

OFFICE OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR



WEAR UG DAY PANEL DISCUSSION

ADDRESS BY:

**PROFESSOR NANA ABA APPIAH AMFO
VICE - CHANCELLOR, UNIVERSITY OF GHANA**

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2023
GREAT HALL, UNIVERSITY OF GHANA**



Registrar,

Provosts, Deans, Directors and Heads of Department,

Faculty, Staff and Members of Convocation,

Past and Present Senior Officers of the University,

Students and Alumni,

The Media,

Invited Guests,

Ladies and gentlemen,

Good afternoon.

It is a pleasure to welcome you all warmly to the Great Hall of the University of Ghana. As some of you may recall during the Thanksgiving Service, I instituted “**Wear UG Day**” to be observed on October 11 in commemoration of the day on which the University started operation.

This idea was to have members of the University community (faculty, staff, students, alumni, affiliates and associates) get preferably the 75th anniversary cloth (or other UG branded cloth), design them stylishly, flaunt them with pride, take memorable pictures and flood social media pages with them. Wear UG Day

was not only for us to assert our proud identity as members of Ghana's premier and highly ranked university but also to reflect on the giant strides we have made over the past 75 years and to rekindle our inspiration to continuously strive to live up to "the UG Brand".

We don't want this to be a one-day affair, so my proposal is that the Wear UG

Day becomes a permanent feature on our annual university calendar, where on the second Wednesday of October, every year, we wear something UG, in commemoration of the inauguration of our dear University.

A little over a week ago when some members of the UG@75 Planning Committee called on me in my office to provide updates on anniversary programmes, a brilliant idea which birthed this programme came up. This we thought was a fine opportunity to engage in some introspection and reflection, retracing our steps to our very beginnings and to assess how well we have lived up to our core mandate. Upon further deliberations, we settled on engaging people who are well-versed in the history, operations and governance of the University to share invaluable insights with the audience, particularly younger members of the community, to

have a good understanding and appreciation of the University of Ghana's 75 years of existence. This should keep us well-informed and sufficiently grounded and we plan for the next decades. We are looking back on our history, to inform our future. As the saying goes "Whoever wishes to foresee the future must consult the past".

In order to provide a holistic perspective on the subject, we have carefully selected and assembled respected individuals who have played crucial leadership roles in the university; two former Vice-Chancellors (ie Executive Heads) at two different eras; a former Registrar who will speak to core administrative issues and a former student leader who happens to be the first female Ag. SRC President to share insights from the perspective of students. To drive a conversation such as this the team settled on one of the finest moderators who is also a proud alum of UG and who has demonstrated time without number, his prowess in moderating such programmes. Coupled with his in-depth knowledge of the University, I assure you of not only an exciting conversation but also one that will inspire us all to collectively work towards sustaining our enviable feat as the most prestigious universities in Ghana, and one of the finest in Africa and globally.

Before I take my seat, permit me to share some information about our upcoming Banquet in December. This is a fundraising dinner scheduled to be held on December 22, 2023 with the President of the Republic, other dignitaries and special guests, alumni, faculty, staff, students and partners of the university in attendance. Proceeds from this event will be channelled to the construction of the 75th anniversary legacy project which is a Student Experience Centre, a project that will change the face of student services at UG. Further details about this event will be shared in due course. I urge you all to mark your calendars and join us as we crown off the anniversary celebration in grand style with glit and glamour. I shall now invite the MC/Moderator to continue with proceedings. Thank you.

Prof. Nana Aba Appiah Amfo
Vice-Chancellor
October 11, 2023