University of no regret (letter from an alumnus)


My dear VC, I am happy to inform you that the current structure of courses in the University really serve the needs of our society. It is also true that the fees are about standard. When I was a student, I found many problems that the University community as whole faced. I believe there are many more. We all know that problems cannot be solved in a day or in months. It may take the University many years to break even, since it is mainly financed through fees. In this regard the university needs to welcome ideas from stakeholders. However, the university should focus on its vision and mission as well as seek advice from key people, who have the insight for the development of the University. Everybody can speak, but it is not everybody who has something good to offer.

I encourage all who intend to have university education to choose the Catholic University that offers a combination of theory and practice. CUCG is among the best universities in Ghana. I completed the CUCG in 2008 and travelled to Germany. I started working and my employers are very happy with me and they often ask me about this University. The most interesting thing is that they have gone to the extent of contacting this University for my documents to help me further my studies. I am not the only one who is doing well in the working environment. There are many others who completed the CUCG and are performing marvellously well. I, therefore, encourage anyone who can in one way or the other help this University to come forward. I am proud to be a graduate of this University. I have no regrets studying in this place, which has structured courses that reflect the signs of the times.

Chancellor Gets New Appointment

Peter Cardinal Kodwo Appiah Turkson, the Chancellor of the Catholic University College of Ghana has been appointed as the President of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace. He left in January 2010 for Rome, where he will be for the next five years serving his initial term of office.

Before this appointment he was the Archbishop of Cape Coast and the chairman of the National Peace Council. Cardinal Turkson was born on October 11, 1948 at Wassaw Nouta. He was ordained a priest on July 20, 1975, appointed Archbishop of Cape Coast on October 6, 1992, and consecrated Archbishop of Cape Coast on March 27, 1993. He was made a Cardinal on October 23, 2003 and participated in the conclave that elected Pope Benedict XVI.

He completed his philosophy and theology studies at St. Anthony-on-Hudson Seminary in Rensselaer, New York, and earned a doctorate in Sacred Scripture from the Pontifical Biblical Institute in Rome. He is one of the few Biblical scholars of the Church.

For Further Enquiries

Contact
The Registrar: Box 363, Sunyani or Call: 061-26751/061-94657
Email: cugadmin@cug.edu.gh
Visit our website: www.cug.edu.gh
WA AND SACRAMENTO-USA DIOCESES AND OTHERS GIVE TO THE UNIVERSITY IN 2009

The Diocese of Wa organized a fund raising campaign for the University as part of its contribution to the building of the first Catholic University College of Ghana on the 6th of December 2009 and the 7th of January 2010. Some officers of the fund-raising committee of the University were in Wa to help with the fund-raising. The congregation in the various parishes welcomed the committee and donated heartily toward the University’s development.

The Bishop of Wa, Most Reverend Paul Bennile was grateful to the congregation for their contribution. The Vice Chancellor thanked the diocese for their contribution and asked them to send their wards to the University because the University has a lot in stock for their wards and they would never regret they did. He also asked them to patronize the University’s Weekend School since it is convenient especially for workers.

The Wa Diocese has presented a cheque of GH¢18,155.28 as monies realised from the fund-raising and GH¢222.50 as monies realised from the GH¢100.00 per adult Catholic. Additionally, the University received GH¢110.00 from Rev. Br. Godfred Dezie as part of the GH¢100.00 per adult Catholic.

The University has also received a cheque of GH¢112,000.00 from Koforidua Diocese as proceeds from its fund-raising activities.

Maiden CUGAA Homecoming Report

Dominic M. Kornu (Interim General Secretary)

With the need to recapitulate ourselves we had to find a way to come together, network and forge ahead in lifting the flag of our alma mater high – hence the maiden alumni homecoming event. The event was also a platform on which the Catholic University of Ghana Alumni Association (CUGAA) was inaugurated. It took place from Friday, 2nd October, 2009 to Sunday, 4th of October, 2009. On Friday, the 2nd of October, 2009, at 4.28pm, a section of the Alumni were on campus to interact with students (predominantly freshmen and women) briefly. It was an insightful interaction as some of the students appreciated the interest the Alumni have in their welfare.

The Alumni were special guests at the 9th matriculation ceremony held at the new site. After the matriculation the alumni met to discuss some pressing issues. The most prominent among them was the constitution and the need to start a development fund.

A fundraising dinner was organized in the evening at the Bishop Owusu Centre, Sunyani. It was graced with a Cross-member of the Diocese of Wa and the Catholic Church in Ghana and the Daomono Diocese has also made a further contribution by providing some of the funds to the University.

The National Catholic Women Association of Ghana donated an amount of GH¢300.00 to the University. The Brong Ahafo House of Chiefs made a contribution of GH¢14,000 towards the development of the University.

The University has also received a total amount of USS616,190.90 from the Diocese of Sacramento, CA and Orlando, FL and Detroit, MI in the United States of America through Rev. Fr. Louis Tuffour. Included in this amount is a donation of USS1000 by Dr. Scott Smith. The Ghanaian community in USA also gave the University USS 500.

The Missio Pontifical Mission Society, Germany has made several donations to the current project totalling £71,914.50 toward the development of the University.

The University also received computers and its accessories worth about GH¢25,726.00 from the Medical Mission Institute Würzburg, Germany.

With the need to recapitulate ourselves we had to find a way to come together, network and forge ahead in lifting the flag of our alma mater high – hence the maiden alumni homecoming event. The event was also a platform on which the Catholic University of Ghana Alumni Association (CUGAA) was inaugurated. It took place from Friday, 2nd October, 2009 to Sunday, 4th of October, 2009.
Most Rev. Palmer – Buckle admonished the graduating class saying ‘As Christian young man or woman or anyone brought up in the Catholic moral tradition here in the Catholic University College must never forget that in everything he or she will be doing, be it for leisure or for a living, he/she is obligated to do so with the full recognition of the fact that everything and especially every person, every human being is created in the image and likeness of God and God expects to be “paid only in the coin” due God.” “Whatever you do to the least of my brothers and sisters that you do unto me!” (Matthew 25:36ff)

Most Rev. Palmer – Buckle, the guest speaker at the 4th graduation and 10th matriculation of the Catholic University College of Ghana delivered the keynote address on Saturday, February 13, on the university campus. 345 students graduated and 312 students matriculated.

And in order to be able to swim in today’s corruption – infested sea of life out there, with all its moral hurricanes and tsunamis, you must be guided by the only compass that God himself has put in each and every one of us; his image and likeness that gives us our dignity and self-esteem and our inalienable human rights. This compass also determines the depth of responsibility that must accompany every right we assert for ourselves. To every right there is a corresponding or concomitant responsibility that derives from the image and likeness of God in which God created every human being,” he said.

Most Rev. Charles Palmer – Buckle is the Metropolit­an Archbishop of Accra Archdiocese and the Acting President of the Ghana Catholic Bishops Conference.

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. James Hawkins Ephraim, in his address commended the Brong Ahafo Regional Minister for his support to his administration since the minister took office. As the proverbial Oliver Twist, he asked for more assistance in the areas of provision of water and the maintenance of the access road that links the university and the Sunyani Township. He also admonished the matriculants to cultivate the heart of excellence and live good lives during their stay in the university. To the graduating class, he assured them of God’s protection and abundant favour in all their endeavours. He also took the opportunity to thank all the benefactors and supporters of the university.

Hon. Kwadwo Nyame­kye-Mafo, the Brong Ahafo Regional Minister assured the University of his Government’s continued support for Education in Ghana. He reiterated his desire to assist the university in all that the university does. He said that the value of any institution depends on the quality of its products and he is very sure that the graduates would be worthy ambassadors of the Catholic University College. To the matriculants he said, “Distinguished matriculants, the opportunity has been offered you to add value to yourself to be marketable and productive in the future and meaningfully contribute to the development of the nation. Value addition requires that you are innovative and analytical, making you play effective and efficient leadership roles. I entreat you to work very hard while eschewing all laziness.”

Chancellor Gets New Appointment

Continued from page 1

The Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace (Justitia et Pax) is an arm of the Roman Curia, the administrative apparatus of the Holy See. It coordinates and provides action-oriented studies based on the social teachings of the Catholic Church for the international promotion of Justice, Peace and Human Rights.

The Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace also contributes to the development of the social teaching of the Church in the following fields:

- Justice: the Council is concerned with all that touches upon social justice, the world of work, international life, development in general and social development in particular. It also promotes ethical reflection on the evolution of economic and financial systems and addresses problems related to the environment and the responsible use of the earth’s resources.
- Peace: the Council reflects on a broad range of questions regarding war, disarmament and the arms trade, international security, and violence in its various and ever-changing forms (terrorism, exaggerated nationalism, etc.). It also considers the question of political systems and the role of Catholics in the political arena. It is responsible for the promotion of the World Day of Peace.
- Human rights: this question has assumed increasing importance in the mission of the Church and consequently in the work of the Pontifical Council. Pope John Paul II, for example, consistently stressed that the dignity of the human person is the foundation of the promotion and defense of his or her inalienable rights. The Council deals with the subject from three perspectives: deepening the doctrinal aspect, dealing with questions under discussion in international organizations, showing concern for the victims of the violation of human rights.

The Catholic University community wishes the Chancellor all the best in his endeavours. It is the prayer of the community that the good Lord should grant him the strength and wisdom he needs for such a big assignment.

FROM THE FINANCE OFFICE

Ernest Amoako-Adjei (Ag, Finance Officer)

I am delighted to report on another year of significant progress for the University. The rejuvenation and excitement generated amongst staff, students and stakeholders attest to a year in which the overall health of the University was further enhanced and the academic and community achievements of the University blossomed.

We began the year well in our new and more spacious campus with an exceptional intake of students. We have successfully settled in this new campus environment which has also improved the working environment our staff and students enjoy.

In our quest to enhancing the quality of teaching and service to our students, the University continuously hires highly qualified professionals who are dedicated and share in the vision and mission of the University. In this regard, the University currently has a full-time staff force of 117 of which 50 are senior members (teaching), 17 are senior members (administrative), 9 senior and 42 are junior staff.

As a way of ensuring that students have their own convenient choices in paying fees, the University has provided three different avenues by which students can pay fees:

1. Bankers’ draft made payable to the Catholic University College of Ghana. This must be presented to the Finance Office of CUCG for an official receipt.
2. Direct cash deposits into either of the following CUCG Students’ Accounts:
   - a) GCB, Sunyani Branch, Account Number: 7031130010271
   - b) NIB, Sunyani Branch, Account Number: 100-0604465-01
3. Direct payment by E-Zwich Cardholders at the University’s Finance Office.

The balance between an ambitious mission for the University and an awareness of risk has served the University exceedingly well over the years as we chart our way through turbulent times. While we celebrate our modest achievements so far, we also recognize there are potential risks in the current economic environment. Therefore, we shall keep a close check on key areas to minimize the risk.

We are confident that our financial strategy will allow us to steer the University towards achieving our overall mission and strategic aims.
SEMINAR SEEKS MASSIVE IMPROVEMENT

Knowledge acquired in the classroom might be essential but that gained through experience is equally important in the life of students, and anyone for that matter. It can be categorically said that certain forms of knowledge can only be acquired through experience and so there is the need to give people the opportunity to share their experiences with the university. For this purpose the university introduced what is known as the seminar period on the timetable of the university. This schedule affords members and external stakeholders the opportunity to share knowledge and experience with the university community.

The initiative has witnessed some strides the last two semesters. Various individuals inside and outside the university have taken advantage of this period to share knowledge and experience with the university community. They include:

- Mr. Paul Effah, Executive Secretary of the National Council for Tertiary Education conducted a seminar on Academic Leadership for the Senior Staff on the university community.

- Prof. James Hawkins Ephraim, Dr. Bonnah Koomson and Mr Osei Brafi led a discussion on Conducting and Supervising Research at CUCG. Some exciting perspectives were shared.

- Prof. William Walter Oblitey of Indiana University of Pennsylvania, A Fulbright Scholar from the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology gave a lecture on Information Assurance.

- The Project Planning Class of 2008/2009 made a presentation on sanitation in CUCG.

- Officers from the Ghana Standards Board Sunyani spoke to the university community on what standards are and what the Standards Board does.

The next place of visit was the home of 5 cripples who stay close to Nana Busuma market. The interaction that ensued between the guardian and the group disclosed that out of six children born to her late sister, five came out as cripples. Assorted items and an amount of GH¢50.00 was donated to them. The guardian on behalf of the crippled thanked the University for their generosity.

The penultimate point of call was the Compassion is Love Children’s home at Yawhima. Here items including children’s clothing, bags of rice, gallons of frytol, cartons of kalyppo and some biscuits were presented to the Home. The items were received by the chief of the town who serves as the father of the Home. We had a chat with the children and a tour of the facility. An inmate, Atta Komey prayed asking for God’s blessings and protection for the team and the university community at large.

The team finally ended their visit at radio BAR where the remaining clothes, bags and shoes meant for widows were presented to the presenter for Children’s Corner, Akua Ampsonah Baaku for onward distribution to widows in Sunyani and its environs.
CUCG Donates Items Worth 500 Ghana Cedis to Prisons, Orphanage, Physically Challenged And Widows

As part of the Lenten activities organized by the IMCS Pax Romana CUCG Local, the CUCG Newsletter Editorial team, and the University community visited the needy and less privileged in the society. The 2009 Lenten year was themed: “Whatsoever you do to the least of my brethren that you do unto me” (Matthew 25:40).

In harmony with the above theme, it was the objective of the organizers to share the joy of Easter with the needy and less privileged in society. As part of activities to acquire the necessary items for the activity, a five day sensitization campaign took place to remind members of the university community on the need to donate in kind and in cash to help the poor and the needy in the locality.

At the end of the sensitization campaign, used bags, shoes, toiletries, clothing and an amount of four hundred and seventy-four Ghana Cedis (GH¢ 474.00) was realized. This was used to purchase 2 bags of Texas (50kg) and 1 bag of Obama (25kg) of rice, 3 gallons of frytol cooking oil, 3 cartons of kalyppe, 5 boxes of cream cracker biscuits, 10 packs of jolly toilet rolls and 2 boxes of Always Ultra sanitary pads.

Four places were identified for the presentation of the items. They included the Sunyani Central Prison, an orphanage, Home of 5 brothers who are all crippled and their guardian, and the Brong Ahafo Region (BAR) radio. The presentation of the items was made on Friday, 24th of April 2009.

The first point of call was the Sunyani Central Prison. Upon arrival the chaplain and Mrs. Korang presented items to ASP Emmanuel Azafokpe on behalf of the group. After the items were received the officer thanked the university community for the kind gesture shown them. The items presented included used clothes, toilet rolls and sanitary pads. Interacting with the inmates, the chaplain encouraged them to be steadfast in their faith and obedient to their superiors.

When given a lemon, you either turn it into lemonade and drink it nicely or you just cut it and squeeze the juice and drink it with your face looking bad because it is bitter. The challenges that the January admission faced were enormous but the administration and staff turned it into lemonade and that was drunk nicely with all laughter.

The second batch of students admitted into the university on this programme have joined the institution and already have started academic work. This trumpets the success story of what has come to stay as the ‘January Programme’. The first batch of students who were matriculated last year are in their second semester in second year. A very challenging beginning but a success story in the end!

Interestingly, the students in level 100 who came in August, in order to differentiate the January Batch from themselves call the January students level 50’s (implying they have joined the academic year half way). They are of the view that in the academic year the January batch is half way and cannot be called level 100’s like themselves.

The first semester of the January programme begins in the second semester of the academic year. They continue with the second semester during the long vacation (June to August). Credit hours are doubled to make up for what would have been done in four months. It is quite engaging and an exciting period.

Hard work on the part of students, some lecturers and administration has made it a success. The Vice – Chancellor, Prof. James Hawkins Ephraim on many platforms has commended the lecturers, especially for their selfless dedication to the university and for the ‘January’ students who had to do their second semester during the long vacation. Lecturers had to forgo their vacation to help make this dream a reality.

He has always reiterated that he is grateful for their immense contribution. The following staff members and teaching assistants helped to process this lemon into lemonade, which we all gladly are drinking:

Fr. Dr. Owusu Addo, Dr. Kofi Barimah, Mr. Dominic Boye, Mr. Samuel Ofori Frimpong, Miss. Audrey Asante, Mr. Paul Yeboah, Fr. Dr. Patrick Nkrumah, Mrs Vida Korang, Mr. James Bright Nyarkoh, Mr. Vincent Kyere Nardey, Mr. Clement Serekumah, Mr. Dominic Kpeku, Mr. Kwabena Obiri Yeboah, Mrs. Elizabeth Sackey and all other lecturers. The University Community is most grateful to all who have helped the January admission programme to mature.
Mr. Kweku Devine Appenteng is the new systems administrator/IT manager for the Catholic University. He is a Microsoft certified trainer (MCT), MCSE, MCDBA, MCSA, CCNA, A+, N+, CISSP, etc.

Meet The New Assistant Registrar
Mr. Ebenezer Koif Aponsah is the new Assistant Registrar. He holds a first degree in Sociology and Law and MBA in Strategic Management and Management Consulting from the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi. He has vast working experience in development sociology and Management Consulting. He is married with a child.

Meet The New Systems Administrator/IT Manager
Mr. Kweku Devine Appenteng is the new systems administrator/IT manager for the Catholic University. He is a Microsoft certified trainer (MCT), MCSE, MCDBA, MCSA, CCNA, A+, N+, CISSP, etc.

CERAMIC WATER FILTER
The World Health Organization says that every year more than 3.4 million people die as a result of water related diseases, making it the leading cause of disease and death around the world. Most of the victims are young children, the vast majority of whom die of illnesses caused by organisms that thrive in water sources contaminated by raw sewage.

80% of our medical reported cases are waterborne related (keynote address by former Swiss Ambassador, Goerg Zuberer in December 2004). These water-borne diseases are largely attributable to drinking unsafe water directly from stagnant ponds, rivers and wells. Research has shown the positive effect of good and safe drinking water on our health.

Household ceramic water filter is a product that is believed to help improve our health through safe and good drinking water. It is simple to use and is chemical-free. Its application can save Ghana between USD $250-300 million.

This project is part of the Catholic University’s Corporate Social Responsibility under the theme of good health through safe and good drinking water through treatment and storage. It is part of the water and sanitation programme of the Centre for Applied Research, Consultancy and Outreach Programme (CARCCO). The application of research and development in the science and technology for societal benefit is one of the university’s guiding pillars.

Five complete household ceramic water filters were donated by the University (CUCG) to the Budumbura Leprosarium through Christ the King parish church on the 31st February 2010. The items were received by Rev. Fr. Campbell of the Christ the King parish in Accra.
Our University Motto “Scientiae Ac Sapientiae, Lumen Splendent”: Its Meaning And Implications For Our Students

Rev. Msgr. Dr. Stephen Ntem, Ag. Dean, Faculty of Education

Introduction

Most societies, organizations and institutions have their own catch phrase, word, or axiom that underscores their raison d’etre. This catch phrase almost always is a summary of the underlying philosophy for which the institution was set up by the founding fathers. This is called motto. For example in Ghana, our national motto as a nation is “Freedom and Justice”. That means that for Ghanaians collectively, irrespective of political, religious, tribal, ethnic affiliations, we abhor dictatorship of every form. We respect basic fundamental freedom which is the bedrock for justice. Where respect for other people’s freedom, justice prevails. Where there is justice, there is peace and stability. That is why for Ghanaians, notwithstanding our political meandering of parliamentary democracy, the rule of law, respect for fundamental rights, accountability to the governed who gave political legitimacy to politicians to rule over us. It is this Ghanaian respect for freedom and justice that makes the electorate since 1992, change governments periodically or give those in government another term of office through the ballot box. All this underscores the collective Ghanaian political philosophy and motto, “freedom and justice”, as opposed to dictatorship and oppression.

Catholic Church and Education

Our University, being Catholic and the first of its kind in this country, also has an overriding philosophy: combining academic excellence with practical wisdom and character formation. It is this philosophy that motivated the Ghana Catholic Bishops Conference, which over the years, has been key partner in social development with government in this country, especially in the areas of education and health to set up this uniquely unique University. In fact, formal education as such, began in this country, some three hundred years before the colonial period (1539-1850) by the Castles schools and the Christian missions. Education, therefore, has always been pivotal as far as the Church is concerned. In medieval Europe, the first University, the University of Bologna and many other prestigious Universities, such as Oxford, the University of Paris, the famous La Sorbonne University also in France, and many others, were all initially set up by the Roman Catholic Church. It was not until the Industrial Revolution and the Protestant Reformation period with emphasis on secularization and secularism, as opposed to the ecclesiastical authority of the Pope that prepared the ground for secular authority to take over these institutions from the Catholic Church. Consequently, the Church historically, has always believed and still believes that an educated society with educated members is indeed an asset. The uneducated society with uneducated members could be compared to an uncultivated field: no matter how fertile and virgin the land is, it is still unrefined.

Bringing out the best in the Young Person

It is with this same passion to bring out the best and the excellent in every young person, Ghanaian and non-Ghanaian who will assume leadership positions, that the Catholic Church of Ghana under the auspices of its leadership, the Ghana Catholic Bishops Conference set up the Catholic University of Ghana and chose as its motto Scientiae Ac Sapientiae Lumen Splendente. Translated into English it means: May the Light of knowledge and Wisdom shine forth. For the Catholic Church and the classical Greek philosophers, such as Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, who were themselves educational theorists and moralists, education is more than the mere acquisition of skills and knowledge. Knowledge and skill acquisition find their legitimation in conjunction with and beyond the scope of the formal educational programs. Organization in CUGC may be classified as follows: student governance (e.g. the SRC), departmental clubs, social fraternities (e.g. I-Debate), spiritual societies (e.g. Pax Romana), recreations (e.g. PUSAG), and other interest groups.

The justification for these programs for students at CUCG develops naturally from the pursuit of the college’s underlying goals related to the development of the total individual. The strength of the activities/programmes rests in the fact that it affords outlets for creative self-expression in diversified interest areas and settings for maximum number of students at CUCG. Students are therefore encouraged to join any of these clubs, associations, and groups to develop their God given talents.

The Dean of Students’ Affairs is committed to providing the students at the CUCG with the support needed to succeed during their college experience. To this end the mission of the office is to encourage each student in the full development of his or her intellectual, spiritual, cultural, social, vocational and physical capabilities. Opportunities for the overall development of individuals are provided in conjunction with and beyond the scope of the formal educational programs. Organization in CUCG may be classified as follows: student governance (e.g. the SRC), departmental clubs, social fraternities (e.g. I-Debate), spiritual societies (e.g. Pax Romana), recreations (e.g. PUSAG), and other interest groups.

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The Dean of Students’ Affairs is committed to providing the students at the CUCG with the support needed to succeed during their college experience. To this end the mission of the office is to proactively provide a broad range of opportunities essential for academic, spiritual and personal development to increase the retention and success of our students. Students are therefore encouraged to visit the office regularly.

For this semester, there is a paradigm shift. Students’ examination trails have to be reduced to the barest minimum. The office is in collaboration with the academic departments to see that students get the recognition they deserve. The office has matched students with academic advisors to encourage close contact with assigned faculty members or administrators. Other services offered to students include notifying lecturers of a student’s class difficulties or progress and offering personal consultations. The Dean of Students’ Affairs Office monitors students’ academic lives and offers the support and referrals necessary for success.

University Assistance

With the assistance of some benevolent individuals the university has over the years been able to assist some needy but brilliant students pay their tuition fees. Some students with genuine financial difficulties have been given some assistance towards having part of their tuition fees paid.

It is the wish of the university, though with numerous financial challenges, to solicit for funds for students who wish to pursue university education but due to financial difficulty. By paying the tuition fees of needy students, CUCG has helped those who could not have afforded the four – year university education. Most of the funds have been invested and the interest would be used to finance brilliant but needy students.

The individuals who have contributed are:

- Rev. Fr. Dr. Michael Schultheis – former President of CUCG
- Sir Dr. K. Donkoh Fordwör – Vice President of the Board of Trustees of CUCG
- Sir. Fosuaba Mensah Banahene – former Administrator GEfund
- Most Rev. G. Kocherry – former Apostolic Nuncio to Ghana
- Mr. J.H. Mensah – former member of parliament for Sunyani East constituency

The university wishes to encourage individuals and organisations that have the university at heart to contribute toward this good gesture. This would help train more Ghanaians to support the various sectors that are in need of skilled manpower.
Engagements and impact of the university

Some staff of the university have published books, delivered papers at some conferences and attended seminars during the last academic year. They are

Mensah, Ebow, Dr. phil., Professor of Sociology and Dean of the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration (EBA), the Guest speaker at the General Conference of the Brothers FIC Congregation, Ghana Province spoke on The Socio – cultural context of Ghana in which the FIC Brothers in Ghana find themselves, from 24th–25th September, 2009, in Wa, Upper West Region.

Korang, Vida, MSc, a lecturer in the EBA faculty delivered a paper on Promoting educational excellence: the Role of the Lady Teacher at the inauguration of the Brong Ahafo – NAGRAT’S – “Ladies of excellence” on July 24th 2009 in Sunyani.

Koranteng, Kofo Bofi, Ph.D. Acting Dean of the PHAS Faculty has written a book on Tradition Medicine in Canada: Practice, problems and prospects among Ghanaians. Saarbrücken, Germany: VDM Verlag Dr. Müller Aktiengesellschaft and attended a conference at The College of Health Sciences, Legon 3rd Annual Scientific Conference, Accra’Traditional Healers as Service Providers in Ghana’s National Health Insurance Scheme: The Wrong Way Forward?”

Barimah, Yakubu, MHI, a lecturer in the PHAS faculty, was a reviewer of the African Journal of Information System.

Nyarko, James Bright, MPhil, a Lecturer in the EBA faculty delivered a paper on The Role of Polytechnic Education in the Economic Development of Ghana on 22 – 25 November 2009 at a Research Conference of Polytechnics in Ghana. He also delivered a paper on Dedicated sources of funding for Science and Technology Education in Ghana on the 13 – 15 December 2009 at the Sunyani Polytechnic Lecture Series.

CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY GETS AN INTERNAL AUDITOR

Mr. Thomas Ameyaw a graduate of the University of Cape Coast and University of Ghana,Legon, (B.Com. Hons., MBA Accounting respectively) is the first internal auditor of the Catholic University. He is a member of The Association of Chartered Certified Accountant (ACCA) and a member of Institute of Chartered Accountant (ICA) Ghana. Mr. Ameyaw has 14 years working experience in various organizations. He is a married man with 3 children.

He was a lecturer at the Sunyani Polytechnic and a former director of finance and administration Mm Agro and Industrial Projects Ltd. He also worked in the UK as an accountant/auditor for GKD Accountancy Services in Manchester, UK. He taught in a number of colleges in the UK including Manchester College of Professional Studies, West London College, Manchester Campus, Pinnacle International College, Manchester and Global Vision College, Manchester.
The Catholic University of Ghana enters its eighth academic year (since its accreditation in December 2002 and the official opening in March 2003, with its second admission in November the same year). The transition to the new site at Fiapre marked a tremendous improvement in terms of population increase and the building of the first phase of physical structures, etc. Yet a lot more is expected to meet the aspirations and wishes of the founding fathers, the administrators, the staff and students as well as friends of the Catholic University. What should we expect in the years to come? How should we advance in the realization of our vision as an ecclesial institution? These and many other questions prompt the Chaplaincy to propose a reflection based on a celebration that coincides with the opening of our academic year, that is, the Feast of Mary’s Assumption.

The author is of the view that our success depends largely on the faith and trust with which we take off and pursue our programmes – academic, administrative, developmental, religious or whatever – with the view to achieving greater success as a united body. We need to be committed to our shared mission of "inculcating high moral standards and imparting gospel values to students in their integral formation in the course of their university education" (Introductory Brochure, p.5). We face big challenges: “inadequate logistics, poor access road to campus, inadequate financial resources” (Documentary on CUCG) and lack of appropriate place for worship. Yet there is greater hope of success, if we can trust and hope as Mary the Mother of Christ did: she responded to the Angelic invitation and now invites us to tread the path of humility, obedience and dedicated service through the mystery of her Assumption.

Learning to understand the Feast of Assumption

“In Mary’s glorious assumption, we celebrate the fulfillment of our Christian destiny, and with her we proclaim the greatness of the Lord” (Introduction to the Feast, August 15).

The Feast of the Assumption of Mary into Heaven, celebrated each year on August 15, is a foretaste of that to which we joyfully gaze. In gratitude and love for her complete gift of herself to Him, God has brought Mary to be with Him in his Kingdom in body and soul. In 1950, Pope Pius XII solemnly defined: “The Immaculate Mother of God, Mary always Virgin, after having completed the course of her earthly life, was elevated body and soul into the heavenly glory.”

The Gospels point to Mary as a woman, strong, willing and determined, who responds with all her trust and faith to God’s call addressed to her. She said: “Behold the handmaid of the Lord, be it done unto me according to your word” (Lk 1:38). When she understood that God’s promise was being fulfilled in her, a song of praise sprang from her heart. With the “joys, the pains and the questions of every mother she will accompany till the end this son given to her” (Aujourd’hui Dimanche, Juillet-Septembre 1997, p.160).

Living the Feast of Assumption Today

Many non-Catholics (and some Catholics, too) confuse honouring Mary and worshiping God. The Church honours Mary because of the honour that God Himself gave to her in making her the mother of Jesus, and also because of her faith and love. The Church worships only God. Catholics do not worship Mary, but we do respect and love her as the Mother of Christ, “who is truly the Mother of God, whom the Eastern Christian call 'Theotokos', that is, she who begets God.” She is the Mother of the Church, just as she is our model of faith and love. There is more to learn from her.

As the Mother of God (Theotokos), Mary is mother to all, not only Catholics. By her openness to God with faith and trust, she is a model for us today. When we walk through difficult moments, when we know not what to do any longer, let us turn to her: “as the beginning and the pattern of the Church in its perfection, and a sign of hope and ready to New Staff

The university has seen off some great senior members and received new lecturers to beef up the teaching staff. The lecturers had to leave either because of end of contract or were due for retirement. Among them were Rev. Sr Prof. Feeley, the first female professor of the university, Mrs. Pamela Fisk and Rev. Fr. Michael Burke. In their farewell remarks, the lecturers expressed satisfaction with progress at the university and the assistance given them during their stay.

The university has also added to the strength of the staff members after the exit of some faculty members mentioned above. A total of nineteen staff members joined the university. Prominent amongst them are Dr. Bonnah Koomson, PhD, Int. Communication, University of Athens, Ohio, USA, formerly of the University of Ghana Legon; Rev. Fr. Dr. James Ackah, PhD, Systematic Ecumenical and Pastoral Theology, University of Innsbruck, Austria and Ziem, Juventus Bengole, PhD, Clinical Parasitology.

Adieu to Selfless Lecturers And Welcome to New Staff

Good health is one of the paramount ingredients that make life worth living. It was therefore in the right direction when as part of the activities of the Project Management Class of 2008 – 2009, a proposal on sanitation in the university was developed. Power point presentations were made on this proposal to various stakeholders for possible suggestions and sponsorship: Cross section of students and faculty members, The Sunyani Municipal Assembly, The Sunyani West District Assembly, Servicorp Ghana limited and many others. The proposal sought to inculcate good sanitary practices among members of the university community and effective management of the facilities on campus.

The presentations enabled the students to put into practice theories learnt in class and to seek assistance in solving the sanitation problems confronting our young University.

The presentations received a good response. Servicorp Ghana Limited, for instance, donated sanitary items worth two thousand Ghana cedis (GHS2000) to the University. Servicorp Ghana Limited has also organized a free training section for the cleaners in the University. We expect the relationship with Servicorp to go a long way to improve the sanitation situation in the school. Mrs vida Korang a lecturer for Project Management has also donated twenty sanitary bins and other items worth two hundred Ghana cedis to the university. We still hope for some response from the other stakeholders.

SANITATION IN CUCG

Servicrop worker teaching cleaners how to go about their duty

Some workers with Servicrop Officials

Sr. Prof Feeley receiving her gift from the community

A section of the Community
And it ends well

Rev. Sr. Chika delivers the valedictory address

Final blessing from Bishops

A section of Graduands

A section of Matriculants

A section of Dignitaries

A section of Nananom

A section of Pax Choir

A section of the Graduands

VC (left) with dignitaries

Dean & Ag. Deans with Registrar

Prof. K. Yankah Pro - VC, University of Ghana

A good work done says the Dean

Brong Ahafo Regional Minister - Kwadwo Nyamekye Marfo

Chaplain - Fr. Dr. Ntow

Ag. Dean (ICST): Dr. Amponsah

A section of Rev. Sister

Night School Graduands

A section of Nananom

A section of Rev. Sister

Night School Graduands

A section of Nananom

A section of Rev. Sister

Family and friends at the ceremony

Final blessing from Bishops

A section of Matriculants

A section of Dignitaries

A section of Pax Choir

A section of the Matriculants