

**UNIVERSITY OF EDUCATION, WINNEBA**

**INVESTITURE OF CHANCELLOR**

**ACCEPTANCE SPEECH BY THE 2<sup>ND</sup> CHANCELLOR OF  
THE UNIVERSITY OF EDUCATION, WINNEBA,  
NEENYI GHARTEY VII,  
OMANHENE, EFFUTU TRADITIONAL AREA**

H. E. The President of Ghana, Nana Addo Dankwa Akuffo-Addo

Hon. Minister for Education, Dr. Yaw Adukwum

Hon. Central Regional Minister, Mrs Justina Marigold Assan

Hon. Member of Parliament for the Effutu Constituency, Alexander Afenyo-Markain

The Chairman of the UEW Governing Council, Nana Ofori Ansah I

Members of the UEW Governing Council

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Mawutor Avoke

The Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Victor Antwi

The Ag. Registrar, Mrs. Wilhelmina Tete-Mensah

The Finance Officer, Dr. Theophilus Senyo Ackorlie

The Ag. Librarian, Ms. Agatha Gifty Larson

The Principal, College of Languages Education, Prof. Dominic Danso Mensah

The Principal, College of Distance and e-Learning, Prof. Kaakyire Frimpong Duku.

Members of Convocation,

Distinguished Invited Guest

Nananom

Staff, Students and Alumni

The Media fraternity

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen

I bring you greetings from the Effutu Paramountcy. I am excited and humbled to have such a wonderful array of dignified personalities to gather here for my sake, to witness my investiture

as Chancellor for the University of Education, Winneba. Lots of wonderful messages have come my way upon the announcement that I would be the next Chancellor of the University. Indeed, I have been overwhelmed by the warm welcome from many of you and this is a very pleasant day for me - it means so much to me. Your Excellency, distinguished ladies and gentlemen, as a young lad, neither chieftaincy nor chancellorship was part of my dreams and aspirations in my early years. I had my dreams and none of what I find myself doing today was what I dreamt of being or wanted to be. However, this had not deterred me from rising to task whenever the need arose for me to lead the people of Effutu and so will I execute the responsibilities that come with this august office.

I know that the responsibilities that come with this role cannot be underestimated especially when the university has to contend with and survive in these challenging times of global financial constraints and fierce competition among Ghanaian universities for students. This necessitates that we chart new and successful ways, through the efforts and dedication of all stakeholders, to develop the power of the brain and improve learning as we work towards executing the mandate of this noble institution. The opportunity to lead the university in charting these new and successful ways as we begin this new journey fills me with exhilaration and I wish to express profound dedication and commitment in my capacity as a Chancellor to continue making the university the best teacher education university in Africa.

This University was set up by the government to produce professional educators. Many more such universities have been accredited with the same mandate. Having been enstooled in January 1996 and the University established in 1992, my observations go far into the development of the University. I have had close working relationships with Council Chairmen and Principals during the UCEW era and Vice Chancellors on becoming a fully-fledged university. This is a university with promise for the government, the people of Effutu and the nation. I pledge my support to work tirelessly and passionately with the UEW Council, Management and all stakeholders to strive for the achievement of the vision and mission of the University and to propel the University to higher heights.

I applaud those who decided on Winneba to host a tertiary educational institution. Winneba lost its past glory when the surf port was closed down to pave the way for deep-sea port use in the early 1960s. Winneba is a community with a rich cultural heritage. One of the rich arms of the university is its Arts and Music Department which can easily forge collaboration with the Effutu Stool to preserve the Effutu culture. The university was seen as a promise to prosperity

by the Effutu community. Unfortunately, this anticipation has not materialized. The best way is for us all to rethink our positions.

I intend to use all the experience I have gathered over the years including the training I received in Alternative Dispute Resolution, under Justice Henritta Mensa Bonsu, to further the interest of the University. Thus, I will use my expertise and experience to curtail intra-litigations and to ensure that there is a conducive environment for staff to fraternise without any reservations. To achieve this, it will require lobbying, open-door policy, listening ears, patience and putting the past behind us. This will help correct the wrong perception of people about the prevailing atmosphere in the University.

To this end, with this opportunity given to me by H. E. President Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo, President of the Republic of Ghana, it is my avowed promise to support management in all their endeavours. As a body, we need to reorient the human resource base of the university to work towards uplifting UEW and its core mandate, and contribute towards the sustainable development of Effutu, the University and its various campuses around Ghana. Hence, I will ensure that the University obtains the requisite infrastructure needed for effective teaching and learning by imploring on the government, organisations and individuals to assist in this regard. I am poised, ready and prepared to support UEW to achieve its stated objectives.

Your Excellency, my biggest appreciation to you and all officials that came with you, for exceptionally finding this ceremony so important to skip today's schedule to personally do the Investiture of my office. And to you, Council Chairman, Members of Council, Vice Chancellor and his management team, and Senior and Junior members of this great University, I am so appreciative of your attendance and support.

To the first Chancellor of the University, I am thankful for your leadership and the dedication to goals of the University. For the many accomplishments you have done on behalf of the University, accept my felicitations for a job well done. At this function, which signifies the beginning of my new journey as the Chancellor and the continuation from where you ended, I would have loved that you were here with us in person. I cannot help but pray for and wish you a speedy recovery.

Besides, my appreciation goes to all family members, who out of love have left all their important schedules to grace the ceremony with their presence. I appreciate my colleague chiefs who have equally shown much love to travel with their entourage to give me morale for this ceremony. Many of you here, though friends from far and near, out of a trustful working

relationship have become more than family members. I recognize specially, your presence and show appreciation for coming; I cherish your friendship. It is very necessary, I show appreciation to the clergy; relations and friends and those on duty post here in Winneba. You have shown love and I appreciate you.

We thank God for all that has happened and pray that our ways continue to be guided.

Long live Ghana! Long live UEW, Long live Effutu! Thank you.