

**PRO-VICE-CHANCELLOR'S OPENING REMARKS AT
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION COLLOQUIUM AND DURBAR:
FRIDAY MAY 4, 2018**

Madam Chairperson,
Registrar, Provosts, Deans and other officials of the University;
Minister of State for Tertiary Education;
Faculty, Staff and Students of the College of Education;
Members of the College Advisory Board;
Distinguished ladies and gentlemen:

It is a pleasure to welcome you all to the University to participate in this durbar and colloquium, organized by the College of Education. This forms part of the year-long celebrations marking the 70th anniversary of the University of Ghana on the theme: ***Celebrating excellence, shaping futures***. It is important that we celebrate and reminisce on the achievements and experiences of the University over the last seven decades. The celebration affords us the opportunity to re-examine ourselves, take an inventory and audit our process to ensure that we correct our weaknesses and strengthen our processes of delivery of our services. As most of you are aware, our re-stated vision is to become a go-to, world class, research intensive university.

The University of Ghana was founded as the University College of the Gold Coast by Ordinance on August 11, 1948 for the purpose of providing and promoting university education, learning and research, and subsequently obtained its own charter and changed into the University of Ghana by an act of parliament (Act 79) on October 1, 1961.

Since its inception in 1948, the University of Ghana has achieved many successes. UG has for many years been ranked among the best universities on the African continent, and is very often the first choice for academics, researchers and students from around the world.

The University has since its inception, turned out thousands of students at various levels who are contributing in various ways to national and worldwide development, and remains a leader in research into societal problems.

It is our aim to align the curricula of our programmes to meet the needs of industry, and to provide solutions for knowledge creation, and the introduction of new skills and technologies.

In the 2014/2015 academic year, the University adopted the collegiate system of governance. This was aimed at decentralizing the University administration in order to make it more efficient and more effective while giving students greater choice in the programmes offered. Much progress has been made in achieving the goals of decentralization, and a panel to review the collegiate system was inaugurated just last week. It is expected that the panel will come up with ways in which we can make the system even more efficient and equipped to ensure the attainment of the University's mission and vision.

Ladies and gentlemen, the University depends to a large extent on government subvention to fund the majority of its activities. Supplemented by our internally generated funds. This has placed a limitation on the activities that we wish to undertake. While we are hopeful that the situation will improve as we continue to explore innovative ways to raise resources to fund key areas such as research, infrastructural maintenance, teaching and development. As a University, we are determined to expand our sources of internally generated funds, and it is in this regard that our 70th anniversary celebrations are dedicated to raising funds to support research and graduate studies. A number of graduating students admitted into our programs have either differed or declined their admissions because they have not been able to mobilize funds to finance their education.

The University's endowment fund will be launched next Monday, and I trust that each of us here will contribute generously to the Fund to enable us meet our targets.

I congratulate the College of Education for putting together this programme, whose theme: ***Celebrating Excellence, Shaping the Future of Education in Ghana*** derives from the overall theme for the anniversary year. The College of Education may be just four years old, but it is already blazing the way in creating opportunities through excellence in teaching, research and scholarship that take quality education to the doorsteps of all, through its learning Centres across the length and breadth of the country.

I am certain that deliberations at today's event will create a platform for constructing innovative ways in which the future of education can be positively re-structured, and also consider viable steps that can be taken to make products of the University more prepared for the job market. I encourage all of you to participate actively today's programmes, as well as the various programmes planned for the anniversary year.

I thank you for your attention and wish you fruitful deliberations.