

# UNIVERSITY FOR DEVELOPMENT STUDIES



## e-News Letter

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# OUR VOICE OUR PRIDE



Volume

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## **Inaugural Lecture by Professor Gordana Kranjac-Berisavljevic**

The University for Development Studies (UDS) is to hold its 2<sup>nd</sup> Inaugural Lecture on May 2, 2014 at the Academic Board Chamber, Central Administration, Tamale Campus.

The topic for this inaugural lecture is “Revolution of Food Production: Agricultural Engineering Options for Ghana’s Inclusive Growth” and will be delivered by Prof. Gordana Kranjac-Berisavljevic of The Department of Agricultural Mechanisation and Irrigation Technology of our Faculty of Agriculture.

Inaugural Lectures are held to commemorate the inaugural lecturer’s appointment to full professorship, providing them a platform to present to the community, research they have been focusing on during their career. It also provides the university the opportunity to showcase its academics as well as share its research findings.

This is yet another milestone chalked-up in the history of UDS.

### **Professor Gordana Kranjac-Berisavljevic (*Professor of Agricultural Engineering*)**

*“A distinguished researcher and lecturer, outstanding team leader, seasoned academic investigator and promoter of positive image”.*

Congratulations to Prof. Gordana on delivering a knowledge-packed inaugural lecture on May, 2, 2014 at the Academic Board Chamber, Central Administration. Speaking on the topic: “Revolution of Food Production: Agricultural Engineering Options for Ghana’s Inclusive Growth” Prof. Gordana gave a brief history of Agricultural Engineering and why Agricultural Engineering is important in our world today.

The climax of her day came when she expressed heartfelt thanks and gratitude to a number of special people in her private and working life.

To crown it all was a cocktail at the UDS International Conference Centre in honour of her. It was attended by the Vice-Chancellor and other principal staff and senior members of UDS.

## **2014 Level 100 TTFPP Orientation takes place in Kumasi**

This year's Third Trimester Field Practical Programme (TTFPP) orientation and dispatch of level 100 students has taken place in Kumasi. This event took place on May 26, 2014 at the Court Yard of Independence Hall, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology. Due to the huge number of students involved, they have been divided into two batches- a similar ceremony is therefore scheduled to take place on June 2, 2014 at the same venue for the second batch.

The Third Trimester Field Practical Programme (TTFPP) forms a central part of the academic training curriculum of the University for Development Studies. Amongst other things the University is mandated "to blend academic world with that of the community in order to provide constructive interaction between the two for the total development of Northern Ghana in particular and the country as a whole". In pursuance of this mandate, the Third Trimester programme is devoted solely to practical fieldwork in rural communities, where students live and carry out studies on developmental issues.

UDS is proud of and very enthusiastic about this flagship program which we affectionately refer to as "Third Trimester". This programme is what makes UDS unique among all other universities in Ghana.

We wish our level 100 students all the best.

## **Professor Stephen B. Fawcett visits UDS**

Professor Stephen Fawcett, Director of the World Health Organization Collaborating Centre and Director of the Work Group for Community Health and Development in the University of Kansas, USA, is visiting UDS from May 30 - June 7, 2014.

Prof. Fawcett's visit is to finalize arrangements for the signing of a memorandum of understanding leading to collaboration between the University of Kansas and the University for Development Studies.

The visit will also focus on cultural adaptation and use of Community Tool Box Curriculum within the African context that will enhance the Masters in Community Health and Development programme in UDS and subsequently, make her the centre of excellence in the West African sub region.

## **A Delegation Led by the Vice-Chancellor, UDS, visits Stellenbosch University in South Africa.**

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Haruna Yakubu and a team from the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resource Management visited Stellenbosch University (SUN), South Africa in May this year.

The established relationship between the department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management (DFARM) of UDS and the Department of Animal Science of SUN began in 2009 when a lecturer from UDS gained admission into SUN to pursue a PhD in Aquaculture.

The agenda for this visit included discussions on collaboration, UDS-SUN long term vision and strategic alliance with reference to students and staff and to meet the main participants and assistants of SUN Aquaculture Division.

With the Vice-Chancellor on this visit were Prof. S.K. Opong, Dean, FRNR; Dr. Elliot H. Alhassan, HoD, FARM and Dr. A. Ampofo-Yeboah, Lecturer, DFARM.

H. E. the Indian High Commissioner, Mr. Jeeva Sagar on May 2, 2014 paid a courtesy call on the Vice-Chancellor of UDS, Prof. Haruna Yakubu at the Central Administration, Tamale Campus. Together with the Vice-Chancellor to welcome H.E was the Principal staff of UDS and the Director of UDS International, Prof. Gordana Kranjac-Berisavljevic.

Matters on possible collaborations between UDS and India were discussed. H.E expressed his profound gratitude for the invitation as a special guest to Prof. Gordana Kranjac-Berisavljevic's inaugural lecture on the same day. He said that he was conscious of the reputation of UDS and that of the Vice-Chancellor and was honoured to be in Tamale mainly to visit UDS.

The Vice-Chancellor in turn was very happy to have him and observed that, UDS found lots of similarities between Ghana and India and expressed the need for the two to collaborate more in areas of academia and development such as in solar energy and ICT.

## **H. E. Festus Mogae Arrives in UDS**

His Excellency the Former President of Botswana, Festus Mogae has arrived in University for Development Studies (UDS) and graced this year's Africa Leadership Lectures. To welcome His Excellency were the management of UDS led by Dr. A.B. Salifu, Chairman of UDS Council and Prof. Haruna Yakubu, Vice-Chancellor, UDS. Complementing the Management of UDS to welcome His Excellency were the Regional Minister and his Deputy. In his welcome address, the Vice-Chancellor expressed his delight in having His Excellency Festus Mogae, to enrich this year's lectures with his vast and in depth knowledge and experience especially in matters pertaining to Africa's development.

During a press conference held at the UDS International Conference Centre, on his arrival, His Excellency alluded to mineral rights, compensation as well as legal and social issues as some of the challenges hindering most countries in Africa from maximising their full developmental potentials. He exquisitely answered questions from journalists on matters of democracy and governance, giving a clear indication of what the media and the general public were to expect during the 3-Day Lectures; and indeed, from all indications, he delivered. Making reference to Britain's Winston Churchill, H.E. Mogae said that in his view, democracy is not the ultimate system of governance but in the absence of an alternative, he believes that Africa should endeavor to practice it.

Day three, which climaxed the entire programme; "Personal Experience with the study of Development Issues" was the topic His Excellency Mogae delivered his lecture on, which he personally and specifically dedicated to the UDS. Just like previous days, the lecture was delivered in the Academic Board Chamber at UDS Central Administration. It was also marked by a Special Congregation to confer on H. E. Mogae an Honorary Degree and conferment of degrees on some grandaunds. During the Special Congregation, His Excellency Kwesi Bakoe Amisah-Arthur accompanied by some Ministers of State graced the occasion as well as very prominent Chiefs of Dagbon.

Also in attendance were the Police Band from the Pwalegu Police Training School and the cultural troupe from the Centre for National Culture, Tamale.

## **UDS signs MoU with the University of Kansas, USA**

An agreement of Cultural, Educational, and Scientific cooperation has been signed between the University of Kansas, USA and the University for Development Studies at a brief ceremony held on Friday June 6, 2014 at the Central Administration, UDS, Tamale Campus.

The Vice-Chancellor of UDS, Prof. Haruna Yakubu and the Director of UDS International, Prof. Gordana Kranjac-Berisavljevic initialed for UDS while Bernadette Gray-Little, Chancellor and Susan L. Gronbeck-Tedesco, Associate Vice-Provost, International Programmes penciled for the University of Kansas.

Within the general framework of the Memorandum of Understanding the two institutions will undertake joint research and educational activities, exchange of scholars for lectures, visits and sharing of experiences and cooperation among faculty, research personnel and graduate or undergraduate students for study and research, among others.

Welcoming Prof. Stephen Fawcett, a Representative of the University of Kansas, Dr. A.B.T Zakariah, Registrar of UDS, gave an insight into the establishment of the UDS, noting that the Act establishing the University mandated it (University) to blend academic work with community outreach for the development of Northern Ghana in particular, and Ghana as a whole.

He stated that, the idea of establishing linkages with reputable local and international institutions was an integral part of the policy framework of the University and lauded the School of Medicine and Health Sciences for taking the initiative to collaborate with the University of Kansas.

The Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Prof. G.A. Teye who represented the Vice-Chancellor observed that, the Third Trimester Field Practical Programme, the University's flagship programme, offered a perfect opportunity for collaboration between the two institutions, particularly in the area of community health.

For his part, Prof. Stephen Fawcett who also doubles as the Director of the World Health Organization Collaborating Centre for Community Health and Development expressed optimism that the signing of an MoU will allow for new ideas to be explored and shared to facilitate teaching, learning and research, with emphasis on community health. In his opinion the Problem Based Learning (UDS' pedagogy for medical training) was an exceptional model for the world and allowed for interactive engagement with the community. He indicated his resolve to work assiduously to achieve the objectives of the MoU. Also present at the Ceremony were Dr. Robert Kuganab-Lem and Mr. Mustapha Issahaku, both of the Department of Allied Health Sciences, School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

## **UDS and Clemson University, USA to run Joint Programmes**

A Five-Member Team from Clemson University, USA, led by Prof. Constanio Nakuma, Dean of the Faculty of Planning, Development and Preservation has paid a working visit to the University for Development Studies. This was consequent upon prior consultations held with the Director of UDS International and the Dean-in-Charge, UDS Wa Campus.

The import of the meeting was to deliberate on areas of mutual interest for a formal collaboration between the two institutions. Prof. James H. Spencer, Chair, Faculty of Planning, Development and Preservation of Clemson University observed that, the Third Trimester Field Practical Programme (TTFPP) run by the UDS offered a great opportunity for international engagement. He stated that the two institutions could collaborate in several areas, especially Housing, Real Estate and Community Development, Environmental Planning, GIS, Land use and Urban Design, Transportation Planning and Demographics, Diversity and Heritage Planning.

For his part, Prof. Francis Bacho Dean-in-Charge, UDS Wa Campus briefed the Clemson Team on the establishment of the Faculty of Planning and Land Management, which was carved out of the Faculty of Integrated Development

Studies with a special focus to run courses aimed at addressing the challenges of planning and real estate management. He hinted that both the Faculty of Planning and Land Management and the Faculty of Integrated Development Studies could collaborate with Clemson University to undertake Research, Student/ Faculty exchange and joint curricular development.

Prof. Gordana Kranjac-Berisaljevic, Director, UDS International, expressed the hope that the deliberations and further discourse, would culminate in the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding, to kick start a fruitful relationship between the two institutions. Also present at the meeting were Dr. Sylvester Galaa, Dean, FIDS and Dr. Osmanu Kanton, Head, Department of Environment and Resource Studies.

## **University for Development Studies Partners the African Studies Centre at the University of Michigan, to Train the next generation of African scholars**

The University of Michigan African Presidential Scholars Program (UMAPS) is designed to enhance collaboration between early career faculty from Ghana, Liberia, South Africa, and Uganda and students and faculty at the University of Michigan (U-M). It was launched in 2009 with funding from the office of University of Michigan President Mary Sue Coleman. Since its inception the UMAPS has supported programs of prestigious group of over seventy African faculties.

The program's goal is to support faculty development in Africa and capacity building for African home institutions. Under the program, African scholars from all disciplines and all subjects are eligible to apply for the sponsorship to spend periods of four to six months at the University of Michigan, where they will have access to library and research materials that can assist them in working on a research project, academic degree, new course, grant proposal, or other relevant activity. While in residency, they will also be paired with a U-M faculty member for mentorship or collaboration on projects that will help them advance their careers. These activities allow U-M to build and strengthen lasting scholarly relationships with visiting scholars and their home institutions.

The University for Development Studies has hosted Professor Elisha Renne, a faculty affiliate of the African Studies Centre (ASC) of the University of Michigan to discuss the objectives and ongoing activities of the ASC and concretize steps towards bringing UDS on board the UMAPS program. Kennedy Alatinga is the first faculty to have benefited from the UMAPS, and is now an alumnus. Dennis Chirawurah has also been selected to benefit from the UMAPS program and with the formalization of the partnership, more UDS faculty will be eligible to apply for the program.

## **UDS Deepens Relationship with India**

The relationship between the University for Development Studies (UDS) and India received a further boost with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between UDS and the ARIMA group (an Indian Non Governmental Organization) at a brief ceremony held on Thursday 26, June, 2014 at the Central Administration, Tamale Campus. This was preceded by a visit to Yapei, a community in the Central Gonja District of the Northern Region, where a farm would be established, consequent upon the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding.

The Indian delegation which included the Deputy Indian High Commissioner to Ghana was welcomed by the Registrar, Dr. A. B. T Zakariah on behalf of the Vice-Chancellor. Mr. Bakari Sadiq Nyari, Chairman of the National Lands Commission and a Representative of the Savanaah Accelerated Development Authority (SADA) observed that the MoU was the outcome of several consultative meetings held by the various stakeholders. He stated further that

the establishment of the farm at Yapei would require technical expertise, which he was optimistic would be provided by the Faculty of Agriculture of the UDS.

The Deputy Indian High Commissioner to Ghana, H.E. Ajneesh Kumar opined that the gesture by ARIMA to establish a farm at Yapei to help alleviate poverty in that community and beyond was in furtherance of the vision of Periyar Maniammai, one of the great social Leaders of India.

For his part, the Vice-Chancellor of UDS, Prof. Haruna Yakubu was enthused with the idea of a collaboration that will allow UDS staff and students to exchange ideas, information and experiences with experts from India, as well as conduct joint research using facilities at the Nyankpala Campus.

Also present at the ceremony were Mr. KC Ezhilarasan, Chairman of the ARIMA Group, Prof. Gordana Kranjac-Berisaljevic, Director, UDS International and Prof. George Nyarko, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture.

Prior to the signing of the MoU, the UDS had, with the support of the Indian High Commission, collaborated with the Periyar Maniammai University for the development of curricular in various fields of study and engaged in staff and student exchange with same.

## **Zenith Bank Donates to UDS**

The University for Development Studies has been fortunate in receiving legacies from its generous allies. As part of the preparations towards the forthcoming Africa Leadership Lectures, one of Ghana's most reputable Financial Institutions, Zenith Bank, has shown once again, its commitment to UDS and for that matter, learning and development in Africa by making donations towards the 3-Day Public Lectures which comes off from April 9-11, 2014.

To receive the donation on behalf of the University was the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Haruna Yakubu. In his address, the Vice-Chancellor, thanked the bank and added that "donations of this nature play a really important role in making UDS the great university that it is".

Equally prominent banks such as Stanbic Bank, NIB, Ghana Commercial Bank and SSG and Gold Coast Fund Management have made similarly generous donations.

## **UDS Receives Donations from Financial Institutions**

As part of the preparations towards the forthcoming Africa Leadership Lectures, some of Ghana's most reputable Financial Institutions, Zenith Bank, Stanbic Bank, NIB, Ghana Commercial Bank, SG Bank and Gold Coast Fund Management have shown once again, their commitment to UDS and for that matter, learning and development in Africa, by making donations towards the 3-Day Public Lectures which comes off from April 9-11, 2014.

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## **Matriculation for Fresh Sandwich Graduate Students**

University for Development Studies (UDS) has held a matriculation ceremony for Sandwich Graduate Students at the Central Administration, Tamale Campus.

The ceremony marked the climax of the admission process that started in June this year. These sandwich programmes provide the opportunity for workers to undertake further studies while at post. They are tailored to cater for the needs of teachers in Northern Ghana who otherwise have to travel down-south to update their knowledge at the expense of their students.

The Vice-Chancellor of UDS, Prof. Haruna Yakubu, indicated that the University has mounted twenty-four sandwich programmes at the graduate level and are been hosted at the Tamale, Nyankpala, Navorongo and Wa campuses. "Some of these programmes are Master of Education (M.Ed) in Agriculture, Master of Education (M.Ed) in Training and Development, Master of Arts (MA) in Development Education and Postgraduate Diploma in Education" he noted. Prof. Yakubu entreated all admitted fresh students to behave in a mature manner and to respect the norms and values of UDS.

Led by the Registrar of The University, Dr. A.B.T. Zakariah, the students swore an oath to obey the rules of the University. Also present at the ceremony were the Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Gabriel Teye, Deans and Directors, Heads of Department and Senior Members.

## **UDS holds 15<sup>th</sup> Congregation in Wa and Tamale**

The University for Development Studies (UDS) has held its 15<sup>th</sup> Congregation in Wa and Tamale on December 6, 2014 and December 13, 2014 respectively.

Speaking in Wa, the Vice President, H.E. Kwesi Amissah-Arthur urged UDS to work to improve agriculture, especially in the Savannah belt of Ghana. Mr. Amissah-Arthur told the graduands that Ghanaians are looking up to them to make Ghana and the world a better place.

He said while government could not offer all of them jobs, their education should be used as a tool to develop themselves for greater opportunities. He urged them to consistently live up to the values of UDS to enable them to overcome the many challenges some of them would encounter.

A total of 3,896 students were awarded with postgraduate and undergraduate degrees and diplomas in Wa.

In Tamale, the ceremony took place at the forecourt of the School of Medicine and Health Sciences, Tamale Campus where 2,631 graduands received certificates in various academic disciplines. The Vice-Chancellor of UDS, Prof. Haruna Yakubu entreated the graduands to put to good use the skills that they have acquired through their training at UDS.

The Vice-Chancellor also expressed concern over security challenges facing the university. "We are currently in negotiations and talks with the Police Command of the three Northern Regions to assist us with police patrols and other security services they can on our campuses" he said.

The Chairman of the University Governing Council, Dr. A.B. Salifu in his address, paid tribute to one of two students from the Wa campus who lost her life through drunk driving only days after the congregation in Wa. He condemned such acts of recklessness in our society.

The Guest of Honour, the Deputy Minister in charge of Tertiary Education, Samuel Okudjeto Ablakwa reaffirmed government's resolve to continue to invest in tertiary education. He noted that government through the GETFund, will complete all ongoing projects in tertiary institutions so as to increase the number of enrolments into these institutions.

On matters of security, He admonished the Inspector General of Police to provide enough security on all campuses of tertiary institutions.

Some deserving students received prizes and awards for excelling in the various academic disciplines.