



Promoting Excellence in Knowledge

GHANA ACADEMY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES HIGHER EDUCATION PROJECT CLOSING CONFERENCE

28th - 29th NOVEMBER, 2024

THEME: TRANSFORMING UNIVERSITIES
FOR 21ST CENTURY AFRICA



PROGRAMME

TIME 8:30 am – 6:00 pm
VENUE KWAME NKRUMAH AUDITORIUM
#3 Research Crescent, Casely Hayford Road, Airport Residential Area, Accra
☎ GA-018-1825

WITH FUNDING FROM THE CARNEGIE CORPORATION OF NEW YORK, USA



PROGRAMME

DAY I

NOVEMBER 28TH, 2024

Registration:	8am-8:45am
9:00am-11:00am:	Opening Plenary
9:00-9:15am:	Welcome address: Professor Kofi O. Nti, President, GAAS
9:15am-9:30am	Remarks, Professor Ahmed Jinapor Abdulai, Director-General GTEC
9:30am-9:50am:	Remarks by Guest of Honour, Dr. Yaw Osei Adutwum, Minister of Education, Ghana
10:00am-11:00am:	Keynote address: Professor Toyin Falola, Extraordinary Professor of Political Science, University of Pretoria, South Africa, and University Distinguished Teaching Professor, University of Texas at Austin, USA.
Topic:	Empowering African Public Universities
Chairperson:	Professor Clifford Tagoe, Chair, Project Steering Committee
Photo Session:	
11:15-11:45am:	Coffee Break

11:45am - 12:50pm Plenary II

The GAAS Higher Education Project-Conception, Format, and Lessons Learnt

Presenter:	Emerita Professor Takyiwaa Manuh, Chair, Project Management Committee
Open Discussion:	
Chairperson:	Professor Kofi O. Nti, President, GAAS
1pm-2pm:	Lunch Break

2:00pm- 3:30pm Plenary Session III

Presentations on the Higher Education Project

Chairperson: Professor Michael Faborode, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria

- I. The Conversion of Polytechnics to Technical Universities in Ghana- Dr. George Afeti, Consultant
- II. The Expansion of Public Universities in Ghana - Dr. Adam Yunus, Consultant, Accra
- III. Financing Higher Education Institutions in Ghana- Dr. Justice A. Ayam, Consultant
- IV. Making the GETFund Fit for Purpose- Prof. Kofi Osei-Frimpong, University of Professional Studies (UPSA), Accra, Ghana and Africa Business School, Univ of Mohammed IV Polytechnic, Rabat, Morocco

Discussant: Professor James Ephraim, GAAS

3:30-3:40pm: Health Break

3:45pm- 5:00pm: Plenary Session III continues

Chairperson: Professor Jonathan Ayertey, Council Chair, University of Environment and Sustainable Development (UESD), Somanya, Ghana

- I. Managing Public Universities in a New Age - Professor Atsu Ayee, University of Ghana and GAAS
- II. State-University Relations in Ghana - Prof. Nana Akua Anyidoho, Univ of Ghana, Legon
- III. Private Universities in Ghana - Issues of Access, Equity, and Sustainability - Dr. Lucy Agyepong, Academic City University College.

Discussant: Dr. Francis Ansah, Institute for Educational Planning and Administration, University of Cape Coast, Cape Coast

5:00pm- 6:00pm: Open Forum-Co-Chairs

6:00pm- 7:00pm: Cocktail Reception

Close of Day 1

DAY II

NOVEMBER 29TH, 2024

8:30am-9:00am:	Registration
9:00-11:00am:	Plenary IV
9:00am-9:20am:	Recap of Day 1
9:20am-10:30am:	Keynote 2: Emeritus Professor Ernest Aryeetey, University of Ghana, Legon
Topic:	‘Is African Higher Education at a Crossroads? Preparing Universities to be Globally Competitive.’
Chair:	Professor Kofi O. Nti, President, GAAS
10:30am-10:50am	Coffee Break
11:00am-1:00pm:	Parallel Sessions

I. CRITICAL PERSPECTIVES ON INNOVATIONS IN POLICY, GOVERNANCE AND FUNDING INFRASTRUCTURE AND RESEARCH

Chairperson: Professor Felix Asante, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Office of Research, Innovation and Development, University of Ghana

Presenters:

- i. Professor Peter Wafula Wekesa, Kenyatta University, Nairobi, Kenya: ‘From autonomy to dependence: The changing shifts in the policy and regulatory frameworks of Kenyan public and private universities’
- ii. Dr. Patrick Swanzy and Ms. Angelina Owusu Kusi, Faculty of Educational Studies, KNUST, Kumasi. ‘Intra-Africa Partnerships and Collaborations of Ghanaian universities: Status and Reasons’
- iii. Mr. Abraham Adusei, Dr. Francis Swanzy, KNUST, Kumasi and Dr. Francis Ansah, UCC, Cape Coast: ‘Internally Generated Funds and Financial Sustainability of Ghanaian Public Universities: Unpacking the Nuances.’
- iv. Ms. Ewuraba O. Addo, Mr. Emmanuel Abbey, and Professor John Gyapong, Secretary-General, ARUA: ‘Innovative Approaches for Funding Infrastructure and Research’

II. DECOLONIZING CURRICULUM AND THE INTEGRATION OF THE SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES FOR KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTION EFFECTIVENESS

Chairperson: Professor Akosua Adomako Ampofo, GAAS

Presenters:

- i. Dr. Hamidu Damba, UDS, Tamale, Ghana: 'Decolonizing Higher Education and Employability: Perspectives from a Graduate Student and a Teacher of Afrocentric Development'
- ii. Dr. Hasiyatu Abubakari, Univ of Ghana, Legon: 'Bridging the Gap between STEM and SSHA in Higher Education in Ghana- The Integrated Approach'
- iii. Mr. Emmanuel Sasu Boakye and Mr. Francis Awuah, KNUST, Kumasi: 'Exclusion from STEM: Implications for Interdisciplinary Education and the Future of Visually Impaired Students in Ghana'
- iv. Mr. Robert Agboyi :Enhancing Employability: Assessing Digital Skills Demand in African TVET Programs: A Job Market Analysis'

III. THE FUTURE OF UNIVERSITIES IN AFRICA

Chairperson: Dr. Fatmata Taqi, Fourah Bay College, University of Sierra Leone

Presenters:

- i. Dr. Abdul-Gafar Oshodi, Lagos State University, Nigeria: 'Locating China in the Future of the African University- Notes from Ghana and Nigeria.'
- ii. Ms. Adda Goudougou Marie Aimee, Kesmond University, Cameroon: 'The Future of Higher Education in Africa.'
- iii. Professor Michael Faborode, OAU, Ile-Ife, Nigeria: 'The Nigerian University Education Blueprint 2019-2023: Lessons for Transforming Higher Education in Africa for Stability, Local Relevance and Global Competitiveness.'
- iv. Dr. Eugenia Ama Breba Anderson, UCC, Cape Coast. 'Created spaces for emancipatory imaginations in the 21st Century African Students: The Role of University Students in University Governance and Leadership'

I:00pm-2:00pm:	Lunch Break
2:30-4:50pm:	Policy Roundtable on ‘Making Higher Education Work for Africa’
Chairperson:	Professor Olusola Oyewole, Secretary-General, Association of African Universities, Accra
	• Dr. Evans Takyi, Director of Policy, GTEC, Accra • Professor Michael Faborode, former Vice-Chancellor, OAU, Ile-Ife, Nigeria • Professor Peter Wekesa, Kenyatta University, Nairobi, Kenya • Professor Kelleh Mansary, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Fouray Bay College, Sierra Leone • Mr. Peter Kwasi Kodjie, Secretary-General, All-Africa Students Union, Accra.
5:00pm- 5:30pm:	Closing Ceremony
Speakers:	Professor Cliff Tagoe, Professor Kofi Nti, Professor Emerita Takyiwaa Manuh
5:30pm-6:30pm:	Reception

The Academy is a learned society established by an Act of Parliament in 1959 to promote the study, the extension and the dissemination of knowledge of all the Arts and Sciences. With a membership of over a hundred living Fellows drawn from all fields of learning, the Academy has from its inception been charged with a key role in thought leadership and making inputs into policymaking through research and evidence-based advice.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE ACADEMY:

The aims and objects of the Ghana Academy of Arts and Sciences are to:

- a) Promote the study, extension and dissemination of knowledge of Arts and Sciences.
- b) Establish and maintain proper standards of endeavour in all fields of the Arts and Sciences.
- c) Recognize outstanding contributions to the advancement of the Arts and Sciences in Ghana.
- d) Do such other things as are conducive or incidental to the attainment of all or any of the foregoing objects.

MISSION:

The mission of the Ghana Academy of Arts and Sciences is to encourage the creation, acquisition, dissemination and utilization of knowledge for national development through the promotion of learning.

OUR VALUES:

Professionalism and Commitment: a determination to place the experience, knowledge and energies of the finest minds in Ghana at the disposal of the nation is the hallmark of every undertaking.

Excellence: this is the essence of the Academy's existence; by selecting the most eminent intellectuals as Fellows of the academy establishes excellence as a pre-requisite in every undertaking. It continues to inspire excellence in its membership and in the work of its secretariat to ensure that all its outputs are world class.

Integrity: in all things, the Academy strives to exercise honesty, objectivity and independence of thought. Its contribution to Ghana's academic and intellectual wealth is motivated solely by the determination to serve the best interests of society.

Relevance: the desire to be a useful and valued asset to its key stakeholders drives the Academy's efforts. By reflecting the needs and interests of the world, the Academy is a sought after-resource.

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