

OFFICE OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR



**VICE-CHANCELLOR'S CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE ON THE OCCASION OF THE 60TH
ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF UGMS**

THEME:

“BUILDING ON 60 YEARS OF QUALITY MEDICAL EDUCATION: THE ROLE OF TECHNOLOGY”

ADDRESS BY:

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UNIVERSITY OF GHANA**

It is with great pleasure and honour that I lead the avalanche of goodwill messages to one of the University's earliest and most impactful academic units, University of Ghana Medical School (UGMS) on their 60th anniversary.

60 year of existence is no mean achievement in the life of an institution, especially one as UGMS whose contribution to medical training and practice of healthcare professionals is evidently felt across the length and breadth of our country and beyond.

Since its inception in 1962, the University of Ghana Medical School has been a major player in the training of medical professionals in Ghana, the West African sub-region and beyond. With internationally renowned pioneer faculty members such as J. K. M. Quartey, F. N. L. Engmann and H. H. Philips, the University of Ghana Medical School has grown steadily over the years and expanded to include several departments.

Student enrolment has increased over the years without compromising on academic rigour and quality of training; from an initial 41 first year students in the first cohort in 1964, the University admitted 166 students in the year 2021. The School has produced several notable alumni who occupy influential positions in Ghana and around the world. Most of these cherished alumni tirelessly attend to the healthcare needs of their communities. A good number of the alumni have also been retained as faculty members assisting with the training of many other young medics.

As a University which seeks to promote gender parity, I am happy to announce that the percentage of female enrolment has increased from less than 10% at inception to approximately 41.5% presently. The School deserves special commendation for its efforts to increase the number of female doctors, which has seen the proportion of women admitted to the Medical School rise from 3 out of 41 in 1964 to 69 out of 166 in 2021.

The School's contribution to the establishment of other Medical Schools and health institutes cannot be overemphasized. The School of Public Health, Dental School, School of Biomedical and Allied Health Sciences, School of Pharmacy, all of University of Ghana, as well as the School of Medicine and Dentistry, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, and several other medical schools in Ghana were all spawned by the University of Ghana Medical School.

In the area of research, faculty members of the School and its constituent departments and centres of research continue to engage in ground-breaking research, with publications cited in top-notch journals. The training of post-graduate students continues apace, ensuring that the School's mission of "producing competent medical practitioners, capable of providing service to meet the health needs of the nation and the global community, through excellence in teaching and learning, research and knowledge dissemination." is on course.

As the School takes stock of 60 years of health science and looks to an even brighter future, the anniversary theme ***"Building on 60 years of Quality Medical Education: The Role of Technology"***, is particularly apt. It is our

desire that the School will harness the transformative power of technology to improve on medical training and health delivery, and to make cutting-edge medical technology and research a fundamental facet of the ethos of the School.

We celebrate 60 proud years of hard work and achievements. Ayekoo to past and present Deans, staff and students of the UG Medical School for your resilience in making UGMS a flagship centre of excellence and a bedrock in medical training and practice; marking a mark on the national and global front.

Hearty congratulations, University of Ghana Medical School!