



CHRISTIAN SERVICE UNIVERSITY, KUMASI

P. O. BOX KS 3110, Kumasi.

Email: info@csuc.edu.gh

Tel: 03220-28781

OFFICE OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

VICE-CHANCELLOR'S ADDRESS AT 49th MATRICULATION CEREMONY - OCTOBER 26, 2024

Faculty and Staff

Students

Freshmen and Women

Parents and Guardians

Members of the Press

Ladies and gentlemen

It is with great gratitude to God that I welcome each of you to Christian Service University. Today marks the beginning of a new and exciting journey for you, our freshmen and women, and it is an honor to officially welcome you into this esteemed institution. The decision to pursue higher education is a significant step, and we are privileged that you have chosen CSU as the place where you will grow academically, personally, and spiritually.

Note that you have entered this University at a very unique time in the history of the institution. The year 2024 marks the achievements of two important milestones - 50th Anniversary celebration and granting of

Presidential Charter that makes CSU a full-fledged autonomous university. Join us in thanking God for what He has done for the institutions.

Many of you may have envisioned attending various institutions, but I believe that God's hand has brought you here for a purpose. You are not here by coincidence. This is a place where dreams are nurtured, talents are honed, and futures are built upon a solid Christian foundation. Your success at CSU depends on your commitment, discipline, and, most importantly, your faith in God. Remember, success is not a destination but a journey, and we are here to support you every step of the way.

I am pleased to report on the admission figures for the first semester of the 2024/25 academic year. We have once again witnessed growth in our student admissions. For the September session, we have admitted approximately 600 students comprising 80% undergraduate and 20 postgraduates respectively. Furthermore, the statistics show that about 63% enrolled in **Nursing and Midwifery** underscoring the relevance of our courses in today's job market. It is particularly encouraging to note that the percentage of female students continues to rise, about 65% of total enrolment, a testament to our efforts to promote female participation in tertiary education in Ghana.

On the Path to Academic Success

As you embark on this journey, it is important to recognize that academic success requires a strategic approach and a determined mindset. Beyond attending lectures and completing assignments, I urge you to develop good

study habits. Time management is key—prioritize your academic responsibilities, set clear goals, and make effective use of the resources available to you. At CSU, you have access to a wealth of knowledge, from our experienced faculty, the library, online resources, and academic support services.

Participate actively in class, ask questions, and engage with your lecturers and peers. Learning is a collaborative process, and the more you engage, the more you will grow. Beyond the classroom, make use of tutorial sessions, group discussions, and mentorship opportunities. Our faculty members are not only experts in their fields but also dedicated to guiding you towards achieving your full potential.

Equally important is **discipline**. There is no shortcut to success, and I encourage you to cultivate self-discipline in all aspects of your academic life. Be punctual for lectures, submit assignments on time, and maintain academic integrity. Cheating, plagiarism, and any form of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated at CSU. Upholding your integrity will not only define your time here but will shape your future beyond the university.

A Holistic Approach to Education

At Christian Service University, we believe in nurturing the whole person—mind, body, and spirit. Education goes beyond the acquisition of knowledge; it is about developing character, values, and a sense of purpose. As a Christian institution, we place a high premium on your spiritual growth. I encourage you to actively participate in our chapel services, Bible

studies, and other spiritual activities. These will not only strengthen your faith but will also provide a moral compass as you navigate the challenges of life.

In a world full of distractions and conflicting ideologies, it is crucial to remain grounded in your faith. The principles you learn here – of humility, integrity, hard work, good stewardship, compassion, excellence and service – are what will set you apart as a Christian leader in whatever field you choose. Take advantage of the mentoring program we have in place. Our faculty and staff are here to guide you not only academically but also in your personal and spiritual journey.

The Role of Technology and Balance

In this digital age, technology plays an essential role in education. I encourage you to embrace the use of technology for research, learning, and collaboration. However, be mindful not to let social media and other online distractions consume your time. Platforms like Facebook, Instagram, and others can be beneficial for staying connected, but they should never take precedence over your academic responsibilities. Strike a balance between your academic and social life, and always remember that your primary purpose here is to study.

Management has decided as a matter of policy to deepen and expand our E-learning systems and facilities in order to promote effective teaching and learning through electronic means. The Moodle platform is a hybrid system that flexibly combines both face-to-face and online teaching and learning. It

allows lecturers to interact with students in the learning process through discussions, assignments, quizzes, examinations and others. We encourage you to participate fully in this online educational processes so that you can build your capacity to operate confidently and effectively in the world which is becoming increasingly digital.

Discipline and Personal Responsibility

Discipline extends beyond academics. Your behavior and how you conduct yourself on and off-campus is a reflection of the values we uphold at CSU. As we nurture future leaders, we expect you to dress appropriately, communicate respectfully, and interact with integrity. Modesty in your dressing, decency in your speech, and respect for others are not just guidelines but values that reflect who we are as a Christian university. In addition, be careful the kind of friends you keep. Don't forget the statement, 'show me your friend and I will show you your character'

Safety is also a priority for us. As you settle into university life, I encourage you to be security-conscious. Be mindful of your environment, avoid risky behaviors, and always take steps to protect yourself. Your safety is paramount to us, and we have measures in place to ensure a secure campus. Nevertheless, personal responsibility plays a significant role in maintaining a safe community.

Elections

You know the nation is preparing to go to the polls in about six weeks' time. Your conduct as young people at such a time is very important. You are advised not to allow yourselves to be swayed by some political actors to embark on unacceptable conduct and behavior that will disturb the peace of the country. Avoid all forms of hooliganisms, confrontation with opposing political opponents and vicious verbal attacks on people who don't share your political views. Ghana needs peace to develop.

Looking Forward

As an institution, we are committed to continuously improving the conditions that facilitate effective teaching and learning. We are happy to inform you and the general public that we have received accreditation from GTEC to start three new programmes in January 2025. These are Diploma Business Studies, BSc. Cyber Security and MSc Digital Marketing.

In the years ahead, we will focus on expanding our programs, enhancing our infrastructure facilities, and ensuring that every graduate of Christian Service University is well-prepared to make meaningful contributions to society. We will also continue to uphold our zero-tolerance policy for examination malpractice and ensure that discipline, hard work, and honesty remain the hallmarks of this university.

Once again, I warmly welcome you to Christian Service University. This is your home for the next few years, and we are excited to walk this journey with you. May God bless you with wisdom, strength, and favor as you begin

this new chapter of your life. We look forward to celebrating your many achievements in the years to come.

Thank you, and God bless you all.