

CHRISTIAN SERVICE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

35TH GRADUATION CEREMONY – 2011

ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT

1. SALUTATION

- Your Majesty, Otumfuo Osei Tutu II, the Asantehene
- Chairman of the University College Council and Members of the Board of Trustees and Council Members
- Your Excellencies, Members of the Diplomatic Corps
- Nananom
- Members of the Clergy
- Vice Chancellor of the University of Ghana, Presidents, Principals/Rectors of Sister Universities
- Registrars of Sister Universities
- Guest Speaker – Dr. Michael Agyekum Addo
- Heads of Departments
- Alumni of the University College
- Members of Convocation
- Faculty Members
- Senior and Junior Staff
- Parents and Guardians
- Excited Graduands and CSUC Class of 2010
- Members of the Media
- Distinguished Invited Guests
- Ladies and Gentlemen

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

On behalf of the Management of Christian Service University College, I welcome you all to the 35th Graduation Ceremony. Today, by God's grace, our hard working students have reached another milestone; they have fulfilled all requirements for the award of various degrees and diplomas at this graduation ceremony.

Mr. Chairman, a total of 572 students have completed their programmes in Business Administration, Computer Science, Communication Studies, and Theology. The breakdown is as follows:

CATEGORIZATION BY CLASS AND GENDER

CLASS	TOTAL	GENDER	
		MALE	FEMALE
1 ST CLASS (HONS)	30	20	10
2 ND CLASS UPPER (HONS)	132	81	51
2 ND CLASS LOWER (HONS)	333	185	148
3 RD CLASS (HONS)	37	16	21
PASS	40	23	17
TOTAL	572	325	247

Please join me in congratulating the Christian Service University College (CSUC) class of 2011 for their sterling performance.

Mr. Chairman, this Congregation enjoins us also to take stock of our activities and progress, over the last one year, the details of which are documented in the **CSUC 2010/2011 Annual Report**.

Our University College is driven by our mission which states:

"The Christian Service University College seeks to be an internationally recognized academic centre of excellence for teaching and research in Theology, Information Technology, Business and Liberal Arts, in an ecumenical and sound ethical environment to all persons of diverse backgrounds".

In line with this mission, CSUC continues to train and equip graduates not only with the requisite academic and professional knowledge, but with faith in Christ and a strong sense of moral uprightness for national development. The University College has pursued its mission over the years by continuously improving teaching and learning, upgrading infrastructure as well as strengthening the caliber of staff and creating a sound and fertile environment for Spiritual development. Mr. Chairman, permit me therefore, to mention some of the activities and progress we have made over the last one year.

ACCREDITATION & INSTITUTIONAL STANDARDS

The University College fulfilled the requirements by the National Accreditation Board (NAB) for the establishment of a four-year Bachelor of Science Nursing degree programme. The affiliation for the B.Sc. Nursing programme was granted earlier by the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science & Technology. We are pursuing the professional accreditation for the programme with the Nurses and Midwives' Council. We are also working on the following new programmes for accreditation.

These are:

- Bachelor of Business Administration (Purchasing and Supply Chain Management)
- Bachelor of Science in Information Technology
- Bachelor of Arts in Community Development
- Master of Arts in Christian Ministry and Management

One of our core values as a University College, Mr. Chairman, is to pursue excellence and maintain high standards in line with our vision to become a world-class University. We have therefore established a Quality Assurance Unit to check, enforce, and maintain the highest quality standards in research, teaching and learning, and service delivery. This unit is headed by an officer with a professorial rank.

STAFF AND INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Chairman, our University College continues to attract and recruit high caliber of academic and non-academic staff with the requisite professional qualifications and professional experience. As an institution that strives for academic excellence, moral uprightness, faith commitment and effective mentoring of our students, a solid Christian background is a key pre-requisite for joining our team. In view of this, I am happy to mention that we have engaged the services of a full-time Chaplain, who heads our Chaplaincy Unit. The Chaplain will be devoted primarily to nurturing the spiritual health and vitality of our staff and students.

Touching on infrastructural development, the University College is constructing a six-storey students' hostel facility. This project is being funded entirely from internally generated funds. The hostel facility is expected to be completed soon. The construction of an ultra-modern Library – ICT complex to cater for the expanding student/staff population is already in progress.

PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT & FUND-RAISING

Mr. Chairman, Universities throughout the world are fostering global linkages to enhance collaborative research and academic partnerships. A CSUC team visited a number of world-class Christian Universities in the United States of America last year, on a partnership development and educational programme. Officials from Eastern

University in Pennsylvania followed up on a reciprocal visit. This led to the signing of a partnership agreement in March 2011 with Eastern University. In furtherance of this partnership, two (2) CSUC faculty members were invited to Eastern University as visiting scholars last October.

Soon, CSUC will welcome the first batch of international students from Eastern University, and hopefully, from Spring Arbor University in Michigan. We expect some CSUC faculty and students to visit Eastern University soon. We also hope to collaborate with Eastern University regarding our new programme in Nursing.

Mr. Chairman, CSUC cannot meet its growing academic and infrastructural development needs adequately without funding. The University College is therefore strategizing to expand its income generating base and to launch a major fund-raising campaign within the next three (3) years.

Mr. Chairman with the help of our alumni, friends and partners, as well as the goodwill among the evangelical Christian community, CSUC hopes to raise three million US Dollars (\$3,000,000.00) over the next three (3) years. The fund-raising initiative will support our ultra modern Library – ICT building complex, and also assist needy but brilliant students to secure higher education. A committee has been inaugurated to oversee this bold initiative. The fund-raising campaign will be launched formally at a ceremony of CSUC Friends and Partners early next year.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES

As part of our Corporate Responsibility Strategy, the Council has approved Scholarships for three (3) indigenes of Odeneho Koradaso, (the stool land on which the University College stands) who meet the admission requirements of the University College. The scholarship which covers full tuition fees only would be for brilliant but needy students for every four (4) years.

RECOGNITION OF FACULTY MEMBERS AND STAFF

Our celebration of the success of our graduating students has become possible through the joint effort of our hardworking and dedicated Faculty members and the perseverance of our students. I am convinced that the class of 2011 will forever be grateful to these faithful Faculty members. May I kindly request that with a standing ovation you express your appreciation and gratitude to these your mentors.

Mr. Chairman, on this august occasion, I would like to take the opportunity to express my gratitude to all the supporting staff – Administrative, Finance and all others through whose diligent effort and commitment we have come this far.

APPRECIATION TO PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

The parents and guardians of our graduating students have contributed immensely and sacrificed a lot to bring them to where we are now. We are extremely grateful to you all. Can we please demonstrate our appreciation to them with a big clap?

FRIENDS OF CSUC

Our friends are an important asset to us and they comprise all those who share our vision to enable us attain our goals. They have contributed in diverse ways towards the development of the University College. It is our plan to organize and welcome you to an alumni, friends home-coming celebration early next year. We will continue to count on your assistance. May the Lord richly bless you all.

ADVICE TO OUR GRADUANDS

You have been armed with academic excellence, you have been provided with the necessary tools for your hands and heart. Your success and survival in life will depend on how you diligently apply these resources under the control and direction of the Lord without whom all things become vanity of vanities (Ecclesiastes 2).

I would like to leave you with a quotation from Isaiah 48:17-19.

"This is what the Lord says – your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: I am the Lord your God, who teaches you what is best for you, who directs you in the way you should go. If only you had paid attention to my commands, your peace would have been like a river, your righteousness like the waves of the sea. Your descendants would have been like the sand, your children like its numberless grains; their name would never be cut off nor destroyed from before me."

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, permit me, Mr. Chairman, Invited guests, ladies and gentlemen, to express our heartfelt appreciation to the Board of Trustees, Council Members and staff, for their unalloyed commitment and hard work in moving CSUC forward, for Christ and His Kingdom.

Thank you.

PROF. EMMANUEL FREMPONG
PRESIDENT
17TH DECEMBER, 2011