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INTRODUCTION

The number of graduating students keep on increasing year by year thereby making it extremely difficult to hold the annual Congregation (Graduation) Ceremony in a singular session.

Various strategies have been adopted in the recent past to solve the problem of overcrowding at the ceremony. This includes the two-session, one-day event and a four-session two-day event, depending on the total number of students graduating in a particular year.

The number of graduating students for the June 2009 Congregation ceremony was about 5,464. This figure represents the largest graduating class in the history of the University.

Consequently, the Congregation Planning Committee's recommendation for the smooth conduct of the 2009 congregation was favourably considered. Thus, for the first time, Congregation was held for a period of five days, with two-sessions each day.

This innovation was introduced in order not to demean the beauty of the programme with unsightly scenes of participants loitering around the Great Hall, as well as allow for as many parents as possible to get access to the Great Hall to witness the ceremony and participate in the programme.

The programme was thus scheduled as follows:

DAY

One

One

Two

Two

SESSION

Morning

Afternoon

Morning

Afternoon

COLLEGE/FACULTY

College of Agric. and Natural Resources

College of Architecture and Planning

Faculty of Electrical and Computer

Engineering and Faculty of Chemical and Materials Engineering

Faculty of Civil and Geomatic Engineering and Faculty of Mechanical and Agric.

Engineering

Three	Morning
Three	Afternoon
Four	Morning
Four	Afternoon
Five	Morning
Five	Afternoon

Faculty of Biosciences
Faculty of Physical Sciences

College of Health Sciences

Faculties of Fine Art and Industrial Art
School of Graduate Studies, School of Business, and Faculty of Law
Faculty of Social Sciences

PROFILE OF MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKERS

Mr. Effah Amponsah

- Holds a Bachelor of Pharmacy in 1978.
- He is the founder and Managing Director of Amponsah-Effah Pharmaceuticals.

Mr. Isaac Dankyi-Koranteng

- Holds BA degree in Publishing Studies.
- Attended Technology Secondary School (A level)
- Co-ordinating Secretary National Union of Ghana Students from 2001-2002
- President Unity Hall from 2000-2001
- Member of the University's Residence Committee
- Winner of the Apprentice Africa Business Reality Show in June, 2008
- Working as a Member, Corporate Executive Group of Bank PHB, Nigeria.

Mr. George Nanyi Kojo Anda

- Holds BSc degree in Biochemistry and an MBA degree in Marketing from University of Ghana.
- Worked as Brand Manager, Innovations Manager, Heads of Marketing and Marketing Director of Guinness Ghana Ltd.
- He worked as Head of Sika, Card Centre for SG - SSB in 2001
- Currently the Chief Marketing Officer of MTN.

Mr. Samuel Sarpong

- Holds BSc degree in Agriculture in 1980 and MSc degree from the University of Guelph in 1984, a Diploma in Management in 1989 from McGill University and an MBA degree from Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo, Ontario, Canada.
- Has held several positions including Trust Administrator, Programme Development Analyst / Financial Reviewer, Policy Analyst.
- Currently the Deputy Managing Director (Operations) of the Ghana Commercial Bank Ltd Accra.

Mr. Kirk Koffi

- Holds a degree in Mechanical Engineering.
- Became an Assistant Mechanical Engineer at Akosombo Hydropower plant soon after joining Volta River Authority (VRA)
- Became Head of the Mechanical Section of the Kpong Hydropower Plant in 1986 and Head of the Akosombo Hydropower Plant in 1991.
- Later promoted to the position of Plant Manager, Kpong Hydropower station in 1995 and then reassigned to the Akosombo Plant as Plant Manager in 2001.

- In 2002, he was appointed as the Director of Hydro Generation where he was responsible for all operational activities of both Akosombo and Kpong Hydropower Plant.
- He is a fellow of the Ghana Institute of Engineers and was awarded the ORDER OF THE VOLTA OFFICER for distinguishing himself in Public Service during the National Awards in July 2008.
- Currently the Deputy Chief Executive (Engineering and Operations) of VRA and he is responsible for overseeing the operational activities of VRA hydro and thermal plants as well as all engineering project related activities.

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Mr. Benjamin Dabrah

- Graduated with a first Class Honours degree. Land Economy.
- Pursued graduate training at Hull University in the United Kingdom where he earned the MSc (Econ) degree.
- Holds a BSc degree in Financial Services from the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology.
- Worked with Standard Bank Ltd of West Africa as Regional Director responsible for Credit in the West African Sub- region based in Nigeria.
- Currently the Managing Director of Barclays Bank Ghana Ltd.

Mr. Alfred Sakyi

- Holds a BA degree in Economics and History.
- Had his national service at the National Service Secretariat in Kumasi and joined Ecobank later
- Currently the Head of Consumer Finance.

DAY ONE (MORNING SESSION)
VALEDICTORY SPEECH DELIVERED BY CHRISTIAN CRENTSIL, GRADUAND
OF FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE ON THE OCCASION OF THE 43RD
CONGREGATION OF KWAME NKRUMAH UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY, KUMASI HELD ON 15TH JUNE 2009 FOR THE COLLEGE OF
AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES IN THE GREAT HALL AT 09:00
HOURS

Mr. Chairman
The Vice Chancellor
Senior Members
Parents and Guardians
My Fellow Graduands
Ladies and Gentlemen.

I am highly honoured to deliver this valedictory speech on behalf of the graduating class. I am Christian Crentsil.

*Now thank we all our God
With hearts and hands and voices
Who wondrous thing hath done
In whom his world rejoices
Who from our mother's arms hath blessed us on our way
'With countless gifts of love and still is ours today*
MHB 10

The class of 2009 agrees with the writer of this song that indeed we are graduating today because of the grace of the Almighty God. These four years have done to me what took a lifetime for some. I stand here today speaking to all of you as a monument of what this class has become. I cannot but express pride in being a member of this class, my second family. The journey we embarked on from 2005 to this day has not been easy. With heavy hearts we recall the sudden departure of some of our colleagues to the land of the silent ones. May their souls rest in peace.

Ladies and gentlemen, a quick reflection into the days back at the Senior Secondary School brings into memory the tales of freedom in the University; freedom from '*mining*', freedom from housemasters and housemistresses and freedom from seniors. The reality of the more intensive academic work and extracurricular activities here at KNUST dawned on us sooner than we thought. It is an undeniable fact, ladies and gentlemen, that some of us herein gathered did not get the opportunity to read our first choice courses, and so some of us were quite confused. We would like to thank the authorities of KNUST who through the orientation programme clarified many issues and got us on track lest we would not have made it this far.

We are beaming with smiles on our faces today not because the journey has been so smooth. But just as there is no rose without thorns, so were there challenges which made the journey not for the swiftest but the persevering ones. Financial constraints: Many students had financial difficulties and hence had to rely much on the students' loan scheme. However, the students' loan scheme came with its own shortfalls including the delays in receiving it,

sometimes coming at the tail end of the semester therefore making it lose its intended purpose.

Resources constraints: Most a time one finds that equipment and chemicals for laboratory work were simply not there, those that were sometimes present were woefully inadequate. These made teaching and learning very difficult. Mr Chairman, one cannot mention resources constraints without talking about inadequate lecture rooms resulting in congestion and discomfort in the lecture rooms. However, with determination and commitment to our courses we were able to work around these challenges making it possible for us to be assembled here today to be honoured. Every little happening here has fastened itself onto our characters, causing us to grow and change.

Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, I crave your indulgence to address my fellow graduands : Friends, Edward Koch said that "The fireworks begin today. Each degree is a lighted match. Each one of us is a fuse." Let it burn, let passion's flame take you wherever you need to go to find your true place in the world. If there is one thing that I must stress, it is PASSION. Whether it is passion for sports, art, music, politics, or the sciences, it is that passion that will drive you to succeed, as you have already done by just being here. It is one of Confucius's teachings that "wherever you go, go with all your heart". And that is what I must say as well. Your heart, your passion is your drive, and your education, your key. Use it as a springboard to launch yourself into your future and guide throughout your life. The future holds limitless possibilities and one thing I believe is a good outcome for us all. We are not men and women of failure, and together, we shall rise and overcome. In the end, no other word expresses my feeling more than community. It is the binding force that links us to each other. We are one growing community, and let's all keep it that way. Congratulations! We made it!

To our junior colleagues present, we believe that you can make it like we have done this day if you work harder, stay focused and never give up. See every challenge as an opportunity. Sail away from the safe harbour. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Dream, Explore, Discover.

Before I wrap up, Mr. Chairman, on behalf of the graduating class, I would like to thank God for giving us this opportunity of a lifetime. May His name be ever praised. To all parents and guardians, we say we love you. It had been through your untiring efforts both financially and materially, that today has become our great day. We know we are indebted to you but for now we say, God bless you all.

To our benefactors we say you made some of our dreams come true. God richly bless you. Words would not be sufficient to express our sincerest gratitude to our wonderful lecturers and mentors whose commitment and dedicated service has made us who we are today. We wish you God's blessings and long lives.

We pledge that as we go forth into the world we would be worthy ambassadors of our noble institution and that we would contribute our quota wherever we find ourselves to make our institution very proud.

Long live the graduating class

Long live Ghana.

Thank you.

**Christian Crentsil, Graduand,
Faculty of Agriculture, KNUST**

**SPEECH DELIVERED BY PROFESSOR KWASI KWAFO ADARKWA, VICE
CHANCELLOR OF KWAME NKRUMAH UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY, KUMASI, ON THE OCCASION OF THE 43RD CONGREGATION
HELD ON 15TH JUNE, 2009 FOR THE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND
NATURAL RESOURCES IN THE GREAT HALL AT 900AM**

Your Majesty, Otumfuo Osei Tutu II, Asantehene and Chancellor
Your Excellencies, Members of the Diplomatic Corps
Nananom
Members of Council
Members of the Council of State
Past KNUST Vice-Chancellors and Pro Vice-Chancellors
Colleague Vice-Chancellors
Pro Vice-Chancellor
Registrar
Guest Speaker
Provosts of Colleges
Deans of Faculties and Heads of Departments
Hard working Faculty Members
Members of Convocation
Alumni of the University
Senior and Junior Staff
Class of 2009
Proud and Relieved Parents
Members of the Press
Distinguished Invited Guests
Ladies and Gentlemen

INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

All too soon, we have met here once again to receive the Vice-Chancellor's Report to Congregation and to graduate the Class of 2009. For some of you, especially the parents, we know you have taken time off your very busy schedules to be with us this morning and, therefore, I would like to thank you most sincerely for the honour you have done us. I believe that by now you are aware that this year's congregation ceremony is spread over a period of one week with each College either being assigned a session or two depending on the size of the graduating class. We have had to do this to allow for as many parents as possible to be with us in this Hall to participate in the ceremony. Last year, we noticed the frustration that most parents went through because they were unable to witness their children or wards graduate. We hope that parents find this arrangement acceptable and if this is indeed the case, we will now adopt it as a model for our future Congregations. Proud parents, we so much appreciate your efforts and what you have done for these young ones to date. On behalf of the Class of 2009, I would like to express our appreciation to you; dear parents and thank you very much.

Our congregations are usually occasions for the Vice-Chancellor to report on the conduct of the University's core business and to graduate students who have followed prescribed courses of study and have been found worthy of the award of their respective degrees. Luckily, the Vice-Chancellor's report to Congregation is captured in a separate report, copies of which must have been made available to you. I will plead with you to find time after the ceremony to read this important document so you can begin to gradually appreciate what KNUST is

doing in each of its 63 departments; particularly those in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. Consequently, my report to Congregation this morning is a fairly short one with emphasis on our core business of teaching, research and service in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

THE MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER

Our motivational speaker for this session is a distinguished alumnus of this great University. Mer graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture in 1980, he earned a Master of Science degree from the University of Guelph in 1984, a Diploma in Management in 1989 from McGill University and an MBA degree from Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo, Ontario, Canada. Since his graduation from KNUST, he had held several positions including Trust Administrator, Programme Development Analyst/Financial Reviewer, Policy Analyst, Portfolio Manager and Senior Risk Manager in various financial institutions in Canada. He is currently, the Deputy Managing Director (Operations) of the Ghana Commercial Bank Ltd in Accra. His work involves managing six divisions and ensuring that the Bank delivers competitive and profitable products. Our motivational speaker for this morning's session is Mr. Samuel Sarpong. Mr. Sarpong, welcome back to your alma mater and we thank you for accepting to be our motivational speaker for this session of Congregation 2009.

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES (CANR)

The College of Agriculture and Natural Resources is the smallest of our six colleges with a 2009 total student population of 2,063; including 435 from the Faculty of Forest Resources Technology at Sunyani. In all, students in this College comprise only 8% of the total student population. In the past few years, the College has experienced severe difficulties with respect to the declining number of students enrolling in its undergraduate programmes. As a direct result of this trend, the College has reviewed its existing programmes to make them even more relevant to our current circumstances by making them more market oriented. This way, students from these programmes will be empowered to establish their own enterprises following their graduation.

I am happy to announce to Congregation that effective August 2009, the College will be mounting new undergraduate programmes in Landscape Design and Management, Agricultural Biotechnology, Dairy, Meat Science and Technology, as well as Agribusiness. It is our hope that the introduction of these programmes will lead to a higher patronage of the College's programmes to enhance its visibility both in Ghana and Africa.

In a similar vein, the Faculty of Forest Resources Technology in Sunyani has been encouraged by the bold initiative pursued by the College to review its Diploma programmes to make them more attractive considering that they have had high attrition rates for freshmen for several years. It is conceivable that this review would lead to either a reduction in the duration of the Diploma programmes or a conversion of some of them into degree programmes. However, in all these considerations, the views of our major stakeholders will not be ignored because of our desire to better serve them as well as respond to current market trends and overall national development needs. We would also like to seize this opportunity to introduce some additional innovative programmes to fill some market niches within the agricultural and forestry sub sectors. Indeed, we recognise our unique roles within these vital sectors of the Ghanaian economy.

REVIEW OF 2008/2009 ACTIVITIES

During the period under review, the College pursued a consistent effort to attract research

funds for its activities which effort yielded a fair amount of success: It has also continued with its collaboration with various external bodies and agencies. All told, the College continues to contribute to the implementation of many externally funded research projects totalling GH¢390,000, US\$ 900,000 and Euro 1,600,000. These projects include Agro-forestry Practices to Enhance Resource-Poor Livelihoods, Sustainable Land Management for Mitigating Land Degradation, Enhancing Agricultural Biodiversity and Reducing Poverty. Others include the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa Graduate Training, Institutionalisation of Integrated Natural Resources Management and Training and Technical Service Provider to Farmer Based Organisations in MiDA activities in Sekyere East District in Ashanti.

Another project which must be mentioned is the College's collaboration with Finatrade Group of Companies. This collaboration led to securing a GHq:50,000 grant meant for the establishment of a model farm here at the KNUST. Major beneficiary departments include Animal Science, Crop and Soil Sciences and Horticulture. As a result of this project, departments can now improve their capacity to offer practical training to students as well as improving the College's income generation potentials. Students from these departments will now have the opportunity to work part-time on the farm to earn income to support their education. It is therefore, exciting to see that this project will provide additional avenues for practical training to benefit our students so they can interface theory with practice. This will also ensure that they can fit better into the world of work following their graduation. In addition, this model farm will be used by other universities and institutions within our catchment area.

I am also happy to announce that during the year under review, the College enhanced its internally generated income from the Dairy/Cattle Beef Research Station's activities and made GH¢81,951.83. Needless to say, there are tremendous potentials for the College to make more money from this source to support its research activities. Discussions have already commenced to ascertain how best the farm can be assisted to increase its production of yoghurt and other products.

The College has, in addition to all these activities also maintained enviable research and publications record during the period under review. It was therefore, not surprising that in our maiden ranking of Departments in the University based on a criteria approved by the Academic Board, the Department of Crop and Soil Sciences placed first for which purpose the Department will receive a prize during the Saturday morning's session of Congregation. It is also worthy of note that other Departments in the College placed very high in the ranking exercise.

College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Congratulations!

CANR's 2009 GRADUANDS

This morning we will be graduating 415 students from all three Faculties in the College. Out of this number, 8% are graduating in the First-Class category with 56% graduating in the Second Class Upper Division with the remaining 35% obtaining Second Class Lower Division degrees. Only 1 % of students obtained a Pass degree. It is also notable that our female students are exhibiting outstanding performances and, in some cases, they are out-performing their male counterparts. Congratulations to our female graduates from the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

It is our hope that our 2009 graduates from the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

will be unique by forming small firms and companies to pursue their interests rather than going to look for employment within the formal sector. We believe that we have given them enough exposure to let this happen; what is needed is the provision of the right inputs and incentives.

ADVICETOGRADUANDS

And now a few words of advice for our freshly baked graduates. Please remember that we have just given you some knowledge to enable you survive in the world out there. In some cases, the knowledge may not adequately empower you to tackle all the problems that you will encounter in your professional life. The world is so wide and the challenges so many that you will definitely have to be humble and strive to learn something new each day. Without humility you can only achieve very little in life. Indeed, without humility your future will be doomed irrespective of where you work. You need a fair dose of humility to succeed in life.

Wherever you find yourself after graduation - be it in Hamile, Pusiga, Half Assini, Aflao or Kintampo - and whatever sector or work you find yourself whether in animal husbandry, crop protection, crop and soil sciences, extension, plant breeding, horticulture, agricultural mechanisation, post harvest crop protection, private business, research or teaching - you need to do your best for Ghana because you have been trained for that purpose. Indeed, nobody else in Ghana can do your job better than you can because you have been specifically trained for the purpose. In like manner, those of you who will work in forestry, fisheries, wildlife and range management; wood science and agro-forestry will also need to be reminded that there is no one else who can do your work better than you and, therefore, the whole country is relying on you for improvements in the various sub sectors.

In all your endeavours, please remember your parents and family, friends and your alma mater for the sacrifices they have made to enable you reach this stage in your lives. In particular, you have to remember to pay back to the country because of the tremendous sacrifices it has made to make your education possible. Just think of the countless others who never had the opportunity to come this far in life but who have in diverse ways made sacrifices so you can be educated. It is my hope that you are not going to pack bag and baggage soon after graduation to go and work as parking lot attendants in some foreign lands. The opportunity cost of such a decision will be too severe for Ghana to bear and, therefore, I hope that none of you is contemplating such a course of action.

BENEFACTORS

Several agencies and individuals contributed significantly towards the work of the College during the year under review. They may be too many to mention but please permit me to identify a few of them, including Finatrade Group of Companies, Virginia Tech, CIDA, DfID, SIDA and the Government of Ghana. We very much appreciate your partnership with the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and do trust that in the years ahead of us, there will be further opportunities for collaboration. It is also our hope that we will be able to build new partnerships with other agencies.

Let me also take this opportunity to acknowledge the special presence of His Majesty, Otumfuo Osei Tutu II, Asantehene and Chancellor of the University. Nana, we are, indeed, very much privileged to have you in our midst to preside over this year's Congregation ceremony. We also very much appreciate the wise counsel we have received from Your Majesty which has created tremendous opportunities for the entire University; including the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources to leverage for funds and to forge partnerships

with both local and international institutions. Your Majesty, we are so grateful for all your efforts in this direction.

CONCLUSION

The College of Agriculture and Natural Resources is one of our foremost and treasured colleges in this University. It has tremendous potentials in spite of rather obvious constraints but our belief is that it has the capacity to turn around the sordid state of food production as well as the protection and conservation of our natural resources in Ghana. Clearly, each of you has a role to play and for this to happen, I pray success into the life of each of you. Any venture you enter into or pursue will be successful. 'You will be blessed in the city and blessed in the country. You will be blessed when you come in and when you go out. The Lord will grant that the enemies who rise up against you will be defeated before you. They will come at you in one direction but flee from you in seven. The Lord will grant you abundant prosperity. Go into the world as people who have been blessed by the Lord. The Lord richly bless you.

Thank you.

Prof. Kwasi Kwafu Adarkwa
Vice-Chancellor, KNUST

MOTIVATIONAL SPEECH DELIVERED BY MR. SAMUEL SARPONG, ON THE OCCASION OF THE 43RD CONGREGATION OF KWAME NKRUMAH UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, KUMASI HELD ON 15TH JUNE 2009 FOR THE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES IN THE GREAT HALL AT 09:00 HOURS

The Chancellor of the University, Otumfuo Osei Tutu II
Members of the University Council
The Vice Chancellor
Lecturers and Professors
Graduands:
Ladies and Gentlemen

It is a pleasure to be invited to the 43rd Congregation of this great institution and to share a few thoughts with our new graduands. I would like to thank the Chancellor and members of the University Council for giving me the opportunity to be at this graduation ceremony.

The Vice Chancellor, I must confess that I am very excited because this has given me the opportunity to experience a graduation ceremony in Ghana. I did not have a chance to attend my graduation ceremony in 1980. I believe the, congregation was not held in 1980 & 81 due to numerous campus closures during that period. *I guess we were engaged in "Aluta" then.*

To our new Graduands I would like to start off by saying "Congratulations! You deserve this for all your hard work over the past 3-4 years. Now that you have graduated I hope all of you are looking forward to great things happening to you in the coming years.

You are graduating at an exciting time in the history of the world in the sense that we have a practical example of what can happen if you dare to hope, have the passion for something and work very hard to achieve what you desire. Last year Barack Obama's election as the resident of the US has given everyone hope that if you dare to dream and work towards it, anything is possible!

Recently, a friend of who had seen my picture in one of the daily newspapers said to me "Sam, what does it feel like to be big? meaning what does it feel like to be an important person?"

"You are asked to give speeches"

"You are in the papers all the time",

"People bow down when they greet you. etc". I said to her "it feels just normal. Look at me and my size, what really shows that I am a "big" person? I do not introduce myself by my job title so you see I am Just another ordinary person". Turning and walking away, with a great smile on her face like a child she exclaimed. "I just can't wait to be big" I want to be asked to give speeches, I want to be in the papers; I want to have a driver and I want all the things you have.

Graduands. I guess you also can't wait to be "big" or hold important positions in the future. But What does it take to achieve this? Before I talk about what it takes, let me paint a picture of scenarios you will be experiencing over the coming years. In the world around you, you will be experiencing Economic recessions ... bad times; Economic booms.. good times; Natural disasters - earthquakes, tsunamis; floods etc; local and far away. Various global crises - credit crunch; food crises; threats of pandemics such as SAR and Swine Flu Wars and conflicts in many countries e.g Bawku conflict; and also, Historical moments such as the

election of the 1st Black President of the most Powerful nation on earth; the US In your family life you will experience sad moments such as

- Death of a family member
- Sickness of a dear friend
- Marriage breakdown or divorces

And happy moments such as

- Getting married
- The birth of your first child
- Graduation from school

In building your career; anxiety could set in when you have not been successful in landing your first job

- Disappointments when you are not selected after the job interview, and Happy moments with job offers
- Excitement on a new Promotion
- Sadness when your colleagues get promoted and you are not. There will also be moments when you may have to decide whether to stay in the Agricultural field or move into another field as I did!

In all these situations you will be challenged to provide make choices or decisions and also provide leadership.

How would you perform in these situations?

I believe that your ability to successfully handle these situations depends on

1. The training you have received at KNUST. You have obtained knowledge in your respective disciplines but more importantly the training has provided you with the ability to think, analyze situations and make good judgments;
2. Success depends on your values - i.e. the traits or qualities you really believe in and which shapes your behaviour.

I would like to share some of the values great companies such as GE want to see in their employee's:

The employee must be

- i. Curious
- ii. Accountable
- iii. Passionate
- iv. Resourceful
- v. Teamwork
- vi. Committed
- vii. Open
- viii. Energizing

At GE, employees are evaluated on a year basis as to how they exhibit these traits.

1. Success will depend on the quality of interactions and experiences you will have what you learn from those experiences and how you apply them:
 - Agriculture is critical to the survival of the human race as the recent fool crises has highlighted;

- I would encourage you to stay in the profession (not to desert it as I did) and help make Ghana self sufficient in food production
- Do not go out looking for jobs i.e. to become employees but I would encourage you to start your own businesses .. get into farming and food processing
- What prevents 2 or more of you from teaming up to establish modern large scale farms - to help significantly improve food production and create employment.
- You are young and this is the best time to take risks. If you fail, you have time to try again.

I would like to leave you with some of the words of a song that keeps me motivated A song by Lee Ann Womack "I hope You dance"

HOPE YOU NEVER LOOSE YOUR SENSE OF WONDER

MAY YOU NEVER TAKE ONE SINGLE BREATH FOR GRANTED

I HOPE YOU STILL FEEL SMALL WHEN YOU STAND BESIDE THE OCEAN

WHENEVER ONE DOOR CLOSES, I HOPE ONE MORE OPEN

PROMISE ME THAT YOU'LL GIVE FAITH A FIGHTING CHANCE AND WHEN

YOU GET THE CHOICE TO SIT IT OUT OR DANCE,

I HOPE YOU DANCE

I HOPE YOU'LL NEVER FEAR THOSE MOUNTAINS IN THE DISTANCE,

NEVER SETTLE FOR THE PATH OF LEAST RESISTANCE,

DON'T LET SOME HELL-BENT HEART LEAVE YOU BITTER AND WHEN YOU GET THE CHOICE TO SIT IT OUT OR DANCE

I HOPE YOU DANCE

GO OUT AND EXCELL

BLESS YOU ALL. CONGRATULATIONS.!!!

You will have many opportunities to work with great people at work or in the community;

- Some of these may have great skills in providing leadership to teams and have achieved great results find out how they do it
- You may meet people with excellent negotiation skills, who get the best deals all the time ... find out how they do it
- You may meet people who have successfully operated a business .. find out how they have done it ..
- You may meet people who have successfully risen to the top of their profession .. find out how they did it

You will find out that these people may have certain common qualities

- They work hard
- They have passion for what they do
- They celebrate excellence and detest mediocrity
- They do accept the status quo but demand improvements
- They take risk, when they fail once, they do not give up but try again
- They do not look for short-cuts to success; Infact GE One of the world's largest companies conducted a study of the key characteristics of its most successful leaders:

They found them to have most but not all of the following:

- Ability to clearly i.e. analyze complex issues and breaking it down into simple issues ...
- Externally focused
- Inclusiveness
- Expertise

Dear Graduands, with all this said, I would like to assure you that the world and Ghana is full of opportunities to be explored

Mr. Samuel Sarpong

Alumnus

DAY ONE (AFTERNOON SESSION)
VALEDICTORY SPEECH DELIVERED BY ADWOA DARKO - MENSAH,
GRADUAND OF COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE AND PLANNING ON THE
OCCASION OF THE 43RD CONGREGATION OF KWAME NKRUMAH
UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, KUMASI HELD ON 15TH JUNE
2009 FOR THE COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE AND PLANNING IN THE GREAT
HALL AT 14:00 HOURS

Otumfuo the Chancellor
Chairman of the University Council
Vice- Chancellor
Pro Vice-Chancellor
Registrar
Provosts
Deans
Heads of Department
Members of Convocation
Invited Guests
Our Parents
Fellow Graduands
Ladies and Gentlemen

I am very honoured to be called upon to deliver this year's valedictory speech. The journey through life is one that nobody goes through alone. Whatever people may accomplish, those accomplishments were achieved only through the combination of their own personal drive and motivation and the love and support given by the people around them. It is therefore necessary to begin by appreciating and acknowledging such persons who have been instrumental in bringing us to where we are today. First and foremost, our greatest gratitude goes to God who has brought us this far for we could not have made it without His providence.

We are also thankful to our families for their immeasurable support. To our parents, we appreciate you. We would not be here today without you. You have been such wonderful mentors, and that is what has shaped us.

Many thanks to our Provost, Deans, and Heads of Department, who have collectively, ensured that the administrative rights are enforced in the College. To our lecturers, we salute you for all the knowledge you have imparted into us and the impact that you have made on our lives. It will last us for a lifetime. Abraham Lincoln once said that "Colleges are places where pebbles are polished." Indeed, the College provided an enabling and conducive environment for acquiring knowledge. The aim of education is not the mere acquisition of knowledge but the ability to act on the knowledge acquired. Thus, we know that the education we have received here would set us on a higher pedestal as we move on.

Finally, we can be thankful for each other. The sharing of knowledge and the readiness to help one another, and the friendships that we have formed here, I believe, would last a life time.

Four years ago, we assembled together as freshmen for our matriculation into this prestigious University. Today, we are gathered together for the last time as a group to celebrate our

academic achievements. Four years ago, we met as strangers, today we part as friends with some forming 'bonds that would last till eternity. We came to College trying to figure out who we were and what we wanted to become. Today, many of us leave here with answers to both. For me, one of the most remarkable experiences in school is the way our class contributed in cash and kind when a classmate encountered an overwhelming predicament. It showed the solidarity that existed amongst us though we came from different backgrounds.

Today, as we sit in this Great Hall to receive our degrees, some of us are anxious and frightened about what the future holds whereas others are overwhelmed and excited about the thought of finally finishing school. It is now time to give back to society what it has given us. The virtues of honesty, integrity, truth and courage that have been instilled in us must be upheld at all times.

Being in this University afforded me the opportunity to participate in an outreach programme in the northern region, which exposed me to the realities of life. My experience there helped me appreciate the fact that the real world is messed up and that there is abject poverty in certain parts of our country where people cannot even afford to educate their wards.

The good news is that though the world is messed up, it is not hopeless, though it is beset with problems, these problems are not unsolvable. With the education we have received here, we have been given power and that power is not to abuse but to promote social justice and improve the world around us. In our professions as architects, planners, and surveyors, we will have power, and when that power is used for drawing political agendas, developing neighbourhoods, and negotiating business deals, let's have the courage to consider those who would be adversely affected by our decisions. In our personal lives too, we shall have power; so as respected members of our communities and families, we will have the opportunity to change the world around us in the little way we can.

At the end of the day and at the end of life, the goal is just to be able to say you left something meaningful behind. And whether you do that now or later you would have changed the world for the better in a special way.

Finally, let us always remember that life is not a race with our peers. We are all unique and so we should not compete with one another but rather build each other up. We must eschew doubt and fear from our minds, but have courage. As Aristotle once said, "Courage is the first of all human virtues for it makes all the others possible." Again, let us be always ready to learn not only in school but in every situation and environment we find ourselves for just as Mark Twain said, "Never let schooling get into your way of education."

Class of 2009, we've made it. Congratulations and Ayekoo! for this great accomplishment. All the best in all you do and remember to shoot for the stars, for even if you miss it you will land on the moon.

Thank you.

**Adwoa Darko - Mensah,
Graduand, College of Architecture and Planning
KNUST**

**SPEECH DELIVERED BY PROFESSOR KWASI KWAFO ADARKWA, VICE-
CHANCELLOR OF KNUST ON THE OCCASION OF THE 43RD CONGREGATION
HELD ON 15TH JUNE, 2009 FOR THE COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE AND
PLANNING IN THE GREAT HALL AT 14.00 HOURS**

SALUTATION

Your Excellencies, Members of the Diplomatic Corps
Members of the Council of State
Honourable Ministers of State
Honourable Kumasi Metropolitan Chief Executive
Members of the University Council
Past Vice-Chancellors and Pro Vice-Chancellors
Colleague Vice-Chancellors
Pro Vice-Chancellor and Pro Vice-Chancellors from Sister Universities
Registrar and Registrars from Sister Universities
College Provosts
Deans and Directors
Heads of Departments
Nananom
Guest Speaker
Members of Convocation
Alumni of the University
Senior and Junior Staff
Parents and Guardians
Graduating Class of 2009
Members of the Press
Distinguished Invited Guests
Ladies and Gentlemen

INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

I would like to welcome all of you to this afternoon's function and to say that, we are extremely happy to have you attend this ceremony which is an annual ritual for those of us in academia. This year's programme, as you may be aware, has been planned over ten different sessions - spanning a period of five days. This arrangement has been informed by our previous experience with many parents and guardians who travel from very far places but do not have the opportunity to enter the Great Hall to witness the colourful graduation of their wards. We have had to grapple with a lot of complaints and sometimes, insults about this unfortunate incident and as a result of the fact that we do very much recognise the invaluable contribution of family members, parents and guardians to the education of our graduands, we have had to make adjustments to the Congregation schedule.

In addition, in the history of the University, this year's graduation ceremony will see the graduation of the highest number of students since the inception of this University and in order not to demean the beauty of the programme with the unsightly scenes of participants loitering around the Great Hall, we have had to organise the programme over a five-day period to allow for everyone's participation; in spite of the toll this arrangement is likely to have on the University. Our experience from this year's arrangement will inform the planning of next year's graduation ceremony. This year's ceremony commenced this morning with the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources presenting its students

for graduation. In a similar vein, we have gathered here this afternoon to graduate students from the College of Architecture and Planning.

MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER

This afternoon, we have invited a distinguished alumnus to be our motivational speaker. Mr. Benjamin Dabrah is an alumnus of this University, having graduated with a First Class Honours degree in Land Economy in 1998. Since his graduation from KNUST, he has also pursued graduate training at Hull University in the United Kingdom from where he earned the MSc (Econ) degree. He also holds a BSc degree in Financial Services from the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology.

He is currently the Managing Director of Barclays Bank Ghana Ltd having assumed office in November 2008. Prior to joining Barclays Bank Ghana Ltd, he worked with Standard Bank Ltd of West Africa as the Regional Director responsible for Credit in the West African sub-region based in Nigeria. Mr Dabrah had previously worked for seven years in Kenya as the Country Credit Director. Mr. Dabrah, welcome back to your alma mater and thanks for joining us this afternoon for our graduation ceremony.

THE COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE AND PLANNING

As some of you may be aware, the College of Architecture and Planning came into existence in 2005 as part of the restructuring of the University. The then Faculty of Environmental and Development Studies (FEDS) and the Institute of Land Management and Development (ILMAD) were merged to form the College of Architecture and Planning. The College is one of the smallest Colleges in the University in terms of student numbers. The College constitutes just about 9% of the entire student population of the University. The College has 65 members of academic staff and two Faculties - the Faculty of Architecture and Building Technology as well as the Faculty of Planning and Land Economy with four Departments which are the Departments of Architecture, Building Technology, Planning and Land Economy. The College has the Institute of Human Settlements Research as its research centre. The College is one of the country's premier centres for training of Architects, Quantity Surveyors, Settlement Planners, Development Policy Planners, Project Managers and Valuers; amongst others. The College has the Ghana Institute of Architects, the Commonwealth Association of Architects, the Royal Institute of British Architects, the Ghana Institution of Surveyors, the Ghana Institute of Construction, and the Ghana Institute of Planners as its professional affiliates.

ACTIVITIES OF THE COLLEGE

The College through its various Departments has continued to perform its core functions of teaching, research and service to the community. In the area of research and community service, the College was engaged in research areas such as the impact of gold mining activities in New Abirem in the Eastern Region, Urbanisation, Urban Management and Development Planning, Social Policy and Practice, Development of Alternative Materials, Decentralisation, and Good Governance and Poverty Mapping; amongst others. Some graduate students of the College were also engaged in a joint study of the Ayigya Township with graduate students and Lecturers from the Royal Academy of Fine Arts in Copenhagen. It is envisaged that some staff and students will present the results of this study at the 4th International Architecture Biennial Conference to be held in Rotterdam in September, 2009.

Some staff of the College were further engaged as cost consultants and quantity surveyors on projects such as Rehabilitation of the Elmina Castle, Land Use Plan for the Ghana Free Zones Board at Tema, and the KNUST Teaching Hospital; amongst others. The College further collaborated with the Community Water and Sanitation Agency (CWSA) for capacity building purposes as well as the preparation of a training manual captioned "Integration of Population Variables into Development Planning" for the National Population Council and United Nations Fund for Population Activities. The College was also involved in determining alternative livelihoods for selected communities affected by the construction of the Bui Hydro Electric Dam.

On infrastructure development, the College made some modest progress. The four-storey postgraduate complex being constructed by the College is near completion and it is expected that when the block is completed, it would provide offices, seminar rooms, a library for postgraduate students as well as office space for staff. The construction of an amp hi-theatre to provide a place of relaxation for students is about 95% complete. In addition, work is about to commence on two four-storey College complexes which would be constructed in two phases with funding provided by one of our benefactors.

The Commonwealth Association of Architects paid a validation visit to the Department of Architecture from 2nd to 5th February, 2009 to assess the programme for validation for the next five years. In the end, our Architecture programme was given unconditional certification or validation for the next five years with the BSc and Postgraduate Diploma being equivalent to Parts I and II, respectively of the RIBA Professional Examination. The College also played host to a delegation from Sheffield Hallam University in England, with whom a co-operation agreement was signed. The College also signed another agreement with the University of Technology, Kingston, Jamaica and discussions are still on-going with the Birmingham City University on possible areas of co-operation with the College.

On income generation, the Carpentry and Joinery Section of the College continued to generate modest income for the College from furniture manufacturing. The College also won some research grants including the Centre for Settlement Studies grant of US\$10,856.00 from the Teaching and Learning Innovation Fund (TALIF) to support postgraduate studies in housing and human settlements as well as the Building Technology Department's TALIF grant which, among other things, enabled them procure twenty (20) computers and accessories.

This year, the College's research output fell a little below expectation but it is understood that some of their findings were published in professional journals of their umbrella associations. Following this, most of their efforts will now be directed at peer reviewed journals in their various professional disciplines so that the visibility of the College can be enhanced.

In order to take advantage of current market trends, two new undergraduate programmes in BSc Construction Management and Technology as well as BSc Quantity Surveying and Construction Economics were mounted by the Department of Building Technology in the 2008/2009 academic year. Another undergraduate programme in Real Estate Management is to be introduced during the 2009/2010 academic year effective August, 2009. These efforts are also aimed at producing the needed manpower to man the

construction industry with their implications for employment generation in Ghana. The introduction of these programmes is our response to demands from our stakeholders and on-going market trends.

In order to promote excellence and higher performance among students, the Faculty of Architecture and Building Technology organised a programme to present awards to best students in each class of the various programmes in the Faculty. In all, 10 students received awards in the form of Investment Coupons.

STATISTICS ON GRADUATING CLASS

This year, the College of Architecture and Planning is presenting 512 students for graduation. The number consists of 25 graduates with First Class degrees, 359 with Second Class (Upper Division) degrees, 177 Second Class (Lower Division) degrees and 11 students graduating with Pass degrees. Among the graduands of the College are 95 Architects, 125 Building Technologists, 140 Development Planners, 48 Human Settlement Planners as well as 104 Land Economists and Valuers.

I wish to inform Congregation that, this number constitutes the highest number that the College of Architecture and Planning has graduated in its history and we are very much happy that we are contributing our quota to Ghana's development in the training of Architects, Land Economists, Development Planners, Settlement Planners, Quantity Surveyors and Building Technologists. It is our hope that, they will go and make the needed impact as their predecessors have done in the past.

It will be noted that graduates from this College have a tremendous role to play to bring about meaningful development at the local level. More than 80% of our Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies do not benefit from the skills of these professionals and this appears to have contributed to the execution and acceptance of shoddy works at the local level. As a challenge, if there is a programme to ensure that, say, one half of these graduates do their national service with the Assemblies, tremendous benefits will inure to the entire nation. As a long term strategy, there has to be conscious efforts to attract and retain these professionals at the local level.

ADVICE TO GRADUANDS

As you graduate today from this University, be reminded that, this should not be the ultimate in your career. There are several other opportunities for career enhancement and professional development. Take advantage of such opportunities and make maximum use of them wherever you may find yourself - either at the District Assembly, in private practice, or in a Ministry; be guided by the tenets of your professional training here at KNUST. You are supposed to help society find solutions to its myriad of problems. As experts in the field of development and the built environment, our Ghanaian society offers you a lot of challenges and you are to bring your professional judgement to bear on any activity you may be engaged in. The continued existence of poorly planned settlements, building of climatically inappropriate structures which are also very expensive, the collapse of multi storey buildings in our settlements are simply an indictment on you as professionals from the College of Architecture and Planning.

To be able to adequately contribute to finding appropriate solutions to the array of problems, you need to recognise the importance of team work and collaboration in your professional life. Each professional graduating this afternoon has a role to play if

we are to adequately tackle our development problems as well as problems of our built environment. We all need to be reminded that the role of each professional in a team is akin to a painting with many different colours but each one is important and necessary. For those of you who will be working in establishments which hitherto had no professionals of your kind, please go and make that huge difference and impact just as a single candle does when the night is darkest and it is lit.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, I would like to say a word of thank you to the parents and guardians of our graduands. It has been by your financial, moral and spiritual support that these young men and women are being celebrated today. God richly bless you for spending on a viable venture. I also recognise the invaluable effort put in by your lecturers right from your first year to your final year. God bless you all lecturers and support staff for putting in the extra effort to bring meaning to the lives of these young ones. They will forever remain indebted to you.

And finally, to you the young ones, as you commence your professional lives, let wisdom enter your heart, and knowledge will fill you with joy. For this same wisdom, will save you from evil people and from those whose speech is corrupt. Wise planning will watch over you and understanding will keep you safe.

God richly bless all of you.
Thank you.

Prof. Kwasi Kwafu Adarkwa
Vice-Chancellor, KNUST

**MOTIVATIONAL SPEECH DELIVERED BY MR. BENJAMIN DABRAH
ON THE OCCASION OF THE 43RD CONGREGATION OF KWAME NKRUMAH
UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, KUMASI HELD ON 15TH JUNE
2009 FOR THE COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE AND PLANNING IN THE GREAT
HALL AT 14:00 HOURS**

I am immensely privileged and humbled to have been asked to be part of the 43rd Congregation of this great University which is my alma mater. My task this afternoon is to share a short motivational message with my brothers and sisters who are graduating today.

Let me begin by confirming and affirming that as you graduate today, you are joining a long and illustrious list of alumni of one of the best Universities in Ghana and the West Africa sub-region. One of a few universities that combine academic excellence with offering its students life skills and entrepreneurial opportunities - which, as I have come to find out, are critical ingredients for success in the world out there.

I will also like to congratulate each of the graduating students, I know how difficult and challenging it is to do what you have accomplished - in the face of the accommodation challenges, financial difficulties, the occasional 'check check', the frequent hikes to 'mecca', the challenge of finding the right study text in the midst of all the 'archaic' books in the library - and the dismay of realising that the most important pages are missing from the book you just found etc. Your presence here today in spite of all these challenges proves that where there is a will there is indeed a way. Please accept my CONGRATULATIONS and if I may, ladies and gentlemen, please join me in giving all of them a round of applause in recognition of this achievement.

Ten years ago, I sat out there (congregations used to be held out there with all colleges and faculties present), with a sense of pride, and a quiet apprehension about what the future held for me. If that is what you feel it is not unusual. I am happy to assure you that, this university does equip you with what it takes to face the world out there and be successful.

Graduation is a time of completion, a time of celebration of achievements but also a time of new beginnings, of new opportunities, a time of birthing new ideas. So, whilst celebrating your achievement today, I urge you to have an eagle eye for spotting the opportunities that lie in the future, and the tenacity and courage to harness the resources required to take the opportunities.

I assure you there are opportunities out there. but you can't see what you believe doesn't exist. and if you believe something strongly enough, it comes to pass. I urge you to be positive, and to see the silver lining at the edge of every dark cloud. People don't only make it because they know the right people, and not every job advert already has someone earmarked for it.

I believe that hard work pays (at least it has worked for one person - me). and it can work for you too. Success is not instant. sometimes it takes time, and sometimes it comes quickly. Either way, it is not when it comes that matters most, but when it leaves. Focus on sustainability; because success is not an event. it is a process.

As one of my favourite motivational speakers, Zig Ziglar, says: "Success means doing the best we can with what we have. Success is the doing, not the getting; success is in the trying, not the triumph. Success is a personal standard, reaching for the highest that is in us, becoming all that we can be." Let me share 2 insights from this quote that have helped me and which will help you if you apply them:

1. Success is a **PERSONAL STANDARD** -It is not about what others expect, nor is it about what others achieve relative to what you achieve. It is about what you achieve relative to what you set out to achieve, and what you are capable of achieving. It is about reaching for the highest that is in us, becoming all that we can be (use example of athletics - not only wins are measured, but also personal bests, season bests etc.)
2. Success is the **DOING**, not the **GETTING**; the **TRYING**, not the **TRIUMPH** - every event in our life is a lesson, a lesson that equips us for the next event/challenge. Unfortunately, if we focus only on the outcome, we miss the lesson of the experience - even if the outcome is favourable. I encourage you to focus on the doing, the trying, the process, so that irrespective of the outcome, it would have been a worthwhile event because you came out a better person for the experience. Outcomes are fleeting, experiences are lasting.

To summarise, have a vision! goal that is yours, which recognises your resources and abilities, which is achievable for YOU. Success is a **PERSONAL** standard. Avoid the temptation to compete, and to measure your success or lack of it by what others have done. Also, learn from the experience. It increases the chances of the outcome being favourable in the future. An outcome that cannot be replicated is a fluke, and you cannot replicate something unless you know **WHAT** made it happen.

Before I conclude, I think it is fair that I warn you that there will be challenges -I don't call them failures because there is value in the process if you learn from them. But these challenges make the success worth it. In the words of Malcolm S. Forbes "Victory is sweetest when you've known defeat."

In the final analysis, the strength of your character comes not from how you react to your successes, of which I know there will be many. The strength of your character comes from how you react to your challenges/defeats, of which there also will be many especially if you make bold moves. So always believe in yourself, persevere, but be willing to adapt and **NEVER GIVE UP**.

I will end with a message from a song. A song that was choreographed by my colleagues in the Literary Wing of IHCF during the final 'joint service' here in 1988, for us the 'finalists' then. A ministrations that brought tears to my eyes:

As you go out to make bold moves to change our world for the better:

May the Lord Lift you up where you belong
Where the eagles fly on a mountain high
May the Lord lift you up where you belong
Up from the worlds we know
Up where the clear winds blow. (CeCe Winna's)

GO OUT THERE AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE, BECAUSE YOU CAN!
THANK YOU

Mr. Benjamin Dabrah
Alumnus

DAY TWO (MORNING SESSION)
**VALEDICTORY SPEECH DELIVERED BY A GRADUAND OF FACULTY OF
ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING ON THE OCCASION OF THE
43RD CONGREGATION OF KWAME NKRUMAH UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY, KUMASI HELD ON 16TH JUNE 2009 FOR THE FACULTY OF
ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING AND THE FACULTY OF
CHEMICAL AND MATERIALS ENGINEERING IN THE GREAT HALL AT 09:00
HOURS**

Otumfuo the Chancellor
Chairman of the University Council
Vice- Chancellor
Pro Vice-Chancellor
Registrar
Provosts
Deans
Heads of Department
Members of Convocation
Invited Guests
Our Parents
Fellow Graduands
Ladies and Gentlemen

I am very excited to have been given this opportunity to deliver a valedictory speech at such a prestigious ceremony. When Dr Okyere, the head of the department of electrical engineering, told me that I was going to do this I was at a loss as to what I was going to say. So many things have happened within these past four years, beginning with when we all first arrived on this campus to this very day we are graduating. There have been moments of grief when we lost friends, and moments of fun during Hall and Faculty weeks. Some of us for the very first time had to make certain decisions on our own, what to buy, who to date, where to go. If we are seated here today it is because the decisions, we made were right and we are most grateful to our lecturers for their guidance.

As products of this noble institution, we have great responsibilities towards the development of Ghana. We are the lifeblood of science and technology development in this country. The high educational standards we have been exposed to should challenge us to solve societal problems and not to add to them. To do this it is imperative that we do away with any form of immoderate behaviour. Lack of moderation in our spiritual and political endeavours are two excesses I want to draw our attention to and I ask that we be aware of them as we go outside the walls of this University. Instead let's use our energy and intellect in activities that promote national unity and development.

There is this observation I made that I want to share with you fellow graduands. Last year I had the opportunity to be on the campus of Texas A&M University together with two other colleagues. What I realized over there was that most of their infrastructure- lecturers and student's offices, recreational center, halls of residence, library, clinic, stadium- were built by past students, something that does not happen very often over here. It is undeniable that many of us are going to make more than we can spend. I entreat you that we all come back either individually or in groups to contribute to the development of KNUST and make this place extra comfortable for generations after us.

KNUST has a lot to be proud of and I will like to commend our lecturers for their dedication to work and for the lively atmosphere that they are able to establish in the lecture halls. Some never missed a class. Others were so lively you could sit in their class for three hours and never know you had been seated for that long and they all got along so well with students that at times it was almost impossible to make out who was the lecturer and who the student. Sirs, we want you to know that your modesty and diligence have made giant imprints in our minds that we will never-forget you.

Fellow graduands the path we are about to tread is long and winding but the good news is we are not the first to pass on it and we will not be the last. Several people have gone the same way and several others are yet to come. When the going gets tough and we seem to have lost our way, let's just stop and ask for directions.

Graduand
Faculty of Electrical and Computer Engineering
KNUST

**SPEECH DELIVERED BY PROFESSOR KWASI KWAFO ADARKWA, VICE-
CHANCELLOR OF KWAME NKRUMAH UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY, KUMASI ON THE OCCASION OF THE 43RD CONGREGATION
HELD IN THE GREAT HALL ON 16TH JUNE, 2009 FOR THE FACULTY OF
ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING AND THE FACULTY OF
CHEMICAL AND MATERIALS ENGINEERING
AT 09.00 HOURS**

SALUTATION

Honourable Ministers of State
Your Excellencies, Members of the Diplomatic Corps
Nananom
Members of the University Council
Members of the Clergy
Colleague Vice-Chancellors, particularly Prof. D. O. Aigbomian, former Vice-Chancellor
of Ambrose Ani University
Past KNUST Vice-Chancellors and Pro Vice-Chancellors
Pro Vice-Chancellor and Pro Vice-Chancellors from Sister Universities
Registrar and Registrars from Sister Universities
Guest Speaker
Provosts
Deans and Directors
Heads of Department
Alumni of the University
Members of Convocation
Senior and Junior Staff
Excited Parents
Graduands and KNUST Class of 2009
Members of the Media
Distinguished Invited Guests
Ladies and gentlemen

INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

We are gathered here this morning to mark yet another important milestone in the annals of this University. On behalf of the hardworking teaching and non-teaching staff of this University, I would like to extend our warm welcome to all of you to this morning's function. Graduation ceremonies are very important in the lives of both Universities and graduands in that they bring to the fore, the calibre of staff and the quality of students churned out by the Universities. It is for this reason that we attach such great importance to these graduation ceremonies. Yesterday, we graduated students from the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and the College of Architecture and Planning in the morning and afternoon; respectively and this morning, we will be graduating students from the College of Engineering.

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

The College of Engineering was established as a School in October 1952 to prepare students for professional qualifications only. It has since grown and expanded, and responded to the human resource and development needs of the country. Now as a College, it has four Faculties with thirteen programmes running under nine Departments, and two Research Centres. We have assembled here this morning to present students from the Faculty of

Chemical and Materials Engineering and the Faculty of Electrical and Computer Engineering for graduation. By dint of hard work, the teaching staff of the two Faculties have carved a niche for themselves in their areas of expertise. They have made substantial progress and contributed significantly through their innovations and development of softwares; amongst others. In addition, they have also published articles in both local and international journals.

In order to fully support the development of the oil and gas industry following the discovery of commercial quantities of petroleum in Ghana, the Department of Chemical Engineering plans to introduce Petrochemical Engineering programme from the 2009/2010 academic year. In view of the importance of this programme, we would like to appeal to the Government of Ghana for a special scholarship scheme to train outstanding students who would join the Faculty to strengthen it after their graduation. Bio-Medical Engineering is currently on offer in the College and the first batch of students to the programme were admitted during the first semester of the 2008/2009 academic year. The programme is, however, currently being run under the Department of Computer Engineering.

The College has participated actively in research as one of its core businesses. Active research areas during the year under review included optimisation of efficiency of earth electrodes, ANN-based adaptive autoreclosure and product design and development for local applications. As one of their contributions to the development of the country, staff and students of the College designed and developed a prepaid meter for local manufacture in the 2008/2009 academic year. A formal presentation is yet to be made to the Electricity Company of Ghana.

We cannot talk about the development of this nation without paying tribute to the products of these two Faculties. It is an understatement to mention that until recently, all the computer engineers, electrical engineers, electronic engineers, chemical engineers, material engineers in Ghana were trained by the College of Engineering. About 95% of engineers employed by the Volta River Authority (VRA), Electricity Company of Ghana (ECG), gold mining companies, Tema Oil Refinery (TOR) and many others were initially trained here at KNUST. They all excel in their areas of expertise because of the rigorous training they received as students in this great University.

MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER

To add pomp to this morning's ceremony and to tell the whole world how successful the products of the Faculties have been in industry and academia, we have invited Ing. Kirk Koffi, Deputy Chief Executive Officer in charge of Engineering and Operations of the Volta River Authority (VRA). Ing. Koffi graduated from the KNUST in 1981 with a BSc Mechanical Engineering degree. He joined the VRA soon after his graduation and he was posted to the Akosombo Hydropower Plant as an Assistant Mechanical Engineer. Through hard work and dedication to his job, he rose to become the Head of the Mechanical Section of the Kpong Hydropower Plant in 1986 and the Head of Mechanical Section of Akosombo Hydropower Plant in 1991. He was later promoted to the position of Plant Manager, Kpong Hydropower Station in 1995 and then reassigned to the Akosombo Plant as Plant Manager in 2001.

In 2002, Ing. Kirk Koffi was appointed the Director of Hydro Generation where he was responsible for all operational activities of the Akosombo and Kpong Hydropower Plants. He was subsequently appointed as Deputy Chief Executive (Engineering and Operations) in 2008. In his current position, he is responsible for overseeing the operational activities of VMs hydro and thermal plants as well as all engineering and project related activities.

Ing Kirk Koffi is a fellow of the Ghana Institution of Engineers and has over the years, contributed in the development of engineers in VRA. He was awarded ORDER OF THE VOLTA-OFFICER for distinguishing himself in Public Service during the National Awards in July 2008. Ing Kirk Koffi, we are, indeed, excited to have you this morning as our motivational speaker. Welcome back to your alma mater.

COLLEBORATIONS

The College through its Departments is linked with other Universities in the areas of research, student and staff exchange and industry. The link with Texas Instruments has continued to grow from year to year. Last year, the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) through General Electric arranged a 3-month internship programme for five of our students at various plant sites in the US. While at General Electric, our students were involved in cutting edge research including Clinical Software Engineering, Aero Energy Services, Security Systems and Trace Detection Devices; amongst others. We have had visits from oil-related companies such as Schlumberger, Global Maritime and Geoservices and discussed various levels of collaboration for our mutual benefit.

The College has initiated collaboration with the Ghana National Fire Service and the Fire Service College in the United Kingdom for the MSc/PGDip in Fire and Safety Engineering in this University. The Dean of the Faculty of Chemical and Materials Engineering is coordinating the financial support from the Ministry of Interior as well as the execution of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Fire Service College and the University of Central Lancashire, U.K.

To widen their scope of collaboration, the Faculties have established links with major international bodies, such as the World Bank, UNESCO-IHE, DANIDA, DAAD, VRA, ECG, TOR, and the Association of Ghana Industries as the local partners.

These collaborations do not only put the Faculties on a high pedestal but they also receive a lot of support from the collaborative agencies. For instance, in the not too distant future, the Faculties will have some respite from the ECG. ECG will support the development of the retrofitting of a credit energy meter to a pre-paid meter. Again ECG has agreed to assist in the provision of laboratory equipment for the Department of Electrical Engineering. The VRA has also accepted to establish a high voltage laboratory for the Electrical Engineering Department as well as provide funding for conferences. ECG recently signed an MOU with the College under which ECG will be supporting the Electrical and Electronic Engineering Department with an amount of US\$500,000, together with other equipment over the next three years.

GRADUATING CLASS OF 2009

This year, the two Faculties are graduating a total of 466 students. They are proudly going home with Bachelor of Science degrees in Chemical Engineering, Materials Engineering, Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Computer Engineering, Petroleum Engineering and Telecommunications Engineering. Out of the total, 47 students obtained 1st Class degrees and 212 students obtained 2nd Class (Upper Division) degrees.

Another 183 are going home with 2nd Class (Lower Division) degrees while the remaining 24 are proceeding home with Pass degrees.

I am glad to announce that the first batch of students admitted into the BSc degree programme in Telecommunications Engineering is graduating today. Even though the going was tough as is the case with any pioneering work, they were nonetheless undaunted and have sailed through successfully. I have the honour, at this juncture, to invite you to stand to be acknowledged congratulations and you may resume your seats.

ADVICE TO THE GRADUANDS

As you leave the walls of this University today, remember that we have now accepted you into the fold of alumni members of your College and the University. I therefore encourage each one of you to register with the KNUST Alumni Association wherever you find yourself. Being awarded a KNUST degree means that you have gone through thorough and rigorous training. You have acquired both academic and moral discipline. You are expected to perform in every capacity you find yourselves. To whom much is given, much is expected from. You should, therefore, raise high the flag of KNUST. Be good ambassadors of the University.

Show enthusiasm in your work and remember that it is the fuel of life that will help you get to where you want to get to in your professional life. Remember that only lazy people fight with their tools. You have been comprehensively prepared for the job market. Know your creator and serve him wherever you go. It is better to live and behave as if there is God and to find yourself in heaven after death than to lead any life and think that there is no God and find yourself in hell after death because there is God. In short, it is better to live an upright life both at home and at the work place even when you think no one is observing you.

Nowadays the major problems confronting Ghana are frequent power outages, cyber fraud, exploitation of oil (black gold), importation of inferior electrical parts and equipment, bad signals from our mobile telecom providers, television and radio stations; amongst others. My charge to you this morning is to start searching for lasting solutions to all these problems. The lecture room should not be the end of your studies. Continue to read in order to be abreast with new technologies around you. It is when you attain this feat that you can be called a scholar and would be in a position to contribute meaningfully to the development of your country.

Do not forget to honour and reciprocate the good support you received from your parents, guardians, teachers and colleagues in the course of your studies. Every little effort you received from any of them has brought you this far.

BENEFACTORS

In addition to those already mentioned, may I take this opportunity to express our gratitude to the following for their various donations to the College:

1. Texas Instruments donated a Cadence Software and workstations to be used by staff and students for integrated circuit design as part of the collaboration agreement.

2. They also continued to support three final year students of the faculty to do their final year

first

3.They also continued to support three final year students of the faculty to do their final year first

4.They also continued to support three final year students of the faculty to do their final year first semester studies at the Texas A & M University and one faculty member was also supported to undertake a six-week industrial attachment at Texas Instrument Inc (Dallas TX), during the year under review.

5.With the support of Texas Instruments Inc (Dallas TX), the Department of Electrical Electronic Engineering established a VLSI laboratory for both teaching and research.

4.Schlumberger has also donated propriety software valued at US\$2.5 million to the Department of Chemical Engineering to firm up the Memorandum of Understanding signed with the University recently.

5.Poku Transport Award of GH¢500.00 to the best third year student of Electrical Electronic Engineering continued.

6.Bamfo Kwakye Memorial Scholarship yearly award of GH¢1,500.00 for third year brilliant but needy students of the faculty continued.

We are extremely grateful to all our benefactors who facilitated academic work in these Faculties during the year under review.

CONCLUSION

Distinguished invited guests, ladies and gentlemen, once again, thank you for attending the graduation ceremony for the Faculty of Chemical and Materials Engineering and the Faculty of Electrical and Computer Engineering. As I usually tell parents, guardians, well-wishers and everybody at congregations, we have a responsibility towards the social, economic and professional development of these young graduates. As parents and guardians, your responsibility is not yet over. You may have a brief relief with the graduation of your wards but let us all continue to mentor these young ones so Ghana will become better off.

Finally, may I take this opportunity to wish our young graduates every good thing they wish for themselves. May the good Lord protect you and keep you wherever you go. You need to be aware that life is how you live it.

Thank you and may God bless us all.

Prof. Kwasi Kwafu Adarkwa
Vice-Chancellor, KNUST

MOTIVATIONAL SPEECH DELIVERED BY ING. KIRK KOFFI, DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE, ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS, VOLTA RIVER AUTHORITY ON THE OCCASION OF THE 43RD CONGREGATION OF KWAME NKRUMAH UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, KUMASI HELD ON 16TH JUNE 2009 FOR THE FACULTY OF ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING AND THE FACULTY OF CHEMICAL AND MATERIALS ENGINEERING IN THE GREAT HALL AT 09:00 HOURS

I wish to congratulate you all on the successful completion of your course. I know it has been a tough four- year-period, but one that has prepared you for the real world. It has been about 28 years since I left this University and I can see a lot has changed on campus. In our time there were no computers, there were fewer students and everyone stayed on campus. Compared to my time, there are many more opportunities available to you now, both within and outside the field of engineering.

A number of us do not want to practise our chosen profession or career right after graduation. However, I can assure you that a career as an engineer can be very fulfilling. What you need to understand is that, even though your lecturers have given you all the tools you need to work with as engineers; it is still a blunt tool. And for you to sharpen the tools, you must be prepared for a lifetime of learning and professional development. The engineering profession is dynamic and you cannot therefore rest on your laurels.

As you prepare to enter the job market, there are certain things you must always keep in mind. The first is that you may be seen or considered as a nobody when you go into your first job, and that is because you are likely to meet people who are more experienced than you are and more knowledgeable than you.

However, you must also realise that, with hard work and dedication to your job, you can also one day be like them. You must therefore be willing to be submissive, demonstrate reliability and trustworthiness and a willingness to listen and learn. You must also know that the people who will actually teach you the job may not even be engineers but technicians and administrators. And as you rise in your career, you must always remember to show respect to such people and recognise that they have contributed greatly to your climb to the top.

Secondly, you must understand the vision and mission of the organisations you work for, own it and do your best to translate it to reality. Try to go beyond the normal call of duty, and with time, your dedication and commitment will be rewarded. Do not- also forget to immerse yourself into the corporate culture, values and develop the right work ethics.

Lastly remember that the role of the Engineering Profession is to provide infrastructure and services to enhance development which will promote the economic and social wellbeing of mankind. Consequently, you have to think more of the benefit that your work will bring to mankind before you think of your own rewards.

As you enter the real world, do not forget your responsibility to your community, your God and your old school, because society has sacrificed a lot for you to get an education and it is important for you to give back to Society. Try also to live a fruitful and productive life. Do

not over indulge, especially the young men who will be earning their own money for the first time. The temptations of life will be huge and you will need a lot of discipline not to fall. Lead a morally upright life and the benefits will be immense.

I wish you all the best and a very successful life. God richly bless you.

Ing. Kirk Koffi

Alumnus

***Note: This speech was repeated at Day Two (Afternoon Session).

DAY TWO (AFTERNOON SESSION)

VALEDICTORY SPEECH DELIVERED BY AUGUSTINE AKUOKO KWARTENG, GRADUAND OF COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING ON THE OCCASION OF THE 43RD CONGREGATION OF KWAME NKRUMAH UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, KUMASI HELD ON 16TH JUNE 2009 FOR THE FACULTY OF CIVIL AND GEOMATIC ENGINEERING AND THE FACULTY OF MECHANICAL AND AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING IN THE GREAT HALL AT 14:00 HOURS

Otumfuo the Chancellor
Chairman of the University Council
Vice- Chancellor
Pro Vice-Chancellor
Registrar
Provosts
Deans
Heads of Department
Members of Convocation
Invited Guests
Our Parents
Fellow Graduands
Ladies and Gentlemen

Four years ago, a flight arrived on KNUST campus with passengers who were green and ignorant. Today, a flight is departing with the same passengers - a few missing in action but we are now professionals, who have been trained to solve diverse problems in our world. The journey sounds simple but it entailed a lot. For some of us, it was a great experience; for others, it was rather miserable; and most of us fall somewhere in between these two extremes. For all of us, though, the best years of our lives should lie ahead, because now we finally have the ability to shape what kind of life we would like to lead.

Within the past four years we have learnt that we cannot achieve success unless we like what we do, and do everything with all our strength and commitment. We were fortunate to enjoy the unflinching support of our parents, friends and neighbours. We also appreciate the efforts of our excellent, hardworking, and dedicated lecturers who went far beyond their call of duty to make us what we are today. In the end, however, it is our own responsibility how much of an education we got and what we are going to do with it. It doesn't really matter the CWAs we are taking home. What matters is that we have learned a great deal about the world around us - whether in the lecture rooms or out - and we have learnt about how to deal with other people, and we shall never become afraid to learn something new.

As young and energetic engineers trained as professional problem solvers, we owe it as a duty to our nation and the world at large to make changes that will live forever. Robert' F. Kennedy once said: *"Few will have the greatness to bend history itself; but each of us can work to change a small portion of events, and in the total of all those acts will be written the history of this generation"*. I will say that the potential to make a change is embedded within each one of us. Until one makes an attempt to confront a problem one has no idea of how much one can do. Who knows, one of us seated here today has the key to turn around the fortunes of our nation and elevate us to the status of a first world country, and the rest of us

will have small portions of contribution to L make, in order to realize the great future, we are all anticipating for our dear country, Ghana.

Let me leave you with a quote from Brian Tracy: *"All successful people men and women are big dreamers. They imagine what their future could be, ideal in every respect, and then they work every day toward their distant vision, that goal or purpose."* I encourage all of you to set goals for yourself and to strongly stand for something that can give your life a direction and purpose - because it is your goals that keep you going when the going gets tough.

As a fellow member of the graduating class of 2009, I wish you all the best of luck in your lives.

Congratulations to all graduating engineers here, and best wishes for a wonderful future.
Thank you.

Augustine Akuoko Kwarteng
Graduand, College of Engineering
KNUST

**SPEECH DELIVERED BY PROFESSOR KWASI KWAFO ADARKWA, VICE-
CHANCELLOR OF KWAME NKRUMAH UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY, KUMASI ON THE OCCASION OF THE 43RD CONGREGATION
HELD IN THE GREAT HALL ON 16TH JUNE, 2009 FOR THE FACULTY OF CIVIL
AND GEOMATIC ENGINEERING AND THE FACULTY OF MECHANICAL AND
AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING IN THE GREAT HALL AT 14:00 HOURS**

SALUTATION

Honourable Ministers of State
Your Excellencies, Members of the Diplomatic Corps
Nananom
Members of the University Council
Members of the Clergy
Colleague Vice-Chancellors
Past KNUST Vice-Chancellors and Pro Vice-Chancellors
Pro Vice-Chancellor and Pro Vice-Chancellors of Sister Universities
Registrar and Registrars of Sister Universities
Guest Speaker
Provosts
Deans and Directors
Heads of Department
Alumni of the University
Members of Convocation
Senior and Junior Staff
Excited Parents
Graduands and KNUST Class of 2009
Members of the Media
Distinguished Invited Guests
Ladies and gentlemen

INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

We are gathered here this afternoon to mark yet another important milestone in the annals of this University. On behalf of the hard working faculty members and non-teaching staff of this University, I would like to extend our warm welcome to all of you to this afternoon's function. Graduation ceremonies are very important in the lives of both Universities and graduands, in that they bring to the fore, the calibre of staff and the quality of students churned out by the Universities. It is for this reason that we attach such great importance to these graduation ceremonies. Yesterday, we graduated students from the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and the College of Architecture and Planning in the morning and afternoon respectively. This morning we have also witnessed the graduation of students from the Faculty of Electrical and Computer Engineering as well as the Faculty of Chemical and Materials Engineering.

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

The College of Engineering was established as a School in October 1952 to prepare students for professional qualifications only. Since then, it has grown and expanded, and responded to the human resource and development needs of the country. Now as a College, it has four Faculties with thirteen programmes running under nine Departments, and two Research Centres. We have assembled here this afternoon to present students from the

Faculty of Civil and Geomatic Engineering and the Faculty of Mechanical and Agricultural Engineering for graduation.

By dint of hard work, the teaching staff of the two Faculties have carved a niche for themselves. They have researched and come out with new innovations in their areas of expertise. They have also published many articles in both local and international journals.

The University and the Government of the Republic of Ghana have made giant strides in the provision of educational infrastructure, laboratories with state-of-the-art equipment and instrumentation for research and development of machinery to meet national needs.

However, a lot more needs to be done, but I dare say that we are ready to train students to lead us in our drive to break the cycle of poverty in Ghana. Well trained engineers in various disciplines will have the confidence to enter existing job markets and also have confidence in creating their own jobs because of their acquisition of focused knowledge and expertise.

Members of academic staff continue to conduct research in areas related to thermo-fluid engineering, design and production engineering, blending bio-fuels for internal combustion engines, design and manufacture of internal combustion engines and bore-hole mechanised centrifugal pumps using available local materials. A joint research into the prediction of crack propagation using acoustic emission techniques is ongoing.

Furthermore, investigation into the use of solar energy for cooling and refrigeration purposes is being carried out whilst a staff member who has registered for a PhD degree is fervently working on the "Impact Attenuation System Using Friction Dumpers." Another staff has built a prototype of a machine for making yam ridges. Adoption of this machine will result in tremendous time savings for our yam farmers.

Much as we have tried to reach the zenith in a bid to train our students by way of procuring new equipment as mentioned earlier, we are still confronted with the challenge of inadequate resources that would ensure that our departments can train young engineers who will be equal to the challenges. The Mechanical Workshop, Heat Engines Laboratory, Mechanics of Machines Laboratory and the Strength of Materials Laboratory which have, over the years, been the bedrock of our practical training facilities have all run down and need to be completely revamped with new machines to reflect emerging trends in industry. New workshops to provide training and enhance intensive research in foundry, welding, sheet metal fabrication, plastic injection moulding, integrated circuit boards manufacturing, computer numerically controlled (CNC) machining practices are necessary additions that require urgent funding to set them up. We are, therefore, making a passionate appeal to both individuals and organisations to come to our aid with the provision of funds, equipment or both for the proper training of our students.

MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER

To add pomp to this afternoon's ceremony and to tell the whole world how successful the products of the Faculties have been in industry and academia, we have invited Ing. Kirk Koffi, Deputy Chief Executive Officer in charge of Engineering and Operations of the Volta River Authority (VRA). Ing. Kirk Koffi graduated from the KNUST in 1981 with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. He joined the VRA soon after his graduation and he was posted to the Akosombo Hydropower Plant as an Assistant Mechanical Engineer. Through hard work and dedication to his job, he rose to become the Head of the Mechanical Section of the

Kpong Hydropower Plant in 1986 and the Head of Mechanical Section of Akosombo Hydropower Plant in 1991. He was later promoted to the position of Plant Manager, Kpong Hydropower Station in 1995 and then reassigned to the Akosombo Plant as Plant Manager in 2001.

In 2002, Ing. Kirk Koffi was appointed the Director of Hydro Generation where he was responsible for all operational activities of the Akosombo and Kpong Hydropower Plants. He was subsequently appointed as Deputy Chief Executive (Engineering and Operations) in 2008. In his current position, he is responsible for overseeing the operational activities of VRA's hydro and thermal plants as well as all engineering and project related activities.

Ing Kirk Koffi is a fellow of the Ghana Institution of Engineers and has over the years, contributed in the development of engineers in VRA. He was awarded ORDER OF THE VOLTA-OFFICER for distinguishing himself in Public Service during the National Awards in July 2008. Ing Kirk Koffi, we are, indeed, excited to have you this afternoon as our motivational speaker. Welcome back to your alma mater.

COLLABORATIONS

To be abreast with modern trends in technological advancement, the faculties have forged relationships with several institutions, organisations and companies for mutual benefit. They include the North Carolina Agricultural and Technical University (NCA&T), Southern University - USA, University of Michigan - USA, University of Western Ontario - Canada, University of Toulon - France and the International Institute for Water and Environment at the University of Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso.

Quite apart from these, two graduate students came to KNUST on an attachment programme in thermo-fluids from the International Institute for Water and Environment at the University of Ouagadougou. One of the students undertook studies in co- generation Power Systems at the Juabeng Oil Mills and the other underwent training under Mr. E. W. Ramde in the use of TRNSYS Simulation Tool for Solar Descicant Air- Conditioning Systems Software. Both students spent ten weeks in the Department of Mechanical Engineering. From the KNUST side, Dr. Sunnu offered a course in Theory of Turbo-machinery to graduate students at 2IE International Institute for Water and Environment, University of Ouagadougou before the end of June 2008.

A Memorandum of Understanding between Mr. Sakyi Mensah's CompuNet. Ltd. and the Department of Mechanical Engineering is being worked on. However, Mr. Sakyi Mensah has been appointed as a visiting Lecturer. Mr. Sakyi Mensah works at Airbus as Design and Systems Engineer, He spent 10 days in the Department and delivered much needed lectures in Aircraft Structures to our final year Aerospace Engineering students. Two visiting lecturers working at Airbus deliver special lectures to third and fourth year Aerospace Engineering students each year. The- Ghana Air Force also organises practical training and flight experience for third and final year students every long vacation. In addition, staff of the Mechanical Engineering Department receive further training in their various areas of expertise at NCA&T. For instance, two new staff who had their further studies at NCA& T graduated with PhD degrees in Design, Manufacturing and Applied Mechanics related areas and have since returned to the Department. Two more lecturers, after a year's sandwich study programme for their PhD, returned from NCA&T and continued to work on their dissertation.

Two students from NCA&T spent one semester and received tuition in various courses at KNUST at the third year level.

GRADUATING CLASS OF 2009

This afternoon, the two Faculties are graduating a total of 480 students. They are proudly going home with Bachelor of Science degrees in Civil Engineering, Geomatic Engineering, Geological Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Agricultural Engineering and Aerospace Engineering. Out of the total, 10 students obtained 1st Class degrees and 192 students obtained 2nd Class (Upper Division) degrees. Another 253 are going home with 2nd Class (Lower Division) degrees while the remaining 25 are proceeding home with Pass degrees.

ADVICE TO THE GRADUANDS

As you leave the walls of this University today, remember that we have now accepted you into the fold of alumni of your College and the University. I therefore encourage each one of you to register with the KNUST Alumni Association wherever you find yourself. Being awarded a KNUST degree means that you have gone through thorough and rigorous training. You have acquired sound academic and moral training. Put passion, zeal and enthusiasm into everything you do. Without these, you cannot succeed.

You are expected to perform in any capacity you find yourselves. You should, therefore, endeavour to raise the flag of KNUST high. Be good ambassadors of the University.

You have been trained in a holistic manner. Know your creator and serve him wherever you go. It is better to live and behave as if there is God and to find yourself in heaven after death than to lead any life and think that there is no God and find yourself in hell after death because there is God. In short, live upright lives both at home and work place even when you think no one is observing you.

One major problem confronting the nation today is erratic flow of potable water. As it is always said, water is life; hence, the absence of water means very few activities at home, in institutions and in industry. The nation at 52 should have gone beyond this stage by now. But here we are bedevilled with these fundamental problems of treatment and distribution of potable water. My charge to you this afternoon is to use the knowledge and training you have received from KNUST to search for lasting solution to our perennial water problems. The least said about the stage and quality of our bridges, agricultural implements and roads, the better. The youth are not patronising agriculture for the simple reason that, apart from the problem of land acquisition, there are very few state of the art machinery in the country, and the cost is so exorbitant that they cannot afford to procure them for use. It is your responsibility to design and produce affordable, but high quality and durable machinery for agriculture. The lecture room should not be the end of your studies. Continue to read in order to be abreast with new technologies around you.

Do not forget to honour and reciprocate the good support you received from your parents, guardians, teachers and colleagues in the course of your studies. Every little support you received from any of them has brought you this far.

BENEFACTORS

The Faculties continue to benefit from the benevolence of certain institutions and organisations. Our appreciation goes to all the survey firms and establishments, who

welcomed our students on their field trips and technical attachments. Those who need special mention are Newmont Ghana Gold, Survey Department, Rudan Limited, Sambus Limited, Crocodile Matchets, Wahome Steel, Aluworks, Ports and Harbours Authority, and Volta River Authority; amongst others. Without your benevolent support, the training of our students would not have been complete.

We are also grateful to Trimble Navigation Limited of United States of America for their generous donation of Refurbished Trimble GPS Equipment, refurbished Trimble Total Station and a set of accessories including office software, tribrachs, tripods, detailing poles and a set of communication equipment. The equipment worth thousands of Ghana Cedis came at a time when we were in real need of all kinds of survey equipment due to pressure on the outdated stock and depleting resources in the face of increasing student population. We hope other such well meaning organisations will come to our rescue in the near future.

We wish to express our profound gratitude to the following organizations:

- i. Ghana Civil Aviation for supporting final year project of Aerospace Engineering students;
- ii. The Ghana Air Force (GAF) provided on-the-job training to our current final year students during the previous long vacation and we are very grateful because the training enriched the quality of our products;
- iii. DAAD (German Academic Exchange) continued to provide financial support to two PhD students and one MSc Student;
- iv. Ghana Commercial Bank responded to an appeal by final year Aerospace Engineering students and donated substantially to assist in their project work; and
- v. The Department of Geological Engineering received equipment, namely 10 compasses and mineral specimens, from the Australia Chapter of the KNUST Alumni Association to enhance teaching and learning.

CONCLUSION

Distinguished invited guests, ladies and gentlemen, once again, thank you for attending our graduation ceremony for the Faculty of Civil and Geomatic Engineering and the Faculty of Mechanical and Agricultural Engineering. As stakeholders in this enterprise, we have a responsibility towards the social, economic and professional development of these young graduates. As parents and guardians, your responsibility is not yet over. You may have a brief relief with the graduation of your wards but let us all continue to mentor these young ones so Ghana will become better off.

Finally, may I take this opportunity to wish our young graduates every good thing they wish for themselves. May the Good Lord protect you and keep you wherever you go.

Thank you and may God bless us all.

Prof. Kwasi Kwafu Adarkwa
Vice-Chancellor, KNUST

DAY THREE (MORNING SESSION)

VALEDICTORY SPEECH DELIVERED BY SENA AFETI, GRADUAND OF FACULTY OF BIOSCIENCES ON THE OCCASION OF THE 43RD CONGREGATION OF KWAME NKRUMAH UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, KUMASI HELD ON 17TH JUNE 2009 FOR THE COLLEGE OF SCIENCE (FACULTY OF BIOSCIENCES) IN THE GREAT HALL AT 09:00 HOURS

The Chairman of Council
The Vice Chancellor
Deans
Heads of Department
Professors and Other Faculty Members
Invited Dignitaries,
Distinguished Guests
Parents
Guardians
Friends and Fellow Graduands

Good Morning

Today is a great day for us; a day on which to be thankful, to be inspired and to be hopeful. Thankful, yes, to God, our parents, family and professors; inspired by academic achievement; and hopeful for the future.

We came to this famous University four years ago on the 9th of August, 2005 with minds of our own. We were very young and we had big dreams and aspirations to become graduates, and yet we were very much confused about it all. As a very good colleague of mine will say, we were indeed spring chickens! The University, however very much aware of our naivety, had its own plans for us. It embraced us, directed and showed us the way. Am sure we all remember our first day of orientation with excitement and energy. Yes, the awe of assembling for the first time in the Great Hall. Since then we have been tried, tested and found to be true. So, we are thankful to our professors, and to the University as a whole who set out to mold us.

Yes indeed, the plan was to mold us, to try and to test us until we were refined. But with all these, came inspiration. We were inspired to make the best grades, to be hardworking students of our Departments, Faculties and the College. The Faculty of Biosciences even went a step further to make this possible by introducing the Dean Honour list awards which were to recognize achieving students. I was fortunate to have earned a place on this prestigious list. And so, we were motivated and inspired.

With inspiration, came hope. Hope for today and hope for the future. At last, the journey which began in this Great Hall has come to an end. It is now time to move on to the next stage of life. To be adults, to be responsible citizens of this country. To most of us this is surely frightening and the future seems so very unsure. But my fellow graduands we must not despair for we have been given hope. For today, our professors are giving us their blessings to go out into the world and conquer. We have been certified by the very people who took us in, embraced us, tried and tested us and behold, we have been found to be worthy. This alone, my friends should give us hope!

Finally, on behalf of my fellow graduands, I would like to thank the Vice Chancellor, the Provost of the College of Science, the Dean of the Faculty of Biosciences and our beloved Professors. We could not have achieved success and reached this important milestone in our lives without you. We promise to hold high the reputation of KNUST and to keep to the path of hard work, honesty and service to our dear country, values that the University has instilled in us.

To my Fellow Graduands, I say, 'Carpe Diem, seize the day! Let us make every moment count. We should not rest on our oars but be motivated to reach for the stars. Let us not be extravagant with our chances and opportunities by letting them pass us by. Let us be vigilant and grab them all, no matter how insignificant they may seem. Let us strive to live a balanced life, spiritually, socially and morally.

In conclusion, I say again: Be thankful, be inspired and be hopeful! May we never forget where we came from, where from the ashes we rose. Yes, may we never forget Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology.

Long live KNUST! Long live our Professors and long live our dear country Ghana.

Thank you and congratulations, class of 2009!

Sena Afeti
Graduand, Faculty of Biosciences
KNUST

**SPEECH DELIVERED BY PROFESSOR KWASI KWAFO ADARKWA, VICE-
CHANCELLOR OF KNUST ON THE OCCASION OF THE 43RD
CONGREGATION HELD ON 17TH JUNE, 2009 FOR THE COLLEGE OF SCIENCE
(FACULTY OF BIOSCIENCES) IN THE GREAT HALL AT 09.00 HOURS**

SALUTATION

Your Excellencies, Members of the Diplomatic Corps
Members of the Council of State
Members of the University Council
Pro Vice-Chancellor and Pro Vice-Chancellors from Sister Universities
Registrar and Registrars from Sister Universities
College Provosts
Deans and Directors
Heads of Departments
Nananom
Guest Speaker
Members of Convocation
Alumni
Senior and Junior Staff of KNUST
Parents and Guardians
Graduating Class of 2009
Members of the Press
Distinguished Invited Guests
Ladies and Gentlemen

INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

As the Vice-Chancellor of the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), I have the singular honour and pleasure to welcome you to this morning's function which is primarily to graduate our students from the Faculty of Biosciences in the College of Science. As you may be aware, we have had similar ceremonies for the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, College of Architecture and Planning and the College of Engineering. We are billed to have a similar ceremony for the Faculty of Physical Sciences this afternoon. This arrangement has been necessitated by the sheer number of students we are graduating this year and the need to manage them such that as many parents and guardians as possible can participate in the graduation ceremony.

As we all know, Congregation ceremonies the world over, are periodic academic rituals of institutions at which degrees and certificates are awarded to deserving graduands. You will all agree with me that, the graduation day in the life of a person who has spent some years of his or her life on a University campus, is a solemn but momentous period since such a day serves as a crowning moment for hard work and perseverance displayed by students. Our Congregations have also been occasions for the Vice Chancellor to report on the conduct of the University's core business as well as to graduate students who have followed prescribed courses of study and have been found worthy of the award of their respective degrees or certificates. This morning's ceremony will not be substantially different from this expectation.

MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER

After you have listened to our motivational speaker, you will appreciate why he was selected for this occasion. Our motivational speaker for both this morning and afternoon

sessions is Mr. George Nanyi Kojo Andah, the Chief Marketing Officer of Mobile Telecommunications Network (MTN). He holds a BSc degree in Biochemistry from this great University and an MBA degree in Marketing from the University of Ghana.

Our motivational speaker has worked for many years with various high profile organisations. He has worked as Brands Manager, Innovations Manager, Head of Marketing and Marketing Director for Guinness Ghana Ltd. He also worked as the Head of Sika Card Centre for SG-SSB in 2001. Mr. George Andah, thanks for accepting our invitation and welcome back to your alma mater.

THE FACULTY OF BIOSCIENCES

Just like other Faculties of the University, the Faculty of Biosciences evolved in the year 2005 from the then Faculty of Science during the University's restructuring process into the collegiate system. The Faculty of Biosciences is the other Faculty in the College of Science in addition to the Faculty of Physical Sciences. The Faculty is the only Faculty in the country which is wholly devoted to the training of students in the Basic and Applied Life Sciences.

Currently, the Faculty runs five undergraduate programmes under the Department of Biochemistry and Biotechnology, Department of Food Science and Technology, Department of Optometry and Visual Science, Department of Environmental Science and the Department of Theoretical and Applied Biology. The Departments of Food Science and Technology and Environmental Science are currently being nurtured by the Departments of Biochemistry and Biotechnology and Theoretical and Applied Biology, respectively.

The Faculty prides itself with a total undergraduate student population of 1,173 with about 40% of this number being females. There are, however, only 99 postgraduate students made up of 13 PhD students, 7 MPhil students and 79 MSc students in this Faculty. It is our hope that following some subsequent investments in academic facilities, we will be in a much better position to enroll more graduate students in the Faculty of Biosciences.

SOME ACTIVITIES AT THE FACULTY

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, a comprehensive report of activities of the Faculty is in the Vice-Chancellor's Report, copies of which should have been made available to you by now. I will encourage all of you to get copies to have a full appreciation of the various activities of the entire University and its constituent parts including the Faculty of Biosciences. Nonetheless, I would like to use this opportunity to shed light on just a few of the activities of the Faculty over the past year.

Following the visit to the University of Bamako, Mali, by a four-man delegation in October 2008, the KNUST and the University of Bamako signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to establish collaborative links. It is expected that staff of the Faculty of Biosciences will take advantage of the state-of-the-art facilities at Bamako to carry out collaborative research. In addition, the exploratory visit to the College by a three-member delegation from the Royal Society, UK in December 2008 has laid the foundation to establish collaboration with Universities of Manchester and Liverpool particularly, to assist senior members pursuing PhD studies locally to use laboratory facilities in these institutions for a brief period to facilitate experimental data acquisition.

The Faculty has developed several other local and international links with some organisations in its attempt to advance student training. Notable among these collaborations include that of the Kirk House Foundation and the Cocoa Research Institute of Ghana (CRIG). The latter's periodic visits to the Faculty offer regular hands on practical training to undergraduate students of the Faculty in Molecular Biology Techniques. This collaboration has enabled CRIG to also send two of their staff to be trained at the PhD level in Food Science and Technology as well as at the MPhil level in Biochemistry. The Environmental Protection Agency as well as the Food and Drug, Board also make their facilities available for student training through vacation attachments for students of the Faculty.

An MOU between the Food Research Institute and the Department of Biochemistry and Biotechnology as well as the Food Science and Technology programme for regular student attachment for one semester for 3 year Food Science and Technology students is now operational and students in these Departments are sent for industrial attachments at the institute to enhance their practical orientation.

Other collaborations of the Faculty include that with the Bernhard Nocht Institute for Tropical Medicine (BNI), Hamburg, through the Kumasi Centre for Collaborative Research in Tropical Medicine (KCCR), that with the Ramapo College of New Jersey, and the one with the University of Copenhagen, Denmark; amongst others.

In recognition of its financial challenges, the Faculty is making all efforts to step up its income generating activities such as the rationalisation of the production of Yoghurt and other products by the Department of Biochemistry and Biotechnology, organisation of more Eye Clinics by the Department of Optometry and Visual Science, and upgrading recreational facilities at the Botanic Gardens to attract more visitors by the Department of Theoretical and Applied Biology. The Clinical Analysis Laboratory of the Department of Biochemistry and Biotechnology also continued to generate some modest income for the Faculty.

STATISTICS OF GRADUATING CLASS

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, as I intimated earlier on in my address, we have gathered here this morning principally to graduate our students from the Faculty of Biosciences. In all, there are 315 undergraduate students being presented for graduation this morning. There are 18 students who are graduating with First Class degrees, 148 graduating with Second Class (Upper Division) degrees as well as 120 students who are graduating with Second Class (Lower Division) degrees. The remaining six are graduating with Pass degrees as well as 23 students graduating from the Doctor of Optometry programme. The Departmental breakdown is as follows: Department of Biochemistry and Biotechnology 98, Department of Food Science and Technology 40, Department of Optometry and Visual Science 23, Department of Environmental Science 52, and the Department of Theoretical and Applied Biology presenting 102 students.

As I have said in some of my earlier addresses, the Faculty is also graduating the highest number of graduates this year than ever before and this is ample testimony of our resolve to enhance access to science and technology education at the tertiary level.

ADVICE TO GRADUANDS

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, the peculiar challenges that confront us as a nation

urgently require a paradigm shift for the reconstruction of our society and the building of a better world for our future generations, yet unborn. These should be our concern and I would like to seize this opportunity to urge you fresh graduands from the Faculty of Biosciences to live up to this expectation. Your compatriots such as Mr. George Andah of MTN who is your motivational speaker for this morning's session as well as many other personalities who graduated from your Faculty have blazed the trail to bring solutions to some of the problems of our society today.

As you graduate from the walls of this University, remember that you are ambassadors of your alma mater and I urge you to emulate the steps of your earlier alumni. Every action and inaction of yours will be subjected to critical analysis by all and sundry. As Jeremy Collier, an English Bishop and Theologian (1650 - ,1726) puts it, "*emulation is a handsome passion; it is enterprising, but just withal. It keeps a man within the terms of honour, and makes the contest for glory just and generous. He strives to excel, but it is by raising himself, not by depressing others*". I, therefore, urge you to continue to emulate the steps of your earlier compatriots.

CONCLUSION

To all of you who have helped to form and shape these young brains, we say *ayeeko!* You have created in these young people a vibrant, inclusive and creative culture that we hope will provide them with opportunities for enrichment, expression and experience to enhance their lives and to make them proud of our great University. Our mandate of advancing science and the technological development of Ghana and Africa as a University gives us a sense of place of pride; we propel the industries, help to maintain good health, provide answers to industrial problems, feed the hungry and store the surplus to make money and provide the milieu for appreciation of our rich cultural heritage. All these make us proud of the unique role of KNUST. All of you here have contributed in various ways to this celebration and harvest. We say BRAVO!!! To you the beneficiaries, our new graduands, you are most welcome to the world of professionals. Enjoy this day and make it as memorable as possible remembering it as the day you were given the baton to run the race to prosperity and the day you will begin giving the best to your institution and your country.

Let me take advantage of this opportunity to sincerely thank some benefactors of the Faculty for their various roles in ensuring the survival and sustenance of academic work in the Faculty. The GETFund, as usual, has been of tremendous assistance in our investment programme aimed at completing the multimillion Cedi Science Complex. We trust that adequate funding will be made available for completion of this project soonest. Other benefactors include Mr. Raphael Yankey in the USA for donating textbooks worth over \$1,000, Dr. Isabelle Louis for donating textbooks in Immunology and Microbiology as well as Dr. Peter Twumasi, who donated molecular biology laboratory equipment worth GHc15,000. I would also want to recognise the invaluable contribution of lecturers, staff, administrators, parents and family members and friends for their contribution to the success story of the graduands. They will forever remain indebted to you all their life.

On this note, I say welcome to you all and do enjoy the ceremony.

Thank you.

Prof. Kwasi Kwafu Adarkwa
Vice-Chancellor, KNUST

**MOTIVATIONAL SPEECH DELIVERED BY MR. GEORGE NANYI KOJO
ANDAH, CHIEF MARKETING OFFICER, MOBILE TELEPHONE NETWORKS
ON THE OCCASION OF THE 43RD CONGREGATION OF KWAME NKRUMAH
UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, KUMASI HELD ON 17TH JUNE
2009 FOR THE COLLEGE OF SCIENCE (FACULTY OF BIOSCINCES) IN THE
GREAT HALL AT 09:00 HOURS**

Preparing for a Great Start in life

- Build the Foundation branding to add value
- Believing in yourself what are your values? What does your brand communicate?
- Dream BIG ... Don't just dream
- Making it happen/Challenging yourself .. let your target see and buy-in
- Have a Game Plan in life where must you be by when?

The Foundations

- A good first degree .. gets you to think the right way ... make sure you are analytic in thinking; its all about the process
- Basic working experience
- Volunteer. .. build your heart and mind
- Reading and Researching
- Developing an area of expertise
- Brand yourselfits about adding value
- Networking

Dreaming Big

- Have a mentor/aspire for something big (climbing Mount Everest)
- Must be goal oriented Deliver
- Think outside the box
- Have a burning desire to succeed (Sean Wisedale)
- Making it happen
- Perseverance
- Improve on knowledge acquired by exploring other opportunities
- Don't see challenges as setback but a stepping stone for further development
- Consider taking courses, joining networking groups, volunteering .. add value to yourself and become a better brand
- Have a game plan

Believing in Yourself

- Celebrate Success
- Perseverance have passion
- Preparing for challenges
- Self confidence/Motivation
- A can do Spirit
- Be an inspiration to your community
- Changing your perception/attitude towards life what is your role in-making the difference
- Moving out of your comfort zone
- Change your lifestyle/overcome negative habits

Mr. George Nanyi Kojo Andah

Alumnus (Note: This speech was repeated at Day Three (Afternoon Session))**

DAY THREE (AFTERNOON SESSION)

VALEDICTORY SPEECH DELIVERED BY ISSAKA SEIDU, GRADUAND OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY ON THE OCCASION OF THE 43RD CONGREGATION OF KWAME NKRUMAH UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, KUMASI HELD ON 17TH JUNE 2009 FOR THE COLLEGE OF SCIENCE (FACULTY OF PHYSICAL SCIENCES) IN THE GREAT HALL AT 14:00 HOURS

Otumfuo the Chancellor
Chairman of the University Council
Vice- Chancellor
Pro Vice-Chancellor
Registrar
Provosts
Deans
Heads of Department
Members of Convocation
Invited Guests
Our Parents
Fellow Craduands
Ladies and Gentlemen

It has been several weeks since I first learned that I would have the honour of speaking here today. The initial feelings were one of joy and gratitude on the one hand, and on the other, panic, as the challenge of speaking before a huge crowd dawned on me. I however, count today as one of those rare opportunities and privileges which will forever remain etched on my memory.

We have long awaited this day, now is the time for one last look around this beautiful campus before we march out the doors of the Great Hall. All around us are giant majestic trees, which seem to have significance only to those who have witnessed their beauty) or sat under their shade. However, they also represent events happening beyond the boundaries of campus at the time they were planted.

While these trees do have historical significance, they also bear the stories and memories of generations of KNUST students who have learned, loved and laughed underneath their branches.

There is a Greek proverb that goes "A society grows great when old men plant trees in whose shade they will never sit." We celebrate today underneath the boughs of great trees; those who planted them only felt an imaginary shade as they toiled with small branches. Like young tree seedlings we have been nurtured by this University until our roots have finally grown deep enough for us to sustain ourselves.

We must ask what trees are we planting now that will give shade in a hundred years. It is only natural for all of us to have our own personal goals and ambitions. However, having had the privileges necessary' to achieve these ambitions, we have also been given a responsibility to think beyond ourselves and even beyond our generation.

Whatever we do, whether we make a great scientific breakthrough, delight people with our technological inventions, or raise a .loving family, I would encourage all of us not to spend our entire lives lounging in our ancestors' shade, but to venture out in the sun ourselves, ensuring a well-shaded future for the comfort of those to come.

With all that we have been given, now is the time to rise and give of ourselves. It is only fitting at our moment of glory to thank all those who have watered us for our whole lives. God, through whom all things are possible; our parents, for their endless love, and inspiration; our professors and lecturers, for their willingness to cultivate our minds; each other, for close friendships and shared dreams; and everyone else who has worked hard to keep our time here at KNUST in the shade, where we have little else to do but pursue our passions. It is with great honour that we march out of the Great Hall and stand tall with them in the world.

I'm sure that I speak for everyone when I thank all of the faculties and staff of this university for their deep commitment to our education. Whether we have learned the most important lessons has yet to be seen. The best proof of our education would be to lead our society in realizing it full potentials. Finally, to the members of the graduating class: I wish you all much health, good fortune, and peace.

Thank you

Issaka Seidu
Graduand, Department of Chemistry
KNUST

**SPEECH DELIVERED BY PROFESSOR KWASI KWAFO ADARKWA, VICE-
CHANCELLOR OF KNUST ON THE OCCASION OF THE 43RD CONGREGATIO
HELD ON 17TH JUNE, 2009 FOR THE COLLEGE OF SCIENCE (FACULTY OF
PHYSICAL SCIENCES) IN THE GREAT HALL AT 14.00 HOURS**

SALUTATION

Your Excellencies, Members of the Diplomatic Corps
Members of the Council of State
Members of the University Council
Colleague Vice-Chancellors
Pro Vice-Chancellor and Pro Vice-Chancellors from Sister Universities
Registrar and Registrars from Sister Universities
College Provosts
Deans and Directors
Heads of Departments
Nananom
Guest Speaker
Members of Convocation
Alumni
Senior and Junior Staff
Parents and Guardians
Graduating Class of 2009
Members of the Press
Distinguished Invited Guests
Ladies and Gentlemen

INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

I have the singular honour and duty to warmly welcome you all to this afternoon graduation ceremony for our Faculty of Physical Sciences. As some of you may be aware, a similar ceremony was organised for the Faculty of Biosciences in the morning. As one of our flagship Faculties, we are very proud to be part of this afternoon's graduation ceremony for the Faculty of Physical Sciences within our College of Science.

MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER

After you have listened to our motivational speaker, you will appreciate why he was selected. Our motivational speaker for both the morning and this afternoon's sessions is Mr. George Nanyi Kojo Andah, the Chief Marketing Officer of Mobile Telecommunications Network (MTN). He holds a BSc degree in Biochemistry from this great University and an MBA in Marketing from the University of Ghana. Our motivational speaker has worked for many years with various high profile organisations. He worked as Brands Manager, Innovations Manager, Head of Marketing and Marketing Director for Guinness Ghana Ltd. He also worked as the Head of Sika Card Centre for SG-SSB in 2001. Mr. George Andah, thanks for accepting our invitation and, once again, welcome back to your alma mater.

THE FACULTY OF PHYSICAL SCIENCES

The Faculty of Physical Sciences is one of the two Faculties in the College of Science. It has five Departments under it, namely: the Department of Computer Science, Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science which is currently being nurtured by the Department of Mathematics, the Department of Mathematics, Department of Chemistry and the Department of Physics. It has the National Centre for Mathematical Sciences (NCMS)

as its core Research Unit. The Faculty runs five different undergraduate programmes in Physics, Mathematics, Computer Science, Chemistry, and Actuarial Science (which is also available by Distance) as well as three postgraduate programmes including Industrial Mathematics which is also available by distance.

The Faculty currently has a teaching staff strength of 80 as well as 40 support staff including administrative staff. The Faculty prides itself with 2,325 undergraduate students as well as 179 postgraduate students. It has, thus far, trained more than ten thousand students at both the graduate and undergraduate levels. The Faculty, being part of a College that prides itself to be the *"bedrock of technology and socio-economic development"* has contributed immensely to Ghana's development in the training of scientists. The Faculty is one of the leading centres for the training of scientists in Mathematics, Physics, Actuarial Science, Chemistry, and Computer Science.

It is affiliated to national and international institutions such as the National Institute for Mathematical Sciences, Ghana Chemical Society and the Ghana Science Association.

The Department of Chemistry continued to improve its development of indelible ink that can be used in local elections. The Physics Department still produces basic laboratory equipment for use in second cycle institutions. The Mathematics Department also continued with its outreach programme to make Mathematics more appreciated by the public. Virtually all Departments in the University continued to benefit from the Department of Computer Science's service lectures. The Department of Mathematics performed a similar service function for several units within the University.

ACTIVITIES AT THE FACULTY OF PHYSICAL SCIENCES

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, as part of efforts to modernise lecture theatres, and classrooms, the University began with the refurbishment of 22 selected laboratories in the College of Science with a 5.4 Million Euro support from our own internally generated funds. The project is so far, about 50% complete and it is expected that it will enhance teaching and learning in the entire College of Science including the Faculty of Physical Sciences. In addition, the beautiful College of Science Complex upon completion is expected to house all the Departments of the College of Science. The project which is arguably one of the flagship projects to receive funding from the Ghana Education Trust Fund (GETFund) is 87% complete and it is anticipated to be completed and put to use during the next academic year. We are extremely grateful to the GETFund for supporting this project but trust that subsequent allocations to the University will be substantially enhanced to ensure early completion of this project.

As you are all aware, research forms part of our core business as an institution of higher learning and any attempt to educate and sharpen the research capability of Faculty members is in the right direction. As part of efforts to enhance research in the entire College of Science, the 2nd Biennial Research Retreat took place at the Chance Hotel in Ho, over the 10th to 13th July, 2008 period. A total of 65 research papers were presented and I do commend the Provost, Deans and other organisers for such a worthy Retreat. It is my hope that other Colleges, Faculties and Departments would emulate this gesture.

The Vice Chancellors Ghana (VCG) at its meeting on 7th March, 2008 approved the relocation of the National Institute for Mathematical Sciences, Ghana (NIMS) from the University of Cape Coast to the Department of Mathematics, KNUST. The Institute is currently headed by Prof. I. K. Dontwi, who is incidentally the Dean of the Faculty of

Physical Sciences. The NIMS is expected to serve as a centre for the development and training of young mathematicians towards postgraduate study as well as organise regular national and international workshops and come up with new ideas to contribute to the development of science, technology and mathematics in Ghana and Africa at large. The NIMS has been modelled after the African Institute for Mathematical Science in Cape Town, South Africa. We are very proud to play host to this Institute.

In order to encourage the appointment of more female lecturers in the College, there are plans to institute a scholarship scheme for best female students to be sponsored to undertake further studies after which such sponsored candidates will return to the College to take up teaching appointments as lecturers. The College further deepened its collaboration with international institutions and one of such international institutions is the Universite Paris-Sud through which collaboration two faculty members received French Government scholarship under a sandwich programme to undertake their PhD studies in France. Again, under the auspices of this collaboration, two Teaching Assistants from the Department of Mathematics have also been offered scholarship to pursue postgraduate programmes in France and are expected to join the Department in the next academic year.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, in line with its vision to be a leader in the training of human resource in the sciences to support the industrial and socio-economic development of Ghana and Africa, the College periodically reviews its programmes to make them more relevant to the needs of our time. Over the past academic year, various programmes in the College have undergone initial review, pending approval by the Academic Board. Initiatives are also under way to mount a number of new undergraduate programmes in addition to the undergraduate programme in Meteorology and Climate Science that was introduced in the Department of Physics at the beginning of the 2008/2009 academic year.

The Faculty's image appears to have been enhanced over the year under review. For example, work undertaken by Professor Francis Boakye of the Department of Physics and his team on "Antiferromagnetic Transition in Thermally Evaporated Manganese-Vanadium Alloys" has been cited and is carrying an extremely high citation. In addition, the paper has been added to the Astrophysics Data System of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) of the United States government. This is ample testimony to the high level of research activities pursued by some staff of the University. Prof. Francis Boakye, congratulations!

The Faculty has continued to generate some modest income through the Glass Blowing Unit at the Department of Chemistry, the development of application software by the Mathematics and Computer Science Departments, and the production of Laboratory equipment for Senior High Schools by the Department of Physics; amongst others. I encourage the Faculty to publicise its activities and potentials to the outside world, especially, in the area of the development of appropriate softwares by the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science so as to rake in more revenue to finance the Faculty's activities.

STATISTICS ON GRADUATING CLASS

This afternoon, the Faculty is presenting a total of 574 graduands for graduation. Out of the total number, there are 143 Computer Scientists, 51 Statisticians and Actuarial Scientists,

137 Mathematicians, 106 Chemists as well as 112 Physicists. Out of the total number, 31 students including 8 females are graduating with First Class degrees.

A further 265 are also graduating with Second Class (Upper Division) degrees as well as another 262 graduating with Second Class (Lower Division) degrees. Only 16 students are graduating with Pass degrees. This figure represents a 7% increase over last year's figures and this is ample testimony to our mission to *"provide a conducive environment for teaching, research and entrepreneurship training in science and technology for the industrial and socio-economic development of Ghana and Africa"*.

I am also happy to announce that, this year, the Faculty is graduating more female students than ever before in what was supposedly male dominated Science programmes such as Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics and Computer Science. Figures available indicate that, during the last graduation ceremony, the Faculty graduated a total of 114 females while this year, it will be graduating 173 females. It is our hope that local initiatives to attract more females into previously male-dominated fields will continue to yield positive results in line with our strategic mandate.

Among this afternoon's graduands is our first cohort of 51 Statisticians and Actuarial Scientists who will be well sought after. I would politely request these lucky pioneers to rise and be recognised. Congratulations; you may resume your seats.

ADVICE TO GRADUANDS

Fresh graduands of the Faculty of Physical Sciences, you are not oblivious about the daunting challenges developing countries face in the global environment that have had significant implications for human development. Some of these challenges are universal such as the recent global economic crisis which has led to the credit crunch, the folding up of multinational companies and, massive job cuts, among other debilitating effects. The need for countries to develop means of surmounting these recent global economic challenges and deal with domestic problems require a lot of holistic and well thought-through approaches. As scientists, you must conduct your affairs with the aim of finding sustainable solutions to the myriad of problems that plague the mass of the Ghanaian people such as the recent phenomenon of cyber crime popularly known as the *"Sakawa"* menace. With the rigorous technical and practical training the KNUST has offered you, I have no doubt that it has helped in moulding you into industrialists who will help expand the frontiers of our economy with your innovations.

With the advent of the information communication technology age, you graduates from the Faculty of Physical Sciences have relatively brighter chances than others. Use your technical knowledge to help in the better planning, designing, development administration and monitoring of systems that work in our peculiar environment. The challenge for you is to help systems work through the use of appropriate technology and improve upon efficiency without compromising effectiveness. As "technocrats" never allow yourselves to be blinded by any other consideration; let your judgement be strictly guided by your professional ethics and patriotism. Never compromise on your professional integrity.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, you must remember that, as you graduate from this University, the degree you are being honoured with today should not be the ultimate in your career,

There are several opportunities for career enhancement and professional development out there and your ability to take advantage of such opportunities will one day, mark you out from the crowd for it is said that, when you are not learning or practising, remember, someone somewhere is, and when you meet that person, he will win.

I thank your parents, guardians, friends, relatives and lecturers for their effort in your achievement today. I hope you will surely make them proud of their investment in your lives. I wish you God's blessings in all your endeavours.

Thank you.

Prof. Kwasi Kwafu Adarkwa
Vice-Chancellor, KNUST

DAY FOUR (MORNING SESSION)
**SPEECH DELIVERED BY PROFESSOR KWASI KWAFO ADARKWA, VICE-
CHANCELLOR OF KNUST ON THE OCCASION OF THE 43RD
CONGREGATION HELD ON FRIDAY, 19TH JUNE, 2009 FOR THE COLLEGE OF
HEALTH SCIENCES IN THE GREAT HALL AT 09.00 HOURS**

SALUTATION

Your Excellencies, Members of the Diplomatic Corps
Members of the Council of State
Honourable Ashanti Regional Minister
Honourable Ministers of State
Honourable Kumasi Metropolitan Chief Executive
Members of the University Council
Past Vice-Chancellors and Pro Vice-Chancellors
Colleague Vice-Chancellors
Pro Vice-Chancellor and Pro Vice-Chancellors from Sister Universities
Our Colleagues from the National Accreditation Board and Vice Chancellors, Ghana
Registrar and Registrars from Sister Universities
College Provosts
Deans and Directors
Heads of Departments
Nananom
Guest Speaker
Members of Convocation
Alumni
Senior and Junior Staff
Parents and Guardians
Graduating Class of 2009
Members of the Press
Distinguished Invited Guests
Ladies and Gentlemen

INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

My duty this morning is to welcome you all to this graduation ceremony of our College of Health Sciences and to provide a brief insight into some of the activities the University has been involved in over the past academic year with particular reference to the College of Health Sciences. The ceremony further offers us an opportunity to showcase to the world, the results of our mandate of training technocrats to man the nation's socio- economic transformation. We are very excited because we. have lived up to our mandate of training our future health care providers. As a University, we are very keen on achieving our vision to be globally recognised as the premier centre of excellence in Africa for teaching, research and entrepreneurship training in science and technology for sustainable development and we think that in general terms, we are on course in achieving this vision. This morning's short ceremony is to offer us the opportunity to graduate students from all constituent parts of our College of Health Sciences. We had to take a break yesterday.

The College in its attempt to be internationally recognised as a premier centre excellence in teaching, research and entrepreneurial training in medical, pharmaceutic and biomedical sciences in Ghana and Africa continues to provide comprehensive quality training in almost all aspects of health care delivery for the country. The College

established a Dental School in the 2006/2007 academic year and admitted the first batch of ten students into the three-year BSc Human Biology programme to pursue their pre-clinical training in Dentistry. To date, thirty students have enrolled. At the stage of their training, the students follow the same curriculum as their medical compatriots and upon completion of the Human Biology programme, the students will be awarded the same BSc (Human Biology) degree, before such students proceed to do their three-year clinical training in Dentistry leading to the award of the Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS) degree. God willing, in August 2009, the first batch of ten students after organising similar ceremonies for other Colleges from Monday to Wednesday will. After the break, I think we are poised to see to the success of this morning's function and I welcome you all to the programme.

MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER

This morning, we are very much privileged to have in our midst, Mr. Effah Amponsah who is the Founder and Managing Director of Amponsah-Effah Pharmaceuticals a pharmaceutical manufacturing company based in Fumesua near Ejisu as the Motivational Speaker. Mr. Effah graduated from the Faculty of Pharmacy of Pharmaceutical Sciences with a Bachelor of Pharmacy (BPharm) degree in 1978. Mr. Effah is married to Iris Amponsah-Effah and they have four adult children.

Mr Effah Amponsah, even though you live in one of the nearby communities, I would like to officially welcome you back to your alma mater and to say that we are excited you could join us for Congregation 2009. We will find our voices and let others find theirs.

THE COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES

The College of Health Sciences comprises the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, the Faculty of Allied Health Sciences, the School of Medical Sciences, and the Dental School. The Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences has six Departments which include the Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, Department of Herbal Medicine, Department of Pharmacology, and the Department Clinical and Social Pharmacy; amongst others. The Faculty of Allied Health Sciences has three Departments - the Department of Medical Laboratory Technology, Department of Nursing and the Department of Sports and Exercise Science. The Faculty offers degree programmes in Nursing, Medical Laboratory Technology and Sports and Exercise Science. A new undergraduate degree programme in Sonography is due to start from August, 2009 and it will be the first of its kind in the whole of Africa.

The famous School of Medical Sciences (SMS) is the largest Faculty of the College and by a wider stretch, the largest Faculty in the entire University. It has as many as fifteen Departments which include the Department of Child Health, Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Department of Clinical Microbiology, Department of Physiology, Department of Pathology, Department of Surgery, Department of Behavioural Sciences, Department of Anatomy, Department of Community Health and the Department of Molecular Medicine; amongst others.

will commence their clinical studies at the Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital (KATH). When the School becomes fully established, it will have as many as seven Departments which will include the Department of Oral Biology and Dental Anatomy, Department of Restorative Dentistry, Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Department of

Community and Preventive Dentistry, as well as the Department of Pedodontics and Orthodontics; amongst others. As is to be expected, interest in the programme is gradually picking up and in the next few years, it will be one of the favourable destinations for students who enter the College of Health Sciences.

The College has the Kumasi Centre for Collaborative Research into Tropical Medicine (KCCR) as its research unit. It was established initially as a collaboration between the Government of Ghana, the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, the Bernhardt Nocht Institute for Tropical Medicine, Hamburg, Germany and the KNUST. As the research unit of the College of Health Sciences, the KCCR conducts collaborative research with various Faculties in areas such as Buruli Ulcer, HIV/AIDS, Malaria as well as, Onchocerciasis and Tuberculosis; among other tropical diseases.

The College has a total student population of 2,095 being 9% of the entire student population with 125 faculty members. The College runs eight undergraduate programmes and six postgraduate programmes.

ACTIVITIES AT THE COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES

During the year under review, the College published the first edition of a Newsletter titled "CoHSNews" through which it hopes to disseminate information about the activities of students and staff of the College to the outside world. The College also organised its Scientific Conference under the theme "*Addressing the Ghanaian Health Needs: Education and Research on HW/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria*" which provided a forum for researchers and members of the College to disseminate information on their research activities on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. The Conference further provided a forum for members to dialogue on effective ways of managing these diseases as well as providing further information that will accelerate the development of preventive and curative therapies for these diseases. Forty-four (44) scientific papers were presented at the Conference.

The College has successfully mounted one new undergraduate programme in Sonography to train specialists in the area of radiology. As is to be expected, interest in the programme is yet to heighten but we hope interest will grow in subsequent years as has been the trend. In addition to the above, the College is currently playing host to the new Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) programme which has been developed in collaboration with the Ghana Veterinary Council. The programme will be on offer in the 2009/2010 academic year effective August 2009. By way of physical infrastructure development, the College's Clinical Students Hostel at the premises of KATH is 80% complete and the Faculty of Allied Health Sciences' complex is also 50% complete. It is hoped that these projects will be completed and put to use in the next academic year.

The College further procured three ultra-modern data capture equipment, ten LCD projectors, five dental chairs as well as ten Phantom Heads for use in the College in an attempt to modernise its laboratories.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, as a result of rampant interruption in water supply from the Ghana Water Company Ltd (GWCL) to the entire Kumasi Metropolis including the KNUST campus, the University initiated a move to drill boreholes to argument water supply from the GWCL. Other Colleges and Faculties have also followed the University's example and the College of Health Sciences has just been given approval to sink their own borehole at an estimated cost of GH¢5,567 which is

being funded by the School of Medical Sciences. After the completion of this project, there will be constant supply of water to the School of Medical Sciences and its surrounding Faculties.

As an immediate measure to ameliorate the problem of water shortage, the College has installed reservoirs at some Departments to improve water supply to the laboratories and some offices.

The College during the past academic year initiated a process which culminated in signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the University and KAIB to cement the long relationship that has existed between the two institutions in areas of teaching, research and service provision in the health sector as well as to help improve health care delivery, enhance recruitment and retention of staff, all in a bid to achieve greater operational efficiency for the two institutions. As you may be aware the University has commenced plans to build a Teaching Hospital of our own complement KATH's facilities but as usual, the problem of funds has delayed this *nor C* idea somewhat but thanks to the Ghana Education Trust Fund, work will soon commence on the project so that, in the near future, the KNUST can also boast of a Teaching Hospital to augment KATH's facilities to adequately cater for the health needs of northern sector of the country.

The College continues to generate income through embalming and storage of cadavers brought in by the public to the Department of Anatomy. The reorganisation of the embalming services has enabled the Department to improve on its financial independence and efficiency of the mortuary. Currently there is more storage space for the large numbers of student cadavers required for the increasing student population for staff and their dependents and also for the public. The capacity of the mortuary has increased from 250 to about 400.

The College further generated some modest income through consultancies in areas such as analytical and quality control services, drug formulation, stability studies and quality control of pharmaceutical products, characterisation of herbal products prior to issuing of license by the Food and Drugs Board, examination of the therapeutic potential and toxicity profile of new drugs and medicinal plant products; among others.

STATISTICS OF GRADUATING CLASS

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, permit me to say something about the calibre of students we are graduating this morning from the College of Health Sciences. In all there are 432 undergraduate students being presented for graduation this morning. The number is made up of 231 or (53%) males and 201 (47%) females which is an indication of the fact that a lot more females are now enrolling, and in fact, doing very well in previously perceived male-dominated programmes at the College. Out of the total number of graduates, 31 students are graduating with First Class degrees, 16 graduating with Second Class (Upper Division) degrees, as well as: a further 106 graduating with Second Class (Lower Division) degrees while the remaining ten students are graduating with Pass degrees. A further 10 students have passed from the School of Medical Sciences, with a BSc Human Biology (Medicine) degree, eight students also with BSc Human Biology (Dentistry) degree.

As you may be aware, the College of Health Sciences trains, health providers, there is a high level of academic distinction we are very much happy that these young men and women have been able to braze the trail to achieve success today. A lot of them, particularly those from the School of Medical Sciences and the Dental School, would-have to do their clinicals for a further three years during which period they will have-hands-on-experience.

BENEFACTORS

Several agencies and individuals have contributed significantly to the work of the College of Health Sciences. To all such partners who in diverse ways have facilitated what we are witnessing this morning, we say thank you. Agencies such as the Ministry of Health, the Food and Drugs Board, the Ghana Nurses and Midwives Council, the West African College of Surgeons, the Medical and Dental Council of Ghana, the Ghana College of Physicians and Surgeons, the GETFund, Amponsah-Effah Pharmaceuticals Ltd, the Ghana National Drugs Programme and the Centre for Scientific Research into Plant Medicine, Akuapem-Mampong: amongst others have contributed in-no small way towards the success of the College's activities.

The Department of Pharmacology has established a, Molecular Pharmacology and Toxicology Laboratory with a grant of US\$176,000.00 from the Teaching and Learning Innovation Fund (TALIF). The objective for establishing the laboratory is to enhance postgraduate teaching and research in Molecular Toxicology and Pharmacology thereby promoting the study of molecular mechanisms underlying drug actions. The School of Medical Sciences also received a donation of GH¢8,000.00 from the Ghana Reinsurance Company in support of academic work. Exim Guaranty Company Ghana Ltd also donated one LCD Projector to the Medical Students Association. In addition, the College won a grant of US\$3 million from the Bill and Melinda Cates Foundation for the University of Michigan to collaborate with KNUST, University of Ghana and the Ministry of Health for human resource for health and data systems in Ghana. The goal of this project is to design a roadmap for academic and government collaboration to strengthen the training and deployment of health workers in Ghana. The-College is also collaborating with the University of Michigan, University of Ghana and the University of Cape Town on an Open Educational Resource (OER) project with the aim of making educational resources, more readily available to both staff and students. Funding for the project is provided by Hewlett Foundation.

The SMS has also secured a grant ofUS\$5.9million from the Malaria Vaccine Initiative for Phase III of the Malaria Vaccine Trail.

The College's Department of Community Health together with Hoge school Leiden in the Netherlands and the Stellenbosch University, South Africa as collaborating partners, won a research grant of 1,954,000 Euros from the Royal Netherlands Embassy through NUFFIC for a project on disability, entitled: "*Capacity Building in Community Health for the Prevention and Response to Disability*". The project consists of the construction of a Centre for Disability and Rehabilitation Studies, where an undergraduate programme in Disability and Rehabilitation Studies, and a postgraduate programme in Disability Rehabilitation and Development will be mounted within the next academic year. A consent from the National Accreditation Board and the University's Academic Board has been sought. The other components of the project are staff capacity building through PhD and MSc training as well as staff and student exchanges.

ADVICE TO GRADUANDS

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, the provision of sustainable health care in developing

country's development drive is indeed a very strategic one and, in an attempt, to attain this in Ghana, many initiatives and policies have been evolved. Unfortunately, there are several challenges still facing health care provision in Ghana which sometimes even have the effect of compromising on the level of quality of health care provision especially in the rural areas of the country but as William Shakespeare puts it in "Romeo and Juliet", *"What's in a name? That which we call a rose by any other name wau smell as sweet"*. Your concern should be how you can impact society despite the circumstances you would find yourselves in after graduation.

As you graduate today from this University, you must remember that you have a sacred obligation to the society which through unfavourable conditions, has helped in putting meaning into your dream in a sense, you have been successful but as J. C. Maxwell (1831-1879), a Scottish Theoretical Physicist and Mathematician puts it, *"a successful person is not someone who has arrived at some destination marked "success" on a map. Instead, successful people are actively pursuing a journey One which includes three components: knowing their purpose in life, growing to reach their maximum potential, and sowing seeds to benefit others"*. Throughout your lives, you must be guided by this principle and not blinded by physical and monetary gains at the expense of your clients. As future health care providers, you will be expected to function part of a team of doctors, nurses, pharmacists, and medical laboratory technology amongst others. It is my hope that your training at KNUST has prepared you adequately for your role in the team. To this end, you will need to show respect to your colleagues if you are to succeed.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, I would like to thank your parents, guardians, friends, relatives and lecturers for their effort and sacrifices in your achievement today. I hope you surely make them proud of their investment in your lives. I wish you God's blessing in all your endeavours.

Thank you.

Prof. Kwasi Kwafu Adarkwa
Vice-Chancellor, KNUST

**MOTIVATIONAL SPEECH DELIVERED BY MR. EFFAH AMPONSAH,
MANAGING DIRECTOR, AMPONSAH-EFFAH PHARMACEUTICALS ON THE
OCCASION OF THE 43RD CONGREGATION OF KWAME NKRUMAH
UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, KUMASI HELD ON 17TH JUNE
2009 FOR THE COLLEGE OF SCIENCE (FACULTY OF BIOSCINCES) IN THE
GREAT HALL AT 09:00 HOURS**

FIND YOUR VOICE, HELP OTHERS TO FIND THEIR VOICES

INTRODUCTION

KNUST is an institution that has played a very big role in my life. I lived here as a little child on Buruburo Road, when my father lectured here in the then University College of Technology. I went to primary school here and then progressed to Prempeh College. I then came back here to do a degree in Pharmacy graduating in 1978. I love KNUST very much.

I consider that the training that I received in the Faculty of Pharmacy, joined to my schooling at Prempeh College were defining periods in my life. These two institutions shaped my life in very special and unique ways which have accounted in large measure to who I am today. I do not think that if I were sent to any of the prestigious institutions in the world, from Harvard to Yale, or Colombia or Cambridge or Oxford .. I do not consider that the training that I would have received there would have been better, or would have suited me better than the education that I received at KNUST. Let me say here, how grateful I am to my lecturers at the Faculty of Pharmacy for the excellent training that they gave us. It was a very tight program - jam packed, exhausting ... but excellent. But it was a very all round, course that gave you and taught you everything, provided you wanted to apply it.

Once again, I say, "Thank you Faculty of Pharmacy.

"Thank you, KNUST".

I. The Purpose Of It All

The 1978 Graduation Speech

I graduated from UST in November 1978. During our graduation ceremony the then Vice Chancellor of the University, Professor Bamfo Kwakye, made a statement which has never left me, and which has hovered over me from that day until now. In his speech he gave an analysis, which went something like this (figures mine): "If out of 30.0,000 children that were born in the year of your birth, only 200,000 had the opportunity to go to school, and if out of that 200,000 only 100,000 had the opportunity to enter secondary school, and if out of the 100,000 that went to secondary school only 30,000 got to sixth form, and if out of that 30,000 only 12,000 had the chance to enter university, and go on to graduate in the whole of Ghana, and if you, sitting here, are part of that 12,000, then know, that you have had more than your fair share of the blessings that Ghana has to offer".

"Know that you have already had more than your fair of the blessings that Ghana has to offer." That statement has never left me. I have thought of it over and over again. It has been a significant factor in the decisions that I have taken since then. Because of that statement, I could never bring myself to travel to (at that time), Nigeria, or Liberia, Europe or America to seek greener pastures. I could never bring myself to go and live in some foreign country, just for the sake of a better life.

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The question I have often asked myself is, "Where is the cocoa farmer, and where is the child of the cocoa farmer?" I live in Kumasi. I have access to amenities like good hospital electricity, running water, good primary and thereby good secondary schools, and good universities, ... and so on. When there is interruption of these services I grumble, complain, But where does the cocoa farmer live? What kind of road does he travel What kind of home does he live in? I have Akosombo light in my home. When it goes off I grumble. But what does the cocoa farmer who financed the construction of Akosombo Dam use to light his home, and where does he get his drinking water from? I went to the University Primary School, Kumasi. But what kind of school does the son of the cocoa farmer attend? What primary school does the cocoa farmer's son attend?

Will you agree with Prof. Bamfo Kwakye even as you sit here ready to graduate, you and I have indeed have had more than our fair share of the blessings the nation to offer? Will you agree with me, just how much we owe to poor cocoa farmers who not have half the opportunities that they have created for us? It does not matter how wealthy your father or mother is. It does not matter how many times over your parents can pay the fees you are supposed to pay. That money can never build this University that you have attended, or the secondary school you attended. I remember at Prempeh College, even at noon some boys would go putting on all the lights. When asked what the answer would be simple: "Y' atua." (We have paid). You have still lived off the toil of the cocoa farmer.

II. How Then Shall We Live?

The question then is, how, then should we live? What effect should these great opportunities to attend University and graduate have on our minds. Is it not proper to leave university imbued with a sense of what you can put back into your country? Just last month of 2009, Mrs. Michelle Obama, wife of President Obama was giving a commencement graduation address at the University of California, at Merced, and this is what she said "Remember that you are blessed. Remember that in exchange for those blessings you must give something back. You must reach back, and pull someone up." If they can do that in America, you can be sure that we in Ghana can say it a thousand times over.

a. Remember

- i. Remember that Ghana has invested in you, and needs your service
- ii. Remember the poor cocoa farmer whose toil got the foreign exchange to build this University.

III. Remember the sick, remember the poor, remember the needy, remember those who did not have the opportunity of education.

IV. Don't allow yourself to forget

V. What are you putting back

The key word in that quote is "Remember." It is easy for us to forget; But even more importantly, it is easy for us to choose to forget. We close our ears to the drumming of needs and cries around us. For some people, the university degree, and all it creates ends with themselves. The university degree is the opportunity for a good job., a good salary, life in the best homes, rides in the best cars. To others the degree is the opportunity for lasciviousness and self gratification and ostentation. My degree has converted me into a very eligible bachelor. I can change girls, as often as I change shirts. I can have a good social life". I am told that now it is called chilling and' clubbing, and that for some it starts right here on campus. To others still the degree is a surefire 'way to get a visa.

Pick your degree, and head of to the US or some European or Middle Eastern Embassy. Go where the money is. The Cocoa Farmer? *He is not quite my problem*: His problem is for the government to solve, and I am not the government of Ghana. And so, we close our hearts, and run off to put our services at the disposal of Americans and Europeans who already have a lot. '

But to spend your life, either on campus or out of it in this way is a tragic waste, because then, we have not found the purpose of the big opportunity that God, and Ghana, have given us. But I challenge you here, that you need to find that big purpose and live it. Miss it, and you are going to find a lot of hollowness and emptiness in your life in the year ahead. You need to ask yourself, what is the purpose of this big favour that I have received from my God, and from my country?

Don't get me wrong. It is very okay to seek to earn best, and to have a good well paid job. But we should never lose sight of how fortunate, and how privileged we are because of the efforts of very poor people in our country. And we should always be looking for opportunities to put something back.

What is the Purpose of this Big Favour that I have Received from my God, and from my Country?

To answer this question, we need to look at the lives of the great men and women that we admire, and ask ourselves how they lived. Nelson Mandela, Albert Einstein, Florence Nightingale, and, (my two favourites) Abraham Lincoln, and-Winston Churchill spend their lives for? What did and the greatest of them all, Jesus Christ spend his life for? How did these people live their lives? How did they conduct themselves? You will almost always find a common thread running through their lives. They found a cause, that cause was

in the form of a problem, a challenge, or a need facing mankind, and it is their commitment and dedication to removing that obstacle, or providing the answers needed by mankind, that has made them into the icons that they are today. For Mandela it was Colonialism and Apartheid. For Einstein, it was the absence of a proper view of the fundamental laws underpinning the workings of the universe: a deficiency in our knowledge which was keeping mankind from entering into newer realms, of science and physics. For Lincoln it was slavery, for Churchill it was Nazism, for Ms. Nightingale it was the unnecessary deaths of soldiers in a war in which the hospital was claiming more lives than the gun. For Jesus Christ it was the tyranny of evil, sin, guilt and the power of the devil. For you ... what is it going to be? How then, shall we live?

To a lesser or larger extent, we also are going to find the same challenges around us Needs that will need to be met.

Let me say that you have not received the favour that you now have for no purpose. There is a purpose, and you have to find it. In his book, the 8th Habit, Stephen Covey puts it very succinctly. The purpose of a truly great and meaningful life can be found in one sentence: "To find your voice ... and help others to find theirs also.

Find your Voice. Find your Voice. Find your voice, and help others to find theirs also! This is the end of it all. The education that you have received has one purpose - To help and equip you to find your voice, and then to help others to find their voices also. To find your voice means you must find purpose for your life, and succeed in that purpose. The greatness of the purpose is the greatness of the need that you devote your life to fill. It is the gnawing need that stares at you, and grips your heart, but which, more often than not, you find more convenient. to avoid, or shut out of your heart. Start doing something about that need you see, and you are freed from guilt, and you are released to fulfillment. ... Then after you have found your voice, help others to find their voices also.

But before you can answer that need, you must have success in your personal life. It is the success in your personal life that opens the door to your capability to help others to find their voices.

And this my friend, is the crux of what I came here to tell you.
"Find your voice ... And help others to find theirs also.
If you do this, you will find true fulfillment in life.

II. The Road to Personal Success

I was invited to give a motivational talk, so let me say a little about personal success.

1. You cannot get anywhere in life, if you do not have a habit of Goal Setting, Planning and Diligence.

a. Top 3% of Harvard Students all had a habit of writing down their goals. 20 years later in top 3% of society and they were still in the habit of writing down their goals.

b. The Lessons from these are that:

1. If you will write down your goals and pursue them with diligence determination you will end up in the top echelons of society.

II. The majority of people are not planning: Therefore, if you start today to write down your goals, and plans, be assured you will have a head start over 97% of society, and you will find yourself in the top echelons of society.

In student environment (and especially in the modular system of education that you go through now) many can get by with the formula "Chew, Pour, Pass, Forget".

d. In the working environment the formula is;

i. "Goal Setting, Planning, Desire, Diligence, Determination."

When you have succeeded in determining the vision for your life, and you have succeeded in setting goals, planning and finally achieve that vision, you would have succeeded in finding your voice.

Many times, we only need to apply them from day to day for the rest of our lives. There is no secret, there is no magic, there is not shortcut. You simply have to work those principles out relentlessly for the rest of your lives. Let me say, that success may appear glamorous, but there is no glamour about the road to success. It is simply right choices, and hard work, toil and tears. Nothing else.

2. Nothing be Terrified

a. Adversaries

b. Fear of Failure

3. Attitudes

So let me talk briefly about attitudes. Within the context of the list above, your attitudes are going to determine whether you make it or not. There are many areas of attitude, but I want to highlight on just a few:

4. Attitude to Opportunity

5. Attitude to Adversity

6. Attitude to People

a. The less fortunate

b. The ones you work with.

CONCLUSION

When you apply these principles, you are sure to meet success. And after you have met your success, remember: You must find your voice, and you must help others to find their Voices.

Thank you.

Mr. Effah Amponsah
Alumnus

(AFTERNOON SESSION)

**SPEECH DELIVERED BY PROFESSOR KWASI KWAFO ADARKWA, VICE
CHANCELLOR OF KWAME NKRUMAH UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY, KUMASI, ON THE OCCASION OF THE 43RD CONGREGATION
HELD ON 17TH JUNE, 2009 FOR THE COLLEGE OF ART AND SOCIAL
SCIENCES (FACULTY OF FINE AND INDUSTRIAL ART) IN THE GREAT HALL
AT 14.00 HOURS**

Your Excellencies, Members of the Diplomatic Corps
Members of the University Council
Members of the Clergy
Colleague Vice-Chancellors
Past KNUST Vice-Chancellors and Pro Vice-Chancellors
Pro Vice-Chancellor and Pro Vice-Chancellors from Sister Universities
Registrar and Registrars from Sister Universities
Guest Speaker
Provosts
Deans and Directors
Heads of Department
Alumni of the University
Members of Convocation
Senior and Junior Staff
Excited Parents
Graduands and KNUST Class of 2009
Members of the Media
Distinguished Invited Guests
Ladies and gentlemen

INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

As you are no doubt aware, we are here again this afternoon to award degrees to deserving students who have followed prescribed courses of studies for the past four years and have also satisfied all requirements for the award of various degrees. On behalf of the University Council, teaching and non-teaching staff as well as the entire University community, I would like to welcome all of you to this session of our 43rd Congregation Ceremony. This year's program has been broken down into ten sessions, starting from Monday through to Saturday, with the exception of Thursday, when there was no congregation ceremony. We are gathered here this afternoon to witness the 8th session which marks the graduation of students from the Faculties of Fine and Industrial Art in the College of Art and Social Sciences.

MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER

To add pomp to this afternoon's ceremony and to tell the whole world how successful the products of the Faculties have been in industry and academia, we have invited distinguished alumnus to share his experiences with us. Our motivational speaker for this afternoon holds an MBA from the Wuhan University of Technology, Wuhan, China as well as a BA degree in Publishing Studies from the KNUST. He also attended the Technology Secondary School for his A Level Certificate. During his student days here at the KNUST, he held several positions which include Co-ordinating Secretary, National Union of Ghana Students from 2001 to 2002, President - Unity Hall from 2000 to 2001 and Member of the University's Residence Committee; amongst others.

Our motivational speaker was the proud winner of the Apprentice Africa Business Reality Show in June, 2008 and has since September, 2008, been working as a member, Corporate Execution Group of Bank PHB, Nigeria. Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, our motivational speaker for this afternoon's session is Mr. Isaac Dankyi-Koranteng.

Mr. Koranteng, you are warmly welcome to your alma mater. We are very proud of your achievement. We promise to ensure that our attitude carries us to high altitudes. We will continuously endeavour to improve ourselves. We will put in the extra effort to achieve the extraordinary.

COLLEGE OF ART AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

The College of Art and Social Sciences is the largest College in the University, comprising five Faculties and a Research Centre. The constituent units of the College are Faculty of Fine Art, Faculty of Industrial Art, Faculty of Law, School of Business, Faculty of Social Sciences and the Centre for Cultural and African Studies. This year witnessed tremendous improvements in institutional linkages, income generation, receipt of donations, renovation of studios and laboratories and the procurement of facilities to enhance teaching and learning. Research output, as compared with the previous year's, improved somewhat. In addition, invaluable services of diverse nature were rendered to the University, local and international communities while capacity building received a boost.

ACTIVITIES AT THE FACULTIES OF FINE ART AND INDUSTRIAL ART

The Faculties of Fine and Industrial Art have maintained the leadership in the training of professional artists in painting, sculpture, communication design, advertising, packaging, photography, printing, ceramics, metals products design, textiles, publishing, editing, entrepreneurship, bamboo and rattan, leather work, and woodwork.

As part of the vision of the Department of Publishing Studies to train their students to be innovative, entrepreneurial and dynamic leaders in a rapidly changing world, the final year students went through a two-semester course in entrepreneurship and small-scale business management. A graduation ceremony was organized for them with attractive cash prizes for various categories of awards sponsored by accomplished industrialists and lecturers. Heidelberg Ghana Limited was the major sponsor of the ceremony.

In a bid to finding a lasting solution to the packaging problem of the nation, the Department of Communication Design, in collaboration with the Institute of Packaging, Ghana, organized a two-day seminar from 4th to 5th November, 2008 to discuss bar coding, printing processes and materials used for most package production. The Department also participated in the recently held TRACTEC and was ranked the best exhibition stand.

The Faculty of Fine Art participated in a hands-on practical training workshop Open Educational Resources (OER) at the Golden Tulip Hotel on 23rd and 24th February 2009. This was a collaborative effort with the College of Health Sciences of the University; University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, USA; University of Cape Town, South Africa; University of Western Cape, South Africa; University of Ghana, Legon; Africa and the Hewlett Foundation in providing interactive multimedia resources or ICT-based learning environment for Open Course Ware (OCW), Open Education Resources (OER) and E-Learning. This collaboration is expected to provide new insight into the delivery of educational content.

Among others, the workshop discussed the current landscape of Open Course (OCW), Open Educational Resources (OER) and E-Learning, outlining the life cycle creating such resources including the challenges institutions face in this process. Discussions covered what support resources were available locally for policy development, technical production, process guidance and content design. Following the workshop, a team comprising faculty from KATH, University of Michigan and other stakeholders on 2nd March, 2009, paid a familiarization visit to the Multimedia section of the Department of Communication Design and previewed a selection of creative interactive multimedia works of students. The group was highly impressed and optimistic that with the provision of certain facilities, set objectives would be achieved next year.

Another workshop on product design was organised to help the creative industries in Ghana to grow their international trade through collaborative contemporary *desis* education and practice. Thirty (30) students and four (4) lecturers from the Royal College of Art, UK and thirty-four (34) students and six (6) lecturers from the Faculties of Fine and Industrial Art participated in the GoGlobal Ghana 2009 workshop which took place from 8th to 19th May, 2009 here at KNUST. The workshop was endorsed by the Aid to Artisans Ghana (ATAG). The students and their lecturers brainstormed, design and modelled prototypes of laptop bags produced from old vehicle tyres and inner tubes, sound speakers produced from gourds, fruit juice extractor, and many other products.

The products were exhibited at the foyer of the Great Hall and subsequently at the British Council Hall in Accra for patrons in Accra. The Faculties of Fine and Industrial Art have jointly put together a proposal to be sent to the British Council to solicit for funds to set up a Design Research Centre at KNUST. The University fully supports the development of this Centre and anticipates that such workshops would be held regular following the establishment of the Centre.

The Department of Painting and Sculpture had a Thesis-Book Transcription Workshop from the 18th to 22nd August, 2008. The resource person was Dr. Carol Ventura of Tennessee Technical University, USA. It was the first of its kind and drew participant from other departments in the University.

The Department of Publishing Studies launched a 'Book Reading Club' at Kotei Junior High School near the University. In course of the year, the College, through its Industrial and Professional Relations Office, organized a three-day orientation program for Senior High Schools in the Kumasi Metropolis to educate final year students and their tutors on the programmes on offer at the College; specifically, entry requirements, nature of the programmes, job opportunities, etc. Over 5,000 students participated in this programme.

COLLABORATIONS

To be abreast with modern trends in science and technology, the Faculties continue to forge collaborations with local and international institutions of high repute. Memoranda of Understanding, with high hopes of multiple benefits to both parties to advance the vision of the various institutions were signed with the following institutions: State University of New York at Geneseo, Kenyatta University (Department of Art), Sheffield Hallam University and Gerrit Rietveld Academy in Amsterdam.

An industrial MoU was signed with Development Dimensions Ltd. (DDL) Accra, for the establishment of a Jewellery Design and Technology Centre (JDTC) in the Metals Section of

the Department of Industrial Art. The DDL has renovated the carpentry workshop, converting it into the JDTC at a cost of over GH<t;256,000.00. In fulfilling the purpose of collaboration with Akershus University College, Akershus is for the second year running awarding a scholarship to a nominated undergraduate national service person of the Department of Integrated Rural Art and Industry in the Faculty of Industrial Art to undertake a Master's degree programme in Product Design to assist in the College's capacity building.

A linkage has been formalised by the Department of Industrial Art and the Ghana Textiles Printing Company Limited for the establishment of a Chair in Textiles. This will foster collaboration in areas of academic development of staff and industrial research. There is also an international linkage between the Ceramics Section and South-Western University at Georgia, USA, for the establishment of a Glass Studio in this University.

AWARDS

During the year under review some staff and students received various awards to bring honour to the Faculties and the University. Some of these awards are outlined as follows:
The Department of Integrated Rural Art and Industry won the JICA Ghana.

- Volunteer Award for excellent performance at the Wood Industries' Training Centre's (WITC) 1st furniture Design Competition, 2008. In addition, a set of Wood working tools was given to the Department.

- The best Final Year Design Student, Miss Akor Adwoa Dagadu, won an all-expenses-paid award from Design Achievers to participate in the 2009 Design Achievers programme in Pretoria, South Africa from 11th to 15th June, 2009.

- Ms Anita Acheampong, a third year student, won the prestigious Mousharaka Icograda Design Scholarship in spite of the fact that she was the only student from Africa.

GRADUATINGCLASS

Our students are proudly going home this afternoon with Bachelor of Art degrees in Communication Design, Publishing Studies, Integrated Rural Art, Industrial Art (Ceramics, Metals and Textiles), and Bachelor of Fine Art in Painting and Sculpture would like to inform you that our students have excelled in their chosen discipline and it is our hope that they will carry this attitude into their professional lives.

This year, we will be graduating a total of 5,471 students out of which 816 will be from the Faculties of Fine and Industrial Art. Of this year's graduates, 43 obtained First Class degrees out of which 14 were females. Apart from 125 students who secured Second Class (Lower Division) degrees, 646 students had Second Class (Upper Division) degrees and only two had Pass degrees.

APPRECIATION TO PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

Apart from our faculty members, parents and guardians have also contributed immensely to our ability to present these young men and women for graduation this afternoon. It is gratifying to note that without their assistance, our preparation of the students would not have been complete. We are, therefore, extremely grateful to parents and guardians of our graduands for their unflinching support to them during the course of their studies.

I take this opportunity to invite everybody to join me in showing our appreciation to

the parents and guardians in the usual way by clapping for them. As parents and guardians, you may be relieved, but indeed, your work is not yet completed. You need to continue to guide them as they either step into the world of business or pursue further studies. Without your continued support, these students may be totally lost in the world out there.

BENEFACTORS

During the year under consideration, the Faculties of Fine Art and Industrial Art benefits from the generosity of several benefactors. A' cash donation of GH¢20,535.00 was received from HFC Bank to support the publication of the College Journal, Journal of Art and Humanities, and the Intra-College Seminar Series. **FRANa BECK** Enterprise also donated six computers and their accessories to Fine Art Students' Association.

The Ghana Publishing Students and Associates led by Mr. Kingsley Sarfo Mensah need to be highly acknowledged for their remarkable contribution of Ten Thousand Ghana Cedis towards the setting up of a printing press in the Department of Publishing Studies. Other benefactors include Heidelberg Ghana Limited, Type Company Limited, Nestle Ghana, Limited, Sedco Publications Limited, Coca Cola Bottling Company Ghana Limited, Compuprint Limited, and New Era Press. Others are Millicom Ghana Ltd, Alliance Franciase and Readwide Publications Ltd. We are grateful to all the philanthropists for their practical demonstration of support to assist the Faculties realise their vision.

ADVICE TO GRADUANDS AND CONCLUSION

In the past four years or so, we have taught you how you can make a living for the rest of your lives as artists. It is always said that art is life. No artist should be out of job because you are innovative and capable of turning any available material into an art piece. My challenge to you this afternoon as artists is to positively market the nation to the whole world through art. One biggest challenge facing the nation today is packaging of our exports. We lose a lot of revenue through poor packaging. To help address the situation, it is the intention of the University to introduce an undergraduate program in Packaging to be hosted by the Department of Communication Design in the near future.

Your education was so broad and flexible enough to allow you to adapt to a wide range of real life situations. You need to quickly realize that the real life is very different from campus life where you were sheltered from all the harsh realities of life. You will now be paying for your utilities and your employers will demand so much from you for which their compensation is unlikely to ever satisfy you.

As you leave the walls of this University today, remember that we have now accepted you into the fold of alumni members of your College and the University. I therefore encourage each one of you to register with the KNUST Alumni Association wherever you find yourself. Being awarded a KNUST degree means that you have gone through thorough and rigorous training. You have acquired both academic and moral discipline. You are expected to perform in every capacity you find yourselves. To whom much is given, much is expected from. You should, therefore, raise the flag of KNUST high. Be good ambassadors of the University.

Distinguished invited guests, ladies and gentlemen, once again, thank you for attending our graduation ceremony for the Faculties of Fine and Industrial Art. For those of you who have traveled from outside Kumasi, I wish you a safe journey back home and

Godspeed. For those of you from our immediate environs, it is our hope that you will continue to patronize our future programs and we also wish you well.

Thank you and stay blessed.

Prof. Kwasi Kwafu Adarkwa
Vice-Chancellor, KNUST

MOTIVATIONAL SPEECH AT THE 43RD CONGREGATION OF FACULTIES OF FINE AND INDUSTRIAL ART OF THE KWAME NKRUMAH UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY BY MR. ISAAC DANKYI-KORANTENG, THE APPRENTICE AFRICA 2008 IN THE GREAT HALL AT 14:00 HOURS

Rep. of Chancellor the Chairman of the University Council, Vice-Chancellor, the Vice Chancellor, The Registrar, members of Convocation, distinguished invited guests, graduands, it is a great honour to be invited to address the 43rd Congregation of Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi.

Over the past four years, you all have gone through hundreds of hours of training instruction in your various fields of academic discipline. There has been times of *elation* and disappointment: times of joy and frustration.

You have had to wake up at dawn to catch up with the early morning lectures, or stay very late for the night lecture, you have sacrificed some of your weekends in pursuit of academic excellence, you have had sleepless nights burning the midnight *oil* to prepare for your exams, you have had to stay at night for group discussions at the mercy of unrelenting mosquitoes. You survived the first year scare of "wo be ko fie" and you never gave-up chasing a first class dream or getting a pass. You have trekked to lectures in the sun and have run low on cash, intimidated and some broken hearted. What an experience! Through it all, you have come out refined as you are honored and acknowledged today, CONGRATULATIONS!!!

However, this is just the beginning of the journey, if you are looking forward to what the world has to offer, rethink. The world awaits what you have to offer. The world looks forward to benefiting from the transformation of your knowledge acquired into meaningful applications for mankind. You are challenged today to make a mark. Don't accept to be ordinary.

Education gives people a platform and what you "make of that is up to you. The marketplace is in dire need of problem-solvers. Your ability to succeed on a long-term basis in the competitive marketplace is inextricably linked to the strength, of your problem-solving skills. The world yearns not for consumers, but for initiators, innovators and trailblazers. After all, the goal of education is to heighten human awareness and encourage creativity and curiosity, So the key thing today is: What is the quality of your thinking? Aim at adding value by generating new ideas to solving old problems.

Dear graduands, achieving the extraordinary requires doing a little more than the ordinary. However, raising the bar higher requires courage and discipline. That is the attitude that can take you to a higher altitude. Ask yourselves what you can do to make a difference and not what you can earn to make a difference. Your greatest opportunity to add value is to do more than you are paid for. Challenge yourself all the time by staying out of your comfort zone and making meaningful contributions.

Your input into the environment you find yourself [employed or self-employed) is equally important as the results they yield. Seek results for whatever time spent, energy exerted, and thinking that goes into your job. For me, the greatest aim of education is not knowledge but the results of your knowledge. Put your knowledge into action and make them beneficial to all stakeholders.

Ladies and gentlemen, you can never achieve the extraordinary if your learning curve ends within the confines of this University. You must subscribe to the process of continuous improvement. Respect comes not by the position you hold in an organization but how you position yourself by way of knowledge of the industry and what you do.

Many of you have aspirations to move as quickly as possible on the ladder of success. Those are great ambitions but trust me; your success will be retarded if you allow your personal ambitions to supersede that of your team or organization. Success can never be attained on individual basis. Achieving the extraordinary is a collective course. You must strive to be a team player and not be a self-centered individual for the people you meet on your way up, are the very people who can hold you from falling down.

My brothers and sisters, today we live in a world of economic crisis. In this light, I'd like to share an insight garnered from the Chinese way of life. The Chinese language uses characters to represent words rather than letters forming words. The Chinese word for crisis is a combination of two characters - one meaning "danger" and the other meaning "opportunity". Crisis isn't just about tragedy; it comes with lots of opportunities. Obstacles are meant to obstruct you but not to stop you.

In less than a month, Ghana will behold greatness in human form as Barack Obama pays a visit. He is a recent and fresh example of someone who has done the extraordinary. A black man with only two years of political experience to become the President of the United States of America is a marvel to the world. He has rewritten history. How are you writing your future? Is it an ordinary script or an extraordinary one? An extraordinary script requires an extraordinary performance. Extraordinary achievers were not born extraordinarily. They are ordinary people just like you and I. What set them different from the others is that they put in a little more extra to be where they are. You have it in you, go and make a difference.

To end my speech, four years ago, you stood here and sang with passion our University anthem. Remember the words and let it be beacon of hope in your work life.

Lift every voice and sing, till earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise
High as the listening skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
Sing a song full of the hope that the dark past has taught us;
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
Let us march on 'til victory is won.

I wish you the very best as you set foot on another phase in the journey of life.

Mr. Isaac Dankyi-Koranteng
Alumnus

DAY FIVE (MORNING SESSION)

WELCOME ADDRESS BY THE CHANCELLOR OF THE UNIVERSITY, OTUMFUO OSEI TUTU II, ON THE OCCASION OF THE 43RD CONGREGATION OF THE UNIVERSITY HELD ON 20TH JUNE 2009 FOR THE COLLEGE ART AND SOCIAL SCIENCES (SCHOOL OF BUSINESS, FACULTY OF LAW AND SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES IN THE GREAT HALL AT 09:00 HOURS

His Excellency
Members of the Council of State
Ministers of State
Members of the Diplomatic Corp
Members of Parliament
Chancellors and Chairman of University Councils
Vice-Chancellor and Vice-Chancellors from Sister Universities
Pro Vice-Chancellor and Pro Vice-Chancellors from Sister Universities
The Registrar and Registrars from Sister Universities
Provosts
Members of Convocation
Nananom
Alumni
Invited Guests
Members of the Press
Graduands

SALUTATION

TODAY marks yet another landmark in the annals of the University. We are witness yet another FIRST as far as graduation of Students are concerned in Ghana's University System. In five days, over 10 Sessions, we have produced newly baked graduates harness the manpower needs of Ghana's science and technology advancement. This the result of positive experimentation and innovation. And, I respectfully ask all you to join me in congratulating the University Administration for this great feat. All too soon our sister Universities would be on hand to learn about it all.

As we count our blessings and welcome our new graduands and Alumni into the family of TEKNOKRATS, I am also honoured and humbled by the University Council's decision to dedicate this morning's graduation ceremony to my 10th Anniversary Celebration Asantehene and to crown it all with a Dinner/Dance. I accept the honour done me and assure you of my steadfast support, leadership and direction in helping the University to trailblaze new frontiers for Ghana's science and technology development.

Our Responsibility

Our country Ghana is facing new challenges and passing through real hard times that call for the mobilization and harnessing of all resources, particularly human resource to steer the country on course and overcome the challenges. The responsibility is ours as a University, more so as the nation's foremost science and technology institution of higher learning. We need to chart a new course. We need to reform our Act, Statutes and other Regulations to reposition us in the task ahead. We need to take bold decisions and create new innovations. We need to review our mandate of Teaching Research and Service.

We need a new breed of management, staff and students to meet and spearhead the challenges of the times. We need a new generational University, a 21st century institution of higher learning that articulates the ideas, ethos and passions of a new generation. Our responsibility becomes meaningful and realistic when we are bold to confront and create new and sustainable development agenda for Ghana's science and technology advancement.

A Call to Duty

As graduands of the University, you have a call to duty to make Ghana; your community, and; family proud to have you. You are entering the world of work equipped with scientific, technological and entrepreneurial skills to contribute to the good of our motherland. It is not for nothing that we are here today. It is to congratulate you.

It is to assure you of our support. And above all, it is to demand from you what you hope to give in return to your family; your community; your University; and, your country, Ghana, for all that you have gained and received. You have a responsibility to honour. You have a service to provide. So where do we go from here? Are you for Ghana or for the diaspora? Are you at home to render service or abroad to clean plates. Let us repose our faith and the faith of Ghana in you. Stay, work hard, and give of your best for mother Ghana.

Our Foundation

On April 25, 2009, in this very Great Hall of the University, the Otumfuo Foundation was launched. Among others, it seeks to promote the cause of education and to help eradicate poverty, filth and squalor from our national body-politic. This our gift to you. It is a gift aimed at opening doors for the needy and the disadvantaged in society. Together let us support our children. Let us give and provide education and the means to higher education. As Chancellor of the University, I pledge my all to support the University's good causes so that at the end of the day our less endowed and needy but brilliant students and potential students get a taste of higher education for the good of Ghana.

Welcome!

On behalf of the University and on my own behalf, I welcome you to the University and to this 43rd Congregation.

AND NOW, BY THE POWERS CONFERRED ON ME AS CHANCELLOR OF THE UNIVERSITY, I FORMALLY DECLARE THIS CONGREGATION DULY CONSTITUTED.

Thank you and God Bless.

OTUMFUO OSEI TUTU II
CHANCELLOR
KNUST, KUMASI
JUNE 20, 2009

VALEOICTORY SPEECH DELIVERED BY GERSHON KUMETO, GRADUAND OF COLLEGE OF ART AND SOCIAL SCIENCES ON THE OCCASION OF THE 43RD CONGREGATION OF KWAME NKRUMAH UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, KUMASI HELD ON 20TH JUNE 2009 FOR THE COLLEGE OF AND SOCIAL SCIENCES (SCHOOL OF BUSINESS, FACULTY OF LAW AND SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES) IN THE GREAT HALL AT 09:00 HOURS

The Chancellor of KNUST
The Vice Chancellor
Pro-Vice Chancellor
Provosts of Colleges
Deans of Schools and Faculties
Honourable Lecturers and Non-Teaching Staff
Dear Parents
Invited Guests
Fellow Graduates
Ladies and Gentlemen;

Today is a turning point in each of our lives. We have spent the past years wondering the halls of this great University and now we are ready to go. We have learned, laugh loved, and most of all matured together. But today doesn't just concern reminisce about the past; it's also about looking forward into our future. Life is a series of pass away, and we are leaving one and moving on to the next. Hereafter our lives will hold many surprises for us, but I'm sure that we will approach challenges with the boldness and composure we developed during our stay in this University.

Fellow graduates, as we leave here today, let us celebrate what we have accomplish but look forward with an eye towards being the inspiration for others to overcome the common challenges that we faced during our stay here. With this in mind, perhaps, is prudent that we on this occasion humbly appeal to the University authorities address the issues of lack of lecture hall and library in the School of Business particular, to make studies easier for the continuing students.

Notwithstanding any challenges, we have undertaken our duties diligently not losing focus of our purposes of coming to the University. As I look over the many faces behold today, perceptions of individuals are washed away. I no longer see people they were; I see them as they will be. I know that this auditorium holds the next decade great business leaders, doctors, politicians, scientists, and stars, and that all of the graduates will contribute to the fabric of the future in some way.

We therefore have much to be thankful for today, and I am privileged to show an appreciation to those who supported us in various ways during the period of our studies. Thus, on behalf of the graduating students of the KNUST School of Business, the School of Law and the School of Graduate Studies, I would like to thank all the parents, spouses, families and friends who encouraged and supported us as we worked towards our degrees. I would personally like to thank Mr. Aboagye-Attah who is among the audience for supporting me throughout my education. Thanks Dad. I would not be here today without you.

We are also thankful to God for one another. The friendships we shared here will last a lifetime and in the same way we have helped ourselves to survive these years here, I hope we will continue to support one another in future endeavors.

We would also like to use this opportunity to congratulate the Asantehene on his 10th Anniversary. We thank you for your special interest in our education. You have shown the future generations that it is not enough to have royal blood in one's veins, but to also have a vision for the wider society.
Congratulations Otumfuo!

Finally, I would like to say to the University Council and the whole Administration of KNUST that on behalf of all graduating students in and outside this auditorium and everybody associated with us, we accept your challenge and by God's grace we will live up to expectation as graduates of this noble University.

Congratulations, Class of 2009

Gershon Kumeto
Graduand, College of Art and Social Sciences
KNUST

**SPEECH DELIVERED BY PROFESSOR KWASI KWAFO ADARKWA, VICE-
CHANCELLOR OF KWAME NKRUMAH UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY, KUMASI, ON THE OCCASION OF THE 43RD CONGREGATION
HELD ON 20TH JUNE, 2009 FOR THE SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES FOR
THE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND THE FACULTY OF LAW IN THE GREAT
HALL AT 09.00 HOURS**

SALUTATION

Your Excellency, the Vice President of the Republic of Ghana
Your Majesty Otumfuo Osei Tutu II, Asantehene and Chancellor
Chancellor from Sister Universities
Chairman of Council
Chairmen of Councils from Sister Universities
Honourable Regional Minister
Honourable Ministers of State
Your Excellencies, Members of the Diplomatic Corps
Nananom
Members of Council
Members of the Council of State
Past KNUST Vice Chancellors and Pro Vice Chancellors
Colleague Vice Chancellors and Rectors
Pro Vice Chancellor and Pro Vice Chancellors from Sister Universities
Registrar and Registrars from Sister Universities
Motivational Speaker
Provosts and Directors
Deans of Faculties and Heads of Departments
Hard working Faculty Members
Members of Convocation
Alumni of the University
Senior and Junior Staff
Class of 2009
Proud and Excited Parents
Members of the Press
Distinguished Invited Guests
Ladies and Gentlemen

INTRODUCTION

We have met here once again to listen to the Vice-Chancellor's Report to Congregation and to graduate the Class of 2009. For the School of Business, this must be an exciting moment because we will be graduating the first cohort of undergraduates with the Bachelor of Science (Business Administration) degree with several specializations. We are all equally excited because as parents, we know how you have waited for this day and how relieved you must be at this point in time. This observation is equally true for parents with children or wards from the School of Graduate Studies and the Faculty of Law. Perhaps, this partly explains why you have taken time off your very busy schedules to be with us this morning. I would like to thank you most sincerely for the honour you have done us.

I believe that by now you are aware of the fact that this year's congregation ceremony was spread over a five-day period with each College being assigned a session or two.

We have had to do this to allow for as many parents as possible to be with us in the Great Hall to participate in this ceremony. Last year, we noticed the frustration that most parents faced because they were unable to witness their children or wards graduate. We hope that parents find this arrangement satisfactory and if that is indeed the case, then we will adopt this arrangement as a model for the organization of future congregations but with some modifications as appropriate. Proud parents, we so much appreciate your efforts and what you have done for these young men and women to date. On behalf of the Class of 2009, I would like to express our appreciation to you, dear parents; thank you very much. In a similar vein, we are equally appreciative of what our lecturers have done for the graduating class. In spite of all the constraints, they managed to teach these young men and women and to make them what they are today.

Thank you, our hard working faculty members.

Our congregations are usually occasions for the Vice-Chancellor to report on the conduct of the University's affairs and to graduate students who have followed prescribed courses of study and have been found worthy for the award of their respective degrees. Luckily, the Vice-Chancellor's report to Congregation is captured in a separate report copies of which must have been made available to you on arrival for this ceremony. If you have not received a copy as yet, please try and pick one up after the ceremony. My humble plea is that please find time after the ceremony to read this important document so you can begin to gradually appreciate what the KNUST is doing in each of its 63 odd departments and particularly in the School of Graduate Studies, School of Business and the Faculty of Law. Consequently, my report to Congregation this morning will be a fairly short one with emphasis on our core business in each of the three units presenting students for graduation.

MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER

This morning we have a distinguished alumnus as our motivational speaker. Mr. Alfred Sakyi graduated from the Faculty of Social Science with a BA degree in Economics. He is currently a Senior Manager at ECOBANK Ghana and works with the Retail Bank as Head of Consumer Finance. He set up two of ECOBANK's flagship Branches, namely:

Kumasi and Silver Star Tower at Airport City in Accra. He is seasoned Banker with twenty years' experience. Before joining ECOBANK, he worked with the National Investment Bank Finance Department. Mr. Sakyi, welcome back to your alma mater. We are happy to have you as our motivational speaker for this session of 2009 Congregation. We have vision and sight and will wake up and chase our dreams. Mediocrity will not be part of our vocabulary.

SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES

The School of Graduate Studies (SGS) is an important unit in the University. It is primarily concerned with the assurance of quality in the conduct of all postgraduate programs by ensuring that appropriate regulations are adhered to. It is our firm belief that we should increasingly begin to emphasize postgraduate studies because of the potential for projecting the University's overall visibility as well as helping us solve industrial problems to engender a faster rate of industrialization within the country.

Consequently, we should grow the proportion of postgraduate students which now stands at about 10% to about 30% over the next four or five years. This will enable us change our

status as only consumers of knowledge but, in addition, we shall also be generating or producing knowledge to be consumed or shared with others.

The School of Graduate Studies has chalked several strides but it is currently housed in a very small office with very little space for its activities. The Director of Works and Physical Development has been instructed to find a more permanent and spacious location for the School of Graduate Studies. This will make it easier to recruit additional staff to reinforce the School's supervisory and coordinating role. In future, it is even conceivable that the School of Graduate Studies could be involved in coordinating and assisting selected departments with the organization and execution of research projects. It would be recalled that the School played a major role in the execution of the TALIF project just before the project officially ended in March 2009.

A few years ago, we initiated a local program to enable brilliant undergraduate and postgraduate students to work towards their doctoral degrees so they can join the faculty following their graduation. Five years into the program, less than ten of such students have graduated with their doctorate degrees out of the current number of 123 enrolled on the program. This has been a source of worry but we have introduced a few more innovative measures which will enable the students graduate within the shortest possible time. Students now have a maximum of three and one half years to graduate failing which they can only receive a six-month extension. This directive is meant to discourage those enrolled on the program to become perpetual or professional students. This afternoon, we are proud to present to Congregation twelve more doctoral students, ten of whom were enrolled on the Vice-Chancellor's special initiative.

In addition to the doctoral students, we will be presenting 477 other postgraduate students to Congregation this morning. By far, the largest number' will be those graduating with Master's degree in Business Administration primarily because of the level of patronage this program has received in the recent past as well as the quality this program compared with similar programs in the country. We are happy to present to Congregation, 204 graduates from our MBA program which is by far the best in the country. This morning, the first cohort of ten candidates from our MSc Industrial Mathematics program by Distance will be presented for graduation. In addition to the graduates, others will be graduating from programs in the sciences, engineering architecture, planning, building technology, comparative literature, fine art an agriculture; among others. '

In view of our deliberate policy to promote graduate studies, it is expected that next year, we will see a few more of such students graduating. Consequently, and as a matter of policy, all departments that do not run postgraduate programs will be required to do so before the end of next academic year. Incidentally, such departments are very few but, nevertheless, they will be required to introduce such programs while efforts are also be made to deepen our current programs to ensure high levels of patronage. Some departments with limited capacity, efforts are being made through their lint programs to support their postgraduate programs.

KNUST SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

The KNUST School of Business is one of the five faculties in the College of Art and Social Sciences which College is currently the largest of all the six colleges with nearly

10,000 students representing nearly 42% of the entire student population. While the School is relatively new, we are extremely delighted with its performance thus far.

Today, we will be graduating our first batch of 111 students who will be receiving the Bachelor of Business Administration degrees with various specializations. As you would expect, these specialisations include Accounting, Banking and Finance, Management Information Systems, and Human Resource Management. Congratulations to this first batch of graduates and I would like to invite them to rise for a bow. Congratulations, once again; you may resume your seats. Out of this first batch, 23 of them secured First Class degrees, 49 gained Second Class (Upper Division) degrees with 20 securing Second Class (Lower Division) degrees and a further 19 students, securing Pass degrees. By all standards, our students have performed very well considering the initial teething problems they had to overcome. Fortunately, virtually all these problems have been resolved somehow and as a direct result of this, both the regular and part-time undergraduate programs in Business Administration are now very heavily patronised to the extent that we are only able to satisfy a very small proportion of the applicants.

Apart from their teaching responsibilities, members of the faculty have also maintained a fair balance between this function and their research/publications record together with their community engagement role. During the year under review, members of this young School were able to publish in peer reviewed journals including the "Journal of Money, Investment and Banking", "Journal of Finance and Economics" and the "International Business and Economics Journal". In addition, the faculty produced many conference papers but I believe that there are tremendous potentials in the School of Business with regard to contribution to knowledge. The KNUST administration will support the School of Business to the extent possible to grow to become a recognised centre of excellence. In addition to all these, the School is always involved in community engagements in various forms including serving on boards and committees outside the University.

FACULTY OF LAW

You may all recollect that the Faculty of Law is also relatively new having achieved a faculty status six years ago but it has become the destination of students seeking undergraduate legal education in the northern sector of the country. Consequently, the Faculty currently has on offer the regular four-year Bachelor of Laws degree as well as the three-year part-time post first degree version of this program and the part-time four-year Bachelor of Laws program. Plans are also well advanced to place on offer, the Master of Laws degree program during the next academic year.

This morning, we will be graduating its third batch of undergraduate students with the Bachelor of Laws degree. Out of the graduating class of 170 students, one of them will be receiving a First Class degree with 76 obtaining Second Class (Upper Division) degrees with the remaining 92 obtaining Second Class (Lower Division) degrees. Only two students obtained Pass degrees.

Students of the Faculty of Law have brought another dimension to the University's life by bringing to bear on us the need to properly interpret our statutes, rules and regulations at various levels within our system. At times, some of them have also tried to test some of the tenets within our legal instruments. While this is acceptable within an academic environment, extreme care should be exercised not to overdo it. Consequently, for me, it did not come as a

surprise when one of them, Mr Mohammed Abass, a second year law student placed second in the maiden Africa-wide Olusegun Obasanjo essay competition out of 312 entries.

Congratulations, once again to Mr. Mohammed Abass and the Faculty of Law. It is my hope that our students will also perform well in the Philip Jessup International Law Moot Court scheduled to be held sometime this month.

The Faculty continues to organise research activities. It has established linkages with Fordham University in the United States of America and the University of Milan in Italy. In view of the limited faculty members and the heavy work load, research output was acceptable but could have been substantially higher. Three peer reviewed articles were published and four conference papers were also presented at several fora.

Interestingly, the Faculty continues with the publication of its journal, the KNUST Journal of Law, for local and international readership. The fifth volume of this journal is expected to be published soon.

The Faculty continues to maintain an enviable service and community engagement record. Apart from providing service courses to other faculties, it served on all committees of inquiry established to investigate examination malpractices in the -university. In addition, the Faculty provided legal advice, consultancy services and training programs to individuals and organisations.

MESSAGE TO GRADUANDS 2009

This morning we will be graduating a total of nearly 900 students from the School of Graduate Studies, the School of Business and the Faculty of Law. Each of you came in as an individual and you are leaving the four walls of the University as an individual. This is the period for you to begin to become more sober and a lot more watchful. The real world out there is very different from the University where you were sheltered from almost everything that you can imagine. As you move out of campus into the real world, you will be surrounded with the world itself and things of the world, enemies, lust of the world, the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of the world. To enable you fight. to overcome all these temptations you need to remain sober and watchful as well as remain connected to your maker.

For those of you graduating from the School of Graduate Studies, I believe your future is pretty well set up; particularly for those who took time off from your work situation to attend Graduate School. If you are not in this category but will be graduating with a higher degree today; I would like you to consider enrolling for a terminal degree as an option so you can take our place when we leave the scene. For those graduating with a BSc (Business Administration) degree, need I say anything to you regarding your future employment? This is the time to practice the entrepreneurial skills you were taught. I very much hope that you are not going to queue in front of one ministry or the other to seek regular employment. There is so much happening in the private sector that I will be very surprised if you go seeking employment in the public sector. While most of our graduates who will be receiving their LLB degree today may want to proceed to their professional training at the School of Law in Accra, we trust that very soon such training will take place here in Kumasi. For the others who may not be proceeding directly to the School of Law for one reason or the other, find something productive to

do in the interim but eventually pursue your professional studies because you will be better empowered after these studies to serve your country.

As you commence your professional life, please remember to be humble and courteous in your dealings with whoever comes your way in whatever circumstance. Indeed, without humility, your future will be doomed irrespective of where you work. You need a fair dose of humility to succeed in future.

In all your endeavours, please remember your parents and family, friends and your alma mater for the sacrifices they have made to enable you reach this stage in your lives. In particular, you may also have to remember to pay back to the country because of the tremendous sacrifices it has made in your education. Just think of the countless others who never had the opportunity to come this far in life but who have in diverse ways made sacrifices so you can be educated. It is my hope that you are not going to pack bag and baggage soon after graduation to go and work as parking lot attendants or departmental shop attendants in some foreign lands. The opportunity cost of such a decision will be too much for Ghana to bear and, therefore, I hope that none of you contemplates such a course of action.

BENEFACTORS

Several agencies and individuals have contributed significantly towards the work of the School of Graduate Studies, the KNUST School of Business and the Faculty of Law. We are extremely grateful to all of them but particular mention must be made of the Government of Ghana which has supported us with funds for the payment of faculty members' emoluments and investments in infrastructural facilities through the GETFund. The other benefactors may be too many to mention but please permit me to identify a few of them, including: the Ghana Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, University of Pretoria, Professor Kludze, Professor Yaw Debrah of Swansea University, and the Northwest Earth Institute.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OTUMFUO

I believe by now, you are all aware that today's entire session has been dedicated to our Chancellor, Otumfuo Osei Tutu II, Asantehene in commemoration of his tenth anniversary of ascension to the Golden Stool as the 16th occupant. Otumfuo has for the past decade, provided an enlightened and progressive traditional leadership to Asanteman and Ghana at large in traditional, social and economic affairs. Otumfuo has brought a lot of modernity into our chieftaincy institution which reforms have been very much exemplary thereby making the institution, more relevant to our times than ever before.

Otumfuo has been a pillar in our nation's educational sector with his famous Otumfuo Education Fund which Fund has benefited several Ghanaians. Otumfuo's inspirational leadership has attracted a lot of acclaim worldwide and no wonder he has for the past one decade alone, received more than six honorary degrees from world known Universities including KNUST. Otumfuo, we are very proud of you as our Chancellor and we do very much appreciate your wise counsel. I, on behalf of the entire staff of the University say congratulations, Otumfuo.

CONCLUSION

As I bring my presentation to an end, it would have been noticed that all the three units of the University from which students are to be graduated during this morning's session are, fairly young but they have done exceedingly well to maintain the high quality of teaching to produce these young, highly qualified and well motivated students.

I would like to remind all of you that this has happened within the context of very limited resources but it is our hope that more resources can be mobilised from several sources including central government. If these resources are made available to the University, in general, and these important units in particular, this can propel them to better perform their assigned roles in Ghana and contribute more positively towards the overall development of the country.

As you go into the world, we pray to God to help you cancel any errors which may have come your way through either acts of omission or commission in the past. Try to be good and eschew all tendencies of the devil or evil one; because "a good man obtains favour from God but a man of evil devices he condemns". In all your endeavours you need to acknowledge the unseen hand of God. In view of this, "You will not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by the day, nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness, nor the destruction that wastes at noonday. A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you. You will only look with your eyes and see the recompense of the wicked".

The best of luck to all of you in your future endeavours and God richly bless you.

Thank you.

Prof. Kwasi Kwafu Adarkwa
Vice-Chancellor, KNUST

MOTIVATIONAL SPEECH AT THE 43RD CONGREGATION OF SCHOOL OF BUSINESS, FACULTY OF LAW AND SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES OF KWAME NKRUMAH UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY BY MR. ALFRED SAKYI, HEAD OF CONSUMER FINANCE, ECOBANK IN THE GREAT HALL AT 09:00 HOURS

"The Dilemma of the Young Ghanaian Graduate: the paradigm of reality against expectations"

His Excellency Vice President John Dramani Mahama
The Chancellor, His Royal Majesty, Otumfuo Osei Tutu II
Chairman of the University Council, Fellow Katangese P V Obeng
The Vice Chancellor, KNUST, Prof K. K. Adarkwa
Vice Chancellors of Other Sister Universities
Pro Vice Chancellor, KNUST
Pro Vice Chancellors of Other Sister Universities
Registrar, KNUST
Registrars of Other Sister Universities
Honourable Ministers of State
Parliamentarians
Members of the Diplomatic Corps
Members of the clergy
Provosts, Deans, and Members of Convocation, Fellow (Alumni) Technocrats
Distinguished invited guests
Graduands
Ladies and Gentlemen
All protocols observed

I give glory, honour, and unqualified thanks to God for this special day. Indeed, words cannot express my sincere appreciation for this rare privilege of addressing the 43rd Congregation of our esteemed University which incidentally comes at the heels of the historic 10th Anniversary of our illustrious Chancellor Otumfuo Osei Tutu II. Otumfuo, once again congratulations and may you see more prosperous and blessed years of greater accomplishments.

His Royal Majesty, I have chosen for this brief discourse the theme: *"The dilemma of the Ghanaian Graduate: expectations against reality."* On hindsight this obviously is to sensitize our Graduands and further underscore the fact that there is a real gap between their expectations and the realities awaiting them after graduation. According to Ted Levitt: *"The future belongs to people who see possibilities before they become obvious."*

My graduating friends, what are your *expectations* as you prepare to step out boldly into the world?" In the globally challenging times that we find ourselves today, it is those who have hope in the future who will make a difference. They are the ones who have power in the present to affect their world. As you sit here today, what are the possibilities you see ahead? I know many of us are planning to join the travel/exodus "band wagon; others are pre-occupied with the fear of the unknown; still others, are filled with the "no job perception." In the same vein, many of you are worried about the "whom you know or who knows your perception / realism." Yet many more of you are concerned about the so called "work experience requirement." The entrepreneurs amongst us are also thinking about translating their

ideas into reality. It might not surprise me if some of our ladies are exploring the option of settling down in marriage.

There are others who may be considering pursuing post graduate programmes and may not know how to go about (and even when to do that). All said, there may also be others who do not have any clue at all as to how to start the job "hunting" process. Simply they are lost, confused and or apprehensive. Believe in this gathering are the Presidents Billionaires provided we see the possibilities.

His Royal Majesty, to combat the enumerated fears, frustrations, and dilemma, I wish to draw Graduands' attention to five key areas that could make or unmake their lives as they say farewell to this Great Institution. These are: *Timeliness; Vision or Focus; Opportunities; Failures and Attitudes.*

His Royal Majesty, I wish to remind our Graduands that regardless of their unique expectations and fears, life is like a clock or meter. It keeps ticking whether we are getting somewhere or just standing still. As they go out timeliness in all their endeavours is key. They should remember Winston Churchill's words that *"time is neutral, but it can be made the ally of those who will seize it and use it to the full."* Again, it is said that *"Time is like a river. You cannot touch the same water twice, because the flow that has passed will never pass again."* Indeed time is one of the most precious, expensive and irredeemable resources created by God and should be very wisely utilized.

His Royal Majesty, it is also important for the Graduands to have a clear vision and focus of what they intend to achieve in the immediate, medium, and long term and work assiduously towards that. Helen Keller says: *"the most pathetic human beings are those who have sight but no vision.* We are also told that when we wake up in the morning, we have two simple choices- go back to sleep and dream or wake up and chase those dreams. I guess the choice is entirely ours. *"Never let go of a dream until you are ready to wake up and make it happen."* (Alice in Wonderland)

Another key point is to be able to identify and take advantage of the numerous *opportunities* available positively. Opportunities never come labeled; it is up to us to position ourselves well for them. Otumfuo Chancellor, I wish to remind my graduating friends, that even when opportunity knocks at their doors they would have to get out of their "arm chairs" to open it. Please be reminded that the apparent obstacles that come our ways are often disguised opportunities.

One other important area I wish to touch on is *failure*. According to John C. Maxwell an acclaimed authority on leadership, "the difference between average people and achieving people is their perception of and response to failure." As human beings we surely will encounter failures as we venture out but our responses would make the difference. To *Abraham Lincoln*, the Great American President of blessed memory *"success is going from failure to failure without loss of enthusiasm"* *Falling they say, is not an issue it is what we pick from the ground when rising up again that really matter.*

Otumfuo Chancellor, a major issue confronting us as a nation is our *attitudes*. To my friends who are venturing out today, I wish to emphasize with all seriousness that your

attitudes more than your aptitudes will surely determine your altitude. The sum total of the alphabets in this very important word is one hundred. Attitude, we are told is 100% and propels us if we get it right.

I wish to submit at this juncture that one of our greatest banes as a country is our attitude of mediocrity. Infact I will call it one of our' greatest enemies. According to Aristotle, *"we are what we repeatedly do; excellence then is not an act but a habit."* Let us all therefore pursue excellence in whatever we do and Ghana will be a better place for all of us.

Otumfuo Chancellor, Ladies & Gentlemen, one other issue that is hindering our forward movement as a country is the low level of entrepreneurship. It is said that *"a ship in a harbour is safe, but that is not what ships were built for"*: "Life is about adventure and not maintenance. I am sincerely looking forward to a day when we will encourage, resource, and ensure that our educational system focuses on turning out Graduates who will be able to break away from our chronic dependency syndrome where we all leave school in search of white collar jobs that enslave us and do not engage our capabilities to the optimum. We need to inculcate a culture of entrepreneurship in this country and it must start now. I propose the setting up of a Young Entrepreneurs Fund (YEF) to which Corporate Entities would be made to contribute annually. (Discuss modalities)

To the University I wish to recommend the formalization of industrial attachments as one of the ways of preparing our students for life after graduation. Although it is being done to some extent in some departments I suggest we make it a must for all students by awarding & number of credit hours for it and ensuring that feedback obtained from institutions are treated seriously.

Collaboration between academia and industry in the form of specific research support, workshops, and faculty assignments where industry captains in various sectors will serve as visiting lecturers/facilitators to share experiences and further enrich the quality of graduates being turned out.

Finally, His Royal Majesty I wish to advice the Graduands that the true source of all successes is God and therefore as they step out into the world they should acknowledge Him in all their ways and He will surely straighten their paths. (Proverbs 3 :5-7) There is no magic out there to make it: absolute dependence on God is the key.

Always remember that: you will have to make yourselves relevant wherever you find yourselves. "Charles Wilson, President GE says *-no matter what size the bottle, the cream always come to the top.*" This means regardless of the circumstances the movers and the shakers always emerge. Which one are you? Do not just be part of the Team make sure you count.

In conclusion I wish to state that: *"The Bottom of the Ladder to Success may be crowded, but there is always room at the top"* (Anonymous). Let us therefore relent not until we get to our destinations.

Otumfuo Chancellor, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen, this note I welcome the 2009 Graduating Class into our world of great opportunities, challenges, and

excitement. I am optimistic that for them the sky is not even the limit. Press on never give up be all that you can. Congratulations to all on your admission.

Before I resume my seat and as a token for producing a number of Alumni who are distinguishing themselves so well at Ecobank, the Pan African Bank, I am asked by the Managing Director of Ecobank Ghana to present a Cheque for GH¢3000.00 to the Business School of the College of Arts and Social Sciences to support their research activities. May the Provost or his Representative kindly step forward to receive this donation.

His Royal Majesty, all protocol observed, I thank you all so much for your kind attention and God bless us all.

Mr. Alfred Sakyi

Alumnus

****Note: This speech was repeated at Day Five (Afternoon Session)**

**ADDRESS BY H.E. JOHN DRAMANI MAHAMA, VICE PRESIDENT OF THE
REPUBLIC OF GHANA, AT THE 43D CONGREGATION OF THE KWAME
NKRUMAH UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, KUMASI, ON
SATURDAY, 20TH JUNE 2009, IN THE GREAT HALL AT 09:00 HOURS**

Your Majesty Otumfuo Osei Tutu II, Asantehene and Chancellor,
Chairman of Council,
Honourable Regional Minister,
Honourable Ministers of States,
Your Excellencies, Members of Diplomatic Corps,
Nananom,
Members of the University Council,
Vice-Chancellor of KNUST
Pro-Vice-Chancellor of KNUST
Vice-Chancellor and Pro Vice-Chancellor of other Universities,
Registrar of KNUST and Registrars from other universities,
Provosts,
Guest Speaker,
Deans and Directors,
Head of Departments,
Alumni of the University,
Members of Convocation,
Senior and Junior Staff
Parents/Guardians,
Graduands,
Members of the Media,
Distinguished Invited Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Let me first of all thank the authorities of the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, for the kind invitation extended to me to participate in this Congregation which is also convened to honour the chancellor of the University, His Majesty Otumfuo Osei Tutu II, in commemoration of the 10th Anniversary of his reign as Asantehene.

I am particularly elated, as this is my first congregation of this University since I took office as Vice President of the Republic of Ghana. I am also delighted to be able to take part in this solemn, impressive and colourful ceremony and to share with you a few thoughts relevant to the occasion.

At the founding of this institution it was the vision of the founder of our nation Osagyefo Dr. Kwame Nkrumah to set up an institution of excellence in science and Technology that would produce the human resource necessary to propel Ghana's growth into the *anks* of the advanced countries with an economy driven by a strong industrialized sub sector.

Forty three years on while we may not have realized our dream of joining the ranks of the advanced countries or built a strong industrial and manufacturing base, the institution born out of this vision remains the premier institution in Ghana producing the much needed personnel in all field of engineering, science and technology that has ensured this nations growth and survival over the last 4 decades and more.

Your Royal highness, I am aware of the continuous efforts made by this University to ensure that its academic programmes and, especially, its research projects fulfill the need as and aspirations of the country. I note with particular satisfaction and great relief, the introduction of new programme of study geared towards training the much needed human resource capacity for new areas like the petroleum industry.

The introduction of programmes like petroleum Engineering, Agribusiness and Extension, Landscape Design and management, Real Estate, Veterinary medicine and others, are not only timely but are also capable of addressing, contemporary challenges of the nation.

For instance, in the emerging petroleum industry following the oil find in commercial quantities in Ghana, there is not only a need for qualified high level personnel such as petroleum engineers but also a significant demand for specialized intermediate skills like welders, painters, electricians and other various categories of artisans. These demands must be met from our domestic human resource content instead of allowing expatriate workers to take up these jobs. It is against this background that I commend the University for this laudable Initiative. Indeed, KNUST has been a notable pace-setter in its own right and the country looks up to this University to provide the critical human resource needed to meet the challenges of the 21st Century. I say 'Ayekoo' to KNUST.

Let me also quickly add appreciation for KNUST role as a pace setter in instituting a special concession for admission of students from less endowed second cycle institutions. This idea was first introduced by this university, and it currently being emulated by other Universities.

This has helped brilliant but needy students who might not have had the opportunity to acquire a tertiary education to do so. Without this laudable initiative, opportunities would have been lost to children of the many underprivileged families in Ghana. I urge all tertiary institutions in the country which have not yet started this initiative to do so as soon as possible.

Let me further commend KNUST's contribution in increasing access to tertiary education in this country. I am aware it is the KNUST that nurtured the then Tarkwa School of Mines, until it matured into a fully-fledged University-Currently designated as the University of Mines and Technology. It is my fervent belief that, you would, in like manner, nurture your latest campus in Sunyani, to eventually become an independent University in the near future. I also note with appreciation KNUST's mentoring, by way of affiliation with some Private Universities that are helping to fill the gap in access to tertiary education.

In addition to these efforts, I wish to urge the University to consider widening the scope of distance learning, to enable yet a critical mass of prospective students to enroll and acquire degrees and diplomas, without necessarily having to move to particular campuses.

Ladies and Gentlemen, the remarkable performance of the KNUST in the recent inter-university television quiz competition organized by Zain, is a clear indication of the academic excellence which is the hallmark of this University.

Your Royal Highness, Mr. Vice-Chancellor, Ladies and Gentlemen, as I drove through your beautiful campus I observed a number of completed and on-going infrastructural development projects. This I presume, is a step in the right direction to meet the ever-growing number of student enrolment and academic facilities. Government, in spite of several budgetary constraints has allocated Gh¢3,790,000.00 (Three million, Seven Hundred and Ninety Thousand Ghana cedis) from the GETFUND for the 2009 financial year to enable you complete some of these projects.

Ladies and Gentlemen, the GETFUND since its establishment over a decade ago has become the main funding source for provision of infrastructure in our educational institutions. Regrettably, over the last several years this fund has been overcommitted leading to a shortage of funds for the required accelerated educational infrastructural development. This is evidence in the numerous slow moving and uncompleted structures littered over campuses all over the country. To improve this situation, Government intends to decentralize administration of the GETFUND to improve on prioritization of the fund. Government is also reviewing the funding sources of the NYEP in order to restore the 15% portion of GET FUND which is currently appropriated for that programme.

Chancellor, Ladies and Gentlemen, I wish to take the opportunity to congratulate those who have successfully completed their programme of study in the University and who are now about to be presented their degrees and diplomas.

Let me reintegrate that whilst this achievement implies a high level of studious application and intelligence, it does not confer an automatic recognition that you have attained the same level of social commitment, and the appreciation of wisdom which a university education ought to have stimulated in you.

When you begin your National Service, you would then face your first real test as you would come more and more in contact with the real problems of the majority of our people. I entreat you to accept postings to the hinterland, to have a first-hand experience of real life situations. This is the beginning of the process of graduating into life and learning the realities of life which no College or University can teach you. In all your struggles and successes, your watchword should be to serve. Let me remind you that so much has been given to 'you and as they say, unto whom much is given, much is expected.

Finally, I wish to congratulate Otumfuo Osei Tutu II, Asantehene for the deserving honour which the University has bestowed on him and wish him further successes, good health, long life and prosperity in all that he is doing for Asanteman and the country in his various endeavours.

I wish the KNUST many more years of achievement and of service to Ghana and humanity.

Thank you and may God bless us all.

H.E. John Dramani Mahama
Vice-President, Republic of Ghana

DAY FIVE (AFTERNOON SESSION)
**SPEECH READ BY PROFESSOR KWASI KWAFO ADARKWA, VICE-
CHANCELLOR, KWAME NKRUMAH UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY, KUMASI, ON THE OCCASION OF THE 43RD CONGREGATION
HELD ON 20TH JUNE, 2009 (AFTERNOON SESSION) FOR THE FACULTY OF
SOCIAL SCIENCES (CASS) IN THE GREAT HALL AT 14.00 HOURS**

SALUTATION

Your Excellencies, Members of the Diplomatic Corps
Nananom
Members of the University Council
Members of the Clergy
Colleague Vice-Chancellors
Past KNUST Vice-Chancellors and Pro Vice-Chancellors
Pro Vice-Chancellor and Pro Vice-Chancellors from Sister Universities
Registrar and Registrars from Sister Universities
Guest Speaker
Provosts
Deans and Directors
Heads of Department
Alumni of the University
Members of Convocation
Faculty Members
Senior and Junior Staff
Excited Parents and Guardians
Proud Graduands and KNUST Class of 2009
Members of the Media
Distinguished Invited Guests
Ladies and Gentlemen

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

I would like to welcome you all to this graduation ceremony. As most of you may be aware, this year's programme started on Monday with two ceremonies each day except on Thursday when we had a break to rest. These sessions were to afford parents, guardians and well wishers the opportunity to sit inside the Great Hall to witness the ceremony. This afternoon's ceremony is the climax of the 2009 graduation ceremony and I trust that you will not do anything untoward to mar the solemnity of the occasion.

Congregations are very important events in every University. They are assemblies of the Senior Members of the academic units of a University organized primarily for the purposes of receiving reports on the Universities' activities and also awarding degrees to deserving students. Graduation is also seen as one of the happiest times in the life of every student as well as the University. It is heart warming to see a batch of students successfully complete a level of higher education.

The College of Art and Social Sciences, which is the largest of all the Colleges in the University, comprises five academic Faculties; namely: Fine Art, Law, Industrial Art, School of Business, Social Sciences, and a Research Centre which is the Centre for Cultural and African Studies. The high number of students in the College has necessitated the presentation of its students for graduation in three batches. The Faculty of Social Sciences is the largest

faculty in the University, in terms of student numbers and the range of undergraduate programs, with seven Academic Departments.

Of the total number of 1,173 graduating this afternoon, 19 earned First Class degrees out of which five are females. A total of 519 students earned Second Class (Upper Division) degrees and 607 had Second Class (Lower Division) with the remaining 34 obtaining Passes. I would like to use this medium to congratulate all faculty members in the College and also kindly request our graduating class of 2009 to applaud their lecturers.

In spite of its challenges, the Faculty has not compromised on the quality of teaching and research activities. This positive posture is attributed to diligence, industry and determination on the part of both staff and students. We are fully aware of the fact that this positive posture can be compromised should we expand the student population beyond its current levels without any corresponding increase in faculty strength and infrastructural facilities. In a sense, it will be advisable to maintain the current student numbers in the College and not to exceed it.

MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER

This afternoon too, we have a distinguished alumnus as our motivational speaker. Mr. Alfred Sakyi graduated from the Faculty of Social Science with a BA degree in Economics. He is currently a Senior Manager at ECOBANK Ghana and works with the Retail Bank as Head of Consumer Finance. He set up two of ECOBANK's flagship Branches, namely: Kumasi and Silver Star Tower at Airport City in Accra. He is seasoned Banker with twenty years' experience. Before joining ECOBANK, he worked with the National Investment Bank Finance Department. Mr. Sakyi, welcome back to your alma mater. We are happy to have you as our motivational speaker for this session of 2009 Congregation.

ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES AND AWARDS

All departments in the Faculty of Social Sciences continued with their basic functions of teaching, research and community engagement. In the Department of Economics, for example, faculty members participated in more than 15 workshops and conferences both locally and offshore. In addition, the department recorded about five publications of various kinds including monographs, conference proceedings and journal articles. One faculty member, Mr. Eric F. Oteng-Abeyie, together with Mr. J.M. Frimpong, won the best paper award with their work on "Market Returns and Weak-Form Efficiency: The case of Ghana Stock Exchange", University of Florida, Gainesville in Florida in 2008. Congratulations to Messrs Eric Oteng-Abayie and J.M. Frimpong.

Geography Department also continued with a fairly enviable publications record and attendance at various conferences during which papers were read. Sociology and Social Work also recorded attendance at various conferences and so was the Department of Religious Studies. In addition to attendance at Conferences, emphasis will now have to be shifted to producing journal articles from the numerous Conference papers so we can all contribute to knowledge generation.

In all departments of the Faculty, several faculty members continued to serve in various positions outside the University as Board Members of selected institutions, committees, PTA Chairpersons, and Advisory Committee members; among others.

Let me take this opportunity to acknowledge Dr. (Mrs) Eva Tagoe-Darko, head of the Department of Geography and Rural Development, who was chosen as a Panel Member for the selection of the award winners for the Olusegun Obasanjo Award, and other members of the College who received various awards. I am happy to announce that three candidates on the Vice Chancellor's Initiative have successfully defended their PhD theses and were graduated this morning. It is my hope that they will seek employment with the University to beef up the number of lecturers in the College.

BENEFACTORS

During the academic year under review, the Faculty continued to benefit from the benevolence and cooperation of institutions, national and international agencies, and selected individuals. Aside the College's signing of Memoranda of Understanding with various universities including State University of New York at Geneseo, the Faculty also had collaborative discussions with some universities including Bucks New University, Princeton University, University of Michigan, the University of New Hampshire and Sheffield Hallam University; among others.

We are grateful to GETFund for sponsoring academic staff of the Department of Sociology and Social Work who went on a trip to the University of Utah. We also want to express our gratitude to some organisations including Ghana Commercial Bank and VALCO Trust Fund, as well as some philanthropists including Mrs. Adelaide Ahwireng, Managing Director of Fio Enterprise Ltd., for their assistance in helping us procure double-cabin Pick-Ups for the Faculty of Social Sciences and other Faculties of the College.

APPRECIATION TO PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

Apart from our faculty members, parents and guardians have also contributed immensely to our ability to present these young men and women for graduation this afternoon. Needless to say, without their assistance, our preparation of the students would not have been complete. We are, therefore, extremely grateful to parents and guardians of our graduands for their tremendous assistance to these young ones during the course of their studies. Once again, can I suggest that we show our appreciation to them in the usual way by clapping for them.

As parents and guardians, you may be relieved, but indeed, your work is not yet completed. I will appeal to you to continue to guide them as they either step into the world of work or move on to Graduate School. Without your continued assistance and guidance, these young ones may be totally lost in the world out there. And now, a few words of advice to our graduands.

ADVICE TO GRADUANDS AND CONCLUSION

In the past four years or so, we have taught you how you can make a living for the rest of your lives as Social Scientists, Geographers, Sociologists, Economists, Historians and so on. What you need to do now is to quickly apply your knowledge to real life situations. Your education was so broad and flexible enough to allow you to adapt to a wide range of real life situations. You need to quickly realize that real life is very different from campus life where you have been sheltered from all the harsh realities of life. You will now need a little courage, self control and determination to reach your

goals. Let me remind you that in the middle of all the difficulties that you may face, there will be opportunities to also excel in what you do.

On the other hand, life can be a lot more easier if you approach it with hard work, integrity, humility and diligence. The human resource development of the country can be improved if you all exhibit the qualities and attributes expected of you. Discipline yourself to do what you know is right and important.

You must learn to be a major source of encouragement for our less fortunate brethren. Do not let any opportunity slip by because you cannot ever recover it. Make the maximum use of your time and learn not to procrastinate on any issue. Remember that you need to help us continue to improve on our circumstances as a University. You are, therefore, encouraged to join the KNUST Alumni Association from which you can begin to mobilize resources for the eventual development of the University. Each of you should go out into the world as either a proud Alumnus or Alumna of KNUST.

Once again, congratulations and Godspeed to all of you.

Thank you.

Prof. Kwasi Kwafu Adarkwa
Vice-Chancellor, KNUST