

**CONGRATULATORY /GOODWILL MESSAGE 80TH ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATIONS
PROF. GRACE YAWO GADAGBUI, UNIVERSITY OF EDUCATION WINNEBA
DEAN- FACULTY OF EDUCATIONAL STUDIES**

It is a joy to be associated with the 80th Anniversary celebration of my ALMA MATER. OLA, “nicknamed” in my days (1963 – 1967) as “Old Ladies Association” by mainly students of St. Augustines Secondary School is my PRIDE – I remember sister Mary Rita, Mother Columbiere, Sister Frances and others who devoted their precious time, skills and knowledge of that time to make some of us in particular to a “STAR” in the academic arena at the tertiary level (University of Education, Winneba). I took my vision from OLA, my personal discipline from there, kept my previous notes and used the Geography Notes from Sister Mary Rita for my GCE “O” level.

What a pride! OLA is to be PR-O-U-D of “ By apoco-apoco”, that zeal to be at the top of my profession gathered momentum over the years. Courses from OLA delivered by very zealous tutors were not only of great support to the year group of “ 1967” but also to our predecessors and those after us. The institution’s Board of Directors, the Principal and tutors of OLA, I say “ ayeekoo-o”. You have inherited a powerful baton from your predecessors – some who are alive and some who are dead. I give the living a “hug” and a CROWN of Divine pride. To the saints above, “ I salute” you though posthumously.

Kudos! To members of my alma mater.

Human Resource Development is a key to the nations growth and an acceleration to good health and poverty reduction and a seizure from premature death. OLA has for years realized the value in capacity building even in those days when Information Technology had not been dreamt of in Ghana. But OLA had that vision and began training the “young ladies” not old ladies with the architect of designing PhD holders, those with MEd and MSc and for those of us who would not pass the highest levels of degree but “ LEAPED” excellently over the academic pole vaults to Full Professorship- status with steady state of hard work over the years made it. It is God and personal determination inculcated in OLA products which yielded beautiful results.

To the youth of OLA who are currently studying, I urge you seriously to take a cue from this statement: “ All is easy if there is a vision and a determination and just holding fast to the principles of God’s word. “

May OLA live LONG Hip! Hip! Hip, HURRAY!.

I am proud of you OLA, T.C. Congratulations and Jubilation