

CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL'S OPENING REMARKS AT
OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF UG'S 70TH ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATIONS,
ON TUESDAY, 20TH FEBRUARY, 2018

Members of the University Council
Honourable Minister of Education
Minister in charge of Higher Education
Ministers of State here present
Vice-Chancellor
Pro-Vice-Chancellors, Registrar, Provosts and other officials of the
University
Members of the Diplomatic Corps
Members of Convocation
Members of the 70th Anniversary Planning Committee
Staff and Students of the University of Ghana
Members of the Press Corps
Distinguished ladies and gentlemen:

Good morning

Today, we launch a year-long celebration to mark the 70th Anniversary of the establishment of the University of Ghana.

Let me start by extending special greetings and best wishes of HE Kofi Annan, Chancellor of the University, who is unable to join us today.

The University has indeed come a long way since August 11, 1948, when it came into being as the University College of the Gold Coast. It is important that we recall memorable experiences, achievements, problems and learning experiences that the University has encountered over the last seven decades.

We have achieved a lot. But we have also experienced great difficulties as an academic institution. We have a great ambition to become a world class, research – oriented university. Such

universities have certain hallmarks and we have to think carefully about these as we chart new paths for the future aimed at attaining our vision of becoming a world class university.

Yes, we are celebrating our 70th anniversary, but we will not rest on our laurels as one of the finest universities on the African continent. We are celebrating and commemorating our achievements as a university poised to challenge its employees and students to embrace new ways of operating, teaching and learning. It is the aim of the University Council to guide the University of Ghana towards taking its place as one of the most renowned and respected universities in the world, influencing the futures of individuals and our dear nation, Ghana.

The University's mission is to create an enabling environment that makes it increasingly relevant to national and global developments through first class research, as well as high quality teaching and learning.

I trust that we can count on the cooperation of all stakeholders, both internal and external, to work towards a successful anniversary year.

I intend to be brief and will end here and call other officials to speak on various matters related to the anniversary celebrations.

I now call on the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ebenezer Oduro Owusu to deliver his address.

**CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL'S CLOSING REMARKS AT
OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF UG'S 70TH ANNIVERSARY**

Members of the University Council
Honourable Minister of Education
Distinguished Ladies and gentlemen

This has indeed been hopefully a very successful launch and hope it is a foretaste of what is to come in the course of the year.

At this juncture, I would like to acknowledge the contribution of all former Chairmen of Council and all past and present members of Council; all the past Vice-Chancellors, UG officials, employees and students, who have done their part to make the University of Ghana what it is today. As you have helped shape University of Ghana, no doubt, University of Ghana has also shaped you. We look forward to your active participation in what promises to be an exciting year of celebrations.

To the members of government present, we are grateful for the support the University of Ghana has received from the present government and hope successive governments will behave likewise. We will however, continue to ask for more support, particularly in terms of funding, so that we can achieve all the targets that we have set for ourselves; we are hopeful that government will kindly oblige our requests.

I would like to congratulate the Chairperson and members of the Anniversary Planning Committee for all the hard work they have done so far, and all that they will continue to do throughout this year.

To our Alumni, wherever you find yourselves, we urge you all to be worthy ambassadors of your *alma mater*.

To you, the current officials, employees and students I hope to see you at all the activities planned for the year. Let us pledge to do our part to leave UG an even better place than it was when you joined it.

I call on all units involved in carrying out various activities in connection with the anniversary to give of their best, for this is a good opportunity to serve the University and all its various institutions.

I would like to end by emphasizing that this is **OUR** anniversary, we all have to be active participants and embrace the celebrations and play our part to ensure its success.

Long live the University of Ghana, long live Ghana, and God bless us all!