

THIS WEEK

IN BRIEF

ATU ORIENTS LECTURERS ON GRADUATE PROGRAMMES AS UNIVERSITY EXPANDS OFFERINGS FOR THE 2024/2025 ACADEMIC YEAR

The Management of Accra Technical University has held an orientation programme for lecturers on graduate programmes at the University. This event comes against the backdrop of an unprecedented number of graduate programmes rolled out for the 2024/2025 academic year, a feat following the university's transition to a fully-fledged university in 2016.



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The all-important programme was held on November 11, 2024, at the university's auditorium. Speaking as the chairman on the occasion, the Acting Vice-Chancellor, Professor Amevi Acakpovi, highlighted the university's mandate to transform students through critical thinking, research, and innovation. He mentioned that compliance with quality standards is crucial for the sustainability of the master's programme. He advised lecturers to prioritise attendance, direct engagement, and dedication and commitment to the programmes.

Prof. Acakpovi admonished lecturers to be mindful of the difference between undergraduate and graduate teaching, stressing the need for proper preparation and high-quality teaching material.

In addition, he stated unequivocally that lecturers will be rigorously appraised and their performance will be closely monitored to ensure the highest quality of education at the master's level.



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Prof. J.S.Y. Kuma took lecturers through the fundamentals of pedagogy at the graduate level. The interactive session focused on effective teaching strategies for postgraduate students. According to Prof. J.S.Y. Kuma, graduate school is the research arm of the university. He encouraged lecturers to dedicate ample time to research to inspire innovations and problem-solving skills.

He guided lecturers on the ethical aspects of teaching postgraduate students, highlighting the importance of empathy and humility when engaging with this group. He urged lecturers to focus on thorough class preparation and the quality of learning materials. Emphasising the need for clarity, up-to-date content, and depth, he underscored these elements as essential for delivering effective lectures at the master's level.



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ATU FACULTY UNDERGOES DESIGN THINKING METHODOLOGY TRAINING

Accra Technical University, in partnership with Design Thinking Ghana Hub, has organised a specialised training programme on Design Thinking methodology under the Africa Health Research and Innovation Project (AHRIP), a project executed by Accra Technical University, with funding from the RISA Fund through the Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office



ATU FACULTY UNDERGOES DESIGN THINKING METHODOLOGY TRAINING

Aimed at bridging the gap between research and development in the health sector by using design thinking to address real-world challenges, the event brought together lecturers from various faculties on 5th and 6th November 2024 at the University Auditorium. The two-day training featured participatory activities focused on adopting the design thinking approach as a tool for innovative solutions to societal problems.

The Chairperson of the event and AHRIP Principal Investigator, Professor Alice Constance Mensah, welcomed the participants and stressed the importance of applying design thinking principles to create meaningful, sustainable change in research and innovation, regardless of the field of study. She highlighted the need for a multi-disciplinary approach to tackling some of the most pressing issues facing the African health sector today.

Throughout the event, facilitators from Design Thinking Hub, Dr. Gordon Adomdza, and Mr. Eugene Eluerkeh engaged participants in interactive discussions and



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collaborative exercises that explored the various stages of the design thinking process—from empathy and problem definition to ideation. Attendees were encouraged to adopt a human-centred mindset, putting the community's needs at the centre of their innovation efforts.

In smaller groups, participants worked on various issues bothering their immediate surroundings, applying design thinking tools to identify key pain points and develop user-centred solutions. These group activities encouraged cross-disciplinary collaboration and allowed attendees to experience firsthand the power of design thinking in solving societal issues.

At the end of each session, groups presented their proposed solutions to the larger audience. These presentations were met with constructive feedback from fellow participants and facilitators, further refining the ideas and encouraging continuous improvement.



In her closing remarks, Professor Mensah thanked participants for their active involvement in the two-day programme and encouraged them to exhibit the same commitment in the online sessions yet to take place. She encouraged all attendees to take the insights and strategies learnt during the training to their respective departments and continue exploring how design thinking can drive impactful change in their teaching methodologies. Aimed at bridging the gap between research and development in the health sector by using design thinking to address real-world challenges, the event brought together lecturers from various faculties on 5th and 6th November 2024 at the University Auditorium. The two-day training featured participatory activities focused on adopting the design thinking approach as a tool for innovative solutions to societal problems.

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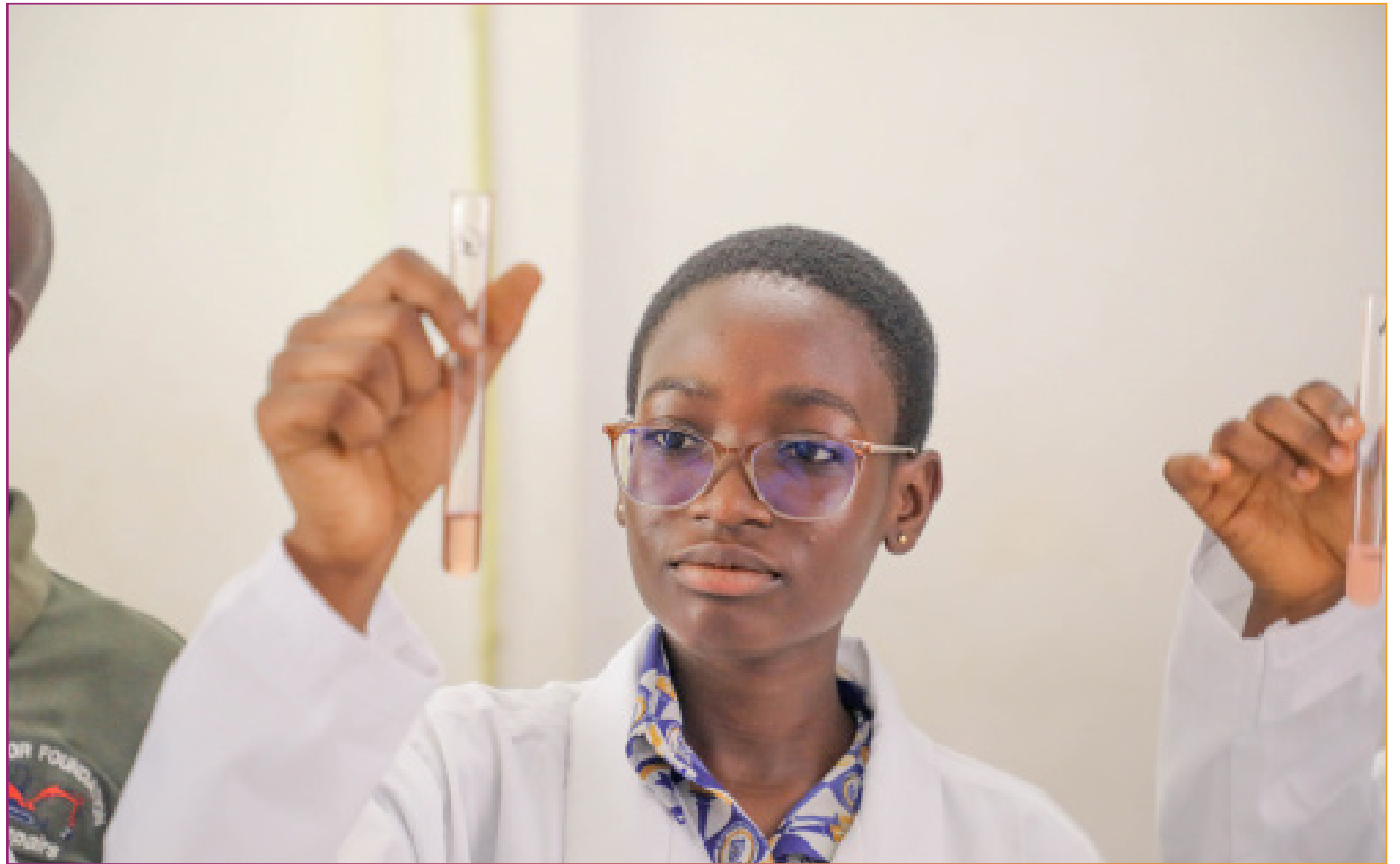
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HANDS-ON SCIENCE EXPERIENCE SPARKS INTEREST IN STEM FOR KIDZ VISION ACADEMY STUDENTS

The Department of Science Laboratory Technology (SLT) at Accra Technical University has organised an experiential educational tour for students from Kidz Vision Academy, Kwabenya, in Accra, aimed at giving them a hands-on experience of science.

Dr. Charity Ahiabor, Head of the SLT Department, warmly welcomed the students to the university.



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The purpose of the tour was to spark the students' interest in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) by providing practical demonstrations that complement their classroom learning. The students had the opportunity to engage in various experiments and familiarize themselves with basic scientific equipment in the laboratory.

Mr. Emmanuel Laryea, a staff member of the SLT Department, guided the students through several experiments in biology, chemistry, and physics. They were shown how to use microscopes to observe plant and animal cells, with a focus on magnification and resolution. Additionally, they tested for glucose and starch in food samples, using tools and techniques from the microbiology lab.



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Mr. Laryea encouraged the students to work hard, take a keen interest in STEM fields, and make the most of their education. He emphasized the importance of staying dedicated to their studies to become successful and prominent members of society in the future



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WHAT DO YOU KNOW?" QUIZ SHOW: ENGINEERING FACULTY EMERGES WINNER IN CLOSE CONTEST

The Faculty of Engineering has emerged triumphant in the keenly contested Accra Technical University Inter-Faculty "What do you Know" Quiz on 10th November 2024 at the GTV studios. The all-exciting competition brought together the five faculties of the University to lock horns in an intellectual battle on the renowned "What do you Know?" Quiz show hosted by the famous Dan Afari Yeboah.



WHAT DO YOU KNOW?" QUIZ SHOW: ENGINEERING FACULTY EMERGES WINNER IN CLOSE CONTEST



Contestants from the Faculties of Business, Applied Sciences, Applied Arts, Engineering, and Built Environment carried the pride of their faculties by showcasing their intellectual prowess and wit in the history of the University and current global issues. The contestants had three rounds, during which they answered questions correctly to amass points for a chance to win each round. The contestants were backed by their unwavering supporters from respective faculties, faculty deans, and members of the University's management, notable among whom were the Acting Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, Dr. Tina Wemegah, Dean of the Faculty of Business, Dr. Chosniel Ocloo, Director of Public Affairs, Mrs. Fausta Killian Ganaa, and Mr. Martin Owusu Amoamah. The studio was brought alive in the first round which was a close call as the Faculty of Engineering managed to get ahead with 10 points, closely followed by the Faculty of Applied Arts, Built Environment and Applied Sciences with 9 points each, while the Faculty of Business trailed with 7 points.

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The second half continued to gather momentum as both the Faculty of Engineering and the Faculty of Applied Arts edged their opponents to turn the competition into a two-horse race with very little between them. In the third round, the Faculty of Engineering ensured daylight between them and their opponents, winning the round with 8 points and establishing a seven-point gap lead, as the Faculty of Built Environment came close with 6 points as they looked to run away with it. At the end of the contest, the Faculty of Engineering clinched the title with 27 points, the Faculty of Applied Arts were runners up with 20 points, followed by the Faculty of Built Environment and Applied Sciences with 18 points and 15 points respectively.

The Faculty of Business finished with 15 points. The contestants who represented the faculties were, Comfort Sogah and Malik Abdul Rahman of the Faculty of Engineering, Kelly Kelvin and Issah Mohammed Bashir of the Faculty of Applied Sciences, Osman Sawuda and Nathaniel Kwaku Antwi of the Faculty of Built Environment, Amevor Richmond and Emmanuel Entsuhah of Faculty of Applied Sciences and Yeboah Agyei and Obed Eduah of the Faculty of Business. The ATU Inter-Faculty Quiz is part of the activities to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the premier Technical University.





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