

**OFFICE OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR**



**ADDRESS AT THE LECTURE ON ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND EDUCATION: FROM  
LONDON TO ACCRA - A SHARED VISION, CO-HOSTED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF  
GHANA AND IMPERIAL COLLEGE LONDON'S GHANA HUB**

**ADDRESS BY:**

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

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 16, 2025**

**WAGMC Auditorium**

**University of Ghana**

Mayor of London, Sir Sadiq Khan,

Distinguished guests, colleagues, and students,

It is a pleasure to welcome you to the University of Ghana.

Ghana, like many developing countries, faces the pressing challenge of graduate unemployment. At the same time, SMEs form the backbone of our economy—contributing over 70% to GDP and 90% of all businesses. This underscores the urgency and importance of entrepreneurship and targeted education to drive sustainable economic growth.

At the University of Ghana, we are committed to providing our students with a transformative experience—one that goes beyond the classroom to nurture innovation, leadership, and practical problem-solving. This commitment is rooted in our strategic plan, which prioritizes student success, impactful research, and strategic partnerships.

One such partnership—rich in promise and results—is with **Imperial College London**. What began as a collaboration between two researchers has evolved into a university-wide alliance advancing work in climate change, diagnostics, and

entrepreneurship. It is a powerful model of what mutual trust and shared purpose can achieve.

A flagship of this partnership is the **Student Venture Support Programme (SVSP)**. Launched in 2022 with Imperial and Impact Hub Accra, the SVSP equips students with skills, mentoring, and funding to turn ideas into viable ventures. To date, it has supported over 400 students and more than 115 startups—spanning four universities across Ghana.

We've taken this further with **founder exchanges**—between London and Accra—allowing student entrepreneurs to engage with experts, expand networks, and explore new markets. A standout example is *Deploy*, a startup from Imperial now helping provide water solutions in northern Ghana.

We are also proud of our role in the **Commonwealth Startup Fellowship**, where our own Luther Quarshie of Agrimercarb is transforming waste into fertilizer and protein feed—showcasing how entrepreneurship can tackle food security, waste management, and economic inclusion.

The launch of **Imperial Global Ghana** in 2024 has deepened this partnership. With UG now enrolling over 70,000 students, we aim

to have at least 10% actively engaged in entrepreneurship—creating a generation of job creators and global problem-solvers.

Sir Khan, your visit today symbolizes more than diplomatic friendship—it affirms our shared commitment to building resilient economies and empowered youth across borders.

Together, we are not just creating businesses. We are building futures.

Thank you.

**Prof. Nana Aba Appiah Amfo**

**Vice-Chancellor**

**16th July 2025**