address**



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



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

Thursday, 15th November, 2018



**Mrs. Omodele Elizabeth Olympio-Emanuel delivering the
Guest Speaker's Address**



Mr. Nathaniel Ocquaye delivering the Valedictory Address

Friday, November 16, 2018



**Mr. Elikem Nutifafa Kuenyehia delivering the
Guest Speaker's Address**



Mr. Jackson Kwame Gyamfi delivering the Valedictory Address

Saturday, 17th November, 2018



**Mr. Henry Baye delivering the
Guest Speaker's Address (Saturday, November 17, 2018)**



Mr. Daniel Amoako Glah, delivering the Valedictory Address



Graduands being congratulated by Officials and Dignitaries



Graduands at the Congregation ceremony



Some parents, guardians and invited guests at the ceremony

Some of you will continue your formal education; many others will step out into the working world. All of you will be disappointed at different stages. Those rose-tinted glasses give you a skewed lens. Take them off. Clemmer, whom I quoted earlier, says “that there are two kinds of people – those who are changing and those who are setting themselves up to be victims of change.”

You see, change will come! The question is what will you do, every day, to respond to that change? How will you equip yourself for the future? Afterall, “The future”, as American Sociologist, John Schaar says, “is not some place we are going, but one we are creating. The paths to it are not found, but made, and the activity of making them changes both the maker and the destination.”

As you graduate, I'd like to challenge you to do the following:

1. Exhale, pause and reflect often
2. Read. Read and then read some more
3. Find a mentor and learn from him or her
4. Commit to growth
5. Laugh a lot (cry too!)
6. Grow in faith!
7. Make mistakes – and learn from them
8. Don't take yourself too seriously
9. Inspire the next generation
10. Cultivate a habit of gratitude

Congratulations, graduating class of 2018.
I wish you a lifetime of growth.

God's speed as you begin the most exciting chapters of your lives.
Enjoy the ride and stay the course!

Thank you!

**GUEST SPEAKER'S ADDRESS BY
MR. ELIKEM NUTIFAFA KUENYEHIA
(FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2018)**

Member of Council representing the Chancellor
Members of Council
Vice Chancellor
Pro-Vice Chancellors
Registrar
Members of the Advisory Board of the College of Humanities
Members of Convocation
Niimej, Naamej, Nananom
Proud Parents and Guardians
Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen
Class of 2018

I didn't attend but I've strong ties to this great institution.

I was born a Legonite and I've always been a Legonite

My mother, Professor Akua Kuenyehia, joined this University in October 1972 as the first female law lecturer and spent thirty one years here.

Never one to let childcare get in the way of her ambition, she would often bring my sister Akofa and I to class...when we didn't have a nanny. And as quietly as we could, we'd occupy ourselves, colouring, reading or solving jigsaw puzzles while my mother got on with teaching.

- When I'd fall ill, my mum would send me to the University Hospital, and then to Volta Hall Senior Common Room, where she'd allow me a bottle of cold refreshing Coca Cola or Fanta which I'd have with mouth-watering delicacies, of which the “chinching” jolloff was my favourite.
- Now you need to understand that my mother was strict about the sorts of treats she'd allow us to have. But at University bookshop, then down

the road, t'was an entirely different matter. There was almost no limit on what we could have.

So my sister and I spent many Saturday mornings, wandering down the narrow musty corridors of the children's section; emerging hours later with a huge pile of books in our arms.

- And several years later, it was right here on this very campus, that I had my first serious teenage crush.

Now fast forward to the present time:

- I hire many graduates from this University. In fact, some of my best lawyers are alumni of this University.
- And in 2016, I had the privilege of serving as Executive-in-Residence at the Business School. So It's for these and many other reasons that am so delighted to be this afternoon's guest speaker. Thank you Vice-Chancellor Professor Oduro Owusu for the honour of this invitation. Before I make my remarks though,

Please join me in giving a loud and rapturous round of applause for the...Class of2018 and their proud parents and guardians.

So Class of 2018, I've good news and bad news.

First, the bad news;

- A university diploma, even from the University of Ghana, no longer guarantees you a job of your choice.
- With two hundred and thirteen accredited tertiary institutions in Ghana, churning out about eighty thousand graduates each year, unemployment and underemployment is, am afraid, the grim reality of many graduates.
- Long gone are the days graduates could expect to spend entire working lives at the likes of Unilever, VALCO or Bank of Ghana, patiently rising through the ranks...And retiring with chest freezer in tow.

Now the good news:

You're graduating at a time of mind boggling and unprecedented opportunities.

- o Never before, in the history of humanity, has there been so much opportunity and wealth.
- o Never before have borders and geographic location been as immaterial, thanks to technology, greater inter connectedness and a changing global mindset.
- o And even more importantly especially for you Class of 2018, never before has personal and professional success been so dependent on big ideas, bold brash dreams and audacity to act on those dreams.

I'll now share stories of three alumni of this University who've dreamt bold brash dream and then had the audacity to turn those dreams to reality:

- I. Legon Hall alumnus Moses Baiden, at the age 23 and in his second year at the Faculty of Law as it then was, had a bold brash dream to build a million dollar company. Then had the audacity to act on that dream by building Margins.

Just short of his 25th birthday, Margins achieved one million US dollars in revenue. Today, with 400 employees and a presence in seven countries, Margins is the go-to company for the production of security and identity documents, with clients such as West Africa Examinations Council, Ghana Police and Ghana Army.

If you've ever had a Ghanaian passport, it's possible that Margins made that possible. And it's Margins that's been tasked with providing Ghanaians with national ID cards

- II. Volta Hall alumnus Mrs. Theresa Beeko had a bold brash dream to make home ownership more accessible. Then had the audacity to start Manet Properties, which today is a force to reckon with in the real

estate space, having built over 2000 homes, a three-star hotel and two state-of-the art office blocks in prime Accra, employing over 200 people.

- III. And Legon Hall alumnus Kwasi Twum had a bold brash dream to give Ghanaians choice in the media they consumed. Then had the audacity to start in 1995 with a single radio station.

Today, his Multi-media group is Ghana's largest radio, television and online network and I understand, sub-Saharan Africa's largest media group employing over 700 people, with six radio stations (including Adom and Joy) three online assets and Ghana's first free multi-channel TV station.

Thanks to their big ideas, they, as well as many others, have found significant success and are making immeasurable contributions to mother Ghana, empowering millions, while of course.....doing their alma mater, this University proud.

They've had the same education you've had.

They've sat in the same lecture halls.

And they've sat in this very auditorium, in caps and gowns, just like you to receive University of Ghana diplomas. If they've done it, there's absolutely no reason why you too cannot do same.

I'm also a dreamer.

And for some of my dreams, I've had the audacity to make them happen.

In 2006, I dreamt a bold brash, perhaps ridiculous, dream to build a globally recognised leading Ghanaian law firm. *Ridiculous*, given that all I had to start with was five thousand Ghana Cedis.

With audacity, starting with one employee in a room so small, you couldn't even swing a cat in, I built a firm with offices in Accra and London. Today, after a pan-African merger, we're part of Africa's largest law firm, with over 1,000 people in thirteen offices across Africa.

So to you, Class of 2018...I ask: what are *your* bold brash dreams and what audacity do you have to put those into action?

I'm now going to suggest some specific ways you can dream bold brash dreams and *then* develop audacity to act on those dreams.

To create bold brash dreams, you've got to feed your imagination, and respect your uniqueness.

- a. Think back to when as kids you played games of make believe pretending to be lawyers, doctors, nurses and teachers and the age old favourite...mummy and daddy. You'll require the same child-like imagination...to be able to close your eyes and transport yourselves into the future you aspire to. Visualise this in as much detail.

For some of you, it might help to develop a vision board – literally a board or even a scrap book, where you paste images you come across, in magazines for example, that represent the future you envisage for yourself. You could also do this on Evernote, Pinterest and the like.

Some of you may prefer to journal, to document word by word, the future you'd like for yourselves. You feed your imagination by actively observing and being insanelly curious about the world around you.

Immerse yourselves in the stories of others, particularly those who're already charting a course not dissimilar from ones you'd like to chart. Some of these people you'll know in real life.

Others, you'll only ever know from a distance or virtually, through biographies or profile articles, for example.

But whether or not you know them, what's important are the lessons you take away from their stories, from both failures and successes. You also feed your imagination through the arts, television, movies, music, conversations and if you can, through local and international travel.

- b. If, in addition to feeding your imagination, you build in copious amounts of time – ideally daily – for sober reflection and introspection, where you put everything you're hearing about, reading about or learning about, into context....the context of your own values and passions, you'll soon find that you're dreaming many dreams....some of which will be brash and bold.
- c. But you'll only truly succeed, only truly find inner fulfilment and satisfaction, if you pursue only those dreams that play to your strengths, passions and values.....dreams that're uniquely yours and respect your individuality.

Your dreams got to be your dreams.

- Not the dreams of your forefathers.
- Or those of your family and friends.
- Not the dreams of your pastors, imams and fetish priests.
- And most certainly, not the dreams of society.

Unless of course, you decide to adopt and adapt those dreams such that they become dreams of your own.

I appreciate that it won't be easy for some of you, given that we live in a society, that too often, pre-defines the sorts of dreams that're acceptable.

As a result, many of us cave in and don't stand up for our dreams. BUT really, who's to say your dream's better than mine, or mine better than yours?

Everyone's dream is needed and valuable. Everybody's dream is different. Your dream is your dream and yours alone. No matter what anyone else says!

But dreams alone get you nowhere. The real magic is audacity.....Audacity to turn dreams into reality. Audacity to act on your dreams comes with preparation. The more prepared you are, the more audacious you can get. The Akans have a saying that “*Agoro be so aefianopa*” which means that for a party to succeed, the preparations need to start much earlier. University of Ghana has provided you with a great foundation. But that's only the beginning.

I'd say there're two parts to this: developing technical mastery and gaining social capital.

When you start work, make technical skill and knowledge acquisition your priority and invest a disproportionate amount of your time towards that. Psychologists have shown that what the world's most successful people have in common is a relentless pursuit of technical mastery. Apparently it takes roughly ten thousand hours of practice to achieve mastery in any field. Assuming 3 hours a day, that is 9 years!

Think about that!
There really are no short-cuts.

And if you're still looking for job, rather than just sit at home glued to your Xbox or netflixing and chillaxing, volunteer somewhere, take a free course online. Find a mentor whom you can learn from.

The other thing you'll need to invest in is social capital – building networks and relationships with people. Make time to invest in relationships.

Build on the friendships you're graduating with and make effort to keep in touch. Throughout your lives, cultivate and develop relationships with people. I'm specifically talking about the offline variety of friends...face to face, person to person encounters that are becoming so obsolete these days.

The people you'll need to help turn dreams into reality are those who get to know and to trust you. That level of trust can't be built easily on snapchat, telegraph or Facebook.

Those too have their place. But old-fashioned non-Facebook friendships are truly priceless. Dreams grow and change in time with the dreamer. So don't be afraid to allow your dreams to grow with you.

The process of dreaming and redreaming, imagining and reimagining itself is a source of personal and spiritual growth.

In time, you'll come to recognize which dreams are ready for an update and

which you must cast away entirely. But at all times – in dreaming bold brash dreams and acting audaciously to make dreams happen, you absolutely must be guided by your own ethical compass.

We all know that dishonesty and corruption is the way of life for far too many Ghanaians including, with all due respect, many from this university.

Whenever you're faced with an ethical dilemma, take a minute to pause and take a deep breath. Then, in respect of whatever it is ask yourself this question: 'If, it was to make its way, the next day, into all the social media feeds and the traditional media, would my family be mightily proud of me?

Ask yourself that question and then listen to the answer that lies within you. Big dreams.

Bold brash dreams. And the audacity to put those dreams into action are fuel for personal success and social progress.

So, Class of 2018, I leave you with two questions two questions I urge you to ask yourselves every day. Every day for the rest of your lives:

I. What.....are....your...dreams?
And

II. What are you doing to develop the audacity you require to turn those dreams into reality?

Thank you and congratulations once again.

**GUEST SPEAKER'S ADDRESS BY
MR. HENRY BAYE
(SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2018)**

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

I consider it a truly humbling experience to be invited as a guest speaker at the graduation ceremony of my Alma Mata. I never saw this day coming. Let me start by first, thanking the Vice Chancellor, the Provost and Senior Members of faculty for Inviting me. It's a true honour I do not think I deserve or take for granted. I am pleased to find Mrs. Otoo Ayeh who was a big sister to me whilst I was on Campus still working tirelessly as the College Secretary of this great College. Dr. Clement Appah and I used to sing together in a choir and it is really refreshing to see that unlike me he has taken his dreams to mould lives and is now working in academia.

I would also like to salute all graduands on this special day of yours. I remember with great nostalgia each of my own graduations and makes me feel like coming back to Campus again. I congratulate you for your hard work and commitment to high standards. Let me also use this opportunity to thank all members of the faculty who have helped you through your studies and have enabled Ghana to see another unleashing of talents into productive activity.

Ladies and gentlemen, I miss Chorkor! Chorkor was a place of great buzz, mirth fights and many free entertainment shows that were in your face whether you called for it or not. The entertainment shows were as varied as the

interestingly coloured beach sands. The sights and sounds of Chorkor are unforgettable. You need to suffer amnesia to forget Chorkor. There were the fishermen's group carnivals, to the daily open quarrels between people of all walks, Hawkers who had amazing slogans to sell their wares and the perpetual honking of cars 24/7. Chorkor never slept. I am a Chorkorite!! My parents lived at Chorkor from my early childhood till when I completed my University education so I have seen many seasons of life at the California of Western Accra. We walked daily to and from school. We enjoyed the wonderful experience of bathing in the rain, we played 'Chars Kele', gutter to gutter and made Christmas huts from Coconut palm leaves and stems and we fought the many fights young boys in slums fought. I still recall with great nostalgia how sometimes after school we went mango hunting during the mango season or go and buy sugarcane from farms in the Korlebu area. Nothing compares to these priceless experiences. "How can you start a graduation speech like this" you may be asking.

I am today the executive director of a global bank. I sit in the board room and on some serious committees to steward a bank that holds depositor funds. I chair the board of the development fund of a University and many other big responsibilities of that nature. But I once grew up in an environment and circumstances that could have killed any possibility of making such a contribution.

I recall that during some of my vacations I worked as a porter at the beach and sometimes went to the then new Achimota when it was in its primal stages of development and worked as a construction labourer. When we had to take a vehicle to most parts of Accra our journey started on the Mummy truck. On some occasions, bus 36E came along. Later, as we grew up, the younger generation now called the Mummy trucks 'aro glass eh' to wit "roll up the glasses" when the mummy trucks only had wooden frames on the sides. This was terribly offensive to the driver's mates who collected the transport fares from the passengers. You will be lucky not to get away with a terribly vulgar insult from these driver's mates. These driver's mates were well known for many things from their arrogance to the many stunts they pulled off daily. One of the stunts that never ceased to amaze me was how the driver's mates and the area boys would hop into the moving truck or get down from the moving truck. I always saw the ease with which they did it. So, one day I tried

getting down from a moving truck and you can guess the result. I found myself flat on the street and was lucky to get up. Sure, I did get up but with my whole body burning from the scratches I got from the screech. I made sure the story never got told because what I would have got would have been some heavy spanking from Mummy if she found out.

We had many great times but also some really difficult times. I remember on several occasions my mother of blessed memory would look at me with tears in her eyes when she gave me a tin of gari and one bottle of shitor and told me “that's all we can afford for now, but please study hard” My father was working with a company that provided a scholarship scheme for the children of employees and by the divine Grace of God I received one of those scholarships. So at least my fees were paid that way.

During my days in Secondary school I made one big decision of faith. This decision gave me belief and gave me hope beyond my circumstances. I started to aspire for something bigger or so I thought. Later I realised that even the dreams I had were very mediocre and were purely defined by how far my eyes could see. Somehow my eyes of faith started seeing more than my limited mind could imagine. I saw possibility and a belief that I could make a big difference with my life. I started to define my life based on the influence I could make in other people's lives.

I have had the great blessing of working in world class organizations. I have had the fortune of being mentored by some great corporate leaders. I have had the privilege of rising through the ranks and making my mark without ever asking for my next job. I have been honoured to stand on the same platform with people I could only have seen in my dream if I was blessed with a sweet dream. But I guess even then I will be so shocked in my dream that I will wake up thinking it was a nightmare.

Through all these I have learnt some great lessons of life. Today I want to share with you five of the lessons life has taught me at my young age.

1. Take a stand of faith but don't become a fanatic. He who stands for nothing falls for anything. I have learnt that the human being is a mystery among many mysteries of life. I have learnt that there is

something in mankind that makes us connect to the supernatural. The supernatural in man is the foundation of a person's values, purpose and self-worth. When our relationship with God is missing the very foundations become meaningless. Like a ship finds stability in its anchor, each human finds their anchor from the deep connections with their God. Studying and becoming intellectuals should bring us into a Deep sense of appreciation of the mystery of creation and an honest acknowledgment that the things we see, the various species of trees, humans, the human anatomy and it's workings, and the seasons could not just have appeared. Our exploits in Academia should lead us on an inner journey of discovery rather than the opposite. A human who is truly complete is one who is spiritually and physically together.

2. It's a small world. When I first started my career, I worked as an entry level recruit for one fine distinguished gentleman who occupied the exact position I am occupying today. After 11 years of work in the company I went on to work for two other organizations. In my second organization I happened to work for him for a second time but this time I was sitting on his executive team and he was the managing director. I have learnt that it's a really small world. Many of the people you encounter in your world today, you will encounter again in one form or the other. You must aim to always leave positive footprints in all situations because you will be confronted with the stories one day. During my days as a branch Manager at the Standard Chartered Bank Branch here on Campus, I had encountered a lady who I helped. I did not even remember the story when she herself played it back to me many years after. My sister went to the states to live there and at the early stages of her studies she needed help to pay her fees. She approaches a friend who helped her with a loan.

One day, the two of them were chatting when out of the blue she asked her, 'do you know a gentleman by the name of Henry Baye?' my sister was shocked and replied, 'he is the brother I come after'. The lady was shivering all over with goose pimples and exclaimed in typical American style "you must be kidding me". She went on and recounted almost in tears how I had helped her to get money from

the bank on a day she was in some great difficulty and her salary had not yet arrived. Imagine if the story was different. Recently I was caught in a situation where I had my passport with one embassy and I had to get a travel certificate to travel. When my PA went to the office where this was to be issued, she was directed to see a particular gentleman to get help. As soon as the gentleman saw my name he said to her “give him my number I know him” it turns out his brother was a protege of mine and a cousin also. He helped me to get the document within a time frame I could only have imagined. He literally got me sitting in his office and within 45 minutes got me the document to catch a closing counter which was within another 45 minutes. It is a small world. At any cost endeavour to be a force for good and teach everyone you come across to be a force for good.

3. Authenticity is priceless. There are various synonyms for the word Authenticity. These include true, honest, genuine, integrity etc. To be authentic means you take a decision to be true consistently no matter the circumstances. In a very rough world where most people are looking for God knows what at any cost, to be authentic is to be in the minority. Sometimes requires that you look vulnerable in telling the truth and being true to yourself. Sometimes it requires that you must say sorry in a sincere way and mean it. It means you must have the purity of spirit to genuinely celebrate others even if they got something ahead of you or you competed for the same thing. It means you must live a life with your own personal purpose and destination in mind so you don't end up in someone else's destination. Authentic makes you truly look after people who work for you and truly care for their development in a selfless way. It means doing everything to open doors for other people. Authenticity can be costly, sometimes it might make you look naive or weak at a time people are scheming, backbiting and bootlicking to get to the top. But remain true because in the long run it is what endures. Stay true to who you are and stay true to your purpose.
4. Have an ambition but don't let it consume you. An Ambition could be a force for good or for evil depending on whose bosom it lies. Julius Caesar's crime for which he was thought worthy of death by

Brutus and the gang was that he was ambitious. In defence of him, Mark Anthony remarked, “ambition should be made of sterner stuff”. What he sought to imply was that, if you are driven by ambition you will possess harder qualities. Indeed, ambition is one motivator that has led many to become real greats in life. Personal ambition of some individuals has led them to change nations. We have also been witnesses to how people consumed by selfish ambition could become the most destructive forces on earth. Ambition has been a cousin of greed and a twin sister of selfishness in many hearts. Ambition has been a gun in one hand and plough in another's hand. So, as you step into our world please be reminded that we have enough of men and women with ambition who have not added positive value to our world. Don't become another one. We have many more people who are burning with hatred that someone got in the way of their ambitions and would do anything they could to destroy them. We do not need another one. We need men and women of great ambitions that are clothed with humility, compassion and an unquenchable desire to spread a positive fragrance wherever they go. You will be that person I am sure.

5. Love your Spouse and family and give endlessly. If you think you are not a risk taker and yet you have contemplated marriage or you are married then trust me you are a risk taker. When you meet a stranger, who becomes a friend and then becomes a lover and then a spouse you have landed smoothly via a beautiful continuum, that makes you feel you have not taken risk but you actually have. Your Spousal relationship could be your most important relationship yet. So, pray that you find a good friend who you love passionately and selflessly. When you do, give it your all. When you give it your all you stand a greater chance of getting back what you give. Your Philosophy of marriage will drive its success. I have discovered that a man's worth in his home is not found in exerting his ego and authority but in loving selflessly, always seeking the other's good. I have seen many great people whose only regret is that they conquered everything except their own home. I have met many successful people who have lost their children to drugs and crime. The real legacy you leave behind can be found in your biological children or otherwise. The work we

do will dispense of us one day but we will always end up with the family. The friends we hang out with will be there no more one day when our circumstances change. The money we make will not go with us when we are helpless. Family always stays with us. Spend your life and time building your family. Give endlessly because therein lies enduring blessings. Reach out beyond your nuclear family and know that there is a spark you can bring to one's life.

During this period, we have been sitting here many new inventions have been unearthed and some new technologies have been cracked. You are living in a world where many things are being redefined. Competition has been redefined. One of the most intriguing developments in business globally is the ever-changing definition of competition. In the past it was easy to combat competition by focusing on who your known competition is and what strategies they are executing or likely to execute. In recent times competition has become amorphous and constantly mutating. A few years ago, it would have been unthinkable to imagine that a technology company could take over the business of taxi's globally. It would equally have been unthinkable to imagine that a Telco which deals in providing telephone services could also provide financial services. Technology has become the tool that makes no sacred cows of any business. In various countries in Africa there are more mobile wallets now than there are bank accounts and Telcos are holding more deposits on wallets than some banks. Technology has made it possible to totally debunk the provision of services in fixed locations via known business models. Technology has created new phenomena that has enabled it to totally disrupt existing businesses. What these all mean is that businesses cannot predict what in the environment is coming to eat up their cake with utmost certainty. Business models must constantly evolve with a clear view of the forces that are shaping the future. It calls for new thinking hinged on the exponential and an understanding that collaboration is the new competition.

As I bring this speech to a close, may I remind you that you belong to a world that is changing faster than has ever been recorded in history. You belong to a world where what is unpredictable is far more than what is predictable. You belong to a world where the forces that could shape anything you dream for and look forward to could hit you like a bolt from the sky. So, do not go into it with a fixed mindset because you will not survive. Do not go into it with the

thinking that there is work out there waiting for you. Do not go into it with a mindset that your university education has fully prepared you for what you are about to face because the University does not even know what you are about to face. You must go into the world with a mind that embraces technology and how it can help drive solutions to daily problems. You must go into it with a mind to find the new jobs of the future and create a few. You must move into your world with a deep knowledge that the new word for competition is collaboration.

Define a vision for your life that invigorates you. Define a goal for your life that fuels your passion and set your eyes on a purpose that you live for and that finds meaning in the influence you can have on other people. Therein lies true fulfilment in your life.

You alone can be your show stopper and it lies in the daily decisions you make. So, make 5 choices today.

Make a choice to find grounding in faith.

Make choice to live with humility knowing that you live in a small world
Choose authenticity and find true fulfilment.

Make a choice to be ambitious but don't let it consume you and finally
Love your family and give endlessly

Ladies and gentlemen, I thank you once again and congratulations to our graduands.

**VALEDICTORY ADDRESS DELIVERED
NATHANIEL OCQUAYE
(THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2018)**

Member of Council representing the Chancellor
Vice Chancellor
Pro-Vice Chancellors
Registrar
Members of Council
Members of the Advisory Board of the College of Humanities
Members of Convocation
Ministers of State
Your Excellencies
Member of the Diplomatic Corp
Alumni and Friends of the University
Fellow Graduands
Class of 2018

I am exceedingly humbled and grateful to have the honor of delivering the valedictory speech for this morning's congregation. It is indeed a great thing that we who entered this great university of Ghana are all at last in this congregation safe and sound for the graduation ceremony. Therefore with a round of applause let us congratulate one another for making it to the end.

The Experiences

This four-year journey has not been an easy one, it has left indelible marks on some of us and experiences that we may never forget. The experiences we all had on campus are congruent in many ways: we all ate at the night market or the bush canteen, used the same lecture halls, we all wrote IAs, we all did the UGRCs which gave us much trouble especially numeracy skills, we all had moments of glory and of humiliation. Come to think about experiences, most of us can still remember the troublesome roommates we had and the discomfort we had to endure living with them. The sleepless nights that we had all in order to pass our exams. The one or two girls we also tried to propose to who bounced us; if it hadn't been for God on our side we might have gotten

permanent broken hearts. The embarrassments, the unnecessary arguments and the unwise mistakes we committed as students have however worked together for our good and here we are today, graduating with smiles all over our faces.

Another unforgettable experience which most of us can remember is the gas explosion that occurred at the atomic junction; that day was like a marathon race as students from the nearby hostels took to their heels like Usaine Bolt, that was the day I saw that some ladies could run faster than men. And it was also the day that our parents, even those who were not at peace with us, called with fear and compassion to find out if we were okay. Thanks be to God who kept us safe.

My fellow graduands, looking at all the sufferings and hardships we have been through let us show the world that we have emerged victorious by making a joyful noise!!!!!!!!!!!!

Hopes and Aspirations

As we go out of this great university, let us keep our hopes high, let us proceed with integrity, let us make Ghana proud, and let us be the new generation of law abiding citizens who will bring honor, integrity, and commitment to our system of governance and our civil service.

Appreciation

What we are today is a result of the hard work of our parents, lecturers, teaching assistants and all other personnel who are actively involved in the ground work of the teaching process. Our heartfelt gratitude goes to this University, for providing us with a relatively peaceful environment for learning, and the various lecturers who constantly instilled in us the discipline and mindset for achieving our academic dreams. We must say that we would not have achieved our academic goals without the wisdom and guidance of our lecturers. How can we thank our lecturers for all their sacrifices and guidance for us all these four years? The wisdom imparted to us by these lecturers cannot be priced, what shall we say then? On behalf of my fellow graduands I say that may God bless and increase our lecturers for all that they have done for us.

To all our parents, guardians and family, words cannot describe the love we have for you. Thank you parents and guardians for the food you should have eaten that you gave to us; thank you mothers for the clothes you secretly sold in order to care for us; thank you fathers for the extra work you had to do and the friends you had to borrow money from to pay our fees. Our prayer is that your pockets never run dry and may you always be filled with joy and pride when you look at us.

My fellow graduands, my last words of encouragement to you are from an ancient Chinese poem which says “Bai ri yi shang jin, Huang he ru hai liu. Yu qiong qian li mu, geng shang yi ceng lou”. The basic meaning of this poem is that we should never stop working hard, always strive to do your best. You will rise, I will rise and we will all rise.

At this juncture I will like to say a big thank you to my mother, Mrs. Joyce Ocquaye for her love and care; and my elder brother Mr. Emmanuel Ocquaye who guided me in my stay in this University. Shout outs to all my colleagues at the Political Science Department and my mates from the Chinese class.

Class of 2018, you are the best!

Congratulations to us all!

God bless us all!

God bless University of Ghana!

God bless mother Ghana!

Thank you

**VALEDICTORY ADDRESS DELIVERED
JACKSON KWAME GYAMFI
(FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2018)**

Member of Council representing the Chancellor,
Vice Chancellor,
Pro-Vice Chancellors,
Registrar,
Provosts and Deans,
Members of Council,
Chairman and Members of the Advisory Board of the College of Humanities,
Members of Convocation,
Your Excellencies,
Members of the Diplomatic Corps,
Hon. Ministers of State,
Staff, Alumni and Friends of the University
Parents and Guardians,
Fellow Graduands,

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen;

I wish all the graduating class of 2018 could stand by me on this podium to share in this joyful moment because we have defied all odds to make it here today. We deserve it and I say “ayekoo” to all and for this I say again to all, your hard work have paid off. I am indeed humbled and elated to be standing here as a mouth piece through which the experiences, feelings, aspirations and future prospects for this class of graduands will be echoed.

Indeed, it was an extremely humbling experience when I received a call from the College of Humanities that I have been selected as the valedictorian for this session of today's congregation. Many thoughts flooded my mind instantly; why was I chosen? Can I do it? Are there no others more intelligent than I am? Then I heard the words of Ecclesiastes 9:11 “the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, neither yet bread to the wise, but time and chance happeneth to hem all”. Though I have been selected as the valedictorian, this speech is about every single one of you, who have made your parents, family,

colleagues, loved ones, and above all the University of Ghana very proud.

At this moment, I would like to go down memory lane four years ago. We all from various backgrounds trooped onto this campus. We still remember the do's and don'ts from parents, lecturers, seniors and sometimes even those who had no idea what they were talking about. . . we were so naïve then. To elucidate this point, I remember the very first time I had an Interim Assessment at Jones Quartey Building (JQB). Funny enough, I was standing right in front of the building, yet I asked a fellow student whom I never knew was also fresh as myself. A few minutes later I found myself at the Oraca Tetteh Building just near the School of Nursing, kilometers away from JQB. We cannot forget our all night studies, our funny comments made in class, our late submission of projects, and how depressed we sounded and appeared as exam approached. It was not surprising that during drink-ups and student parties, Legon students would still find a way of reading lecture slides for IAs and examinations. Indeed, we persevered through these grueling times because we knew that the more difficult the battle the sweeter the victory. As Arnold Schwarzenegger the famous actor and politician said and I quote “Strength does not come from winning. Your struggles develop your strengths. When you go through hardships and decide not to surrender, that is strength.” Here we are ready and better equipped with skills and knowledge to venture into the world and face reality.

Fellow graduands, it would not have been possible to be here without the help of many honourable people. Thanks and praises be to the Most High God for seeing us through all the hurdles encountered throughout our journey in this noble institution. Lord we say glory be to Your name. To Mr. and Mrs. Gyamfi, and all parent and guardians here, you all deserve a huge round of applause and we are grateful for the sacrifices you made for us to come this far. May the good Lord bless you, and replenish hundredfold, whatever sacrifice you made for us during our four-year stay here.

To our Lecturers and Teaching Assistants, you will always have a special place in our hearts for your contribution in what we have become today. I would like to say a special thank you to all the staff of the Department of Geography and Resource Development (DGRD); to Dr. Ernest Agyemang, Prof. Joseph Teye,

Prof. Joseph Yaro, Prof. Oteng Ababio, Dr. Alex Barimah Owusu and many others, for inculcating in us the spirit of teamwork, teaching us to respect deadlines and other activities which have equipped us for the job market.

Our journey would not have been fruitful without the love and help from our dear friends and colleagues we made on campus. Kudos to all from whom we tapped knowledge about academics, business, entrepreneurship, religion, marriage and relationships through those heated arguments we had day-in day-out. To the likes of Scott Rockson, Kensah Kwadwo Arhin, Janet Avisey, Joseph Sackey, Mavis Akosua Akuoko and many others, I personally say a big thank you for your time and support.

Fellow graduands, from here we face reality. The world outside is different from what we have known for the past four years. There are bigger problems to which solutions are always required. With our teamwork spirit, diverse knowledge gained from all fields of endeavor, let us take an active part in building and developing every sector we find ourselves with the objective of making this world a better place. Let us develop the three D's: Dedication, Determination and Discipline toward every venture we undertake, and strive hard for excellence. Remember also, that before any action takes place, there must be careful scrutiny and planning, because proper planning prevents poor performance. Let us not forget to mentor the generation after us by making time for them. Today, we are Ambassadors of the University of Ghana Brand; let us go out there and make it count. Let us look out for others because you might not know what a little tap at the back or a little support can do to someone's life. Let us proceed in integrity and with time we shall impact our generation.

To conclude, I motivate you, class of 2018, with a quote from Martin Luther King Jnr, "If you cannot fly, run. If you cannot run, walk. If you cannot walk, crawl. But in all these, remember only one thing, keep moving forward". Long live Ghana, Long live the University of Ghana, and long live Class of 2018.

May the good Lord bless us all.

Thank you.

**VALEDICTORY ADDRESS DELIVERED
DANIEL AMOAKO GLAH
(SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2018)**

Member of Council representing the Chancellor
Members of the University Council
Vice-Chancellor
Pro-Vice Chancellor
Registrar
Provosts, Deans and Directors
Guest Speaker
Chairman and members of the Advisory Board of the College of Humanities
Members of Convocation,
Staff and Students,
Alumni,
Graduands

A good afternoon to you all. I am highly thrilled by this opportunity to give an address on behalf of this graduating class.

Today is a day the Lord Almighty has made. Let us be glad and rejoice in it. It is over, and this describes our time at the University of Ghana. We have spent these years wandering the lecture halls of this prestigious University and today we are ready to go on. We have experienced good times, the best times, bad times and the worst times in these long four years of stay in the walls of this esteemed University. We have learned, expressed amusement, loved, gotten into trouble, and most of all matured together. The hustle and bustle on the first day of arrival as students of this noble institution took away the ecstasy of gaining admission. Little did we know that the University of Ghana was even bigger than the whole of Accra, simply because one could be standing in front of the Central Cafeteria and still walk several kilometres to get to Sarbah Hall. One could stand in front of the UGBS to ask for direction to the 'SON' auditorium, only to end up around the School of Performing Arts. Just to realize later that it was just some few meters away.

Not forgetting the difficulty of waking up for a 7:30 am lecture and returning from a 5:30-7:20 pm class; the anxiety that comes with Interim Assessments

and Examinations. When we cast our minds back, all we remember is examination. It is during this period that you will see the University of Ghana busy at night as Makola market in the day. The theft and robbery at night when one had gone to burn the midnight candle in anticipation of passing examinations so as to meet the expectations of our parents.

The shouts of the invigilator in the examination Hall, “You have done an hour, an hour and a half more”, “30 minutes more” and you know you have an essay question more to answer; “stop work, all pens down” and you realize you are yet to conclude. And this is when you see the fastest writings. The classes we are graduating with today, I believe, would have been better if not for the large class sizes we have had. I know the class will agree with me on this. It made interaction with professors in class considerably difficult. We believe if more professors had been employed leading to a reduction in the class sizes, we the graduating class of 2018 would have performed par excellence. We hope this challenge is resolved in a manner which will enhance the performance of future graduating classes.

Fellow graduates, yet in all these times, we have outclassed. We reached the Rubicon, arriving as graduands some 1,522 days or I may say 50 months ago, and having traversed it as authoritatively as Caesar did in 49 BC, we have made our marks today as graduates.

Congratulations, Class of 2018!

It is safe to say that, we have completed a journey in our life and we have won a great victory. But we must first give gratitude to all those who have made this great achievement of our lives a possibility.

We are most grateful first of all to the Almighty God for his guidance throughout the four years stay in the University of Ghana.

To all parents and guardians of this graduating class, we say thank you for everything you have done in our lives from childhood to this day. To Mr. Glah and Mrs Felicia Amoako, and all parents, we say God richly bless you for the financial, emotional and spiritual support, as well as the encouragement to get up and continue even when we were falling. We would not have been here today, resplendent in our garments and luxuriating in the radiance of triumph,

had it not been for your sacrifices, hard work, love and tenderness of heart to see us achieve our life goals.

To all our lecturers, we say thank you. Like Jesus Christ and his disciples, you have taught us everything we need to be not just better students but also better persons in life. You have trained us to be able to face the world, standing with our shoulders high. Meeting assignment deadlines, the presentations, and popup quizzes; not forgetting Professor Ransford E. V Gyampo's weekly tests and compulsory seminars, have all shaped us for a world of limited possibilities.

Finally, to all our friends and loved ones both on campus and outside, who have helped us to achieve this hallmark in our lives, we the graduating class of 2018 say a very big thank you. And to all the departments and student associations, we say thank you.

However fellow graduates, today does not just concern reminiscing about the bygones. It is also about gazing forward into our imminent years. There is zilch for us to do here again– we are done. But what if it also described our lives? What if you fail to wake up tomorrow? Or if tomorrow you no longer existed on this earth, what would people hark back to about you? What legacy would you leave behind?

My fellow graduates, as we promenade into this world, we should bear in mind that responsibility comes with rank. The world needs leaders, change makers, history makers and above all people full of initiatives and business ideas to make the world a better place. The world needs people with integrity, who are respectful, loyal, kind at heart and committed to making the lives of others better. A world full of people battling with difficult economic times and a multiplicity of social ills awaits us. Let us go and be a positive change to the world.

I know most of us here are working on very important life changing projects and businesses. I have begun work on my foundation (the GAD foundation) which is aimed at providing equal academic opportunities to children living in the deprived areas of the regions, who have very improbable chances of

making it to this height. I would like to use this opportunity to solicit support from everyone here to make this project see the light.

Also, to my fellow graduates from the LLB programme, never give up in your quest to become lawyers. You must continue to build your capacity and learn the practical aspect of your career whenever you get the opportunity. You have a unique duty to your respective communities, having in mind that laws govern nations.

Now, let us all go into the world putting our collective shoulders to the wheel to make the world a better place than we came to meet it. Let us shine in every capacity that we occupy and not hide our light under a basket but put it on a lampstand so it can benefit all those around us and beyond.

Now let us proceed with Integrity.

God Bless the University of Ghana. God Bless the 2018 Graduating Class.

Ayekoo!!!

**CLOSING ADDRESS BY CHANCELLOR
MRS. MARY CHINERY–HESSE**

Members of Council
Vice-Chancellor
Members of Convocation
Distinguished Guest Speaker,
New Graduates,
Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen;

As we end the ceremony, I would like to salute all who have worked hard under the exceptional guidance of Vice-Chancellor, Pro Vice-Chancellors, Registrar to ensure a successful event.

I especially recognize all teachers and the management teams of the various units who have worked together to ensure that the time graduands spent in the University has been fruitful. The University appreciates the efforts that have been put into this enterprise by all stakeholders.

Never forget however, that you are a special group of Ghanaians as you step out today in the world with a University of Ghana degree in your hands, a degree from the premier university in Ghana. You heard the Vice-Chancellor attest that this institution is the most prestigious, highly ranked university in Ghana. You must hold your heads up high. You have in addition graduated with knowledge and skills which are essential for the development of mother Ghana, you must make every effort to excel in this regard. Remember, to whom much is given, much is expected.

I exhort you to build on what you have acquired, take every opportunity and shine like a brightest star in the universe. I am especially pleased to see many beautiful ladies among you; you have made your Chancellor very happy.

The more you excel in your world of work, the more you bring glory to Legon. I am recruiting you to be part of the brigade, dedicated in your attainment in whatever station you find yourself to uplift the image of the University in order to improve how we are ranked globally in the academic

world. I also expect you to maintain your links with the University and be credent members of the alumni association in order foster the mutual beneficial relationship. I wish you every success in your future endeavors.

Let me sum it all up for you in the words of the English writer, Jacqueline Schiff, the piece is called "Be Proud". This is the day to stand in the spotlight of your accomplishment and receive some well-deserved brace; it's your day to enjoy the celebration and let your family and friends express their love and congratulation. Never forget how much you are appreciated and how every one of us believes in and supports you as you reach for your degrees, this is the day to let your pride shine so brightly that it lights up the world. Our pride will be shining brightly too every time we look at you; And like Nathaniel Ocuaye said; "Make a joyful noise at this point".

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

Thank You.

