



ACCRA
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ATU LAUNCHES \$152,869 GRANT PROJECT



Accra Technical University (ATU), in collaboration with the Design Thinking Ghana Hub, has won a grant of \$152,869 to conduct innovative research to solve societal problems in the health sector.

The grant is from the Research and Innovation Systems for Africa (RISA) Fund, financed by UKaid and implemented by Chemonics International Incorporation to conduct a multi-faceted project at the University.

Under the project, 150 students of ATU were selected through a competitive

call for applications and trained to develop any prototype medical device for the health sector.

The 10-week training using design thinking analysis would harness the talents of young emerging leaders in health solutions tailored to local needs.

Professor Samuel Nii Odai, the Vice-Chancellor, ATU speaking at the launch of the project in Accra, said the project would adopt a multi-layer approach to equip the trainees to design and deploy healthcare solutions.



The project, the Vice-Chancellor stressed, would translate existing research into practical commercial healthcare solutions and tools with the acceptability and support of various stakeholders.

Prof Odai again noted that the initiative was part of the Technical Universities Act, 2016 (Act 922), "to provide opportunities for technical and professional skills development, applied research, and publication."

The Act also mandates the Governing Council of the Technical University to "promote applied research, including the provision of technology innovations and solutions to firms and businesses,

as part of the research activities of that Technical University.

"To accomplish the Act, Prof Odai added the University has launched a 5-year strategic plan in October (2021-2025), which hinged on eight strong pillars, the second of which was "Impact-Oriented Research."

He promised to execute the project effectively to maximize the gains and promote national development.

He commended the support of donors for the project and hoped to see more of it in the years ahead for other innovative projects.

Mr. Gameli Adzaho, the Country Technical Lead, RISA, advised the trainees to take advantage of the opportunity to develop creative healthcare solutions to increase their chances of employment in the local and international markets. Mr. Adzaho urged the participants to build the necessary skills at the training, adding that “we need to improve research to create commercially viable systems using innovations in the health sector.”

He stated that, health was one of the key considerations for sustainable development because the government invests in health facilities to improve health care delivery and outcomes.

Mr Gordon Adomdza, Director, Design Thinking Ghana Hub, also noted that the trainees would be divided into three groups, and introduced to modules of design thinking to help them come up with innovative products to solve societal problems.

He said the trainees would be trained to conduct ethnographic research by understanding the behaviour of respondents on the field, and to get hands-on experience to develop and proffer solutions to the challenges.

Out of the 526 institutions that applied for the grant globally, five were from Ghana, including two universities, ATU and the University of Ghana.







PIE GROUP GRANTS SCHOLARSHIPS TO TEN ATU FEMALE STUDENTS IN STEM

It was all gratitude and appreciation in the Accra Technical University (ATU) Council Chamber when ten female students pursuing Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. (STEM) programmes at the University received a scholarship package worth GH¢35,000.00 to help support their various programmes of study.

The donation was made during a meeting between John Davis Esq., a representative and member of the Progress in Education (PIE) and the Vice-Chancellor of ATU and his Management Team.

Lawyer Davis explained that Progress in Education is a group of Ghanaians living in the United States of America, who aim to support less privileged students in Senior High Schools and tertiary institutions in Ghana.



ATU Vice-Chancellor Professor Odai encouraged the scholarship beneficiaries to show their appreciation by studying harder so the support they have received does not go to waste. He further encouraged them to stay focused on their education and aspire to make names for themselves in their various fields of study. The Vice-Chancellor thanked the PIE team for their kind gesture and advised the beneficiaries to make good use of the opportunity they have been given and give back to their societies in the future.

The beneficiaries thanked the University Management and the PIE team for their support.



ATU INAUGURATES TV STUDIO AND CERTIFIED ELECTRICAL WIRING PROFESSIONAL TRAINING CENTRE



Accra Technical University (ATU) has inaugurated a Certified Electrical Wiring (CEW) Training Centre to deepen the knowledge and skills of participants in the wiring profession and offer improved services to clients.

The University also launched its TV studio to broadcast community and national development programmes

upon acquisition of the requisite permits. Professor Samuel Nii Odai, Vice Chancellor, ATU, speaking at the event in Accra, said the inaugurations fulfilled Section 3 (1) (c) of the Technical Universities Act 922, which required technical universities to use a competency-based and practice-oriented approach in teaching, organising, and delivering academic programmes.

He said the training centre and TV studio were to provide practical training to Electrical/ Electronic Engineering and Public Relations with Digital Communication, respectively as well as to the public that would be interested in the short courses.

He commended all individuals and groups whose efforts and hard work had culminated in the setup of the two facilities. Prof. Odai also appreciated the support from external partners and collaborators, including the Ghana Standards Authority, Ghana Electrical Contractors Association, Ghana Certified Electrical Wiring Professionals Association, Certified Electrical Wiring

Inspectors, the Institute of Public Relations, Ghana, and GH Media Schools.

He encouraged members of the faculties who would be using the facilities to instruct students to continue to be selfless in their delivery. *"To the existing students and potential ones, I urge you to take advantage of these facilities to equip yourselves with practical knowledge,"* he said. Prof Odai advised the Electrical/ Electronic Engineering students to take advantage and enroll in the CEWT programme to become certified electrified wiring professionals on completion of their HND and BTech Programmes.





Mr. Awal Sakib Mohamed, President of the Ghana Electrical Contractors Association, said ATU was becoming the pacesetter in technical skills development in the country.

He charged ATU to produce qualified electrical wiring inspectors, since Ghana lacked an institution with the requisite expertise to prepare electrical wiring inspectors. Dr. Stephen Edem Bani, Head of the Electri-

cal/ Electronic Engineering Department

ATU, said the centre looks forward to training about 300 people annually.













ATU CELEBRATES EASTER WITH USSHER HOSPITAL; DONATES ITEMS WORTH GH¢10,000

The Alumni of the Accra Technical University, with support from the Science Laboratory Technology and Medical Laboratory Technology Departments of the University has donated assorted items to the maternity unit of the USSHER Hospital at James Town in Accra.

The items worth GH10,000 include two tabletop fridges, examination gloves, buckets of paint, gallons of detergent, gallons of sanitizer, waste collectors, buckets, soft drinks, and clothes.

The University also mobilised 44 pints of blood through a blood donation exercise for the Hospital to save lives. Mr. Kojo Ayithey, a lecturer at the Science Laboratory Technology Department, ATU, said the initiative was part of the University's Corporate Social Responsibility to respond to the needs of the community.

Mr. Ayithey stressed the outreach would be an annual programme and the choice of USSHER Hospital was due to the existing relationship between the University and the health facility.

The donation, he added, was to show love to the mothers and their newborns.





Speaking at the ceremony, Ms. Fausta Kilian Ganaa, the Director of Public Affairs, ATU, noted that the University's vision is to be recognised as a top Technical University with regional influence, hence, the exercise formed part of the eight priority areas of the University's strategic plan, including industry and community Engagement and Internationalisation and visibility.





Mr. Ashong Ibrahim, Head of Records and Transport, USSHER Hospital, commended the University for the love exhibited and called on other corporate institutions to assist the facility to enhance health care delivery in the community.

He said the items were relevant to the needs of the Hospital and would help complement the Government's efforts of improving healthcare outcomes.

GALLERY

BLOOD DONATION EXERCISE





ATU TAKES DELIVERY OF MPS MECHATRONICS EQUIPMENT FROM CTVET

WorldSkills Germany, through the Commission for Technical and Vocational Education and Training has donated three-set MPS mechatronics equipment to the Faculty of Engineering of Accra Technical University (ATU).

In a brief unveiling ceremony at the AMATROL Laboratory on Tuesday, the Vice-Chancellor of Accra Technical University (ATU), Professor Samuel Nii Odai, was grateful to WorldSkills Germany and the CTVET.

In his opening remarks, he intimated that the donation will boost the chances of the University in achieving at least three objectives of the 5-year Strategic Plan (2021-2025).





development in TVET by increasing the quality of delivery and access to career-relevant programmes, and improving, maintaining, and providing additional facilities to enhance technical skills, creativity, and expertise of our students as well as our faculty.

On his part, the Director General of CTNET, Dr. Fred Kyei Asamoah, stressed on the need to evolve the teaching of technical and vocational programmes to meet the ever-dynamic landscape of industry. He indicated that the use of modern equipment in today's teaching and learning ensures a smooth transition from the lecture room to industry.

As an advocate for TVET entrepreneurship, the Director General was optimistic that the delivery of this equipment will hone the skills of students and set them

up for a future of entrepreneurship. The event was graced by some members of Management, Deans, representatives from CTNET and the German development agency, GIZ.





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