

## A WORD FROM THE VICE CHANCELLOR

I take this opportunity to congratulate all granduands, parents and benefactors on this occasion of the 14h Graduation Ceremony. Today is a special day in your academic journey. We thank God for bringing you this far!. The journey has been long with a lot of challenges but those are part of the training you have achieved at Busitema University. Your resolve, commitment to personal growth, and the support of your families and friends has been critical to the completion of your journey. It is not only important to celebrate every achievement in life but equally important is to remember and always acknowledge the contributions of society to our growth. Remember to give back to society in equal measure.

I am overly grateful to the staff, Government and all other stakeholders who have contributed to the training program which you have gone through successfully.

During your stay at Busitema University, you have acquired new knowledge, skills and an effort has been made to impart in you a positive attitude towards work; it is our hope that you will put this to good use in the world of work. It should be noted that the work terrain is rapidly changing and requires life long learning skills which we have tried to impart. Some of you with support of your Lecturers took advantage of the conducive atmosphere at Busitema University to develop new innovations, publications and have actually received global recognitions. This should give you the momentum to continue growing as innovators in your respective field of training for the world today is welcoming job creators and not job seekers

I encourage you to take advantage of every opportunity that will arise, and allow yourselves to engage and enhance your newly developed critical thinking and problem solving skills. In this era, where the job market is very competitive, I commend you to take advantage of any available volunteering, apprenticeship and internship opportunities. This will exploit your talents whilst accumulating the much needed experience as you transit from the academic to professional work environment.



**The University has improved in a number of areas including:**

- Human resource capacity and a number of staff have been recruited and many promoted to higher ranks. The University has now over 80 staff with PhDs and the number is continuing to rise.
- On the side of research, Busitema University is continuing to win competitive grants in the areas of natural products research, space science, material science, renewal energy and artificial intelligence. These are helping the University to transform its methods of delivery to project based learning.
- A number of infrastructural developments across our Faculties have been setup. The construction of the Maritime Institute at Namasagali, Kamuli, is ongoing as directed by His Excellence the President. The construction of a Lecture and Laboratory Complex at the Faculty of Health Sciences Mbale, is progressing well. We are also constructing a medical centre at Busitema Campus. We expect these to make the University more hospitable to our students and staff.

After the Chancellor has conferred upon you the befitting academic Award, you are addressed as a Graduate of Busitema University. You acquire the status of an Alumnus, and a Member of the Busitema University Convocation. I urge you to take advantage as members of the Busitema University Convocation to support infrastructural development at your Alma Mata.

Despite the knowledge and skills you have acquired, honesty and integrity are going to be key to success in whichever endeavour you will undertake.

As we bid farewell to you today, I urge you to go out and make Busitema University proud. This is the time to rejoice, reflect and reposition yourself to chase your dreams.

Congratulations on this momentous occasion of your life.

*Pursuing Excellence*

**Professor Paul Waako**  
**VICE CHANCELLOR**