

KWAME NKRUMAH UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



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**WELCOME ADDRESS BY THE CHANCELLOR OF THE
UNIVERSITY, OTUMFUO OSEI TUTU II, ON THE
OCCASION OF THE 52ND CONGREGATION CEREMONY OF
THE UNIVERSITY HELD ON SATURDAY 14TH JULY, 2018
AT THE GREAT HALL, KNUST, KUMASI**

SALUTATION

Chairman and Members of Council
Vice -Chancellor
Honourable Ministers of state present
Members of the Diplomatic Corps
Members of Parliament present
Vice-Chancellors from Sister Universities
Pro Vice-Chancellor and Pro Vice-Chancellors from Sister Universities
Former Vice-Chancellors and Pro Vice-Chancellors present
The President and CEO of the MasterCard Foundation Canada
Registrar and Registrars from Sister Universities
Provosts
Members of Convocation
Nananom
Alumni of the University
Invited Guests
Members of the Press
Graduands
Ladies and gentlemen

INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

Graduation is a ceremony that I always look forward to; a day when we all gather together as one big family and for me to perform one of my numerous duties as the Chancellor of this great University, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, by conferring degrees on deserving graduates and honourees. It is an annual ritual but a very significant one which climaxes the activities of the University for an

academic year. On behalf of the University Council, Convocation and the entire members of staff, I welcome you to the 52nd Congregation Ceremony.

A special welcome goes to Ms. Reeta Roy, the CEO of MasterCard Foundation who would be honoured by this University for leading an organisation whose vision is to support the advancement of the teeming youth in Africa. Over a 10-year period, her organisation is investing 20 million US dollars in the University to educate 700 needy but brilliant scholars. Reeta, we say *Akwaaba*.

At each graduation ceremony, as the Chancellor, I choose to deliberate on some key issues I deem to be of significant importance both to the University and society at large, for the attention of Government. This year, I have chosen to highlight the following:

ENROLMENT AND RESOURCES

In all respects, the free Senior High School (SHS) is a laudable policy and when properly executed we as a nation would applaud it. In the next two years, the first batch of students under the free SHS policy will come out and this will double the number of students seeking enrolment into our tertiary institutions. This is a reality we cannot pretend to be unaware of. The potential increase in enrolment at the tertiary level would require corresponding increase in resources, both financial and human to be able to cope with the student numbers. The time to act is now. I therefore call on the Ministry of Education, the National Council for Tertiary Education and the Vice Chancellors Ghana to get to the drawing board and start planning on how to effectively handle this imminent increase in demand for university education in the country. I wish that Vice-Chancellors would take this call seriously because if the problem is allowed to 'hatch' the chicken will be left at your doorstep to nurse.

FUNDING OF INFRASTRUCTURAL WORKS IN THE UNIVERSITY

My second issue is about funding of infrastructural works in the University. On May 23, 2018, I took the liberty to visit and inspect on-going

infrastructural projects on this campus. I observed that efforts are being made to provide additional lecture spaces and laboratories for our students. I must commend Management for the judicious application of Internally Generated Funds (IGF) to provide infrastructure and create a conducive environment for teaching and learning. I must, however, add that a lot more needs to be done. Let me give one instance; since the completion of Unity Hall in 1967, there has not been any serious and visible attempt by Government at providing additional halls of residence. Any additional residential spaces you see on campus has come through private funding. This has resulted in the rather unpleasant yet pragmatic on-campus student accommodation policy where only first year students are provided with accommodation in the traditional halls of residence. It is sad to note that, pragmatic though this policy may be, the traditional halls of residence cannot accommodate all the first year students and vulnerable as they are to their new environment, they are left to find accommodation elsewhere. Currently, the University has about seventy percent of her students staying outside the traditional halls of residence with its security and mobility challenges. If enrolment has to increase, then the time to act to support the provision of additional halls of residence is now.

STUDENT-TEACHER RATIO

Ladies and gentlemen, it is worrying to note that the University does not have the requisite number of faculty members for effective teaching and research. Our faculty is not only ageing but the student-teacher ratio is out of proportion. In the more developed countries, a student-teacher ratio of 19:1 is considered not good enough. Given our circumstances, to have a ratio of close to 50:1 does not bode well at all for a research institution as ours. The situation is no better for the administrative and support staff of the university. This situation is having a negative effect on teaching and learning and could get worse if pragmatic policies are not put in place to address the situation before the free SHS students enter the Universities. This year, I am told the Government gave the University 100 vacancies to fill. We trust that in the ensuing years, the Government would increase that number significantly to at least half the ratio to a

respectable 25:1. This should enable the University fulfil its mandate of not only continuing to provide the manpower backbone of the country but also provide the succinct research base to power this country. I am sure the Vice-Chancellor would rehash these concerns with more details about this issue in his report to congregation.

TEACHING HOSPITAL PROJECT

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, my last issue is on the Teaching Hospital project. This project began in 2008 with a lot of fanfare, enthusiasm and with so much promise in the health delivery, particularly for the northern sector of the country, considering the strategic location of Kumasi. Unfortunately, the Project has had to come to a standstill due to financial constraints. This concern, has been mentioned in my previous addresses to this august gathering and I want to reiterate once again, for Government assistance to complete the project.

A WORD TO THE GRADUANDS

In ending my address, distinguished ladies and gentlemen I want to reserve my parting words for the distinguished achievers for whose cause we are all gathered here; the graduands.

On a day such as today, the joys of the day make one forget many things. One may forget toiling into the night for weeks on end or the comforts and opportunities forgone to make this day a possibility; one may forget the life lessons of failing an examination.

Parents may momentarily forget the sweat of their brows that transformed barren lands into flourishing farms that sustained many graduands here; they may forget the pain of deprivation. For the married, your spouses will forget the longevity of your absence and the coldness of your side of bed.

Many things will be forgotten but as a graduate you owe yourself a reminder, that the journey is long and no matter the setbacks you encounter on the way, you must stay on course.

Today we live in a society where opportunities for evil abound. Many of us fall prey to envy, corruption, greed, lust, pride, and wrath because it is

convenient to do so. The path of truth and honesty is becoming a decongested street for want of choice by many of us. The premium that was paid to truth is slowly losing its currency. That is the society we live in!

Your country looks up to you for leadership. The communities that you came from look up to you for inspiration. In the absence of humility and good morals, your achievements, however stellar, will amount to naught.

Graduands, we send you into the world as our ambassadors. You will be faced with many odds including those hell bent on keeping you down, and stifling your growth. In the light of all these, never lose hope, never despair and certainly light yourself another candle! Let me borrow this quote to guide you:

“Do all the other things, the ambitious things—travel, get rich, get famous, innovate, lead, fall in love, make and lose fortunes...but as you do, to the extent that you can, err in the direction of kindness.”

Let me congratulate all of you for the successful completion of your programmes at this great institution. You have worked hard to deserve the precious and enviable certificates of this great University. As you go out into the world of work, see whatever you do as service to God and to mankind. Be men and women of principles and integrity. Live above reproach and if an “*Anas*” is looking for someone to investigate, let it not be you. Go out into the society and make a difference. *Ayeekoo.*

In closing, let me use this forum to commend the Management, convocation, staff and students for another successful academic year. Your commitment and fortitude in what you do have paid off and is the result of what we are about to witness shortly.

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS US ALL.

**OTUMFUO OSEI-TUTU II, ASANTEHENE
CHANCELLOR, KNUST, KUMASI
JULY 14, 2018**

**ADDRESS DELIVERED BY PROF. KWASI OBIRI-DANSO,
VICE-CHANCELLOR OF THE UNIVERSITY AT THE 52ND
CONGREGATION CEREMONY OF THE UNIVERSITY HELD
ON SATURDAY, 14TH JULY, 2018 AT 10.00 A.M. IN THE
GREAT HALL, KNUST**

SALUTATION

His Royal Majesty, Otumfuo Osei Tutu II, Asantehene and Chancellor
Chairman and Members of the University Council
Our Special Guest of Honour, Ms Reeta Roy, CEO of MasterCard
Foundation
Honourable Ministers of State and Members of Parliament
Vice-Chancellors from sister Universities
Pro Vice-Chancellor and Pro Vice-Chancellors of Sister Universities
Former Vice-Chancellors and Pro Vice-Chancellors
Registrar and Registrars from Sister Universities
Provosts of Colleges
Beloved Class of 2018 including the pioneer class of the MCF Scholarship
Scheme and Doctor of Pharmacy
Deans and Directors
Heads of Department
Nananom
Members of Convocation
Representatives from our Affiliate Institutions
Alumni of the University
Senior and Junior Staff
Parents and Guardians
Distinguished Invited Guests
Members of the Media
Ladies and Gentlemen

INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

On behalf of the Chancellor, Management and the entire staff of this
great institution, it is my pleasure to warmly welcome you all to our

beautiful campus and to this morning's graduation ceremony being the last of our 2018 July Congregation. This year's graduation has two important milestones:

First, the graduation of the pioneer batch of 142 Doctor of Pharmacy students after a 6-year training.

Second, the graduation of 50 pioneer students of the fully funded MasterCard Foundation Scholars Program.

A special welcome also goes to Ms. Reeta Roy, the Chief Executive Officer of the MasterCard Foundation through whose instrumentality, more than 700 deprived students of this University have been given full scholarships covering their academic facility user fees, residential facility user fees and a stipend every month.

Reeta was to have been honoured during our Special Congregation held last November, but could not make it due to other global assignments she was engaged in. Thankfully, she is here today as our Special Guest and would be honoured in the course of the programme.

GRADUATING STATISTICS

Nana Chancellor, distinguished ladies and gentlemen, I have the pleasure to inform you that, at this year's July Congregation, we are graduating **6,528** specially prepared and practically-oriented graduates. Out of this number, **5,848** are being conferred with undergraduate degrees while **680** are being conferred with graduate degrees. There are also **61** candidates who are being awarded their terminal degree of a PhD.

The College by College breakdown is as follows:

- **913** - College of Art and Built Environment;
- **551** - College of Agriculture & Natural Resources;
- **862** - College of Engineering;
- **804** - College of Health Sciences;

- **1,702** - College of Humanities & Social Sciences;
- **910** - College of Science and
- **786** - Institute of Distance Learning

I, particularly want to congratulate my staff, some of whom are in their prime twilight years but still made time through thick and thin to obtain their PhDs.

This year, the **OVERALL BEST GRADUATING student in the University comes from the College of Engineering;**

- **Mr. Blessed Charles AMANKWAH-AMOA, from Petroleum Engineering with a CWA of 82.41. He receives the “VICE-CHANCELLOR’S AWARD”.**
- **The Second BEST OVERALL GRADUATING student in the University is a FEMALE - Ms Constance Akossiwa EFIO-AKOLLY from the Department of Civil Engineering with a CWA of 82.39.**

Out of the **5,848** undergraduates, **659**, representing **11.30%** obtained First Class Honours. **2,843** Second Class Upper Division representing **48.60%**, **1,748** Second Class Lower Division representing **29.90%** and **596** representing **10.20%** obtained a Pass.

Nana Chancellor, distinguished ladies and gentlemen, significant efforts have been made by the University in the areas of research, industrial and professional engagements, capacity building, infrastructure development, short training programmes and participation in conferences. Permit me to highlight a few for the year under review.

INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

Management of the University have been planning ahead of the influx of candidates from the Government’s free senior high school policy. We are of the candid opinion that our physical environment has a direct bearing on the learning outcomes of our students and so we have initiated some

projects aimed at putting us in a better position to support teaching and research.

We are at various stages of completing:

- A 5-Storey Social Sciences Complex;
- A 4-Storey Post-Graduate School of Business Complex;
- A 4-Storey Nursing School Complex;
- A 4-Storey School of Medical Sciences Duplex,
- A 5-Storey Regional Water and Sanitation Centre of Excellence Complex;
- 9-Storey College of Art and Built Environment Complex which will all together deliver classroom spaces for 15,000 more students to be enrolled in addition to our normal yearly intake of 12,000 students.

AFRICAN QUALITY RATING MECHANISM (AQRM) PROCESS

Nana Chancellor, in our quest to achieve our vision of becoming one of the top ten universities in Africa, the University invited the African Quality Rating Mechanism (AQRM) Team to visit us to assess our systems and procedures. The aim was to inspect our teaching and learning facilities, evaluate the quality of our infrastructure and material resources, evaluate the quality of students' support services, academic staff profile in terms of qualifications and rank as well as inspect relevant documents and policies that guide our conduct.

KNUST was highly commended by the team for submitting to the evaluation process. By that feat, KNUST becomes the first university in Ghana to submit to AQRM process and thus, becoming a role model, not only for universities in Ghana but others in the West African Sub-Region as well.

Nana Chancellor, I am happy to report that after the review process, KNUST was rated to be of *Good Quality* (3.25), which is next to exceptional in the scale of the AQRM and I commend all members of staff, students and other stakeholders for their contribution in this regard.

To maintain our academic excellence and international visibility, there is an annual competition amongst our academic and research Departments. This is;

- The Best Academic Department won by the Department of Mathematics
- Second, Department of Civil Engineering and
- Third, Department of Physics

With the Research Institutes, the Best is the

- Bureau of Integrated Rural Development
- Second, the Centre for Settlement Studies and
- Third, the Centre for Culture and African Studies

PROFESSORIAL RESEARCH CHAIR IN PETROLEUM ENGINEERING

Nana Chancellor, on Friday 8th June, the University signed an agreement with the Ghana National Petroleum Corporation to establish a Professorial Research Chair in Petroleum Engineering at the College of Engineering with a seed money of **One Million Dollars** over four years. To also support and complement our efforts towards strengthening our education in the areas of Science, Technology Engineering and Mathematics, GNPC has provided **GHC 2,436,000** as scholarship money to 240 students to cover tuition, accommodation and monthly stipend.

Tullow Oil has also provided **US\$400,000** over four years to support programmes in Engineering and this is in the form of scholarships for 30 students each year from the communities that Tullow is operating.

Nana Chancellor, I would also want to use this platform to thank our numerous other benefactors who have contributed in various ways towards the development of our dear University. I say God bless you all.

SOME INITIATIVES

The Government's new initiative on transforming teacher education and learning (T-TEL) is bold and commendable. You may recall that in 2017, Cabinet approved the Teacher Education Reform Policy that sought to radically redesign Teacher Education to improve the quality of teaching at the basic level.

As part of the reforms, Colleges of Education are to be converted into University Colleges and affiliated to the public universities that would serve as mentor institutions to these Colleges. Every teacher at whatever level in Ghana, will now have to have a Bachelor's degree as the basic qualification to qualify him/her to teach at all levels. This is the way to go and I commend Government for this initiative.

I am also happy that KNUST is involved in this transformation. I am sure the Nursing Colleges we are already mentoring may be next. A basic college degree in the 21st century for any country like ours hoping to develop needs this transformation as a vital tool for an educated work force.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, the role of women in society has evolved from being passive to active. The gender gap especially in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) is unacceptable. For this reason, KNUST has taken up the challenge to establish a *Women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (WiSTEM)* desk at the Office of the Vice-Chancellor to build the capacity of women in STEM for national development and among others, facilitate scientific, technological and leadership capabilities of women.

This would greatly stimulate the interest of young females in choosing careers in STEM and encourage them to become role models through mentorship and leadership programmes. This August, WiSTEM will bring together 100 girls from selected SHS for a 6 - day workshop on campus.

As a country, ICT will be the surest way to advance our economy. In April, 2018, the World Bank, through the Ministry of Communication's e-Transform Project granted KNUST an amount of US\$500,000 for the establishment of an Innovation Hub within the Kumasi Business Incubator.

The objective of the KNUST I-Hub is to create a conducive atmosphere, and Co-Worker Space with the highest bandwidth connectivity where people who intend to create ICT-related innovative ideas can sit with like-minds to ideate, design, and develop prototypes, towards commercialisation. The entire project seeks to bring qualitative change and standards to Made-in-Ghana products and there is 30% women participation in the project.

Ladies and gentlemen, our One District One Factory has started production. You will recall that a year ago, I mentioned that KNUST in partnership with Knights Ghana Limited and the Sunyani Greenfield Cooperative Mango Producers and Marketing Society Limited and the Mentukwa Community have built a fruit-processing facility at Mentukwa in the Sunyani West District of the Brong Ahafo Region.

The facility is part of efforts to enhance the livelihoods of people, reduce post-harvest losses and to provide ready market to local farmers in the communities. The factory is now in full operation and producing 350 to 450 litres of mango, orange or pineapple fruit juice concentrate per hour. We have an off taker and the facility will be commissioned before the end of the year.

RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

Nana Chancellor, in the areas of research and innovation, the University has made some giant strides.

- Dr. (Mrs.) Cynthia Amaning Danquah of the Department of Pharmacology, was featured extensively by the BBC for her research into how to use onions to tackle antibiotic resistance in infectious diseases globally.

- Prof. Kwabena Ofori-Kwakye and his team from our Department of Pharmaceutics are also researching into the potential use of some cassava varieties as substitutes for imported maize starch in the pharmaceutical industry. This will serve as a binding agent in the pharmaceutical industry for the manufacture of tablets, capsules and other dosage forms. The pharmaceutical industry currently imports millions of dollars of maize starch annually from Europe and Asia for the manufacture of various pharmaceutical products in Ghana.

The successful development of these native starches from locally-available improved cassava varieties into pharmaceutical grade excipients will reduce the importation of maize starch and save the nation scarce foreign exchange.

- Rev. Dr. Charles Anum Adams and his team of researchers from our Department of Civil Engineering, have also been researching into the use of the everyday plastic waste to produce bitumen for road construction.

Their findings show that the addition of polymers or polythene would help to reduce bitumen surfaced road pavement problems such as water damage through potholes, loss of aggregates, permanent deformation and cracking.

We are all fully aware of the level of damage our environment is suffering from the improper disposal of plastic waste. Therefore, if we use a material which is locally available and a nuisance to the environment, we will surely be killing two birds with one stone. We would also be constructing far cheaper roads compared to the use of the conventional Evaloy PMB bitumen and get more durable roads.

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL AWARDS

In the course of the year, Nana Chancellor, several staff of the University won some prestigious national and international awards. Some of these are:

- Four faculty members from our School of Business won best paper awards at the Biennial Conference of the Africa Academy of Management. They are Dr. (Mrs.) Felicity Asiedu-Appiah, Dr. Hannah Vivian Osei, Dr. Henry Kofi Mensah and Dr. Ahmed Agyapong.
- Dr. Daniel Sakyi, of our Department of Economics, has been awarded a three-year Senior Fellowship by VW with a grant amount of 204,800 Euros to work on the topic “*Seaports Efficiency, Choice and Productivity Growth in ECOWAS Countries*”. The project seeks to unveil the level and determinants of efficiency of African seaports with a focus on seaports in ECOWAS countries.

Congratulations to our distinguished researchers for raising the name of the University high and to you who for want of time, could not be mentioned.

My students as usual continue to soar.

- Our Faculty of Law Moot Court Team won the Ghana Qualifying Rounds of the Philip C. Jessup Moot Court Competition, held at GIMPA from 6th to 8th February, 2018. Having won the same competition last year, we were the defending champions and won it again this year and I am told this is the first time in the history of the competition that a University has won the award back to back. Our team, thus, qualified as Ghana’s sole representative and participated in the White & Case International

Rounds of the Jessup Moot Court Competition which took place in Washington DC from 1st to 7th April 2018.

➤ I am happy to inform you that the Ghana Standards Authority organised the 5th ARSO Essay Competition for university students below the age of 35 on “*The role of quality infrastructure and standardisation in facilitating trade and sustainable development within the African continental free trade area*”.

After the competition, the first, second and third positions were all won by students of this University.

- First position, Emmanuel Young, a second year Biological Sciences student
- Second position, by Sampson Dwomoh, a final year Actuarial Science student and
- Third position, by Mbamba Crispin Rakibu, a third year Social Work student.

➤ Miss Priscilla Wepia Ametame, a third-year student of the Faculty of Law, received the following awards and honours:

- Recipient of Resolution Fellowship Award
- Recipient of Overall Best Delegate and
- Most Outstanding Delegate award in the Social, Cultural and Humanitarian Committee at the Harvard National Model United.

EVENTS

Nana Chancellor, the University was privileged to host His Excellency the President of the Republic, Nana Addo Dankwa Akuffo Addo for the launching of the National Builders Corps programme here in the Great Hall of the University on 1st May, 2018.

The University also received the Chancellor, Otumfuo Osei Tutu II on 23rd May 2018 for a day’s working visit to inspect ongoing projects. He also unveiled a monument in honour of the first Sports Director of the University, the late Arthur Hercules Ratnadurai Joseph, popularly known

as Paa Joe at the Paa Joe Stadium and cut the sod for the construction of a 9-Storey Lecture Hall Complex for the College of Art and Built Environment and a 3-Storey Lecture Hall for the School of Medical Sciences.

An 8-Member delegation from the Board of Mastercard Foundation led by the CEO, Reeta Roy, visited the University on June 18th 2018. Their visit was to hold discussions with management and interact with some of the beneficiaries on their community engagement activities. They also paid a courtesy call on the Chancellor at his palace in Manhyia. They also had a treat from Otumfuo's sumptuous lunch box.

Nana Chancellor, I am aware that many of our visitors to the campus for the July congregation sessions have been wondering whether or not KNUST has gone mad.

No, not yet. We are only celebrating one of our own.

➤ In 2015, Ibrahim Mahama, a young graduate of KNUST surprised the art world with a giant walk-through installation of old jute sacks at the *Venice Biennale*. The *Venice Biennale* is known as the Olympics of the art world. There, the 28-year old Ghanaian artist set the record as the youngest participant ever.

Two years later, history repeated itself when he was again selected to participate in *Documenta*, the World Cup of the art world. Today, we find ourselves congregating inside the artist Ibrahim Mahama's immersive installation project.

Assisted by a team of 14 collaborators led by Bintu Mahama, a *kayayo*, and Alhassan Abdallah, a tractor driver, Ibrahim Mahama has draped the Great Hall of KNUST with a giant tapestry of old jute sacks. The jute sacks, when they were new, carried cocoa beans to Ghana's harbours. Yet, the cocoa beans got their visas, crossed the Atlantic, and left the jute sacks behind.

In their second life, the jute sacks were used by traders to transport charcoal and other commodities which finally get into our homes.

Ibrahim Mahama exchanges new sacks for used sacks and sows them into large tapestries which have draped giant structures and buildings across many cities in Africa, Europe, Asia and America. The old sacks marked by signatures and traces of their users, are also portraits and memorials of Ghana's silent labour force who get things done but are written off history.

Ibrahim Mahama's work is a social intervention in disguise. To undertake his projects, he forms loose collectives with Ghana's economic and social underclass, exploited migrants and the precariat of urban environments who like the rejected jute sacks are used over and over again by the global capitalist apparatus.

Mahama re-channels proceeds from these projects into social programmes for the underclass. This is the invisible aspect of his work but the most profound. Currently, Ibrahim Mahama is pursuing a PhD in Fine Art at the Faculty of Art, KNUST.

He is ranked among the Top 20 Artists in the world and currently the most valuable young African artist. He recently emerged as the second-highest selling living artist at Sotheby's Auction for Contemporary African Art and a Primary Market Sale of over **US\$3,000,000**.

His social interventions also extend to his alma mater through scholarships to students, pro bono services and donation of equipment. He is collected by blue chip Museums of Contemporary Art and represented by the White Cube Gallery in London and Apalazzo Gallery in Brescia, Italy. This exhibition on the Great Hall cost more than 2 million Dollars.

ADVICE TO GRADUANDS

Graduation is an emotional time. You are happy to be done and proud of your accomplishments but sad to leave your friends and mentors and may

be a bit anxious about what lies ahead. As you look at the faces of your parents and family members, you are grateful for their love and support.

It is especially gratifying to see so many of our distinguished faculty here. You continue to impress me with your commitment to our mission. Through your hard work and dedication, you have helped guide our graduates on a path to lead meaningful and better lives. It is a privilege for me to share this day with you.

I would also like to salute the families, partners and friends who supported these graduating students. We understand the sacrifices you have made. Please know that we appreciate the role you have played in helping these graduates in their journeys.

I would want to also add my voice to that of our Chancellor to congratulate you all for your sterling achievements. You would agree with me that, the months you have spent here to attain graduate education has been worthwhile and I must say that we are all very happy about your discipline and achievement.

You will be sworn in in the course of the programme as members of the KNUST Alumni Association and would be expected to actively participate in the activities of the Alumni Association. You must be proud to belong to this noble institution.

As I bring my address to a close, I pray the good Lord listens to your prayers. He will be your mighty rock and fortress so in Him, you will be safe. He will lead and guide you. May the Lord continue to protect you from every hidden traps of the enemy and safeguard your security and safety.

God bless you and thank you for your audience.

PROFESSOR KWASI OBIRI-DANSO

VICE-CHANCELLOR, KNUST

14TH JULY, 2018