



CHRISTIAN SERVICE UNIVERSITY KUMASI

OFFICE OF THE ACTING VICE-CHANCELLOR

SPEECH AT THE 49TH CONGREGATION CEREMONY AT CSU DURBAR GROUNDS

THEME: NEW BEGINNING, BRIGHT FUTURE

20TH DECEMBER, 2025

Introduction

The Chancellor, Chairman of Council, Members of the University Council, Otumfour's Representative, Guest Speaker, Registrar, Deans of Faculties, Directors of Units, Heads of Departments, Distinguished Faculty and Staff, Graduands, Alumni, Parents and Guardians, Invited Guests, Media Houses present, and Ladies and Gentlemen. Good morning, and praise be to our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ who is the Author and Finisher of our faith, and the firm foundation of Christian Service University.

Today marks a historic and sacred moment in our journey as a faith-based institution. We have gathered here not only to celebrate the award of our own **degrees, diplomas and** certificates after receiving Presidential Charter in September 2023, but also to reflect on God's faithfulness throughout the decades that have brought us to this remarkable milestone. To Him alone be all the glory!

A Celebration of Achievement and Faithfulness

Christian Service University began as a vision to merge academic excellence with Christian discipleship. Thus, to raise men and women who would transform society through knowledge, service, and godly character. Today, we are here to confer our own degrees and certificates to students and also to confer degrees to our first batch of MA Event Management students. We affirm that the Lord has indeed established the work of our hands. This achievement is not just an institutional success; it is a divine trust to a call to deeper service, higher standards, and greater impact on society. We acknowledge that our charter is a new beginning to innovate, to serve, and to lead with grace. Let me take this opportunity to congratulate all members within CSU community especially our graduands who have **stood** by us in all situations.

Since we attained charter, the University has continued to achieve increased numbers in admission. This September admission session alone received a total number of 1,149 applications and 911 representing 79% accepted the admission offer and have registered. In comparison, the total registered students admitted in the whole 2024/2025 admission was 1002. The 2025/2026 September admitted registered students comprised of 769 undergraduate and 142 postgraduate students which represents 84% and 16% respectively.

As at today, the total registered student enrolment is 3031 and this number will change to about 4,000 based on our projected admission target. The previous year total student population was about 2,705. Quiet interesting is the gender composition of the total student population which is 767 males and 2,097s females which represents 25% and 75% respectively. These statistics have implications for resource distribution particularly washroom allocations, classroom accommodation, tables and chairs, IT resources, and service operational efficiency. Given this increased number of students and its associated challenge, we have taken steps to modernise our classrooms

with IT gadgets, **procurement of** additional chairs and working to expand our IT infrastructure. We have also bought a new 60-seater Tata bus **to augment the bus system in order** to facilitate students' transportations.

Clearly, our city campus here cannot accommodate the potential increase we envisage in future. The University has a 11.5-acre land at Sabin Akrofrom earmarked to be our campus for health programmes. We are calling the investment community to work with us to develop the place for mutual benefits.

Currently, the University has 8 postgraduate, 12 undergraduate, and 1 Diploma programmes on offer. As part of our growth strategy, we have submitted three (3) new programmes to GTEC. The programmes are Bachelor of Law, MA Chaplaincy Studies, and Doctor of Ministry programmes. The MA Chaplaincy Studies and Doctor of Ministry programmes are close to receiving accreditation status and we will advertise them immediately GTEC clears them.

Graduands Statistics

We have gathered here to confer degrees and certificate to 563 graduands. This figure is made up of 235 females which represents 42% and 328 males which constitute 58%. Out of this graduating number, 241 are undergraduate and 283 are postgraduate graduands. There are 39 graduands who will receive certificates in Biblical Studies and certificates in Ministry. **In terms of classes for the undergraduate graduands, 10 students are receiving first class honours, 105 are to be awarded with second class upper division, 141 will receive second class lower division, 25 will be honoured with third class division, and 2 graduands will be awarded with a pass.**

2. Educated to Serve Society

Dear Graduands, your education here is not an end in itself. Christian Service University has trained you to serve society. The mark of a true Christian Service University graduate is not the title you hold but the lives you touch, the communities you uplift, and the ethical leadership you demonstrate at all times and places. Ghana and the world today are yearning for servant leaders who can combine competence with compassion, innovation with humility, and influence with moral courage. As you step out, let your education be a tool for service, not a symbol of status.

Today, we also commission you as the pioneering alumni of Christian Service University under its own charter. You are the foundation of a legacy. We urge you to remain connected to help mentor younger students, contribute resources, support university projects, and represent the University with pride and purpose wherever you go. The strength of any great university lies not only in its infrastructure but also in the commitment of its alumni. Together, let us build an alumni community that is active, influential, and faithful to the ideals of service, scholarship, and spirituality.

My dear Graduands, as you leave this campus, carry with you three guiding virtues:

- Faith — to anchor your journey;
- Integrity — to define your character; and
- Excellence — to distinguish your service.

May your degree be a platform for destiny, not a decoration on paper. The world awaits your contribution to rise and make a difference for God and for country. The Proverbs 22:28 tells us that ‘remove not the ancient landmark which thy fathers have set’. The founders of Christian Service University have established the Lordship of Jesus Christ in all things and never change this mark in your life.

Policies for Private Universities

The contribution of private universities to Ghana’s economy needs no debate. By government’s own design through subsidies to public universities, free education and stress-free policy for first year university students, one is right to argue that education in Ghana is still a social good. This means that government must work through policies and legal amendments to contribute to private universities’ development. Again, private universities are being regulated using the public university model which is not operationally fit. I believe there can be another way to regulate private universities separately from the public ones to foster growth and development. I humbly appeal to Minister of Education, GTEC, GETFund, Council for Independent Universities and all other stakeholders to discuss what can make private universities work for Ghana’s educational needs.

Conclusion

In conclusion, I wish to express my heartfelt appreciation to the Chancellor, Council, Management, Faculty, Staff, Students, Parents, and all who have stood with us through this transformation years.

We also dedicate our charter to God Almighty to bless Christian Service University to remain a beacon of faith, learning, and service to shape generations to lead with integrity and love.

To our Graduands, go forth and serve. Be light in darkness, salt in decay, and hope in despair. The world is your field to serve with excellence, integrity, and Christ-like leadership.

Congratulations, Class of 2025. May God bless you, and may God bless Christian Service University.

Thank you.