

OFFICE OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR



FOURTH SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES CONFERENCE

THEME:

LITERARY, LINGUISTIC AND CULTURAL STUDIES IN A TIME OF CRISIS

ADDRESS BY:

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VICE – CHANCELLOR, UNIVERSITY OF GHANA**

**NOV. 3 – NOV. 5, 2021
UNIVERSITY OF GHANA**

Honourable Chairperson, Distinguished keynote speakers: Prof. Ato Quayson, Stanford University and Professor Veronica Koller, University of Lancaster, Dedicated lecturers and presenters, Students, Staff, Ladies and Gentlemen

I warmly welcome you all to the Fourth School of Languages Conference (SOLCON IV) . I am indeed honoured to be associated with the School of Languages, which has over the years organized conferences of this nature to create an avenue for stimulating discussions and conversations.

This year's conference happens to be the fourth in the series of biennial conferences organized by the School of Languages. The last three series have brought together seasoned personalities from academia and several institutions across the globe. The colloquia have also brought together panel members from diverse backgrounds to engage the audience in intellectually stimulating conversations on proverbs and pidgin usage amongst other things.

I am positive that this year's conference will be no exception, particularly considering that the theme itself is a conversation starter. The theme, "Literary, Linguistic and Cultural Studies in a time of Crisis" is indeed thought provoking and its relevance to the critical times in which we live cannot be overlooked. I firmly

believe that this year's School of Languages conference sets the tone for us to delve further into the issues emanating from the Covid 19 pandemic and other pandemics of this nature and how they affect language use.

I must applaud the School of Languages for continuously contributing its quota to research here at the University of Ghana. The School continues to organize weekly seminar sessions for faculty, students and the entire University community and I commend them for their consistent efforts in this regard.

I trust that this conference will not only be an avenue for discussions on the host of research activities conducted but also serve as a platform for networking and socialization amongst students, lecturers and other professionals in the field of academia. I urge you all to take advantage of the opportunity to tap into the expertise of colleague academics and students across the globe since I believe this will be beneficial to your careers in the near future.

On this note, I wish you fruitful deliberations.