

**SPEECH DELIVERED BY PROFESSOR W. O. ELLIS, VICE-CHANCELLOR OF  
KNUST AT THE 2014 AWARDS CEREMONY FOR SECURITY PERSONNEL ON  
WEDNESDAY, 16<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2014 AT THE ROYAL PARADE GROUNDS AT  
3.00PM**

Pro Vice-Chancellor

Registrar

Ashanti Regional Police Commander

Ashanti Regional Director of BNI

4BN Commander

Manhyia Divisional Police Commander

“B” (Zongo) District Officer

KNUST District Police Officer

Provosts

Deans and Directors

Colleague Members of Staff

Members of the Media

Ladies and Gentlemen

On behalf of the management of this University, I have the pleasure to welcome you all to this afternoon's short Parade. I thank you all for making time to share with us, the joy of this occasion of recognising the hard work and dedication of our security personnel. A special welcome goes to our friends from the state security agencies who have over the years, collaborated with us in the provision and maintenance of security on our campus.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, it has always been the desire of management to maintain the needed atmosphere conducive for academic pursuit here on our campus. In this regard and in tandem with our Mission, the University has over the years taken matters of security with all the seriousness it deserves. In respect of this, we have continued to review upwards, the number of security staff in addition to the provision of logistics and equipment to aid our security forces to discharge their duties with the needed level of professionalism and efficiency. Generally speaking, the University's Security Services has, with the assistance of other state security agencies, maintained a peaceful atmosphere, very conducive for academic work and I commend you all for this feat.

However, in achieving the above feat, we also very much appreciate the level of sacrifice our security staff go through; sometimes at the peril of their lives in their attempt to maintain a conducive atmosphere on the campus. It is in the light of this that in the year 2011, the Annual Security Awards programme was instituted to identify and recognise our security staff who go the extra mile to distinguish themselves in the discharge of their duties so that the awardees and others would be motivated. I am happy to inform you that at this afternoon's Parade, we would be awarding 12 security personnel; ten would receive medals and two would receive special citations for distinguishing themselves in the discharge of their duties. In addition, each awardee would receive a cash donation from the University.

We also duly recognise the invaluable contribution of the state security agencies such as the Police, the Bureau of National Investigations and the Army in the support they have and continue to provide us in the form of night patrols and intelligence information especially

during crisis moments. In view of this, it has been decided that a Citation would also be presented to each of the security agencies as a token of the University's appreciation for your continued support and co-operation in providing us with the needed security.

Let me at this point heartily congratulate all award winners for what they have done for the University in general. It is my hope that, you will allow this award to spur you on to even greater heights so that others will learn from your exemplary conduct. In so doing, I would also want to caution the few ones among you who occasionally bring the name of the service and that of the University into disrepute through their unprofessional conducts. Already, talks are underway to design a tailor-made training programme for you and it is my hope that your level of efficiency would greatly improve after the programme in the supreme interest of the University community.

I thank you all for your sacrifices and dedication. God bless you all.