



P.O. BOX 1 KYAMBOGO

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## **CHAIRPERSON'S SPEECH**

**AT THE**

**17<sup>TH</sup> GRADUATION CEREMONY OF KYAMBOGO  
UNIVERSITY HELD ON 21<sup>ST</sup>, 22<sup>ND</sup> AND 23<sup>RD</sup> SEPTEMBER  
2021**

- Mr. Chancellor Sir
- Hon. Minister of State for Higher Education
- Religious Leaders
- Members of Council, Kyambogo University
- Vice Chancellor, Kyambogo University
- Deputy Vice Chancellors, Kyambogo University
- Teaching and Non- teaching staff of Kyambogo University
- Parents and Guardians of the Graduands
- Graduands
- Distinguished Guests
- Ladies and Gentlemen

On behalf of Kyambogo University Council, it is with much delight to welcome Hon. Minister of State for Higher Education, Invited Guests, parents and Graduands to the 17<sup>th</sup> Graduation Ceremony.

Mr. Chancellor Sir and the Hon. Minister, I take this opportunity to thank you for sparing your precious time and grace the 17<sup>th</sup> Graduation which started yesterday Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2021 and will end tomorrow Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2021.

I congratulate the parents, guardians and more specifically the Graduands who have successfully completed their studies and are ready to join the world of work and contribute to the wellbeing of their families and to national development.

Mr. Chancellor Sir and Hon Minister, allow me to thank His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Uganda and the First Lady and Hon. Minister of Education and Sports for gracing the first day of the 17<sup>th</sup> Graduation Ceremony which was held yesterday, Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2021. The University in a special way is grateful for the words of wisdom and guidance that was given yesterday by His Excellency and the First Lady and Minister of Education and Sports. We are committed to take on the guidance that will move Kyambogo University to higher levels of achieving its vision and mission of being “a centre of Academic and Professional Excellence”.

The University is grateful for the Government’s support and guidance to the leadership of Academic Institutions in Uganda especially during this time when we are grappling with covid-19 pandemic. We are extremely grateful for the



continued guidance and tireless effort that has ensured that all children of Uganda enjoy the right to education.

Mr. Chancellor Sir and Hon Minister, the University Council wishes to thank the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Eli Katunguka-Rwakishaya and the entire management for providing good and exemplary leadership to the University. During this period, the University has managed to organise teaching and learning, held examinations, and finally this virtual 17<sup>th</sup> graduation, despite the challenges posed by the covid-19 pandemic which destabilised the entire education calendar and processes.

The University Council wishes to extend its gratitude to the Government of Uganda, for the continued support to Kyambogo University that has ensured the smooth running of the University. The University is grateful for the financial support from Government that has helped in construction and maintenance of its infrastructure, payment of staff salaries and wages and material acquisition which has enabled us offer quality education to our students.

Mr. Chancellor Sir and Hon Minister, over the last years, the University Council has continued to provide strategic guidance to the University. The 5<sup>th</sup> Council governing the University was constituted on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2020 and

inaugurated on 4<sup>th</sup> February 2021 by you, Hon. JC Muyingo, Minister of State for Higher Education. We recognise and appreciate your continued guidance and love for Kyambogo University.

Mr. Chancellor Sir and Hon Minister, despite the covid-19 restrictions, the University Council has continued to work within the new normal and approved various policies and guidelines (including the Strategic Plan for the period 2020/21 – 2024/25, the Annual Budget for the FY 2021/22 and the revised Financial Management Manual complying with national and international standards for financial management, among others). These have provided direction to the overall administration of the University.

As the supreme organ of this University, Council is committed to continue providing direction on the academic and administrative functions and ensure that the University operates efficiently and effectively for all stakeholders.

Mr. Chancellor Sir and Hon Minister, I feel honoured to speak to the Graduands of this 17<sup>th</sup> Graduation and I wish to congratulate all of you for successfully completing your studies. You deserve a round of applause. I know it has not been an easy journey and you have been yearning for this



day. This success can only be achieved through patience, hard work, diligence and determination. I congratulate you once again for this achievement.

In the same way, I would like to applaud the parents, guardians, and sponsors for the support, encouragement and guidance during your years of stay at Kyambogo University. They deserve a round of applause because they sacrificed whatever it took amidst numerous responsibilities and demands to ensure that you complete your studies.

I wish to thank members of staff who have prepared and mentored these students. You prioritised the needs of the students beyond self, sometimes working under challenging circumstances posed by this unprecedented time, to ensure that these young people are thoroughly nurtured into useful citizens. Dear staff members, we celebrate you too today!

Dear Graduands, today marks an important day in your career as you receive your hard-earned degrees, diplomas and certificates and you are being ushered into the world of work. The University has nurtured and sharpened your skills over the years of your stay here. I am confident that you will put to good use, the knowledge and skills you have

acquired, to continue learning and make a positive impact to our Country, Uganda, the East African Community, our African continent and the world at large.

Mr. Chancellor Sir and Hon Minister, I wish to assure Management, staff and students that, the University Council is committed to continue providing a conducive environment for the advancement and promotion of knowledge and development of skills in Science, Technology and Education for the progress and transformation of our society as set out in the University's Strategic Plan.

In order to remain focused and make a visible impact on the University during the 4-year period, we have committed ourselves to three top priorities: i) Resource mobilisation to ensure that the university is sustainable ii) investment in information and communications technology (ICT) for improved teaching & learning, research and governance and iii) infrastructural development so that we are able to provide a conducive environment for students and staff. We are confident that through partnering with Government and other Private Entrepreneurs we can deliver on this promise.



Finally, as we celebrate our students who are graduating this week, we continue to hope that the pandemic could be managed to enable education institutions to safely reopen for all children at all levels to fulfil their potential. We are confident that with the exceptional and selfless leadership of His Excellence and the support of Ministry of Education and Sport leadership, this can be achieved to save lives and the future of this country.

Once again, I wish to thank you the Hon. Minister of State for Higher Education and everyone in your various capacities for gracing this occasion and for listening to me.

To the Graduands, I congratulate you once again and wish you well in your future careers.

Thank you!

**KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS FOR SERVICE**

**FOR GOD AND MY COUNTRY**