

Chancellor, Chairman of the University Council, the Acting Vice Chancellor, the Congregation Speaker, Members of the University Council, Registrar, Deans, Members of Convocation, Distinguished Guests, Alumni, Families, the Media, Graduating class of 2025, Ladies and Gentlemen. I am honored to stand before you as the Valedictorian of our year group and to be the voice addressing this congregation on behalf of my class.

Today, we are clothed with glory and honor, the crowning moment for a long journey we have fought with grace, perseverance and hard work. A journey that began four years ago when we received our admission letters from the Registrar. I remember the struggles we faced learning how to register our first courses on the Moodle, the late night study sessions, writing exams, missing important family ceremonies and social occasions because lectures and assignments would not wait and for some of us combining work and family responsibilities to our academic responsibilities. This journey has been nothing short of a journey of faith, perseverance and hard work.

What we are witnessing today would not have been possible without the immeasurable grace of the Almighty God. In Genesis 1:1, the Bible declares, "In the beginning, God..." Unto Him be all the glory and honor for beginning this chapter with us and faithfully bringing us to its completion.

As we reflect on our academic journey, we are reminded of Nelson Mandela's words: "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." These words resonate deeply with us, especially as CSU celebrated its 50th anniversary just a year ago, five decades of shaping human capital with excellence and integrity. Our journey here stands as a testament to that legacy. For this, we express our heartfelt appreciation to the governing council of the University.

I also wish to acknowledge the great offices within our institution whose relentless efforts have shaped us morally and academically, preparing us to make meaningful contributions to the world.

I want to specially appreciate the exceptional work of our Head of Departments and Deans. In particular, I acknowledge my Dean the Dean of the School of Business, Nana Danso Boafo (Mr.) and Dr. Ernest Obeng the Head of Department of Accounting.

Our time here has also been blessed by lecturers who exemplified selflessness and unwavering commitment. They inspired us not only with academic knowledge but also with life lessons that continue to guide and mentor us.

The last few days have been filled with admiration and excitement from our families and friends who are here to celebrate us today. We could not have done this without you. Your prayers, emotional support and financial sacrifices made this moment possible, and for that we are deeply grateful.

To my graduating class of 2025, today marks a significant milestone as we transition into the world to become agents of the change we want to see in our societies. Allow me to leave you

with three voices that have shaped my own understanding of why we were educated all of them pointing us to a life of service, a calling that gives purpose and fulfillment to life.

First, from the lips of the greatest man who ever lived: in Matthew 20:28, Jesus said, “Just as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve.”

Mother Teresa of the great Catholic Church, who won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979, also reminded us that, “At the end of life we will not be judged by how many diplomas we received but by how much love we put into giving others.”

Finally, Osagyefo Dr. Kwame Nkrumah a man whose exemplary life liberated our country from colonial rule and a driving force for the freedom of the African continent said, “Africa needs a new type of citizen: a dedicated, modest, honest and informed man. A man who submerges self in service to the nation and mankind.”

Graduating class of 2025, as we step out today, let us carry the spirit of service in our hearts. Remember the words of Jesus “the son of man came not to be served but to serve” so go and serve. Help yourself by helping others, and rise by lifting others

Make CSU proud, make Ghana better, leave your footprints on African soil, and touch the world with greatness and as William James once said, “Act as if what you do matters because it does”

May God richly bless us all.

Thank you and congratulations class of 2025!