

**A SPECIAL GUEST : PROF. GRACE YAWO GADAGBUI -
DEAN OF THE FACULTY OF EDUCATIONAL STUDIES
5TH ANNIVERSARY/WEEK CELEBRATION OF BESA.
19TH APRIL, 2006, WEDNESDAY, AT THE
NORTH ASSEMBLY HALL, UEW.**

Mr. Chairman

Head of Department and staff of Basic Education

Senior Staff

Executive members of Basic Education Student Association,

Junior members

Friends and Supporters of BESA

Honorable Guests

Colleagues

All protocol observed

Ladies and gentlemen.

No year passes without the Basic Education Students' Association Celebrating the Day. This shows members are active and flowing with the tides of life. I am privileged again to be part and parcel of the 5th Launching of BESA Anniversary /Week Celebration.

I have no doubt on my mind that it is going to be a UNIQUE AND ANOTHER MEMORABLE OCCASION. As a reminder, the launching and the celebration of BESA week is to celebrate the achievement of the 365 ¼ days in the year, to take stock of events and how Best to run the Association. It is also time to

exchange the “executive baton” among members and to say “Kudos” and bye, bye. Oh! What a mixed feeling? What challenges are cast? How can progress be achieved over the marked strides attained if there are? Or how can accelerated progress be made? These are some of the challenges.

No matter the hurdles before you all, it is stock taking time. Account of everything has to be rendered, stewardship and its outcome, either credit or debit. When credit there is celebration and hope there is no debit.

The whole nation, Ghana is watching us. The Faculty of Educational Studies, particularly the students of the Department of Basic Education. What is Ghana looking for? And why is the nation looking at us?

You are the pivot in education, You are the “academic pillar of excellence” mentors, frame work and principal of educational standard. You are the mantle of power for academic progress and a panacea to problem in education; you are the nation builder; the “academic ladder” and repertoire of knowledge to the individuals’ potential which you will unravel and nurture.

Members of BESA, are you aware that the nation expects much more of these attributes from you? You have the potential. Please, identify yourselves with these UNIQUE attributes; You as an individual is an academic pillar of

excellence; a mentor; a “giant” framework of reference; a master builder in education, a repertoire of knowledge and a panacea to academic problems; a pace setter for progress in Ghana.

You have the content, the principles of application of the content and a producer of eligible, competent products for the Ghanaian Consumption, You are **JUST UNIQUE AND A POINT OF REFERENCE, - “ A BENCH MARK”**

The capitation grant in September 2006, caused’ increases in enrolment in basic schools. This calls for more challenges for the basic school teacher; more class enrolment-large class sizes and management; inclusion of children with slight physical or sensory impairment; lack of classrooms, poor infrastructure and teaching and learning aids. Much expectations from the society despite, the meager emolument are demanded.

Inspite of these, the Basic teacher is expected to be active, and prove his/her worth by **identifying the problem** and having **problem solving skills**, and having at the same time, **concern** for children with diverse learning needs. You cannot run away. **Do not see these as threats but challenges**. These are ways of putting your worth to task. And if I were you, I

will STAND FIRM AND work at the task till I am successful.
My experiences teach me to realize that:

“ Success means how to encounter failures and have the abilities to solve them diligently.

Conclusion

Ralph Waldo Emerson in the 18th century said “ The man who can make hard things easy is the educator. “ BESA – “ UNIQUE,

You are educators. From today, make a pledge “We make hard things easy; I can make hard things easy by God’s grace”.

On behalf of the Vice Chancellor and members of the Faculty of Educational Studies, I wish BESA and its members a happy celebration and long life.

God Bless and Thank you.