

## Acceptance Speech by the Newly Appointed Chancellor

Esteemed Chairman and Members of the University Council, Acting Vice Chancellor, Deans, Distinguished Faculty and Staff, Most and Rt. Reverend Bishops and Archbishop Emeritus, Honourable Members of the Clergy. Beloved Students, Valued Alumni, Esteemed Guests, and Friends of the University,

I stand before you today with deep humility, trepidation and profound gratitude as I accept the honour of serving as the first Chancellor of this distinguished chartered institution, Christian Service University. This appointment is both a personal privilege and a solemn responsibility-one I embrace with an unwavering commitment to our shared mission and vision.

As we gather to mark this significant milestone, I wish first to pay heartfelt tribute to the pioneering fathers, mothers, and friends whose sacrifices and vision laid the foundation of Christian Service University. It is by their tireless labour, steadfast faith, and enduring partnership that our University stands strong today. We are indebted to those who, in the earliest days, sowed the seeds of excellence and nurtured a legacy that continues to flourish.

We honour the WEC Missionaries whose spiritual dedication and practical service shaped our founding ethos. In particular, I wish to recognize Bill and Myra Chapman, the Woodfords, Greg Francis, and the many international partners whose collaboration enriched our journey. We also pay special tribute to their Ghanaian collaborators: Hon Paa William Ofori Atta, Dr. Sodzi, our first Chairman of Council, Dr. Djani, Professor Abeitey, Rev. Dr. Kwabena Darko, Rt. Rev Dr, E. H. Brew Riverson, Rev. Prof. Kwame Bediako and his wife Gillian Bediako, Rev Dr. Isaac Ababio and his wife Grace

Ababio, Mrs Juliana Senavoe and her husband Ransford Senavoe, our colleagues Mr John Ntsiful and his dear wife Elizabeth, Dr. S. B. Adubofuor whose commitment and leadership have been instrumental in our development. The partnership between these visionary individuals and our community is a testament to the power of unity in pursuit of a noble cause.

Let us take a moment to recognise the exceptional leadership and unwavering dedication of our past Council Chairmen and Presidents-both those who have gone before us and those who still serve with distinction. Their visionary stewardship has steered our University through periods of remarkable growth as well as formidable challenges. We honour their legacy, cherishing the indelible mark they have left on our institution. I wish to especially express my deepest gratitude to our immediate past President and first Vice Chancellor, Professor Kofi Affranie, and the immediate past Council Chairman, Rev. Dr. Frimpong Manso and the Past Chairman Mr Sarfo. Their steadfast leadership, strategic foresight, and tireless commitment were instrumental in guiding Christian Service University College into its new chapter as a chartered institution. Their transformative impact will continue to inspire us for generations to come. Furthermore, we acknowledge, with sincere appreciation, the invaluable mentorship and support provided by the University of Ghana, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology and the University of Cape Coast. These renowned institutions have played pivotal roles in our academic development and growth. Indeed, we

stand today on a firm foundation built through the collective efforts of many who believed in our vision and worked tirelessly to bring it to fruition.

To our faculty, whose pursuit of academic distinction and excellence inspires our students and pushes the boundaries of knowledge; to our administrative and support staff, whose dedication ensures the smooth running of our University; and to our vibrant student body, whose energy and aspirations drive us forward-I salute each of you. Together, we form the heartbeat of Christian Service University.

Let this moment be a call to sober reflection, renewed hard work, unity, and partnership. Our progress depends not only on individual effort, but on our collective resolve to support one another, foster inclusion, and uphold the highest moral and academic standards in all we do. We must continue to build upon our rich heritage, embracing diversity, promoting critical thinking, and cultivating a culture of mutual respect and partnership.

At Christian Service University, we are committed to training professionals who serve both God and society with excellence in their chosen fields. Our mission is to nurture men and women of integrity, guided by Christian values and principles, who lead with compassion, ethical conviction, and a profound sense of purpose. Through rigorous academic pursuit, spiritual formation, and service, we empower our graduates to make meaningful contributions-shaping future leaders who will positively impact Ghana and the world at large.

Thank you, once again, for this honour. I look forward to working in partnership with each of you as we embark on this exciting new chapter.

May we always strive for excellence, unity, and the pursuit of knowledge-cherishing the legacy of our pioneers and the vision of all who have led us here. Surely, "we have come this far by faith leaning on the Lord and trusting in His holy word" and we will continue to lean on the Lord in the journey ahead.

Thank you, and may God bless you all.