

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE SPECIAL CONGREGATION FOR CONFERMENT OF
HONORARY DEGREES AND ALUMNI DINNER, HELD ON
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2003 AT THE GOLDEN TULIP HOTEL, ACCRA.**

For the first time in the history of the University, the Congregation was held outside the premises of the University. This was necessitated by two reasons:

- One of the awardees, Dr Emmanuel Evans Anfom, could not proceed to Kumasi to receive the award, on health grounds.
- The occasion was planned to coincide with the newly instituted "Annual Alumni Dinner", which had been scheduled for Saturday, December 6, 2003.

The Chairman of council was represented by Mr. Kwame Saarah Mensah, a member of council at the ceremony. The occasion was graced by Deans and Directors, Departmental heads, Senior Members and a number of alumni of KNUST. Dr. Emmanuel Evans-Anfom, past Vice-Chancellor, and Prof. Eldryd Hugh Owen Parry, received the Honorary degree of Doctor of Science in recognition of their distinguished contribution to the nation and humanity as a whole.

PART ONE
CONFERMENT OF HONORARY DEGREES

ADDRESS BY VICE-CHANCELLOR, PROF. KWESI ANDAM

1.0 SALUTATION

- Representative of the Chairman of Council, Emeritus Professor FA Kufuor
- Pro Vice-Chancellor, Professor K.K. Adarkwa
- Past Vice-Chancellor; Dr. Emmanuel Evans-Anfom, DSc Honoris Causa'
- Past Dean of SMS, Professor E.H.G. Parry, DSc Honoris Causa
- Registrar, Mrs. Sophia Quashie-Sam
- Deans of Faculties
- Directors of Institutes
- Heads of Departments
- Senior Members
- Very Distinguished Alumni
- Ladies and Gentlemen

2.0 THE ROLE OF ALUMNI IN A MODERN UNIVERSITY

I have declared in several of my speeches (to congregation, convocation, other public addresses) that in all modern universities I have visited in the past year, alumni play unique roles in the development of the University. Alumni are foremost in endowing chairs, libraries, student residency, squares, parks, prizes etc. Some alumni even bequeath in their wills substantial amount of their estate to their University.

Both the University and our alumni associations in Ghana and elsewhere owe it a duty to create awareness among members that our alumni in Ghana and abroad should begin to endow their University in a positive manner. It is tempting to think that the endowment I am speaking about concerns only very rich people. No, I am saying each alumnus and alumna can begin to consider of some endowment, however small it may be. It does not cost the price of earth to donate a prize for the most articulate architectural student in the fourth year, for example, during the defence of a studio work etc. I was so impressed with members in the 1981 class in Civil Engineering who together to donate computers and books to their alma mater.

3.0 BENEFITS TO THE ALUMNI

In the same way we regularly contribute to programmes and projects in our secondary schools, we should begin to be ever more enthusiastic about our University. There is of course a sense of satisfaction for one's name to be associated with a good cause and we shall now begin to publish regularly in our annual reports, the names of ALL our benefactors. I must however add that in modern Universities, consideration for admission of a son! daughter of an alumnus/alumna can only be taken into account if the alumnus/ alumna contributes regularly to the University's projects and programs. And this is always considered in a very limited sense. It will not be fair to the University for our hundreds of alumni to expect that mere membership of our Alumni Association constitutes an automatic admission of an' offspring. We are however working very hard to ensure that starting from this year, the University will expand her intake in consonance with the modest infrastructural enhancement that is taking place in the University to ease admission constrictions.

4.0 ANNUAL ALUMNI DINNER

Starting from this year, the University is instituting an annual Alumni Dinner for all her alumni. It will be an occasion to see each other and to be informed about events and progress in the University. I hope you will all come to our annual dinners as our friends in Legon do regularly.

5.0 BRIEF STATE OF THE UNIVERSITY ADDRESS

My state of the University address is a 2-3page document, which I cannot present in totality here tonight. But if it is a popular request, we can reproduce the full document to be distributed at a later stage. I will therefore only highlight a few change taking place in the University.

5.1 RESTRUCTURING OF ACADEMIC UNITS AND ADMINISTRATION.

Following my assumption of office, eleven Ad-Hoc Committees were formed to consider the feasibility of restructuring the current eleven faculties/institutes into six Colleges in order to achieve greater efficiency in the Faculties. These committees have finished their work and their reports 'have been considered by Executive Committee, Academic Board and the University Council. In addition, two other committees were also formed to consider the restructuring of the Administration, including the Finance Office, and the University Library. These two reports have also been reviewed and their recommendations accepted by the appropriate University authorities.

The review of the current Statutes promulgated in April 2000 is in progress and it is anticipated that the output would be ready for discussion and ratification latest by end of

March 2004. Within the next quarter, efforts would be made to complete the statutes review to provide the required legal backing to the restructuring exercise.

5.2 STUDENT POPULATION AND CHARACTERISTICS

For the 2003/04 academic year KNUST received 13,617 applications for the various undergraduate programmes. Out of this, 11,768 (i.e. 86.9%) qualified but only 4,863 (i.e. 41% of the qualified applicants) could be admitted. The gender distribution of the qualified applicants admitted were the same 41 % for both sexes.

With the addition of 609 postgraduates, the total number of candidates admitted this year was 5,472; an increase of 5.7% over last year's figures. Out of the 5,472 candidates admitted, 421 were foreigners, with majority of them being Nigerians. Five hundred and ninety three (593) were Ghanaian

Fee-Paying student.

KNUST admits students from ALL the regions of the country. Ashanti region tops the list with 27% of all students admitted this year. The distribution for the other regions are as follows; Eastern Region (16%), Volta Region (12%), Central Region (12%) and Greater Accra Region (9%). The remaining regions had less than 5% each - Western Region (3 %), Northern Region (2%), Brong Ahafo Region (1 %), Upper East Region (1%) and Upper West Region (0.9%). About 9% of the students did not indicate the regions they 'come from.

In terms of Faculties, most of the candidates were admitted into the School of Engineering (20%), followed by Faculty of Science (19%), Social Sciences (17%), College of Art (12%), Faculty of Environmental and Development Studies (FEDS) (11 %), Faculty of Pharmacy (5%), School of Medical Sciences (5%), Institute of Renewable Natural Resources (IRNR) (5%), Faculty of Agriculture (4%) Law and ILMAD (2%) each.

The introduction of the new residential policy automatically gave residence to all first year students admitted. Out of the current population of 14,337 (with 10,417 being males and 3,920 females) less than 40% are resident on campus. We know in practice however, that the number of students actually resident in the halls is far higher than this.

Research into the background of candidates admitted revealed that each of the top class schools such as Presbyterian Boys Secondary, School-Legon, Prempeh College, Opoku Ware, Mfanstipim, Wesley 'Girls High School, Achimota, St. Louis Secondary, Pope John Secondary, St. Augustine's, Yaa Asantewaa, St. Peter's, St. Rose's etc. have between 3-6% of the total candidates admitted. In fact, the top ten' schools contributed about 40% of the number of fresh students offered admission this year.

Obviously this partly justifies KNUST's new policy on admission for candidates from deprived schools. This year, fifty-nine (59) candidates benefited from the policy which has been a trail-blazer. Plans are underway to increase the intake from such schools next year. So far, media comments have been very favourable and it has been seen as an innovative way of addressing current inequities with our educational system.

5.3 OPEN ELECTIVES/NEW PROGRAMMES

The electives were introduced to complement our specialized programmes as well as provide a broadened context for exploring personal and career choices. In addition, they will make our students graduate as balanced and well-grounded professionals. In view of the above, during the year under review various electives were introduced in Music, Cultural Studies and Sports. Available registration date indicates that some of the well patronized courses include "Introduction to Sound Engineering" (MUS 159), "Keyboard Skills" (MUS 153), "Fundamentals of Music Theory" (MUS 151) and "Basic Tennis" (PES 101). A total of nearly 350 students registered for the music related electives and about 200 registered for the sports- based electives. We have received favourable comments from students in their evaluation of these courses and we intend to resolve all the teething problems that have emerged during this formative year. Efforts will therefore be made through a central timetable to ensure that various clash of lecture periods encountered this year are reduced to the barest minimum.

Based on interest expressed by students, discussions are also well advanced to introduce additional electives such as "Karate" and "Tae Kwan Do". In addition, it is also planned that the period between the end of the second semester and the beginning of the first semester will be used to mount some of these elective courses for members of the larger University Community. It is now clear that the University swimming pool is to function hence forth efficiently by the addition of the conference centre. I intend to convince Academic Board to introduce swimming as a course that all our graduates should be encouraged to offer. This can be achieved by say offering the course to ALL second year students in every year. It could be a one hour credit course.

The University also introduced new programmes in law and Nursing as a way of diversifying and enriching its curricula. So far the response by students to the new programmes have been appreciable. While these programmes were over-subscribed, only 60 students were admitted to pursue the Law programme while 41 students were offered admission and enrolled in the Nursing programme.

BOEING WORKSHOP TO ASSIST KNUST

The giant aircraft industry Boeing organized a workshop in Accra on 13th- 14 October, 2003 to formally declare her assistance to KNUST to run a program in aerospace engineering. The

workshop brought together all the stakeholders in the aviation industry including Ghana Civil Aviation Authority, Ghana Air force, Ghana Airways.

It has become apparent that Ghana and the region are in need of aerospace engineering. The Department of Mechanical Engineering and the Department of Civil Engineering already have the capacity to mount a -1-year BSc. Programme and are preparing to start the programme in August 2004. Other stakeholders present pledged different types of support for the programme.

5.4 QUALITY ASSURANCE AND STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Quality Assurance is key to the University's strife towards achieving excellence in all spheres of its activities; namely Teaching, Learning, Research and Service. On assumption of Office, last year, a Quality Assurance Unit was established within the Vice-Chancellor's Office.

In order to institutionalize quality assurance as a permanent feature on the University calendar, workshops have been organised on campus and at the Western University College targeting students, lecturers, administrators as well as junior and senior staff. During these workshops the implications of quality assurance for each stakeholder's work in the University which is concerned with achieving excellence in all spheres of its activities is outlined.

During the year under review, efforts were made to pilot students' assessment of lecturers in the areas of Course Presentation; Lecturer's Bearing in Class, Mode of Delivery and pedagogy, the results of which were used for a university-wide assessment of lecturers by student. This will urge lecturers on to do quality teaching given that they are aware that they will be assessed by their students. I would like to congratulate our entire faculty by accepting this challenge. It is innovative and has transcended cultural barriers. Other activities undertaken during the period under review include teaching methods, improvement workshops as well as seminars on effective provision of service for Heads of Departments and Deans of Faculties.

Over the medium term, and to ensure the sustainability of quality assurance in the University, the following pipeline activities are planned:

- a. Incorporation of elements of quality assurance into the revised University Statutes;
- b. Preparation of quality assurance manual and hangouts; and
- c. Review of the University's Strategic Plan Document to enable quality assurance play an effective role in its implementation

5.5 DEVELOPMENT OF NEW INFRASTRUCTURAL FACILITIES/VEHICLES

For some time now we have been constrained by both academic and residential facilities as a result of which we are unable to expand admissions into several programmes. We have begun

tackling the problem head-on with the assistance of the GETFund. Based on our urgent needs, we have prioritised our requirements for new infrastructural development as follows:

- a. Central Lecture Theatre;
- b. College of Science Building;
- c. College of Art, Administration and Faculty Complex Phase I, Integrated Rural Art and Industry/Centre for Cultural and African Studies;
- d. Auditorium for School of Engineering; and
- e. Sports Complex (Phase 1)

I am happy to announce that contracts for these projects have been awarded and all the contractors have mobilized to site to commence works. Sod- Cutting ceremonies were held on all these sites on 9th October, 2003 and it is our hope that these works will be completed on schedule to improve our rather critical accommodation problems. Another major infrastructural development which will commence before the end of the year is the construction of our Ringway Estate Guest House in Accra. Tenders have been opened and the bids are currently being evaluated. This project will be financed from our own internally generated funds. Over the longer term, we intend building a new hall of residence with assistance from the GETFund.

GETFund has also requested the University to manage and supervise contracts for the construction of a Headmaster's bungalow and Administration Block for the Technology Secondary School on the site allocated to them by the University along Boadi Road. This means that the current site of Technology Secondary School will eventually become free for the construction of the ultra-modern theatre to promote the theatre arts as well as accommodate various functions for students. We will also investigate the possibility of this facility accommodating the proposed Students' Union Building.

The year under review also saw the purchase of 12 pick-up vehicles which were distributed to the Faculties, Basic School and other Units to enhance efficiency of their work.

6.0 CONCLUSION AND PERSPECTIVE FOR THE FUTURE

Our University is one of the finest in the world and certainly the best Technical University in Africa. We have an obligation to teach research and serve but we can only do so if we harness all our collective potentials and move along to implement our strategic plan together with precepts of the Vision that we are pursuing over the medium term. We have implemented elements of these two frameworks for only a year and have encountered several challenges, which are outweighed by the numerous successes we have chalked. We have a bright future as a university and therefore it is important that we bury our differences and march on to success. If we fail, we would have failed our nation and Africa.

I thank you for your attention and may the good Lord bless us all.

CITATION

EMMANUEL EVANS-ANFOM DOCTOR OF SCIENCE (DSc.) HONORIS CAUSA

Emmanuel Evans-Anfom, former Vice-Chancellor, statesman, dedicated administrator, distinguished surgeon, sportsman, scholar and educationist, the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) salutes you for the years of dedicated service rendered to Society.

You were educated at Achimota College in the period 1935-1941 and at Edinburgh University, Scotland, where you obtained your qualification in Medicine, (MB. Ch.B. [1942-1947]) and the Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, DT.M. &H [1948]. The patriot that you are, you returned home to join the Gold Coast Medical Service in 1950 and worked as a medical officer in some District and Regional Hospitals including Dunkwa and Tamale, and then as a surgeon specialist in Kumasi. You were received into Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons (FRCS, Edinburgh) in 1955. You were a foundation member of staff in surgery in the Ghana Medical School (1964-1967) and simultaneously encumbered the positions of consultant surgeon, Ministry of Health and Medical Superintendent (part- time), Korle Bu Teaching Hospital.

You were Vice-Chancellor for the then University of Science and Technology (UST) for 7 years (1967-1973). Your administration saw to the establishment of the internationally famous Technology Consultancy Centre (TCC), which has served as the incubator of the now popular ITTUs nationwide, the Faculty of Social Science and inter-Departmental links with foreign ones. You served the nation in the NRC era as Chairman of the National Council for Higher Education in the period 1974-1977, Commissioner for Education & Culture (1978-1979) and Commissioner for Health (June- September, 1979). You held other posts including: Chairmanship of the West African Examinations Council (WAEC), 1991-1994, the Ghana Medical and Dental Council and also President of the Ghana Academy of Arts and Sciences (1987-1991).

A keen sportsman, you have received honours in hockey as a national team player (1952-1962) and captain (1958-1962). You have brought honour to yourself through your membership of the Council of State in the Third Republic in 1979.

You are recognized internationally as a conference speaker and you addressed many conferences on medicine, education and general life, all areas which have occupied the greater part of your adult life. You have published articles in journals of repute.

Your achievements have won you many honours including Fellowship of International College of Surgeons (1960), International Surgical Association (1970), and International

Society for Burns and Injuries (1963). You also hold the degree, DSc, (*Honoris Causa*) of the University of Salford-UK, 1974.

Emmanuel Evans-Anfom, in recognition of your vast contribution to the development of the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology and for your selfless devotion to the service of your country, we are proud to award you the degree of Doctor of Science (DSc), *Honoris Causa*.

Dr. Emmanuel Evans-Anfom, May you now step forward to receive the honour.

Prof Kwesi Andam
Vice-Chancellor, KNUST
Saturday 6th December 2003
Golden Tulip Hotel, Accra

CITATION

ELDRYD HUGH OWEN PARRY

Eldryd Hugh Owen Parry, physician, professor of medicine, an embodiment of selfless devotion to duty and love for humanity, the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) salutes you for your singular service rendered to Society.

You received your professional education at Emmanuel College, Cambridge and the Welsh National School of Medicine, both in the United Kingdom. Your association with the KNUST began in 1980 when you took up an appointment as a professor of Medicine and the second Dean of the new School of Medical Sciences (1980-1985) coming from a background of a wealth of experience acquired over several years spent, first as a residential medical officer at the Cardiff Royal Infirmary in Wales since 1956. Between 1958 and 1965, you worked at the National Heart and Hammersmith Hospitals, both in London. You also worked at the University College Hospital in Ibadan, Nigeria on secondment as a senior registrar and acting lecturer in medicine. You did work at the Haile Selassie University in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, as Welcome Fellow and Associate Professor of Medicine; this was followed by a stint as foundation Dean of the Medical School at the University of Ilorin, Nigeria. You held appointments as external examiner in Medicine in the Universities at Addis Ababa, Dar es Salaam, Legon Khartoum, Kumasi, Lagos, Makerere, Enugu, Liverpool, London and Zimbabwe between 1970-1997. You also were an examiner in your *Alma Mater*, the University of Cambridge 1997-2001, and the University of El- Quds University in Jerusalem, 2001.

Eldryd Hugh Owen Parry, as a consultant to the Ministry of Health in Lagos, Nigeria between 1990 and 1996, you in collaboration with the Netherlands Leprosy Association designed, introduced to, and trained Nigerians in a sustainable problem- based learning programme for middle grade leprosy and TB supervisors. In 1986, you were a member of a tripartite group which planned the Malawi College of Medicine and in 1989 you reported on the state of medical education in Ethiopia. As Chairman of the Tropical Health and Education Trust, you continued to use your influence to provide support in arranging links between overseas schools and hospitals and their counterparts in the United Kingdom. This has been of particular help to institutions in Africa notably, Ethiopia, Ghana, Malawi Nigeria Uganda Kenya and Zimbabwe.

Your academic credentials are numerous; you edited the landmark book, "Principles of Medicine in Africa", published by Cambridge University Press. In addition, you have authored numerous articles and papers in scholarly journals. Eldryd Hugh Owen Parry, in 1973 you won the Murgatroyd Prize of the Royal College of Physicians Your contribution to medical education in West Africa was duly recognized when in 1982 you were awarded an order of the British Empire (OBE) In 1993, the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and

Hygiene honoured you by making you an Honorary Life Fellow of the Society. In 1997 you were made an Honorary Life Fellow of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

Eldryd Hugh Owen Parry, for your achievements in the field of Tropical Medicine and for significantly contributing to establish the School of Medical Sciences, KNUST, as a Centre of Excellence in community oriented and problem based learning in medical education, the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology today honours you with the degree of Doctor of Science (DSc) *Honoris Causa*.

DR E. EVANS-ANFOM'S RESPONSE

Thirty years ago this month, to be precise 31st December 1973, I relinquished the Vice-Chancellorship of the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology. I handed over to Professor Bamfo Kwakye of blessed memory. I shall always consider my six and half year tenure as Vice Chancellor of the University as a most important chapter in my life.

Since leaving the University much water has passed under the bridge. History of course will be the best judge of whatever contribution I was able to make in the building of the University. For my part it was a very rewarding experience. It was highly educative, it widened my horizon, broadened my field of vision and made me more understanding of local, national and international issues.

The fact that after 30years the University has considered it fit to honour me today, I presume, is an indication that the University is absolutely certain that I am deserving of that honour. For this I am very grateful and wish to thank the University for this kind gesture.

I regret very much my inability to come to the university on two occasions to receive the award owing to circumstances beyond my control but I hope the gathering will understand that time waits for no man and that with the increase in years and the wear and tear which that entails, the body is no more able to do things which once it could take in its stride. Sometimes I wonder whether it is the same Emmanuel Evans- Anfom who many years ago used to march briskly along the long corridors of Okomfo Anokye Hospital and doing several miles a day-even running up and down the stairs. Now things have changed and I hope the Chairman, members of Council and members of the University understand why I was not able to come to Kumasi.

The fact that the University apparatus has moved down to Accra for the ceremony heightens my appreciation of the honour which I shall forever cherish. I am delighted that my fellow recipient of the honour this evening is my distinguished professional colleague, Prof Pary, second Dean of the School of Medical Sciences at the University who made important contributions to strengthening the foundation of the infant medical School upon which has sprung up a strong institution, gaining increasing influence locally and internationally.

Even though the venue for this evening's ceremony is unusual, it is hardly inappropriate as, I believe that a gathering of alumni of Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology must have many who may have been students during my tenure as Vice Chancellor. Certainly it is heart-warming for me to note that at 50 the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology has a vibrant and dynamic alumni association and that the current president, Saraah Mensah was the last president of the SRC during my tenure as Vice Chancellor.

No one can deny the fact that alumni of the University have made important contributions to the development of this country. I recall that when I was Vice Chancellor, I once took some visitors from America -the United States- to Akosombo. These were professors and students from American Universities- both black and white- and they were really astounded first of all to see that there was not a single white face at Akosombo controlling operations. They were even more delighted to know that most of the technical people-the engineers-were products of the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology.

For the past decade or two, alumni of the University have made contributions in the public life and governance of this country. The Vice President of Ghana is an alumnus as is the immediate past first lady, then for about a decade - in a military regime - the person who was occupying - who was the virtual Prime Minister of the country – Mr. P.Y. Obeng - is an alumnus and a former president of the SRC in my time. The leader of the majority party in parliament the Hon. Mr. Felix Owusu Agyepong is a former student of the University. Wherever I go in the country I meet former students of the University in various fields engineers, planners, architects and doctors, pharmacists, artists, playing important roles and acting's as worthy ambassadors of the University. Four years ago when my wife and I were privileged to visit Japan, I was pleasantly surprised to find that the Ghana.

Ambassador to Japan was a former student - Togbui Kporku III. So you can imagine the red carpet treatment that I had on this visit.

I am happy to note that the alumni association is growing and that the branch in North America, recently visited by the Vice Chancellor is vigorous, active and enthusiastic about giving help to the University, Indeed I and of course I'd like here to note with a certain measure satisfaction, the Jubilee project on the campus sponsored by the Alumni Association.

I think it is the tradition that the alumni of University institutions as time goes on really become strong pillars of support for the development of their alma mater and I am happy that the Alumni Assoc of KNUST is no exception. I can foresee with what is happening now that the influence of the Alumni Assoc provided they stay focused, will grow, and with the enhancement of the University's own position and role in national development.

Until now I have been an interested party as a former Vice Chancellor, observing with keen interest the progress that has been made by the University over the years. Today, an added obligation as a new alumnus has been placed on my shoulders.

Now I must not forget that the occasion for these awards is the Golden Jubilee Anniversary of the university and offer my congratulation for her achievement. During the 50 years of its existence, the University from modest beginnings has grown from strength to strength and has already established itself as a leading institution of higher technological education on the

African Continent and even internationally. I am delighted to know that the University is in the capable hands of the present Vice-Chancellor-dynamic, forward looking, innovative with his equally enthusiastic and hardworking team. Reading through the Vice-Chancellor's report for the past year and the literature on the University, I have no doubt at all that the future progress of the University is well assured, given the support of its alumni and of the Government and people of Ghana. For many years, some faculties in the University have been centers of excellence on the African Continent. Judging *by* developments in recent years, the whole University is becoming a centre of excellence and is more or less on the threshold of great developments.

Once again I thank the University for the honour and extend my good wishes for its assured progress and greater achievements in the future

Thank You

Long live the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology

Long live Ghana

ADDRESS BY PROF. PARRY

Mr Vice-Chancellor, Madam Registrar, Colleagues and friends. I am deeply sensible of the honour which you have bestowed on me this evening I should also like to say that my wife and all our children share this honour to our family with an equal depth of feeling.

I believe, however, that this honour is a recognition of the School of Medical Sciences and, while I may receive the honour, it is the School which is celebrated. I was one of a team and without the dedicated work of this team nothing would have been accomplished

It was my privilege to follow the initial years under the exceptionally able Bill Laing They were difficult and formative years and the foundation was laid. Whatever was accomplished while I held the office of Dean was greatly enhanced when our dear friend and colleague, the late Professor Joe Martey, succeeded me as Dean. In his turn, he was succeeded by Professor George Brobby. He added his distinctive gifts and developed the School further. We were the Deans, but, as I never tired of telling our students, they were the one upon whom the School's future would be built. It is they who, determined and committed in the difficult early years, worked hard and with much enthusiasm to overcome our considerable obstacles.

It is so satisfying to see that former SMS students are now in significant posts, both in the School, whether as the Dean, or as heads of departments or members of a range of academic departments, and also in senior posts in the Ministry of Health and the Ghana Health Service. This is the best evidence that the School is contribution to the life University, to the medical profession and to the country.

I am delighted to be able to share the evening with Dr Evans-Anfom whose wise counsel and support I enjoyed throughout my years in Kumasi when he sat as chairman of the Medical and Dental Council. I am glad to have this opportunity of thanking him in public. There were times in the early 1980s in Kumasi when going was tough; I used to go out into our garden at the end of a long day and sing a verse from the well-known hymn, *For all the saints who from their labours rest*. The words acknowledge that the war may be difficult, but they also direct our thoughts and our wills as they look beyond the present to the future

*And when the strife is fierce the warfare long,
Steals O'er the ear the distant triumph song,
A lid hearts are brave again and arms are strong,
Hallelujah!*

This evening we celebrate the fruit of the work of the SMS team in the formative and sometimes tough, early years and in the later years of development and growth. While the hymn points to the final song of triumph in the glory, we can this evening justifiably and proudly sing a song of triumph for the SMS, the song of a School strongly founded and contributing substantially to the country in undergraduate, postgraduate and other courses.

It has been my privilege to continue my association with the School through the work of THET (the Tropical Health and Education Trust). We intend to continue our support for the School, in the postgraduate programme in medicine, the competitive prize for students' projects and in support of students' community work through the hostel in Juaben.

Finally, Sir, I should like to thank you again for this great honour, an honour which I share with my colleagues and friends, past and present, and with all those who have contributed to, and who are today engaged in building up, the School of Medical Sciences, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology.

PART TWO: ALUMNI DINNER
ADDRESS BY VICE-CHANCELLOR

1.0 SALUTATION

- Chairman of Council, Emeritus Professor F.A Kufuor
- Pro Vice-Chancellor, Professor K. K. Adarkwa
- Registrar, Mrs Sophia Quashie-Sam
- Deans of Faculties
- Directors of Institutes
- Heads of Departments
- Senior Members
- Very Distinguished Alumni
- Ladies and Gentlemen

2.0 INTRODUCTION

The year 2002 stands very tall in the history of the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, because that year marked the fiftieth year and the Golden Jubilee year. The year of Jubilee as described in the Bible in Leviticus 25: 8-55 and enriched by custom normally falls on the following dates

- The Silver Jubilee to mark the 25th year
- The Golden Jubilee to mark the 50th year
- The Seventy-fifth year to mark the 75th year
- The Centenary year to mark the 100th year

As a University, having celebrated the Golden Jubilee last year, we look forward to the Seventy-fifth Jubilee in the year 2027 and the Centenary in the year 2052. I should sensibly add if the Lord tarries, and I should also add that if we are to go along with the official statistics of Ghana that gives the life expectancy of women to be 59 years and men 56 years, then only women in this assembly who are 35 years or younger and men who are 32 years or younger will see the Seventy-fifth year of our University. And definitely, none of us will see the Centenary. But, Mr. Chairman, as with most statistics of this nature, we must always read them with a pinch of salt. For I will definitely see the Seventy-fifth year of our University and the Centenary as well. All of us here have the same wish, I am sure.

The point I am making, Mr. Chairman, is that one must always count oneself lucky to live long enough to see a Jubilee Year. There was good reason to celebrate it and to honour those deserving it. KNUST intended last year to honour the two distinguished people assembled here tonight; but was unable to do so for several reasons.

3.0 FRIENDS OF THE UNIVERSITY

As a University of very high repute, we have always honoured citizens of Ghana and the world. We shall continue to do so at our future congregations, if we find any who is so worthy to be recognised. Especially in these times when we are in need of facilities and funding to expand the infrastructure and procure state of art equipment to furnish our laboratories and workshops.

4.0 THE FIRST SPECIAL CONGREGATION OUTSIDE KUMASI

This is the first time a congregation of the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology has been constituted outside the University Campus at Kumasi. It is also the first time that Congregation has commenced business after eighteen hours. These historic occurrences underscore the extent of modernisation and changes that are taking place at the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology. They also indicate the extent to which the University is prepared to modify her traditions to meet the challenges of a fast changing world

5.0 TWO ALUMNI DESERVING OUR HIGHEST HONOUR

Tonight we have met in a relatively brief ceremony to recognise the excellent works of two alumni of the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology. Both Dr. Emmanuel Evans-Anfom and Professor E.H.O Parry are by our definition alumni having been Vice-Chancellor and Dean of the School of Medical Sciences respectively in recent years.

Detailed citation will be read shortly explaining our reason for honouring them. Suffice to state for the present that they excelled in serving our University and Ghana.

6.0 KNUST INFRASTRUCTURE

Mr. Chairman, over the past two decades, our University has not been able to enrol the preferred number of young brilliant men and women for lack of infrastructure. This situation was forced on us because for 40years no significant infrastructure development took place. Past Vice-Chancellors kept reporting in their matriculation and congregation speeches. A typical report on this issue went like this: “this year we received 10,000 applications out of which 8,000 qualified but we could only admit 2,000.”

Mr. Chairman, I am happy to announce that this stale, lugubrious announcement will soon belong to the past. For this year alone, five major projects have begun to add to faculty infrastructure. We invite all Ghanaians to invest in our University. We invite all business men and women to come and build hostels for our students.

7.0 KNUST TRADITIONS

As Ghana's only University of Science and Technology and the place to train most of our professionals to lead this nation into prosperity, we are ready to expand the student population to 50,000 in the shortest possible time. Our chief constraint is faculty and residential infrastructure but we have begun to address these problems in a pragmatic and effective way.

- This University has recognised special achievements of distinguished past citizens of Ghana and has awarded honorary degrees accordingly.

By the end of today's celebration, we would have honoured 46 men and women with honorary degrees for the past 51 years. They include:

- Traditional rulers
- Academics
- Engineers
- A musician
- Industrialists
- A member of the Clergy
- Artists
- Administrators

We pray they will help market our University to reach her noble goals.

8.0 FLOREAT GHANA, FLOREAT KNUST

As a University of very distinguished standing, we pledge to work hard and pray God to rain His blessings upon us.

FLOREAT GHANA

FLOREAT GREAT KNUST.

SPEECH BY PRESIDENT OF KNUST ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AT ALUMNI DINNER HELD AT GOLDEN TULIP HOTEL, ACCRA ON 6TH DECEMBER, 2003

Our distinguished Vice Chancellor, Awardees of Honorary Degrees, former Vice Chancellors, Deans, Heads of Departments, Fellow Alumni, Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen.

As you are all aware, I have tonight played two distinct roles both at the award of the Honorary Degrees to two very distinguished persons who have contributed in no small way in the development of our Alma Mater, KNUST and also at this dinner being hosted for the Alumni of the University by the Vice Chancellor.

In the absence of the chairman of the University Council due to ill-health, I have had the singular honour of acting as Council Chairman at the special congregation which ended a few moments ago.

The Vice Chancellor, conscious of the provisions of the statutes of the University ensured that my Chairmanship ended the very moment the congregation was dissolved by me.

It is the second cap I am wearing this evening which has given me the opportunity to share a few thoughts with you. I therefore speak to you in my capacity as National President of KNUST Alumni Association.

Mr. Chairman, may I take this opportunity in adding my voice to those who have had the opportunity to congratulate the two recipients of our prestigious Honorary Doctor of Science Degrees.

Dr. Emmanuel Evans-Anfom and Prof. E.H.O. Parry, may you kindly accept my congratulations for the honour, which is indicative of your immense contribution to the University. Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, as Dr Evans-Anfom said in his acceptance speech, I was the last SRC President during his term of office as Vice Chancellor at the then UST.

I should therefore be particularly proud for having had the singular honour of presiding over tonight's event, conferring such an award on him.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, during my term of office as SRC President, one event occurred which Dr. Evans-Anfom would forever wish to forget: That was the sandal slapping incident at the University Hospital by a Professor's wife which led to a massive demonstration by the student body and the subsequent establishment of a Committee of Enquiry by the University Council.

Whenever I have had the opportunity in the past, I have sought to explain the issues involved and to add that if I were to be in the same position now, I would act in the way and in the same manner as I did as far back as 22nd March, 1973.

To recapitulate, the SRC wrote to the University Administration on 13th December, 1972 when I assumed office as President of the SRC, to streamline procedure of student attendance at the University Hospital and the response was as follows:

"There has been no change in the existing rules and regulations concerning Hospital attendance. The advice has been noted."

This reply was received by the SRC on 22nd January, 1973 and the demonstration took place on 22nd March, 1973. The subsequent events that, unfolded meant the exact rules and regulations were known to the Administration only.

When the sandal slapping incident occurred which was testimony of the flaws that we had complained of, the SRC President had gone to warn the Administration at 10am on 22nd March, 1973 of an impending demonstration at lunch time if issues raised in a letter addressed by the Administration to the student body were not resolved by then. . Again, the SRC President was told since the letter requested the SRC to meet the Administration at 4 pm that time could not be pushed forward as demanded by the SRC President.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, the massive demonstration started at about 1 pm on 22nd March, 1973, 3 hours after the whistle was blown and 3 hours before the bureaucracy would permit that urgent meeting.

The Vice Chancellor was out of the country when these events were unfolding on campus and I am still convinced that if Dr. Anfom were to be in Ghana the demonstration wouldn't have taken place.

I say this because knowing his style, Dr Anfom would have met with the SRC before lunch when the President alerted the Administration of the impending demonstration and whatever the issues would be resolved then.

Dr Anfom would long be remembered by those of us who were students at UST during his Vice Chancellorship for the way and manner he handled student issues through peaceful negotiations.

It is for this and other reasons that we salute you Sir, for your wonderful achievement.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, the second awardee, Prof E.H.O. Parry also had an immense contribution to make during the "childhood" days of our Medical School. It was through his and other persons' ingenuity and perseverance that helped that School through thick and thin to attain the enviable position it has reached in the training Doctors in the

country. From what we have heard this evening, Prof. Continues to assist in no small way in the advancement of the school.

I am particularly happy that I was able to give support to Prof. Parry's effort when as Estate Officer in 1980, the Vice Chancellor endorsed my proposal for some vacant bungalows on campus to be reserved for newly appointed Lecturer of the Medical School who would otherwise have missed out through the normal process. Prof, we do thank you for all your efforts and please accept our congratulations for the honour.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, Universities in Ghana have gone through a lot in the past and University Lecturers have had to contend with very low salary regimes and working conditions all the years.

During the last negotiations with Government for new salary structures for the University staff, I happened to be the Chairman of the Standing Joint Negotiation Committee (SJNC). On the last day of the negotiations, the meetings as usual started at 10am. By 8 pm when there seemed to be no end to the negotiations, the SJNC was called to the Castle to meet with the Head of State and the Government Team.

It may interest you to know that one of the Lecturer's car had to be pushed and could not make the journey from the Ministry of Education to the Castle. That is the University Lecturer in Ghana!

I dare say that in the end we were able to get something, however small, for the University staff.

Mr. Vice Chancellor, KNUST Alumni Association is ever ready to assist our Alma Mater and it is our wish that we would continue to be partners in the development effort.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, may I on behalf of the Alumni Association take this opportunity to thank the immediate Past Vice Chancellor, Prof. J.S.K. Ayim and his team including the then Pro Vice Chancellor Prof E. Y. Safo for the wonderful effort they put in getting the Alumni Association back on its feet. The team had to travel the length and breadth of the country and also to far away USA addressing Alumni and getting them to interest themselves in the activities of the Association and their Alma Mater.

Prof J.S.K. Ayim, we thank you so much and we are grateful for all that you have done for the Association. We hope you would convey our sentiments to your colleagues assisted you in this wonderful effort. May we also take this opportunity to thank the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Kwesi A. Andam for following the footsteps of his predecessor and ensuring the Alumni Association grows from strength to strength.

To my fellow Alumni, I wish to thank you all for your support during the term of office of my Council. We are to leave office at the next congress slated for August 2004 and as such I won't be President during the next Vice Chancellor's Alumni Dinner.

As a typical African leader, I wish I could stay on but the regulations would not permit me. It is my hope that when I leave office I would continue to play whatever role I could to help the Association grow.

Once more it's thank you and God Bless.

TOAST TO THE UNIVERSITY PROPOSED BY PROFESSOR ELDRYD H.O. PARRY

Mr Vice Chancellor,

I am glad, sir, that I have been trained as a physician, trained to keep a clear mind in an emergency, to collect and to assess evidence and then to plan what to do and how to monitor its effects. For this is an emergency for me tonight, to be invited to propose the toast of the KNUST, a privilege indeed but one of which I was unaware this morning.

I have a problem, how am I to keep a clear mind? This is a tumultuous occasion for me: how can the mind be clear when the heart and emotion have been so affected? I am surrounded by friends of many years, by those with whom it was such a privilege to work and by those gave such valuable counsel and support, particularly Dr Evans Amfom, my senior friend and colleague when he was chairman of the Medical and Dental Council. It is indeed an honour to share this ceremony with him. I am also deeply indebted to the Vice-Chancellors with whom I worked, Professors Bamfo-Kwachie and Kwami. And so I have to keep a clear mind, as is essential for every physician; however ghastly the sickness, and however needy the patient, emotion cannot be allowed to rule the mind and the rigour of careful even ruthless analysis of the clinical problem.

Tonight we celebrate Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology. We celebrate her contribution to Ghana. We gather as alumni to eat and drink, not within the bonds of a private club or of a restricted society, but as members of a family, in the widest and historic sense of that word, of individuals who are committed to its progress and welfare.

It is therefore with confidence that I can speak of a University which is providing for the country its essential backbone of skilled and appropriately trained graduates. Would the remarkable progress of Ghana have been possible without the graduates of KNUST? Surely the answer is an emphatic No. And so, sir, tonight's toast will not be an empty toast, but one in which, while we are thankful for the past, we look boldly, daringly and confidently to the future. In London my wife and I were part of a team which moved to a church which had six regular worshippers: its condition was terminal. Our vicar was invited to go there by the Bishop of London who told him and us at the induction and commissioning service to reimagine the church. Four year later, in addition to our being engaged in the historic mission of the church, the vicar and all of us are trying to do new things and offer new services which the local community needs - debt counselling, a new initiative for the long term unemployed, support for single mothers with school children and a night shelter for the homeless one evening each week. The environment is stimulating and is meeting significant needs.

Tonight, we might ask, how might the University be reimaged? What might it do in addition to its historic responsibility in education? How can it reimagine what it does, even on the campus?

Where will the new ways be? In his *Idea of a University*, John Henry Newman wrote of a place which gave vitality and health to all. Today, as the costs of tertiary education become more and more burdensome on the State's finances, however affluent the country, money have to be raised and. Industry has to be wooed. While liaison with Industry is necessary, that path is limited; the great MIT only derives 2-3% of its income from technological liaisons. It is not altogether surprising, therefore, that there are those who think only in terms of the returns in economic terms which a University can provide. It was a sad country indeed where one finance minister was recently reported to have described educational as a loss making activity. Driving this economic imperative still further, there are still those who want to make Universities into practical places where carefully prepared students pursue programmes which improve economic output and which are regarded in terms that are economically functional and little more.

If Newman's idea and description of a University is as relevant today as it was in 1873, what should today's University be providing for its **Students**, its **staff** and **the wider community**? In considering what it should provide for its students, I shall first draw on the description of a woman who taught history at Oxford but who sadly died before she was 50.

She was said to take her teaching very seriously, to be devoted to her pupils and to be generous with her time. In teaching she was immensely stimulating and was excellent in sparking off ideas by asking deceptively simple questions. While she never imposed her superior knowledge on her students, she would certainly not accept any laxness (in work or thought and expression) so that she was always lucid and economical in the conclusions she drew. What a wonderful model for KNUST teaching staff to follow-devotion to students, academic stimulus and no toleration of laxness, however expressed. If these qualities were ubiquitous among its staff, what a difference our University would make to the hopes and efforts of its students.

A second way by which a well-rounded University should provide for its students is one which I am delighted to know that you, sir, are actively encouraging. There is abundant evidence that exercise through sports does more than merely provide muscular freshness and the thrill of competition. I look forward, therefore, to hearing that the University is able to strengthen what it provides for its students, not only in the lecture room, but also on the playing field, the track, the tennis court or in the pool.

Secondly, how will the University provide for its staff? Aristotle, speaking of the purpose of his school, contended that it was right for men to enquire. Is the modern University able to encourage this sort of enquiry? While enquiry should be the pattern of the scholar in every discipline and subject, in clinical medicine our daily work can be full of enquiry, or it can be merely a dull trawl through the dogmas of the past. We can experience the thrill of the pursuit of a clue in diagnosis, the search for a mechanism to explain a clinical event or an observation, and the unravelling of the human problems of a patient. When their teachers are thrilled by enquiry, students will be liberated from the mere absorption of facts and will themselves begin to want to enquire and to learn without being "taught". Such enquiry may lead to ideas, hypotheses and studies from which papers will be published, merit gained and

promotion enhanced. Sadly, like modern politicians, universities have begun to assess research output by numbers: how many papers? Not, I fear, what significant contribution does this paper make? The pressures, therefore, are against enquiry and are thus inevitably against the stimulus and challenge that enquiry promotes. If a university is to provide for its staff, it must be able to encourage and reward those who enquire, even if this means reviewing some of its practices and providing significant resources in some disciplines.

Finally, how will the University provide for its community? This is an infinitely greater challenge as Ghana becomes more industrialized and as the urban drift becomes a stampede. The community is not merely metropolitan Kumasi. How could the School of Medical Sciences, for example, serve the wider community of Ghana, north of greater Accra and the coastal belt? First it has to have a policy for admissions which acknowledges the gulf in secondary schooling between the top ten schools, and the other schools of the country. We had the same problem when I was at ABU in Zaria, Nigeria. We had to find ways, without compromise, by which we could get more northern Nigerians into the University. We had to bridge a similar gulf, to encourage application from able students, disadvantaged in schooling, but potentially excellent in achievement. We took risks, we did our educational, our ethnic and our social homework, and I believe that we succeeded. The evidence is that many of our former students are in, or have retired from, senior positions in the northern states' health services.

Second, and following logically from the first, the School must be able to make its student alert to the health and social needs of deprived areas and of poor people. I was vividly reminded of such needs in July of this year when I visited Navrongo, as part of the work of THET (Tropical Health and Education Trust). I hoped to find the family of the cook who worked for us while we were at UST. When he died in 1993, his eldest son was at primary school but he had to leave because there was now no money for fees. Ten years later, this young man is pushing trucks in Navrongo. The second son has never been to school because, although he has an eminently social stigma which the boy suffers. The third son had just left school, this year, at the age of 12 because his guardian, the younger brother of our cook, had to educate his own children. If SMS is able to connect its students with the issues raised by such a family, and if it is able to help them to do something for the disadvantaged, it will not fail in its service to the wider community.

Finally, in its rural work it must escape from the burden which rural postings impose on village people when students seem to do little but go through questionnaires, zealously used so that students may "*study*" a community? Instead, it should ask: How can students serve the community? It has been our privilege in THET to help with the funding for the initial work at the students' rural centre at Juaben. We hope sincerely that this centre will give our KNUST students the opportunity to serve and not merely to study, and will prepare them for rural service when they become practicing doctors.

In proposing the toast of the KNUST this evening, I do so with great confidence. I trust that the University will develop still more strongly under your leadership. Sir, as a place which provides vitality and health for its students, for: its staff and for the wider community in the country, more and more effectively, in the years to come.