

On the occasion of the 12th Graduation Ceremony of Busitema University, I congratulate you all for this achievement. As You celebrate this special day In your academic journey we thank God for bringing you this far!. The day that seemed very distant at the time you entered the gates of Busitema University has finally come.

I know substantial sacrifices were made to effectively pursue your studies 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 pray for each and every member of the family and society who contribute to our cause for celebration.

I am overly grateful to the Academic, Administrative and Support staff, who have contributed to your success, today we shall always be grateful. This day would not be as memorable as it is today if it were not for the efforts of the parents, guardians and sponsors. Thank you so much for the work well done.

During your time of stay at Busitema , you have been exposed to several opportunities in as far as putting all the theory you have learnt into practice and it is imperative to apply them in the different situations of life including this Post COVID-19 era that has left majority aspects of performance digital and virtual. 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. I hope that you will not loose this innovative spirit but you can take it further to excellence.

I encourage you is 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. Inthis era, where the job market is very competitive, I commend you to take advantage of any available volunteering, apprenticeship and internships 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 wit PhDs and the number is continuing to rise.
- On the side of research, Busitema University is continuing to win competitive grants like: "The Parish level Night - a Day Solar crop dryer and 30 Tone silo storage system" has been

selected for funding under the National Research and Innovation Program (NRIP) issued for the Financial year 2021/2022 from the Science, Technology and Innovation Secretariat-Office of the President (SnOP); and "The formulation and evaluation of Herbal Products for the treatment of COVID-19 and other viral Infections" supported by the Presidential Scientific Initiative on Epidemics (PRESIDE) led by Or. Samuel Baker Obakiro has gone to clinical trial stage.

- 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.

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. The Convocation Association is progressing well under the charismatic leadership of Eng. Badru Musinguzi, It's a pleasure to work together with the University Convocation. We will continue to share with you developments aimed at scaling Busitema University to greater heights.

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.

Be confident that you can succeed and you surely will!

Congratulations on this momentous occasion of your life.

Pursuing Excellence

Professor Paul Waako

VICE CHANCELLOR