

The Herald

TAKORADI TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY



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MOU WITH
TTU-ADOPTS
10 DISABLED
STUDENTS,
GHACEM HALL

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COA SIGNS MOU WITH TTU-ADOPTS 10 DISABLED STUDENTS, GHACEM HALL

Takoradi Technical University and COA Research and Manufacturing Company, a plant research institution, have signed a five-year Memorandum of Understanding to collaborate in areas of research and student development.

The MoU seeks to ensure students and staff Mentorship, Promotion and Coordination of Joint Research, Students' Industrial Attachment, Promotion of Plant medicine in Western Region as well as establishment of Research Centres at COA and TTU.



PROF. SAMUEL ATO DUNCAN
CEO, COA

To kick start the relationship between the two entities, the Vice Chancellor of Takoradi Technical University, Prof. Rev. John Frank Eshun on behalf of TTU and the Chief Executive of COA Research and Manufacturing, Prof. Samuel Ato Duncan on his part at a short ceremony signed the terms and conditions guiding the MoU at TTU.

As a show of goodwill to the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding, the Chief Executive of COA Research and Manufacturing, Prof. Samuel Ato Duncan, in addition to other expectations of the MoU announced that COA has adopted the GHACEM Hall, a female hall of residence at TTU, where it will renovate and also provide scholarship for 10 students with disabilities for the next five years, subject to reviews.

“With COA, we are not only into plant research, I think research is broad, so I believe that this collaboration is going to bring a lot to the university because we are going to produce products. Jointly, we can produce something, commercialize and earn some income for the institution because we would also want to support institutions to grow. Aside that, we are also going to adapt the GHACEM Hall and the disability unit with mediate effect. What we would do for the first year is to sponsor at least ten students with disabilities and we believe that we would be able to expand when we move along till the time

we would be able to say that we are sponsoring everyone with a disability”, he said.

Prof. Duncan who congratulated the TTU Vice Chancellor and some of his management team on their retention in office for another term said COA through research has been able to advance study into HIV/AIDS cure therefore happy to collaborate with TTU on other fronts of research through the MoU.

“I went in to find what could enter the cells and kill HIV so that we would be able to have a cure for HIV. As part of that research, I have been able to develop an injection that can smoke viruses from their hide-outs into the bloodstream and be cleared with an intravenous injection all being organic products...

Even with the machines we use are machines we ask the manufacturers to give us, with specific machine because we don't have an already built machine that we can go and buy for the kind of job we are doing. Well, what we do is try to get active ingredients from the plant and leave the residue and the residue we You have no idea what we have been able to do as far as research is concerned. Now research is the work of the academia and the institutions that have been established. When I met with TTU, I was extremely happy because whatever we are doing at COA RMCL is something new also use it for gas and also we use them for organic fertilizers, so it is something broad that we are trying to do.

Now this is a Technical University that can provide us with serious technology in terms of machinery and many more. I believe that by the time your term ends in office, we would have seen a lot of changes in



what this collaboration would bring to this university and COA RMCL”, he added.

The Vice Chancellor of Takoradi Technical University, Rev. Prof. John Frank Eshun on his part while grateful to COA's support and interest to work with TTU, said any collaboration with industry sits very well with TTU's objective to train industry relevant professionals to support Ghana's industrialization aspiration.



REV. PROF. JOHN FRANK ESHUN
VICE CHANCELLOR, TTU

“Our mandate requires that we establish a relationship with industry, through student/staff exchange with industry to see how best we can also develop business models out of our relationship. So on behalf of the Council, we would like to thank you very much for this opportunity. As we discuss in our last meeting, as a Technical University, we want to change our way of delivery. We want to emphasize on innovation, industrialization, and communication. So this is the opportunity for us to be able to demonstrate that we can come out with innovative ideas and then also move them to commercialization. So as a university, we would want to champion this MoU to bear fruits. At the end of my term I should see a product and a business coming out of this relationship. Thank you very much and we would make sure we won't disappoint you”, he assured.

The 5-year MOU which starts from 2023 to 2028 shall be subject to renewal after reviews and upgrading to meet the needs and aspirations of both parties.





LACK OF TECHNOCRACY IS THE REASON FOR OUR PROBLEMS-PROF. MIKE OQUAYE

The former Speaker of the 7th Parliament of Ghana, Rt. Hon. Prof. Aaron Mike Oquaye has attributed Ghana's continued underdevelopment and economic hardship to what he termed as the lack of technocracy in the country's governance.

Rt. Hon Prof Mike Oquaye made the observation as he delivered the 2nd R. S. Blay Memorial lectures at the Takoradi Technical University on the theme; Consolidating Democracy and the Rule of Law in Contemporary Ghana: If Justice R.S. Blay were with us using the Law as An Instrument of social, political and economic engineering.



Prof. Mike Oquaye said leadership in Ghana is paying lip service to expertise and questioned why academic institutions do not have a voice in the appointment of their own leadership?

"when it comes to appointments, let's look at institutional representation. Why should academics not have the powerful voice in the choosing of the Vice Chancellor? Why should medical doctors not have the overriding voice in the appointment of the Director of the Medical Services or any of those things?", he questioned.



While calling for the country to take a relook at appointments of heads of institutions, Rt. Hon. Prof. Mike Oquaye said politicization has so much interfered unduly even in the appointment of heads of Institutions like Lands Commission which is leading to giving away of public lands without due process. He therefore advocated for the tenure of heads of institutions like Lands Commission not to be tagged

against that of a government's term of office.

"Why is it that the position of Lands Commission head for example is not a collegial election or people who are experts in that field? Why do we just relegate all those functions to politicians without the expertise of the technocrats? I believe that this lack of technocracy is one of the difficulties in our country as a whole", he added.

The former Speaker on his call for fair representation as demanded by the constitution and something that he believes R. S. Blay would have advocated for, also kicked against the lip service political leadership continue to pay to women representation.

"Today we continue to pay lip service to Affirmative Action, women participation in politics. Having looked at the various suggestions, I have one simple



formula. I believe that, District Assemblies should give one-third representation to women, rather than a President appointing one-third membership to the assemblies. Let's leave that as exclusive seats for women to compete for at the local level. Secondly, if we come to the national level, after we've known the results of the elections, there must be some 50 reserved special seats for women. Then, out of that 50 seats, the party that had 60%, would now elect 60% of the 50 reserved seats and it will give us a second representative of women automatically, according to however method would be used to select them to Parliament.", he suggested.



Though former Speaker Mike Oquaye did not spell out how to select the 50 constituency seats to be reserved for women, he emphasized how such a formula would deepen women representation and would have been welcomed by Justice R. S Blay if he were alive.



"I'm certain quality women would come up and people would appreciate the excellent contributions that those women would make in parliament and thereby even attracting more of their peers to compete for not only the reserved seats but also the usual seats. This is necessary because, Ghana is today at the rock



bottom of the World Table for women representation in legislatures with countries like Zimbabwe, Rwanda, Uganda all beaten us to this by using some of these techniques. I believe if the man Justice R. S. Blay were around with his army of very brilliant and very qualified women, they would not just sit back but help formulate some useful formulas to help us in this direction. All these suggest to us that there are some constitutional issues which those who care and would want us to use the law as an instrument of social engineering were to put on their analytical guard, we would really be able to improve our society as a whole", he noted.

He however warned against the politics of 'money-cracy' which he said is a threat to Ghana's democracy and deepens corruption.

"what happened to us that today, politics has become a Moneycracy. Now it is no more a matter of me helping with my resources, but rather, what will i go in and grab, for which matter everything they do today becomes like an investment. It is very dangerous and we have to think it through so that politics doesn't become the preserve of people who buy themselves into it and only to buy themselves out by making money at the expense of the country. We all know that, associated with that moneycratic tendency comes the hole of corruption in our society which has become more and more endemic", he warned.

Rt. Hon. Prof. Mike Oquaye further urged the need for sustained national development with a neutral National Development Planning Commission membership.



“It cannot be overemphasized that a National Development Planning Institution is necessary in this country. The present state of a pendulum in development whereby governments introduce new policies during their tenure only for such policies and attendant projects abandoned immediately after those governments leave office is very tragic. Article 35(7), actually provides that, as far as practicable, a government shall continue and execute projects and programmes commenced by the previous governments. Nevertheless, the politicization of the NDPC and the abandonment of various projects started by previous regimes are greatly hurting this nation and we need to revisit this challenge and suggest remedies”, he called.

The accomplished lawyer also called for an independent NDPC in accordance to the constitution.

“The membership of the NDPC must be neutral and expressly beyond political consideration. Again, institutional representation of those with expertise in national planning will largely lead to independence and technocracy. This will encompass economists, researchers, planners, environmentalists, academics, etc who will then be part of a 9-member commission.

The commissioners shall then elect their own chairperson and vice chair to hold office for a period of two-years...relevant Ministers and other officials who are in breach of the National Policy will be summoned to explain themselves and sanctioned...and other arrangements which makes them depart from government and their tenure should not be four years with the President. These would make them as independent as possible”, he indicated.



Prof. Mike Oquaye further called for a frank discussion on Ghana's utilization of its natural resources after the Ukraine-Russia war crises and the country's import dependency, else the country would forever be at the mercy of the IMF.

“We must be reexamining our natural resources. We should be looking at ourselves as less import dependent. If we need Ukraine's wheat for our bread, then we will suffer but that's unfortunately the lot of our nation today. Every day, we are all trooping to the Tema or Takoradi Ports in order to get what to wear and eat, therefore import dependency must be tackled from today. Otherwise, we will go to the IMF every six years. Now we are at the 17th time to the IMF, what would men like R. S. Blay think about Ghana beyond the 17th time to the IMF? I believe that we would need a new approach to a national orientation. What is happening to our Gold, Diamond, and Bauxite? If we have got Oil, are we maximizing the use of the oil? How are our oil contracts like? Who makes the contracts? Do they really know what they are doing? Who approves of the contracts?”, he cautioned.

He further called for technocratic enquiries into the allotment of public lands for resource exploitation. “There must be what they call in England, Public Enquiry at the local level. Do we have public enquiries enshrined in our constitution? So that before you will touch the Ghana oil, it doesn't matter



which party is in office, the oil commission which is fully technocratic with experts who know the business, what have they said in advance about it? Unless we provide these checks and balances in our legal and constitutional framework, which I believe men like Justice R.S. Blay would have been good at acting upon and suggesting. This is necessary because what we have, we are not able to manage it and if we are not able to maximize our oil and other resources, then what do we intend to depend on for our national development? These are very serious issues that academics, technocrats, lawyers, and others must re-examine if we should be worthy of our call especially as students of contemporary national development”, he reemphasized

Rt. Hon. Prof. Mike Oquaye further advised the youth to learn from the best examples of the past in addressing their problems of today.

“I would like the young people to be proud to be Ghanaians and to copy the best practices of this great nation of ours and not some of the rude techniques of recent times. Sometime ago, the British decided to nationalise all lands, thus simply saying that every land which they described as waste land belonged to the British crown. However in the then Gold Coast, some smart chiefs just saw this as untenable but they didn't take cutlasses nor resorted to arms. They got Mensah Sabah, a Ghanaian Lawyer, took the matter to court, that in Ghana there is nothing like waste land and that our lands either belong to the society, chief, a family or an individual even if it is not being used at any particular time. They fought and won their case and the British kept off our lands. This shows that even the illiterate chiefs were very intelligent and knowledgeable. That's the kind of people we should be as young people“, he advised.

The Vice Chancellor of Takoradi Technical University, Rev. Prof. John Frank Eshun, hosted the 2nd Justice R. S. Blay lecture and chaired the event.

While appreciating the opportunity to collaborate the with the R.S Blay lectures, Rev. Prof. John Frank Eshun said TTU is focused on societal based relevant technological research through engagement with society and therefore finds the University's partnership with the R.S. Blay lectures as relevant and within its vision, therefore the University plans to deepen the collaboration.

One of the daughters of Justice R.S. Blay, Dr. Mrs. Mokuwa Blay Adu-Gyamfi, on behalf of the Blay family thanked the University and Prof. Mike Oquaye for honouring the father with the second series of the R. S Blay lecture.



R. S. Blay who was once a Board Member of the then Takoradi Polytechnic, was the first Nzema legal practitioner and rose to become a Justice of the Supreme Court of Ghana.

As a founding Member and First Vice President of UGCC, R. S. Blay became the Speaker of the 1969 Constituent Assembly.

There was an enactment by the TTU drama group on how effective law enforcement can be used to clamp-down on the illegal gold mining activities which is devastating the water and forest resources of Ghana.





VC KICKS-OFF FACULTY TOURS

The Vice Chancellor of Takoradi Technical University, Rev. Prof. John Frank Eshun on Monday June 12th, 2023 kicked-off a three-day faculty tour of the University.

The tour which is expected to end on Thursday June 15th, 2023 has the agenda to foster cordial peer-dialogue between the faculties and the Vice Chancellor. It will also discuss relevant subjects including Leadership issues, Role of Heads of Department, Human Resource issues such as appraisal, motivation, team work, discipline, students and financial management.



Speaking on the first day of the faculty tour at the Faculty of Business Studies at the Butumajebu Campus, Rev. Prof. John Frank Eshun called for better and respectable lecturer-student relationship for students to find it attractive to comeback to do further studies after their programmes. “Let us manage the students well. We need to train quality students for national development”, he advised.



grammes, the Vice Chancellor said CTVET is seeking to rollout its HND programmes and therefore challenged all HoDs to stick to the set deadline for HoDs to also develop the University’s own HND programmes since most existing HND programmes are outdated.

Rev. Prof. Eshun also speaking on ensuring efficient and effective administration of the faculties, challenged the HoDs to crack the wiper where necessary. “HoD’s must be confident and bold in taking decisions. If a lecturer is not attending lectures, you must be bold to tell him. I know some of the lecturers don’t even follow the timetable for instance”, he said.

While assuring the faculties of support to carry out their mandate, he said management stand committed to resourcing the faculties to do their work.



“We are going to enhance the teaching environment to enable to you to have all you need to teach”, he added.



The Vice Chancellor further advised faculty members to bury their differences and share for the development of the department and the university. More-so, he encouraged faculty members to nurture stakeholder-engagement to help establish collaborations that benefit the faculty and the university.

The Registrar of TTU, Dr. Moses Maclean Abnory who was part of the Vice Chancellor’s delegation to the School of Business Studies, urged faculty members to acquaint themselves with the University

statutes and the scheme of service as well as international best practices.

He said the work of the HoD is critical to the success of the VC, hence the need for HoDs to up their performance and also ensure their activities give good branding to the University

“We have an institution to develop and we must make sure that we do our things such that if one TU is to be mentioned, it must be TTU”, he said.

Dr. Abnory also conscientize faculty members to help the university to cutdown on utility expenditure.

“Let’s also spend some time to talk to the students on proper use of utilities and logistics...If for instance your lecture is the last for the day, please ensure the lights and Air-conditioners are put off”, he added. Faculty members also had the opportunity to ask questions, give suggestions and seek clarity on issues. Day-two of the VC’s faculty tour would be at the Faculty of Applied Arts and Technology, Applied Sciences & Centre for Languages and Liberal Studies. The Vice Chancellor would however end his three-day faculty tour at the Faculty of Engineering & Built and Natural Environment.





NEED TO SHIFT FROM TECHNOLOGY CONSUMPTION TO TECHNOLOGY PRODUCTION-PROF. NKRUMAH

The Director for Takoradi Technology University's International Programmes and External Linkages Office, IPELO, Prof. Efua Nkrumah, has intimated the need for the university to re-strategize its focus on technology consumption to technology production to positively impact society and gain societal relevance.



Speaking at the opening of a three-day workshop on Machine Learning for staff, Prof. Nkrumah said TTU's vision to become a world-class institution of higher education is being hampered by the lack of research and innovation hence there is the need for TTU to position itself to be part of the global drive towards Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning research.

"The university plays a leading role in equipping students with employable skills using competency-based training in the Applied Arts, Science, Engineering, and other technology-based disciplines with special emphasis on the University's niche area of Oil & Gas. However, it is challenged with low output in research and innovation despite the enormous potential it possesses to positively impact societal development...The general lack of research and innovation output currently is negatively affecting the university's strategic goal of becoming a world-class institution of higher education", she said.

While emphasising the need for TTU to shift its current technology strategy, Prof. Nkrumah expressed the hope that the three-day workshop on machine learning by the University would be a turning point.

"this workshop is to make progress in the strategic theme of research and infrastructural development through interdisciplinary applied research using Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML)

for applications. Given the ubiquitous applications of (AI) and (ML) tools in the global economy, there is a blurring of the lines between physical, digital, and biological spheres of life. The fourth industrial



revolution is in full swing but unlike the first three revolutions, there is ample opportunity for participation by all. As an institution of higher education, there is a need for a strategic shift from a position of technology consumption to technology production that will advance national and global societies through cutting edge research and innovation outputs as required by the education 5.0", she pointed out.

To drive home TTU's aspirations of becoming a true world-class centre with societal relevance, Prof. Nkrumah, further highlighted some specific bold steps the University management is seeking to implement. "the vision is to set up a research department in Jubilee Technical Training Centre, JTTC, for the application of AI and ML in the Oil and Gas industry.



A research department or unit will enable the centre to become not only a training provider to the Oil and Gas industry but also a technology provider of choice for the Oil and Gas industry. This will align the university's participation in advancing the fourth

industrial revolution with its strategic need for research and innovation outputs while maintaining focus on the niche area of Oil and Gas.", she added

The three-day machine learning workshop also had various presentations on introduction to machine learning and its importance, supervised, unsupervised and reinforcement learning, Python programming, installation and environment as well as Data pre-processing.

Other presentations also focused on Support vector machine, Artificial Neural Network, Decision Tree Classifier Random and Forest Classifier among others.





FIVE-MEMBER HIT DELEGATION FROM ZIMBABWE VISITS TTU IN-LINE WITH MOU

A five-member delegation from Zimbabwe's Harare Institute of Technology, HIT, have met the management and Executive Committee of Takoradi Technical University, as a follow-up to the Memorandum of Understanding between the two institutions.

The Memorandum of Understanding between TTU and HIT was signed on 30th November 2021, to among other things establish academic relationship between the two institutions to strengthen mutual and friendly co-operation to promote sustainable and productive joint research projects of interest and exchange learning programmes.



While welcoming the delegation, the Vice Chancellor of TTU, Rev. Prof. John Frank Eshun, expressed appreciation for the follow-up visit which will help in concretizing the successful implementation and expectations of the MoU.

"We want to welcome you once again to TTU. Your coming is very necessary because since we signed the MoU, we haven't achieved much. This will help us to concretize the MoU and our relationship so that we can work towards achieving something that can be measured ... we are supposed to learn mutually from each other as institutions. You have a lot of commercialized ventures at HIT and we have to learn how to setup some here", he said.



The Pro Vice Chancellor of Harare Institute of Technology, Willard Gwarimbo who led the five-man visiting delegation from Finance, Registry and Quality Assurance to TTU, in his remark said the team is eager for the meetings with the various faculties and Deans to discuss specific issues that will set the tone for the effective implementation of the MoU.



"We are very much desirous for the meetings particularly with our counterparts from the Registry and the Deans from various faculties to share with them. Even when we do the student exchange, the main thing is, they are the implementers and you are at the policy level but when the implementers don't have a buy in, many a-times, things don't go ahead very well. So that is the purpose of bringing this team here... We are here to understand the issues and the grounds of the relationship. You need to know what others are doing to know whether you're doing well, he noted.



Herbert Njonga, the Registrar of HIT, while reemphasizing the importance of the visit said they are here to learn and share ideas on key specific issues around transfers and regulations among others. Director of TTU's IPELO, Prof. Nana Afua Nkrumah on her part expressed the hope that the visit

by the HIT delegation will ultimately drive home a fruitful mutually beneficial collaboration between Takoradi Technical University and Harare Institute of Technology.



Immediately after the meeting with Management, the Vice Chancellor invited the HIT delegation to participate in the opening of a two-day quality assurance workshop at the University.

This was followed with a tour of the university by the five-member visiting HIT delegation where they went to the Faculty of Engineering laboratories, the University Printing Press, the Jubilee Technical Training Centre and University Clinic. They are also expected to continue their second day tour to TTU's satellite campuses at Butumajebu and Akatakya before meeting with Deans and Heads of Department.





COUNCIL CHAIRMAN DONATES COMPUTERS TO EXCELLING DISABLED STUDENTS

The Governing Council Chairman of Takoradi Technical University, Dr. Samuel Amo Tobbin, has donated two laptop computers and an undisclosed cash prize to two persons with disabilities. The two beneficiary awardees included Modesther Nketsiah Asmah who emerged as the Overall Best Graduating Student with Disability at the last TTU congregation ceremony and Abigail Nyame Arko was recognized for her barrier-breaking efforts as a disability-impaired person.

Dr. Samuel Amo Tobbin who is the Founder of the Sam Amo Tobbin-TTU Scholarship Scheme while presenting the award congratulated the awardees for their hard work and also encouraged them to continue to excel.



“We thank God so much for giving us the life and the day to meet and we are grateful for the effort that caused us to give this award to you. So this should motivate you to do more. This would not be the first and last time but should continue. If you continue like this at the next level, you would get different awards”, he said. Speaking on behalf of the award recipients, the Head of TTU’s Disability and Support Services, Joseph Oti-Asirifi Mensah said the award is an inspiration to students with disability to do better.

“It’s a refreshing moment, especially where after thirteen years of this particular project, this is the first time that our effort is been recognized on a huge



platform. Though there have been other platforms of recognition including the Vice-Chancellor’s recognition at the last two convocation, this is the biggest, and it is going to encourage us to do more. It is going to make a statement for the students who are here, that the university is monitoring their progress”, he noted.

Mr. Oti-Asirifi Mensah further encouraged corporate institutions also to come to support the good work taking place at the Disability and Support Services Unit.

“it is going to make a statement for the students who are here, that the university is monitoring their progress. It also going to ensure more challenge among the students in pursuit of such recognition. Beyond that, I think what we are doing by sending this communication outside is also going to communicate to Ghanaians and the Global World the kind of project that TTU is doing. First, as the pioneer institution which is creating an academic platform for students who are physically challenged and students having a hearing impairment. Secondly, it is going to make a statement to the corporate world that it takes a lot to create a platform to educate students with challenges a lot in terms of resources, so we extend an invitation to the corporate world to invest in the education of students with disabilities, so that together we can respond to the obligation as citizens of this country”, added.

Present at the presentation of awards were the Vice Chancellor of Takoradi Technical University, Prof. John Frank Eshun, Pro Vice Chancellor, Prof. Victor Kweku Bondzie Micah, the Registrar, Dr. Moses McLean Abnory, the Director of Finance, Dr. Gabriel S. Ahenful as well as some TTU Governing Council members.

The Sam Amo Tobbin-TTU Scholarship Scheme was launched in June 2022 by Dr. Samuel Amo Tobbin as his personal initiative within his three-year vision as the TTU Governing Council Chairman to transform TTU into a world-class TVET centre.





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TTU BIDS FORMER COUNCIL MEMBER, ATO PANFORD, FAREWELL

The Vice Chancellor, Rev. Prof. John Frank Eshun and the Chairman of the Governing Council, Dr. Samuel Amo Tobbin, leading a delegation from Takoradi Takoradi Technical University today joined the family and friends of the late former Council Member, Dr. Ato Panford to bid him farewell at a funeral held at Aboadze in the Shama District.

The late Dr. Ato Panford who served as the New Patriotic Party Member of Parliament for the Shama constituency from 2017 to 2020, died on 12th February, 2023 at the age of 60.



“Hon. Panford, today we honour you because gems like you are so rare; this, therefore, makes your loss feel exactly as if a sharpened knife has cut through our hearts mercilessly. The emotional pain of your loss is, indeed, excruciating and very unbearable. As an amazing councilor, a colleague, a friend and a brother who had played unique and special roles in our lives, it is fitting that we address you, as we pay you our last respect on this regrettable occasion. Hon. Ato Panford, we affectionately called you “Honourable”. You joined the then Takoradi Polytechnic Council in November 2014, as a Representative of the Association of Ghana Industries (AGI). By divine direction, you were reappointed to serve on the Council of the newly-converted Takoradi Technical University in 2017 – this time, as a Government of Ghana nominee. You held this position till God called you home.

Honorable, you were one of the longest-serving members of the University’s Governing Council. You served consec-



contributions and submissions on issues were top-notch, and, due to your immense experience in university governance, almost all the Council Chairpersons you worked with sought your opinion on major and critical issues pertaining to the governance of the Takoradi Technical University (TTU).

Indeed, you were an asset to the University’s Governing Council. You served whole heartedly and diligently on both the Council’s permanent and ad-hoc committees. Your experience in committee systems and higher education governance was eminent to the extent that you were, most of the time, engaged by the various council Chair

persons to deputise in their absence.

Honorable, your commitment to the progress and development of TTU was so unflinching that, even when you



were the Member of Parliament for the Shama Constituency as well as the Vice

Chairman of the Parliamentary Select Committee for Trade, Industry and Tourism, you found time to serve on the TTU Governing Council and were present for almost all meetings. Neither your

role as the Senior Advisor (Enterprise Support Specialist-Technical Audit) at the National (AfCFTA) Coordinating Office affected your commitment to the progress of TTU. Amazing, weren’t you?



It is worthy to note that whenever you travelled outside the country, you always endeavoured to join your colleagues via zoom to enable you to contribute your quota for the progress of TTU. It is, therefore, not surprising that you played a major role in the drafting and launching of the current 5-year Strategic Plan of TTU – a document that is central to the direction of the University till 2025.

You were almost always on the Finance Committee of the Governing Council and ensured that the right measures were taken to prevent infractions of the financial laws of the state. Your acumen in finance and general knowledge in university governance could not be masked or hidden. With your zeal and efforts, the University grew from strength to strength such that, today, TTU is among the best universities in Ghana.

TTU cannot forget your current assignment as the Chairman of the Reappointment Committee for a Vice-Chancellor for the University – an assignment you began but could not finish because your Maker called you home... We crave your visionary leadership. We crave your great sense of judgement and unifying disposition. Honourable! Honourable!! Honourable!!! Please answer our teary call! You were passionately in the process of securing sponsorship for the proposed ICT block for the university. When are we getting it, Honourable? Honourable, you have left an unfillable gap in our hearts! Our pain is indescribable!!! Hon. Panford, the former and current councilors led by Samuel Amo Tobin, the Management, the staff and students of TTU salute and bid you farewell, with an assurance that your legacy will survive. Fare thee well, Honourable! Due! Due!! Due!!!”

Beside the members of academia who graced the event, the funeral of the late Dr. Panford also attracted dignitaries from both sides of the political divide from Regional and National level including including the Western Regional Minister, Kwabena Okyere Darko Mensah, Former Trades and Industry Minister and NPP Flagbearer Aspirant Alan Kyeremanteng.





A 9-MEMBER TAKORADI TECHNOLOGY UNIVERSITY CONVENTION BOARD ELECTED

A 9-member Takoradi Technology University Convention Board has been elected, with Dr. Adelaide Spio-Kwofie who secured 321 yes votes as its Chairperson. Out of the 9-positions, only the Teaching Convocation Representative to Council position was contested by Dr. Kofi Kwarteng and Prof. Abigail Padi, with the former, winning with 201 yes votes as against Prof. Padi's 153 secured votes.

Meanwhile, Joseph Oti-Asirifi, who went unopposed for the position of Non-Teaching Convocation representative to the Academic Board secured the most no-votes of 35 among the other 7 representatives who also went unopposed.

Other elected members of the 2023 Convocation Board includes Judith McClain-Afful, Vice Chairperson who secured 341 yes votes, Bernard Mayne, Secretary who had the highest yes votes of 346 and Richard Apori Anfo, Non-Teaching Representative also securing 345.

The remaining three elected members are Olivia Agyeman, Non-Teaching Representative to Academic Board, 319 yes votes, Daniel Kumi Owusu, Teaching Representative to the Board, 331 and Hafiz Adam, Teaching Representative to Academic Board, 329 yes votes.





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HOW TO LOWER YOUR RISK OF CANCER

It's the world's leading cause of death, but about 1 in 3 cases can be prevented, according to the World Health Organization. There's no magic pill to keep you from getting cancer, but you can do some things to improve your odds.

1. DROP THE WEIGHT

Nearly 43% of Ghanaian are overweight or obese -- and those extra kilograms drive up your chances of several types of cancer, including in your esophagus, pancreas, colon, kidneys, and thyroid gland. With fewer people smoking, obesity may pass tobacco as the top preventable cause of cancer.

2. EAT LESS RED MEAT

Along with cured meats like bacon, hot dogs, and lunchmeat, this has been linked to a higher risk of colon and stomach cancers. The American Institute for Cancer Research recommends no more than 18 ounces of these a week, or a little over a pound.

3. EAT MORE VEGETABLES

Vegetables and fruits can help stave off a range of cancers in your mouth, throat, windpipe, and esophagus. These foods have things that help your cells prevent damage that may lead to cancer later. You should get enough of fruits and vegetables everyday

4. DON'T COUNT ON SUPPLEMENTS

A diet rich in vegetables, fruits, and whole grains is a better bet than nutritional supplements to lower your risk of cancer. Supplements don't give you the same benefits as whole foods, and they can throw off the balance of other nutrients in your body. Supplements may help with certain conditions, but don't bet on them to prevent cancer.

5. CUT DOWN ON SUGAR

Foods or drinks with a lot of sugar tend to have more calories per ounce. If you have them often, you're more likely to take in more calories than you burn in a day. That can make you gain weight -- and possibly increase your risk of cancer. You don't have to skip the sugar entirely, but keep an eye out for things with

added sweeteners.

6. GET VACCINATED FOR HPV

Human papilloma virus (HPV) is often passed from person to person through sex. It can live in your body for years and you might not even notice. It's the cause of nearly all cervical cancers in women and also can cause cancer of the vagina, penis, anus, mouth, and throat. Girls can get the vaccine between the ages of 9 and 26, and boys from 9 to 21. Using condoms can also lower your chances of getting HPV.

7. ENGAGE IN EXERCISE

People who exercise are less likely to get cancer of the colon, breast, or uterus. When you're up and moving around, your body uses more energy, digests food faster, and prevents a buildup of some hormones that are linked to cancer. Being active also can help head off other health problems like heart disease or diabetes.

8. QUIT SMOKING

Do you smoke? It causes various kinds of cancer, as well as heart and lung disease. Though the share of Ghanaians who light up regularly has dropped from more than 20% to about 9%, tobacco is still a major cause of preventable death .

9. REDUCE ALCOHOL INTAKE

Drinking too much alcohol can raise your risk of cancers of the digestive system -- your stomach, liver, and colon, among others -- as well as breast and throat cancer. It can hurt tissues in your body, damage your liver, and mix with other chemicals to harm your cells. Men shouldn't have more than two drinks a day, and women should limit it to one.

10. GET HEPATITIS B VACCINATION

People who have the hepatitis B virus are 100 times more likely to get liver cancer, one of the fastest-growing kinds. And those who have chronic liver problems, several sex partners, or share needles to use drugs have a high risk of getting hepatitis B, along with people who work with human blood. But

a vaccine can prevent infection. Talk with your doctor about it if you think you're at risk.

11. GET SCREENED

The sooner the warning signs of cancer are spotted, the better your odds of recovery. A variety of tests can check for different types, like breast, colon, prostate, or cervix. Ask your doctor which of these screenings you should get .

Dr. George Kojo Owusu-University Health Centre



STOP SEXUAL HARASSMENT

DEFINITION OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND SEXUAL MISCONDUCT IN THE WORKPLACE

A. SEXUAL HARASSMENT

The International Labour Organization defines sexual harassment as a sex based behaviour that is unwelcome and offensive to its recipient. Submission to or rejection of such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment or access to career opportunities.

According to the ILO, sexual harassment may take two forms:

1. Quid Pro Quo, when a job benefit - such as a pay rise, a promotion, or even continued employment - is made conditional on the victim acceding to demands to engage in some form of sexual behaviour.

2. Hostile working environment in which the conduct creates conditions that are intimidating or humiliating for the victim.

The ILO classifies the following behaviour as sexual harassment:

PHYSICAL: Physical violence, touching, unnecessary close proximity.

VERBAL: Comments and questions about appearance, life-style, sexual orientation, offensive phone calls,

NON-VERBAL: Whistling, sexually-suggestive gestures, display of sexual materials.

B. OTHER FORMS OF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

In addition to sexual harassment, other forms of sexual misconduct include the following:

- Unwelcome Sexual or amorous behaviour with subordinates or co-workers;
- Staff exploiting relationships with subordinate staff for sexual ends;
- Staff conferring undue favors to influence subordinate staff to yield to sexual desires;
- Sexual abuse; here means undesired sexual activity by one person upon another person with the use of force and threats
- Sexual assault; means any unwanted sexual behaviour that makes a person feel discomfort.
- Unwelcome sexual advances made to

co-workers.

- Sexually exploitative and degrading behaviour.

- Retaliatory and abusive behaviour directed towards either former relationship partners or individuals who have rejected the sexual advances of another.

- Sexual intimidation: here refers to unreasonable behaviour whether verbal or non-verbal that seeks to subject the other party to humiliation and embarrassment.

C. ABUSE OF POWER

Sexual relationships that occur in employer-employee or supervision-subordinate context are especially vulnerable to exploitation due to the difference in power. As a result of this power differential, a subordinate's "voluntary" participation in a sexual relationship with an individual in a position of power does not on its own demonstrate that the conduct was welcome.

The workplace should prohibit sexual relationships between individuals where there is an imbalance of power such that one individual is in a position to make decisions that affect the opportunities or career of the other

IV- Legal Provisions against Sexual harassment

A. United Nations (UN):

The General Assembly Resolution 48/104 on the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women defines violence against women to include sexual harassment, which is prohibited at work/ in educational institutions, and elsewhere, and encourages development of penal, civil or other administrative sanctions, as well as preventative approaches to eliminate violence against women.

By: Prof. Gladys Quartey-Director, CEGENDA



PHISHING ATTACK

ICT CONER

Did you know? Phishing, pronounced as “fishing,” is an attack that tries to steal your money or your identity by tricking you into disclosing personal information on websites that look legitimate but are actually fraudulent. Cybercriminals typically send fake messages with links to phishing websites that appear to be from reputable businesses, friends,

or acquaintances. Email is typically used for this and the intention is to either install malware on the victim’s computer or steal sensitive information like credit card and login information. Thus, if you receive an unexpected message, saying “You’ve won some money! Send your bank details to redeem”, or “We have updated our services! Kindly fill this form to

keep your account” and other similar emails demanding certain personal information, then you should know that it could be a bait to ‘fish’ out your personal information.

UP COMING EVENTS AND MEETINGS

6th - 16th July

Visitation of 4 Professors from the Tourism and Geography Department of Oradea University, Romania

24th – 28th July

Visitation of the President of Millersville University of Pennsylvania to sign MoU with TTU

27th – 8th August

Training workshop for Ghana Skills Devt. Fund (Garment making skills upgrade for Export)

18th August

Deadline for the payment of school fees for B'Tech Top-Up Studnets

18th August

Development Committee Meeting

22nd August

University Appointments and Promotions Board Meeting

24th August

Audit Committee Meeting

25th August

Finance Committee Meeting

TAKORADI TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY DIRECTORATE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

For your views and comments:



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