OFFICE OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

ON THE OCCASION OF THE INSTALLATION OF DR GEORGE KODIE FRIMPONG AS HALL MASTER OF AKUAFO HALL

ADDRESS BY:

PROFESSOR NANA ABA APPIAH AMFO

VICE-CHANCELLOR, UNIVERSITY OF GHANA

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2026
UNIVERSITY OF GHANA
LEGON

Protocol

Pro-Vice-Chancellors;

The Registrar;

Nananom, Niimei, Naamei;

The Visitor, Very Rev. Dr Abedu Quarshie;

Deans, Directors and Heads of Department;

The Hall Master, Dr George Kodie Frimpong;

Members of the Akuafo Hall Council, Fellows and Hall Management;

Distinguished Alumni, Staff, Students and Invited Guests;

Ladies and Gentlemen.

Good afternoon.

It gives me great pleasure to join the Akuafo Hall

community for the formal installation of Dr George Kodie Frimpong as Hall Master. Dr Frimpong, let me begin by congratulating you on your appointment and wishing you a successful tenure.

Today's ceremony is especially significant as Akuafo Hall celebrates its 70th anniversary. For seven decades, the Hall has been an important part of the University of Ghana's history, nurturing generations of students who have gone on to distinguish themselves in various fields.

And, of course, we must never forget the farmers whose contributions made the establishment of this Hall possible. The name *Akuafo* is a constant reminder of the value of hard work, sacrifice and service to society. These are values worth preserving as the Hall looks towards its future.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Hall Master occupies an important leadership position

within our University. Beyond overseeing the administration and facilities of the Hall, the Hall Master has a responsibility to help create an environment in which students can thrive academically, socially and personally.

This responsibility connects directly with our University's first strategic priority, Transformative Student Experience.

We want students to remember their time at Legon not simply for the qualifications they obtained, but also for the friendships they built, the leadership opportunities they encountered, the values they developed and the sense of belonging they experienced.

Our residential halls have a particularly important role in making this possible.

I am therefore encouraged by the initiatives that have emerged during the first six months of Dr Frimpong's leadership.

I was particularly pleased to learn that Akuafo Hall has taken the initiative to display the University's core values and strategic priorities prominently at its entrance. I commend this effort. Our strategic priorities should not remain in documents discussed only at Management meetings. They must find expression in the everyday life of the University, including our halls of residence.

I am equally encouraged by the collaboration involving Akuafo Hall, the School of Agriculture and Nkabom to renovate the historic Dining Hall and establish a student-operated restaurant.

This is a good example of our fourth and fifth strategic priorities of Engagement and Partnerships and Sustainable Resource Mobilisation and Stewardship in action.

By drawing on partnerships and mobilising resources

beyond direct allocations from the University's central budget, we can improve our facilities while creating opportunities for students to gain practical experience and develop entrepreneurial skills.

I also welcome the proposed Agribusiness Innovation Hub, which has the potential to connect learning, research, innovation and enterprise. I hope that the Hall will work closely with the School of Agriculture and other relevant units to translate this idea into something practical and sustainable.

The various anniversary activities, including the Adinkra Durbar, Farmers Market, Health Walk and student leadership training, are also commendable. They reflect an appreciation that university education takes place both inside and outside the classroom.

Dr Frimpong, As you are formally installed today, I wish to

leave you with three expectations.

First, put students at the centre of your leadership. Ensure that Akuafo Hall remains a safe, inclusive and supportive environment where students can learn, develop their talents and participate meaningfully in university life.

Second, exercise prudent stewardship of the Hall's resources and facilities. We all know the pressures on university infrastructure and finances. Maintenance, responsible resource management and the mobilisation of additional support must remain priorities. We should preserve what we have inherited while improving it for those who will come after us.

Third, lead collaboratively and with integrity. Work closely with the Hall Council, Fellows, staff, students and alumni. Listen to different perspectives, communicate clearly and uphold the University's governance structures. Good

leadership is not about doing everything yourself; it is about bringing people together around a shared purpose.

To the Fellows, alumni, staff and students, I encourage you to give the Hall Master your full support. The success of Akuafo Hall is a collective responsibility.

As we celebrate seventy years of Akuafo Hall, we should also be asking ourselves what kind of Hall we want to bequeath to future generations. I hope it will be one that preserves its proud traditions while remaining open to new ideas, innovation and positive change.

Dr Frimpong, once again, congratulations on your appointment. University Management looks forward to working with you and the Hall Council to strengthen Akuafo Hall and enhance the experience of its residents.

I wish you a fruitful tenure, and I wish Akuafo Hall continued progress as it celebrates this important

milestone.

Thank you, and God bless the University of Ghana and our homeland Ghana.

Prof. Nana Aba Appiah Amfo

Vice-Chancellor

October 29, 2026