

UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH AND ALLIED SCIENCES
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PRESS RELEASE

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**RESPONSE BY THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH AND ALLIED SCIENCES (UHAS) TO
MR. HENRY AMETEFEE'S COMMENTS ABOUT VICE CHANCELLOR PROFESSOR JOHN GYAPONG**

On Thursday, June 25, 2020, during a televised press conference by the National Democratic Congress (NDC) in the Volta Region, the NDC's Volta Regional Chairman and former Deputy Regional Minister, Mr. Henry Ametefee, responded to televised comments by an official of the New Patriotic Party (NPP). Portions of Mr. Ametefee's response, which was further commented upon by the *Daily Guide* Newspaper (June 29, 2020 Edition, Front page and page 6) concerns UHAS and reads as follows:-

"We have put Abomosu citizen as our Vice Chancellor. I know he's doing so many dirty things there with removing Voltarians, but all our people are quiet — Togbe Afede and all of them — why? Professor Mawutor Avoke was removed from Winneba University College of Education, because he is 'not a son of the Fanti soil' and Volta Region, we have allowed Professor Gyapong to be our vice chancellor, because we are very civilized people. If the Akyems do not know that Volta Region believe in civility, then Professor Gyapong must also be careful that he's sitting on our land as a vice chancellor, a university that we built..."

The Governing Council of UHAS at its meeting on Friday 10th July 2020, discussed the issue and feels greatly disappointed at these ill-informed comments, personalized attacks against the Vice Chancellor with unfortunate ethnocentric and political undertones. We wish to reaffirm for the benefit of the Volta Region, the entire Country and our International collaborators, that the Vice Chancellor, Professor John Gyapong, under the guidance of the University Council, has been consistent in putting in place a robust, transparent and competitive appointment system and process to ensure that at all times, the most competent and capable officers take up available

positions in the University irrespective of which part of Ghana or the world they come from. Specifically, we further assure all Ghanaians that the alleged practice of *“dirty things and removing Voltarians”* or any other employee on the basis of their ethnic background is entirely untrue and will never have the support of the UHAS Council in any shape or form because it is at variance with our vision of building an equal opportunities University of international repute that can compete globally.

Council unreservedly affirms its confidence in the character, professional capabilities and managerial acumen of Vice Chancellor Professor John Gyapong who was inducted into office in October 2016 after a highly competitive appointment process. Indeed, the high moral character, integrity, competence and efficiency in managing the university has earned Professor Gyapong a renewal of his tenure for another two years, to expire in July 2022. It is the Council’s expectation, that the many landmark projects and achievements of the first four years, will be enhanced over this period in our quest to position UHAS as a successful University of international standing for the training of health professionals.

Finally, Council wishes to express the University’s readiness at all times to openly address any additional concerns that Mr. Ametefee or members of the public might have regarding the administration of UHAS and affirm that UHAS will continue to remain apolitical in its dealings, offer equal opportunities to all, and pursue diversity as its culture.

Signed,



DR CYNTHIA SENA KPEGLO

REGISTRAR AND SECRETARY TO COUNCIL