

## STATEMENTS OF OFFICIALS

### STATEMENT FROM VICE-CHANCELLOR

I am glad that you are here today at the launch of the University of Ghana Printing Press, located on the campus of the University of Ghana. The newly merged University of Ghana Printing Press took off in the early days of my tenure as Vice- Chancellor, in 2016, and I am pleased with the strides gained by the Press in the past four years.

In 2015, the University inaugurated a 37.5 million US dollar Information and Communication Technology (ICT) project for the University of Ghana Distance Education programme under the Chinese Phase 2 ICT Project. The project was funded with a Chinese Government loan procured by the government of Ghana on behalf of the University, and it was funding from this project that enabled the purchase of the initial equipment for the start of the UG Printing Press.

From its modest start four years ago, I am pleased to see how far the Press has come in the last few years, and I am hopeful that with the needed support, the Press will go even further.

Management of the University approved the purchase of additional equipment for the Press late last year, and now that the equipment has been delivered and installed, the Press should be ready to move on to the next level.

Management has given the go-ahead for processes towards the incorporation of the UG Printing Press to commence, and I am sure that when the Press is incorporated, it will be able to extend its reach even further, and expand its production and client base.

All over the world, well-established University Presses provide printing and publishing services to their universities and the communities in which they are located. These presses have brought huge visibility to their universities and have established high standards for printing and publishing of scholarly works of faculty. Our expectation is that the University of Ghana Press, through outstanding management practices, and hard work by its staff, will in the near future, become a world class press that will bring visibility to the University through the high quality of its work.

The Press can only grow if there is a sustained push to increase patronage of the services it provides and I congratulate the Management Board of the Press for deciding to have an official launch of the Press, as well as a series of open days, to make the Press more visible and showcase the services it offers.

While the COVID-19 pandemic has dried up various regular streams of income for the University, increased work by the Press will support the University's efforts at diversifying funding sources and increasing the University's Internally Generated Funds (IGF). This will contribute to improvements in the finances of the University, particularly at this crucial time.

The University of Ghana Printing Press has started on a good note, and I salute all the staff of the Press, as well as the Management Board, chaired by Mr. Kwaku Mensa Bonsu, for the good work that is being done. I pledge the continued support of Management for the Press, and again encourage all units of the University, as well as other bodies represented here, to continue patronizing the services of the Press.

Professor Ebenezer Oduro Owusu  
Vice-Chancellor

## STATEMENT FROM ACTING PROVOST, COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

On behalf of the College of Education, I welcome you all to the launch of the University of Ghana

Printing Press. In the 1970s, two in-house presses were established in the then Institute of Adult Education and the School of Communication Studies to address the printing needs of these units. At the Institute of Adult Education, the press printed materials for the correspondence courses which the Institute was running for workers in Ghana. It also printed the Annual New Year School reports and the local newspaper “Kpodoga” for communities in the Volta Region. The School of Communication Studies Press, which was located on the site on which we are launching the UG Printing Press today, also printed local newspapers and used the press for teaching students’ practical skills in journalism.

In spite of the challenges that these presses faced, they were able to provide useful services to their units and the University as a whole. In 2014, when the University adopted the collegiate system of governance, the need to merge the two presses was mooted because the School of Continuing and Distance Education, through a grant from the Chinese government, had received equipment which could not be installed and housed at the School because of space limitations. Following approval by University management, this led to the amalgamation of the two presses which is being officially launched today as the University of Ghana Printing Press.

The Press has recently acquired new equipment that has greatly boosted the production capacity of the Press and made it possible for the Press to handle large amounts of printing work. The Press, for the past few years, has been responsible for designing and printing all University of Ghana calendars and Congregation brochures. Indeed, some sister universities, even those with their own presses, send work to the UG Press because of the demonstrated good quality.

As part of the medium-term plan for the Press, there are plans for the establishment of a publishing unit in the Press, but this can only happen if the growth of the Press is supported. All units in the University require some form of printed materials: annual reports, students’ science logbooks, files, laboratory report forms, receipts books, letterheads and branded envelopes, to name a few.

Making it mandatory for all units of the University to carry out printing jobs at the University of Ghana Printing Press would go a long way to support the growth of the Press. The UG Printing Press already carries out printing jobs for many units of the University, and the procurement of additional equipment for the Press, gives it the capacity to carry out a much larger amount of work. I think that now is the time for all printing jobs in the University to be carried out by the Press, to the extent that this is allowed by the Procurement Laws of the country.

The UG Printing Press faces much competition from other bigger, more established industry players, but with the right structures in place and the right environment, I am certain that the Press will continue to grow and to build upon the successes that it has already chalked.

I recognize the effort toward the establishment of the newly equipped Press by Professor Cephas Omenyo, the foundation Provost of the College of Education. I also acknowledge the role of Professor Yaw Oheneba Sakyi, former Dean of the School of Continuing and Distance Education, and Dr. Samuel Somuah, former Chief Information Technology Officer of the University, in spearheading the amalgamation of the two presses.

I also acknowledge the roles of the Dean, School of Information and Communication Studies and the former Head of the Department of Communication Studies towards the establishment of the Press.

I wish to thank Management of the University for its support for the Press. I also thank the Chairman and members of the Management Board of the University of Ghana Printing Press, the Printing Manager, Head of Administration and all the staff of the Press for their commitment and desire to see the Press grow. We say Ayekoo to you all!

**Professor Michael Tagoe**

Ag. Provost

College of Education



## **STATEMENT FROM CHAIRMAN OF THE MANAGEMENT BOARD UNIVERSITY OF GHANA PRINTING PRESS**

It is with great pleasure that I add my voice to the official welcome delivered by the Ag. Provost on the occasion of the launch of the UG Printing Press.

This launch marks a historic one for us especially in the wake of the current global pandemic which is becoming a threat to businesses. Indeed, at a time of continued global economic and financial vulnerability, it is important that we give visibility to our brand.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank management of the university for the confidence reposed in me to chair the Management Board and to my colleague members of the Board who have shown so much commitment and dedication to bring about the modest successes we have chalked so far.

Mr. Vice-Chancellor, from November 2016 when the Management Board was appointed, we hit the ground running and took on a major part of official printing needs of the University even with the limited resources we inherited. We know there are many more unexplored or uncharted areas for which we would need management's support to explore. We have the capacity and the capability as over the years we have acquired both plant and equipment to take over the entire printing needs of the university and beyond. Our commitment is embedded in our slogan: "Quality Printing, Prompt Delivery".

UG Printing Press is undergoing a timely modernisation aimed at ensuring that the UG Press remains competitive and become a leader in the printing industry. In the relatively short time of existence, the UG Printing Press has amply demonstrated that it is poised to become a leader in the printing industry and ultimately become a reputable Press House.

At a time where many businesses are trying to grapple with financial challenges, the Press can become an important source of income for the University; it is therefore crucial that it is supported.

But while we are desirous to forge ahead, we are also mindful that these resources go hand in hand with human resources. We therefore make a fervent appeal to management to support us in these areas to enable us deliver on our mandate. To this end, we have put together a proposal which will soon reach management. We trust this will receive a positive feedback so we can continue to improve the fortunes of the UG Printing Press.

It is our hope that with today's launch we would further spread our tentacles and hopefully increase our clientele base inside and outside of the university. With our daily Open-house Days throughout the week, we hope to seize the opportunity to showcase our products, engage with the various units of the university and the invited organizations and institutions. With that, we hope to form lasting relationships for our mutual benefit.

May I also take this opportunity to thank members of the Planning Committee for the hard work they put in ensuring a successful launch, and also to the Ag. Provost and his team for the enormous support.

Finally, permit me now to thank you all, on behalf of the Management Board, for joining us in the launch and look forward to your continued support.

Thank you.

**Kwaku Mensa-Bonsu**

Chairman, Management Board University of Ghana Printing Press

