

OFFICE OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR



GTEC NATIONAL TERTIARY CONFERENCE 2024

ADDRESS BY:

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

TUES. NOV. 5, 2024

**CEDI CONFERENCE CENTRE
UNIVERSITY OF GHANA**

***“Transforming Tertiary Education in Ghana: Dialogue,
Policy and Practice”***

*Special Guest of Honour, Your Excellency Nana Addo Dankwa
Akufo Addo, President of the Republic of Ghana*

*Guest of Honour, Hon. Dr. Yaw Osie Adutwum, Minister of
Education*

Prof. Kwame Boafo Arthur, Board Chairman, GTEC

Prof. Ahmed Abdulai Jinapor, Director-General, GTEC

*Prof. Ernest Aryeetey, Keynote Speaker and Former Vice-
Chancellor, University of Ghana*

Other Distinguished Speakers

Chairman and Members of the Conference Organizing Committee

Participants

The Media

Invited Guests

Ladies and Gentlemen

A very good morning to you all.

On behalf of the Management of the University of Ghana and on my own behalf, I welcome you all warmly to the University of Ghana for the 2024 National Tertiary Education Conference.

There could not have been a more appropriate venue than the premier University of Ghana to hold such a crucial conference on ***“Transforming Tertiary Education in Ghana: Dialogue, Policy and Practice”***.

Let me commend GTEC and the Conference Organizing Team for this initiative to convene a national and holistic conversation on the stated theme. As an institution vested with the mandate to regulate tertiary education in all its forms, a forum such as this provides the appropriate platform to remain proactive in living up to its mandate.

As we navigate the complexities of the 21st century, it is imperative that we engage in meaningful dialogue, implement effective policies, and translate these into impactful practices to transform our educational landscape. This requires collaboration among the tertiary institutions, regulatory bodies and industry. The connection between academia and industry, if properly managed, will help bridge the skills gap and enhance employability. I therefore find this Conference very important and timely.

Your Excellency, Honourable Minister of Education, distinguished ladies and gentlemen, the tertiary education landscape has evolved significantly over the years. There has been a surge in the number of tertiary institutions, student enrolment, diverse programme offerings, and varied modes of programme delivery. Inherent in these dynamics, are both opportunities which needs to be harnessed and threats which must be mitigated in order to transform tertiary education in Ghana.

I have noted from the programme that there are a number of topics focussing on critical areas expected to drive transformation in our tertiary institutions. We must foster an open and inclusive dialogue among all stakeholders. This includes government officials, educators, students, industry leaders, and community representatives. By promoting dialogue, we ensure that our educational policies are not crafted in isolation but they reflect the aspirations and needs of our diverse population.

We must also transition from dialogue to actionable policy. Our policies should be grounded in research and data, aligned with both local needs and global trends.

Considering the calibre of the carefully selected speakers with the cross-cutting sub-themes, I am certain that this conference is the

beginning of expected progressive change in tertiary education in Ghana.

Your Excellency, distinguished ladies and gentlemen, beyond this dialogue, I look forward to seeing actionable, pragmatic and bold policies that will be translated into practice to strengthen the tertiary education landscape not only in Ghana but also within the sub-region and beyond.

Transforming tertiary education in Ghana is a collective responsibility. It calls for a commitment to dialogue, the courage to implement impactful policies, and the dedication to translate these policies into practice. Together, we can build a dynamic educational system that does not only equip our youth for the challenges of today but also inspires them to be leaders and innovators of tomorrow.

A warm welcome once again to our beautiful campus. University of Ghana is proud to host this conference. Enjoy your stay over this three-day period of learning, unlearning and re-learning. I wish us all a fruitful conference.

Thank you

Prof. Nana Aba Appiah Amfo

Vice-Chancellor

(November 5, 2024)