

UG CONNECT

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

October 2024



Welcome to the Maiden Edition of the UG Alumni Newsletter!

It's been a long time coming, but we're finally here—and we couldn't be more excited! This is the very first UG Alumni Newsletter, and we're grateful to have you on this journey with us.

With over 500,000 of us out there making waves, we're beyond proud of what our alumni have achieved, and we can't wait to share their stories, milestones, and triumphs with you.

This newsletter is for us—to stay connected, celebrate each other's successes, and maybe reminisce a little about the good old days on campus.

Whether you're down the road or halfway around the world, we're all part of something amazing.

So grab a coffee, sit back, and let's dive into this exciting first edition.

In this issue, you'll find inspiring alumni profiles, university updates, and maybe even a few surprises!

We want this newsletter to be a two-way street. Got a personal milestone you want to share? A professional achievement you're proud of? We want to hear about it! After all, this community is only as strong as the connections we keep.

So, here's to the beginning of something fun, meaningful, and uniquely UG. We hope you enjoy this first edition.

The UG Alumni Team

In this newsletter
you can expect:

Campus
Updates

Upcoming
Events

The Opportunity
Desk

A Spotlight on
Alumni
Initiatives

PD: The Art of
Networking

Alumni Success
Stories

Message from the VC

This is the beginning of a stronger, more united alumni community - where your achievements, stories, and support drive the future of our University and inspire generations to come.

This publication marks a new chapter in our ongoing efforts to strengthen the bonds between the University of Ghana and our cherished alumni. This newsletter is designed to celebrate your achievements, share university updates, and keep you connected with your alma mater, while also providing a platform to add value to you in every way we can.

Your continued support and involvement are invaluable to the growth and success of the University of Ghana.

I encourage you to stay engaged, share your stories, and take advantage of the opportunities we offer to contribute to the development of the next generation of leaders, as well as your own personal and professional growth.

Together, we can and will continue to build a legacy of excellence.



Prof. Nana Aba Appiah Amfo
Vice-Chancellor

Director's Message

At the Institutional Advancement Directorate, we believe that the bond between the University and its alumni should be lifelong and mutually enriching. This newsletter is one of the many ways we aim to keep you informed, inspired, and involved in the life of the University.

While we continue to engage with alumni through our established formal groups in Ghana, North America, the United Kingdom, Nigeria, Liberia, Gambia, Sierra Leone, and Togo, we also recognize the importance of adding value to each individual.

Through this newsletter and many other initiatives, we aim to support your personal and professional growth, keeping you connected in meaningful ways.

We are dedicated to not only celebrating your successes but also providing opportunities for you to grow, give back, and stay connected with your peers.

Thank you for your unwavering support, and I look forward to working closely with you to advance the mission of the University of Ghana.



Prof. Kwasi Dartey-Baah
Director, InstAD

Campus Updates



UG @ SOSCHI Climathon 2024

UG recently hosted the SOSCHI Climathon 2024, where student teams showcased innovative climate change solutions focusing on health impacts, nutrition, and employment.

Under the theme "Climate Change - Health Visual Analytics," six finalist teams competed, with Team Health Connect emerging as the overall winner.

The Vice-Chancellor praised the initiative for fostering innovative solutions to global challenges. Winners received cash prizes. Read [more](#)



UG CHS & UNICEF on Research

The College of Health Sciences at the University of Ghana and UNICEF are enhancing their research partnership following a recent meeting between Prof. Alfred Edwin Yawson, Provost of the College, and UNICEF Ghana.

Discussions covered areas for collaboration, including medical training, health system strengthening, research, capacity building, and supporting children with special needs.

The partnership aims to address critical health and environmental challenges. For more details, visit [here](#).

Winning Teams at SOSCHI Climathon 2024



Campus Updates

Awareness on Disability in Ghana

Dr. Augustina Naami, Head of the Department of Social Work at UG, led over 200 students in a disability awareness campaign in Accra.

The initiative highlighted key issues like education, employment, and healthcare faced by persons with disabilities. Using research-based placards, the students engaged the public, advocating for greater disability inclusion in society.

Dr. Naami emphasised the importance of involving people with disabilities in decision-making processes to achieve true societal development. Read more [here](#).

Modernised Classrooms at Korle-Bu

The University of Ghana has upgraded two classrooms at its Korle-Bu campus, incorporating smart technologies like interactive boards, projectors, and high-speed internet to enhance learning.

These upgrades are part of the University's effort to modernise educational infrastructure, with the Vice-Chancellor highlighting the significance of such innovations in bridging traditional and digital learning. The initiative aligns with UG's strategic plan to improve student experience across its campuses. Read more [here](#).



Students During the Disability Awareness Walk



Refurbished UG Front Gate Fountain Commissioned

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Appiah Amfo, officially commissioned a newly refurbished fountain at the University's main entrance.

The project was led by InstAD, UG's Institutional Advancement Directorate and supported by donors like DHL Forwarding West Africa and Goldcrest Ilnav Ltd.

A fundraising campaign for a similar project at the Balme Library was also launched. Read more [here](#).



Alumni Lecture 2024

The 2024 Alumni Lecture was held on September 19, 2024, at the University of Ghana Great Hall.

Rt. Hon. Alban Sumana Kingsford Bagbin, Speaker of Parliament, delivered the lecture on the topic *"30 Years of Parliamentary Democracy. The Journey thus far."*

The event was chaired by the VC, Prof. Appiah Amfo, and brought together alumni from all walks of life.

Upcoming Event: Wear UG Day

Join us for the upcoming Wear UG Day Celebration. You can pick up the UG Cloth at the Information Centre or any of the UG campuses across the country.

Rock the UG Cloth this month. Share pictures online with #WearUGDay2024

Upcoming Event: Festival of 9 Lessons & Carols

Join us for the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols as we enter into the yuletide season. It is scheduled to be held as follows:

- **Date:** December 18, 2024
- **Time:** 5:00 pm
- **Location:** S.K. Aboah Recreational Quadrangle

Opportunity Desk



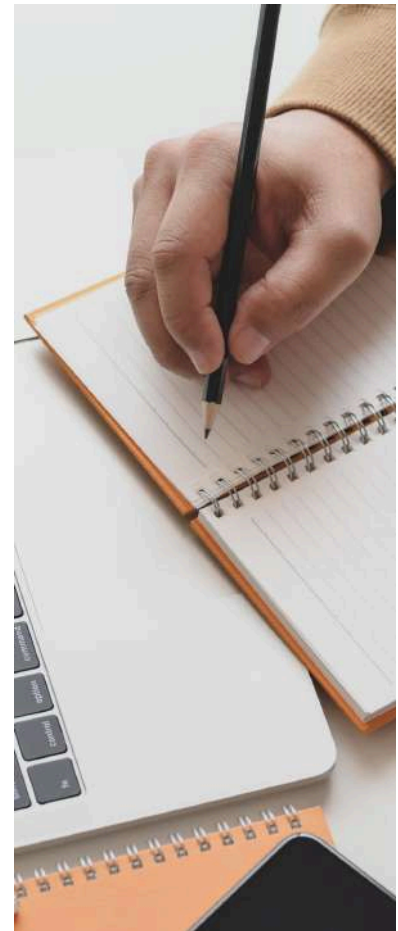
German Institute for Development and Sustainability Shaping Futures Academy 2025

Applications are now open for the 2025 cohort. It is aimed at early to mid-career professionals from African and European countries. It is funded by the BMZ, and promotes leadership in sustainability by encouraging networking and knowledge exchange across sectors such as civil society, academia, and business. Apply **Here**



Washington College of Law Human Rights Essay Award 2025

Applications are open for the 2025 Award, which encourages scholarly writing on international human rights law. This year's theme is "Human Trafficking and Human Rights." Eligible participants must hold a law degree and submit a legal article on the topic. Winners receive a full tuition scholarship for Advanced Studies on Human Rights and may have their articles published in the American University International Law Review. Apply **Here**



A Few Notes To Remember

- **Research Thoroughly:** Identify scholarships that align with your field of study, background, and interests.
 - **Understand Requirements:** Carefully read the eligibility criteria and application instructions to ensure you meet all requirements.
 - **Prepare Documents Early:** Gather transcripts, recommendation letters, and personal statements well in advance to avoid last-minute stress.
-

Opportunity Desk



DAAD In-Country/In-Region Masters/PhD Scholarship Programme

The DAAD In-Country/In-Region Programme for Sub-Saharan Africa offers scholarships for Master's and PhD students in development-related fields. The programme covers tuition, living allowances, research grants, and for In-Region scholarships, travel and health insurance. Female candidates and those from disadvantaged backgrounds are encouraged to apply. For more details, visit **DAAD Scholarship Database**.



International Monetary Fund (IMF) 2025 Economist Program for recent Ph.D. graduates

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) is accepting applications for its 2025 Economist Program, designed for recent Ph.D. graduates in relevant fields. This three-year program offers a unique opportunity to work on significant global economic challenges. Applications are open until December 6, 2024. For more details on eligibility and the application process, click [**Here**](#)



A Few Notes To Remember

- **Tailor Your Application:** Customise your essays and personal statements to reflect the programme's values and how you align with them.
 - **Highlight Achievements:** Showcase your academic, extracurricular, and community service accomplishments that demonstrate your potential.
 - **Proofread:** Ensure your application is free of grammatical errors and typos by reviewing it multiple times or having someone else read it.
 - **Be Genuine:** Share your true passions and goals; authenticity can set you apart from other applicants.
-



Alumni Initiative Spotlight: Business Intelligence Training for Students by Alum, Mr. Emmanuel Sagoe

In a powerful demonstration of alumni engagement and commitment to student development, Mr. Emmanuel Sagoe, an alum

of the University of Ghana and a former President of the UG Alumni Association North America (UGAANA), recently facilitated a free 2-day Business Intelligence Training programme for current students.

The event aimed to equip students with essential skills in data analysis, decision-making, and the strategic use of business intelligence tools in today's fast-evolving digital world.

The training, which attracted over 100 students from various disciplines, also provided a unique networking opportunity for students to connect with an industry professional in the field, fostering mentorship and opening doors for future career opportunities. Students left the training empowered, with a deeper understanding of how business intelligence can impact their academic journey and future careers.

Mr. Sagoe's leadership and dedication to empowering the next generation of students reflect the university's values of excellence and service. The University of Ghana applauds Mr. Sagoe for his generous contribution and encourages other alumni to participate in similar initiatives that support the growth and success of students.

Profile of Mr. Emmanuel Sagoe

Emmanuel Sagoe is a seasoned technology leader with extensive experience managing digital technology programmes and enterprise database systems.

Currently, he serves as VP Technical Programme Manager, Sr. at Citi (since July 2021), and previously held roles such as Lead Business Intelligence Developer at USDA and Technical Lead - Business Intelligence Apps at Wells Fargo.

He holds a Master's in Information Systems from Pace University, an MS in Technology Management from Columbia University, and a Master of Public Administration from Harvard Kennedy School. He also earned a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Ghana.

Mastering the Art of Networking: Beyond Business Cards

Networking is one of those things we all know we should do, but for many, it can feel awkward, daunting, or downright exhausting. Networking is a critical component of both personal and professional growth. Whether you are a fresh graduate stepping into your career or a seasoned professional looking to expand your horizons, mastering the art of networking is key to long-term success.

- **Go Beyond the Business Card Exchange**

Beyond exchanging business cards, get to know the person behind the job title, and find common ground to form genuine bonds. Ask meaningful questions, actively listen, and find ways to stay in touch.

- **Leverage LinkedIn**

LinkedIn is a powerful tool that goes beyond the digital resume. It is a space to build and nurture professional relationships. To get the most:

- Ensure your profile is up-to-date, professional, and reflective of your current goals.
- Join groups related to your industry, share insightful content, and engage with the work of others.
- When reaching out to someone new, include a short, thoughtful message explaining why you'd like to connect.

- **Attend Industry Events and Conferences**

Industry events, conferences, and alumni meetups are golden opportunities to meet like-minded

individuals and exchange ideas. To make the most of this:

- Before attending an event, do your homework. Identify key people or organisations you'd like to meet, and prepare some conversation starters.
- Look to offer value. It could be as simple as sharing a resource, making an introduction, or offering advice.
- After the event, send a friendly follow-up message or email, reminding them of your conversation and expressing interest in staying in touch.

- **Maintain Relationships Over Time**

Building connections is one thing, but maintaining them is where the real work and where the reward comes in.

- Whether it's a quick message, a holiday greeting, or sharing an article you think they'll appreciate, periodic check-ins show you value the relationship.
- Introduce people in your network who may benefit from knowing each other.
- Alumni groups, professional associations, and online communities offer excellent ways to stay connected with your network. Staying involved keeps your network engaged.

- **Make Networking a Habit**

Networking shouldn't just be something you do when you need a new job. Instead, make it a consistent habit. Invest in your network during the good times, so it's there for you when you need it.

Mastering the Art of Networking: Beyond Business Cards

- **Leverage Informal Networking**

Some of the best connections happen in casual settings—like catching up with an old friend over coffee, attending a friend’s dinner party, or simply chatting with someone new at a social event. Keep an open mind and stay curious about the people you meet in everyday life—you never know who might open the door to your next opportunity.

Networking is all about building authentic relationships that provide mutual value.

So whether you’re attending your next alumni event, shooting off a LinkedIn message, or just keeping up with old colleagues, remember that the goal is to form genuine, lasting relationships.

By mastering the art of networking, you are opening doors—not just to new opportunities, but to lifelong connections that can enrich your personal and professional life. So take that leap, make those connections, and remember: it’s not just about the business cards.

Alumni Success Stories



Mrs. Mary Chinery-Hesse

Mrs. Mary Chinery-Hesse, Chancellor of the University of Ghana, was honored with a Gender Champion award by the African Women Leaders Network (AWLN) Ghana Chapter. The award, presented during a fundraising dinner to celebrate African Women's Day, recognised her exceptional contributions to gender equality and women's empowerment, particularly in education. As the first female Chancellor of the University, her leadership has inspired many women and girls to pursue higher education.



Abdul Rahman Amoadu

Abdul-Rahman Amoadu has been appointed as Newmont's first Ghanaian Managing Director for Africa. With a wealth of experience in finance, operations, and international trade, Amoadu will lead Newmont's operations in Africa, including the Akyem and Ahafo mines. His impressive career includes leadership roles across South America and Africa, marking him as a significant figure in global mining. This achievement showcases the exceptional talent nurtured at the University of Ghana, inspiring future generations of leaders.



Nana Ama Poku

Nana Ama Poku has been admitted into the Fellowship of the Chartered Institute of Marketing (CIM) UK. With an Executive MBA from the University of Ghana Business School, she has made significant contributions to the banking sector, serving as the Deputy Managing Director at Consolidated Bank Ghana. Poku's extensive experience includes playing a key role in establishing the Ghana Export-Import Bank and holding several prestigious awards, highlighting her leadership in finance and marketing.

Join the UG Alumni Network

Stay connected with industry insights and breakthrough research. Sign up to unlock exclusive opportunities for growth and collaboration.

 @UG ARO  @ug_relations  @ug_relations  @UG ARO



Join our Alumni Associations Around the World:

- UG Alumni Association Ghana (**UGAA**)
- UG Alumni Association North America (**UGAANA**)
- UG Alumni Association United Kingdom & Ireland (**UGAA UK & IE**)
- UG Alumni Association Liberia (**UGAAL**)
- UG Alumni Association Francophone Africa (**UGAAFA**)
- UG Alumni Association The Gambia (**AUGAG**)
- UG Alumni Association Sierra-Leone (**UGAA - SL**)
- UG Alumni Association Nigeria (**UGAAN**)

Sign up to join our global alumni network [here](#).

Learn more about the UG Alumni Network and its benefits [here](#).

If you're interested in joining any of the alumni associations mentioned, please contact the Office of Institutional Advancement through the communication channels provided. We are also eager to establish associations in additional countries, so let us know if you'd like to see an alumni association in your area!

Thank you for reading!

Institutional Advancement Directorate	+233 548 7070 70
instad@ug.edu.gh	Alumni Building, UG, Legon
