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Prof. Amos-Abanyie Calls for Urgent Redesign of Ghana's Classrooms to Improve Student Health and Performance.

A KNUST architecture expert, **Prof. Samuel Amos-Abanyie**, has warned that poor classroom conditions in many Ghanaian schools are undermining student health, concentration, and academic performance. Delivering his inaugural lecture titled **“Protecting Humanity from Itself: Indoor Environmental Quality in an Era of Climate Stress,”** he noted that excessive heat, poor ventilation, inadequate lighting, and high noise levels continue to characterise many learning environments across the country.

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Prof. Kumi-Boateng Appointed UMaT VC
The University of Mines and Technology (UMaT) has appointed **Professor Bernard Kumi-Boateng** as its new Vice Chancellor, effective **August 1, 2026**, following a council meeting held in Accra. A distinguished academic and current Dean, he brings strong leadership, research expertise, and industry collaboration.

Read more: Page 6 >>>>>>>>>>



KNUST Student Earns Honourable Mention at UNECA Model UN in Addis Ababa.
H.E Karim Hamza, who serves as Student President of the **College of Humanities and Social Sciences (CoHSS)** and **Deputy Speaker of the SRC 17th Parliament**, was recognised for his outstanding performance in the Committee on Social Policy and Youth Inclusivity for Economic Growth in Africa.

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UDS Governing Council Appoints Prof. Mohammed Muniru Iddrisu as New Vice-Chancellor
The Governing Council of the **University for Development Studies (UDS)** has appointed **Professor Mohammed Muniru Iddrisu** as the new Vice-Chancellor of the University following a meeting held on **Thursday, April 16, 2026**. He is currently the **Principal of the Nyankpala Campus** of UDS and commitment to university development.

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Welcome to “The Notice Brief”

Welcome to the first edition of “The Notice Brief”, a publication by “**Notice Board GH**” dedicated to delivering timely and relevant information to the student community.

This newsletter highlights key developments across campus, including **academic updates, student life, opportunities, and emerging trends**. Our aim is to present information in a clear, structured, and accessible format.

As we begin, we remain committed to consistency, credibility, and growth. We also welcome collaborations and feedback as we build a reliable media platform. Thank you for reading.

Jessica Nortey

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Prof. Amos-Abanyie Calls for Urgent Redesign of Ghana's Classrooms to Improve Student Health and Performance.

A leading architecture scholar at the **Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST)**, Prof. **Samuel Amos-Abanyie**, has raised concerns about the quality of learning environments in Ghanaian schools, warning that poor classroom conditions may be silently affecting students' health, focus, and academic achievement.

Speaking during his inaugural lecture titled **"Protecting Humanity from Itself: Indoor Environmental Quality in an Era of Climate Stress,"** he emphasized that many educational spaces in Ghana do not meet the basic environmental standards needed for effective teaching and learning.

Learning Environments Under Pressure

Prof. Amos-Abanyie identified several environmental challenges affecting classrooms, including:

- Excessive heat
- Poor ventilation
- Inadequate natural lighting
- High noise levels

According to him, these conditions are often the result of rapid urban expansion, unregulated building modifications, and weak architectural planning.

He noted that students are frequently expected to concentrate and perform academically in spaces that are not conducive to learning.

Noise and Cognitive Disruption

A key concern raised was the impact of noise pollution, particularly in schools located near highways and commercial areas.

He explained that in some cases, noise levels around educational institutions exceed recommended standards by 30% to over 100%, which significantly

disrupts teaching and cognitive development.

Prof. Amos-Abanyie stressed that urban communities have gradually normalised chronic noise, warning that city planning must begin prioritising human wellbeing alongside functionality.



Poor Lighting and Its Hidden Effects

The professor also highlighted poor daylighting as a major issue in school infrastructure.

He explained that unplanned building extensions often reduce window space, limiting the amount of natural light entering classrooms.

This, he noted, increases reliance on artificial lighting and contributes to:

- Fatigue and stress
- Reduced concentration
- Lower academic performance

He cautioned that what is commonly accepted as “**normal**” classroom lighting conditions may actually be harmful.

Heat, Ventilation, and Energy Strain

Rising indoor temperatures and poor airflow were also identified as growing concerns. According to him, many schools now rely heavily on artificial cooling systems, which increases energy consumption and places additional pressure on the national electricity supply.

He stressed that these challenges are not unavoidable but stem from avoidable design and planning decisions.

Call for Policy and Design Reform

Prof. Amos-Abanyie urged policymakers, developers, and school authorities to incorporate indoor environmental quality standards into the design and renovation of educational facilities.

He emphasized the importance of:

- Proper ventilation systems
- Adequate daylight access
- Effective noise control measures

He also encouraged students to be mindful of their learning environments, advising them to choose well-ventilated and well-lit study spaces whenever possible.

“Healthy Buildings Are a Necessity”

Concluding his lecture, he called for a shift in how buildings are designed and perceived.

“Healthy buildings are not luxuries; they are necessities. If we fail to act, we risk normalising environments that quietly undermine human potential,” he stated.



Vice-Chancellor of KNUST, Prof. Rita Akosua Dickson University Leadership Response

The Vice-Chancellor of KNUST, **Prof. Rita Akosua Dickson**, commended

the lecture, describing indoor environmental quality as a critical issue in modern education and urban development.

She noted that:

“Indoor environmental quality is not just a design aspiration but a moral necessity in protecting humanity from unplanned consequences.”

Summary

The lecture underscored a growing concern in Ghana’s education system: that learning outcomes are not only shaped by curriculum and teaching quality, but also by the physical environments in which students learn.



Professor Bernard Kumi-Boateng Appointed Vice Chancellor of the University of Mines and Technology

The Council of the University of Mines and Technology (UMaT) has appointed Professor Bernard Kumi-Boateng as the new **Vice Chancellor of the University**, following its 98th Emergency Meeting held on April 13, 2026, at **Fiesta Royale Hotel** in Accra. His appointment takes effect from August 1, 2026.

A New Era of Leadership at UMaT

Professor Kumi-Boateng is a seasoned academic and

administrator currently serving as Dean of the Faculty of Geosciences and Environmental Studies and Professor of Geomatic Engineering. He is widely recognized for his leadership in higher education, research excellence, and strong industry collaboration. He has consistently built strong links between academia and industry, positioning UMaT as a key driver of national and international development in geosciences and engineering.

Academic and International Experience

His international academic engagements include:

- External Moderator, University of Nairobi, Kenya
- Visiting Professor, University of The Gambia
- External Examiner, ITC, Netherlands

He has also contributed to WAEC governance and international academic assessment systems.

Contributions to Education and Research Development

Professor Kumi-Boateng has supported World Bank-funded benchmarking initiatives across African universities and contributed to Competency-Based Training (CBT) curriculum development in Ghana. He also played a role in GIZ-supported national curriculum development in Recycling Technology and Building

Construction.

Leadership Roles at UMaT

A proud alumnus of UMaT, he is the institution's first internally trained professor to reach such a rank and the youngest full professor.

Key leadership roles include:

- Dean of Planning and Quality Assurance
- Dean of Students Vice Dean of Students
- Vice Dean of International Programmes
- Head of academic departments
- Service on 200+ committees

Research, Consultancy & Industry

Impact

His expertise includes:

- Environmental & Project Management
- Drone and Cadastral Surveys
- Socio-economic Impact Assessment
- Sustainable Community Development
- Urban Mining (E-Waste)

Since 2007, he has contributed to projects worth over GH¢444 million, working with institutions such as the Ministry of Environment, Science and Technology, AngloGold Ashanti, and GIZ.

Professional Affiliations

He is affiliated with several professional bodies including GhIS, GhIE, WAIMM, IAENG, ASPRS, and AARSE

Academic Journey

Born in Bantama, Kumasi, his academic path includes:

- BSc Geomatic Engineering (2004)

- MSc Geo-Information Sciences (2007)
- PhD Geomatic Engineering (2012)

He joined UMaT in 2007 and became Professor in 2020.

Personal Life

He is married with two children and serves as an Elder of The Church of Pentecost, worshipping at PIWC Tarkwa.

Conclusion

His appointment marks a significant milestone for University of Mines and Technology, strengthening its vision for academic excellence, innovation, and industry collaboration.

CAMPUS NEWS



KNUST Student Earns Honourable Mention at UNECA Model UN in Addis Ababa.

H.E Hamza Karim, Student President of the **College of Humanities and Social Sciences (CoHSS) and Deputy Speaker of the SRC 17th Parliament**, has earned an Honourable Mention at the sixth edition of the United Nations Model Conference organised by the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA). The conference, held from March 26 to 30 in

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, brought together youth leaders from across Africa to engage in simulated diplomatic sessions on pressing continental issues. The UNECA Model UN Conference is held annually to equip young African leaders with diplomatic, negotiation, and policy-making skills, while promoting

collaboration on key challenges affecting the continent. Hamza explained that his participation followed a competitive selection process and marks his first time taking part and winning the competition. “I heard about the conference from an ambassador who is an alumnus around mid-January. I applied and later received an invitation confirming that I had been selected as one of the delegates,” he said. He noted that participants were assigned to various committees based on their interests and responses during the application process. “I was selected for the Committee on Social Policy and Youth Inclusivity for Economic Growth in Africa,” he stated.

According to him, as part of the conference proceedings, delegates were required to prepare and present position papers on assigned countries and despite representing Ghana, he took on the role of a delegate for Burkina Faso. “On the first day, we presented our position papers. I represented Burkina Faso and had to position myself as the President of the country while addressing the topic. I drafted the paper with support from a lecturer in our department, Dr. Paolo Sebastian, who helped refine it for presentation,” he said. Hamza noted that the outcomes of the conference carry significant weight beyond the event itself. “We were told that our resolutions and conclusions could influence policy considerations in Africa. So it was not just a typical youth summit it was something more impactful,” he said. He said at the end of the conference, his committee



performance earned Burkina Faso, the assigned country, an Honourable Mention in the Social Policy and Youth Inclusivity category. “For them, Honourable Mention is like the first runner-up. That was the recognition we received for our committee,” he noted. The Director of Student Affairs (DOSA), Professor Marian Asantewah Nkansah reaffirmed her commitment to promoting student achievements while encouraging sustainable, student-led development projects across campus. ww

She emphasized the importance of projecting student accomplishments as part of efforts to strengthen the institution’s reputation. “When students accomplish something as members of KNUST, they carry the brand of the university. We also share in the glory and the public elevation that comes with it. In the same way, when they fall short, it reflects on the university’s image,” she said She described the achievement as a source of pride and a model for other students. “We are proud of

him. This should serve as an example to others. That is why we tell the stories of accomplished students not just to blow the trumpet, but for others to watch, listen and learn,” she said.



UDS Governing Council Appoints Prof. Mohammed Muniru Iddrisu as New Vice-Chancellor.

The Governing Council of the **University for Development Studies (UDS)** has appointed **Professor Mohammed Muniru Iddrisu** as the new **Vice-Chancellor** of the University following a meeting held on **Thursday, April 16, 2026**. The appointment marks a major leadership transition for the University, with Prof. Iddrisu bringing extensive academic, administrative, and institutional experience to the role. He is currently the **Principal of the Nyankpala Campus** of UDS and has built a strong reputation for academic leadership, research contribution, and commitment to university development

.Over the years, Prof. Iddrisu has served in several key academic and administrative positions within UDS, contributing to policy formulation, academic planning, and institutional governance. His tenure as

Campus Principal has been marked by the expansion of academic programmes, improvements in staff development, and upgrades in infrastructure and campus operations.

The **Governing Council** expressed confidence in his ability to provide strategic leadership and to advance the University's mission of delivering innovative teaching, impactful research, and community-focused development. His appointment is expected to strengthen UDS's position as a leading institution in higher education both in Ghana and beyond.

As **Vice-Chancellor**, Prof. Iddrisu will oversee the academic and administrative leadership of the University, guiding its strategic direction and ensuring the delivery of quality education in line with national and global standards.

The UDS community has been encouraged to support him as he assumes office. His leadership is anticipated to usher in a renewed phase of growth and institutional transformation.

His appointment takes effect from June 27, 2026, and will run until August 31, 2030.



University of Ghana Applauds Artemis II Crew, Acknowledges Former Exchange Student Christina Koch.

The University of Ghana has proudly joined the international community in recognizing its former exchange student, Christina Koch (née Hammock), following



her remarkable participation in the historic Artemis II mission, a major step in humanity's renewed exploration of deep space.

Christina Koch made history as the only woman among the four astronauts on board the mission, which successfully orbited the Moon. This achievement marks the first crewed lunar mission in more than 50 years, since the era of the Apollo program.

Her connection to the University of Ghana dates back to the 1999/2000 academic year when she studied at Legon through an exchange programme. During her time there, she took courses in the History of Ghana, African History, Twi for Beginners, Music, and Rural Sociology. These experiences played a significant role in



shaping her worldview and intellectual development.

Reflecting on her time in Ghana, Koch

described her experience as “positive, life-changing and perspective-deepening” in a 2019 post on X. She drew comparisons between studying abroad and space travel, noting that viewing Ghana from space



brought back memories of the people she met and the lasting impact of embracing new environments.

The Artemis II mission is part of NASA’s broader agenda to return humans to the Moon, establish a long-term lunar presence, and eventually pave the way for missions to Mars. The mission also tested vital systems necessary for sustained human travel beyond Earth’s orbit.

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In recent years, the University of Ghana has intensified efforts to strengthen its internationalisation agenda through expanded exchange programmes, strategic partnerships and summer school initiatives. These efforts are aimed at equipping students with the knowledge, skills and cultural awareness required to thrive in cross-cultural and global environments.

Through these initiatives, the University continues to host a growing number of international students who are immersed in Ghana’s academic and cultural environment, while also providing opportunities for Ghanaian students to gain international exposure.

Inspired by global achievements such as the NASA Artemis II Mission, the University is also exploring avenues to

strengthen its science and engineering programmes, with long-term aspirations to introduce space science-related studies. This direction is expected to position young Ghanaians to participate in future advancements in science, technology and innovation.

The University of Ghana once again congratulates the Artemis II crew on their safe return and remarkable achievement, expressing confidence that their journey will inspire generations across Ghana, Africa and the world.



Safe Travels with us this Vacation

DESTINATIONS

Knust Parade Grounds to **Accra (Circle)**

Route: Nsawam,Medie,
Pokuase, Achimota

STANDARD **STC**
GHS 175 GHS 200

Departure Date
April 24,25,26,27
Departure Time
12pm, 8am, 3pm

Knust Parade Grounds to **Tema/Ashiaman**

Route: Accra Mall, dzorwulu,
18 junction, overhead, underbridge

STANDARD **STC**
GHS 190 GHS 200

Departure Date
April 24,25,26,27
Departure Time
12pm, 8am, 3pm

Knust Parade Grounds to **Madina/Adenta**

Route: Shishie, Atomic, Upsa,
Madina, KFC, Adenta Barrier

STANDARD **STC**
GHS 175 GHS 200

Departure Date
April 24,25,26,27
Departure Time
12pm, 8am, 3pm

Knust Parade Grounds to **Sunyani**

Executive

GHS 100

Departure Date
April 25
Departure Time
8am

Knust Parade Grounds to **Ablekuma/ Kasoa**

Route: Ablekuma, olebu, Awoshie,
Kwashieman, Mallam, Weija, Kasoa

STANDARD

GHS 195

Departure Date
April 24,25,26,27
Departure Time
12pm, 8am, 3pm

Knust Parade Grounds to **Tamale**

Route: Nkoranza, Kintampo,
Dawadawa, Buipe, Tamale.

STANDARD

GHS 190

Departure Date
April 25
Departure Time
12pm, 8am, 3pm

Knust Parade Grounds to **CapeCoast/Takoradi**

Route: Bekwai, Brofoyeduru,
Elmina, Shama, Takoradi

STANDARD

GHS 195

Departure Date
April 25,26
Departure Time
12pm, 8am

Knust Parade Grounds to **Koforidua**

Executive

GHS 150

Departure Date
April 25
Departure Time
8am



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