



**BUSITEMA
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Pursuing Excellence

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SPEECH BY

THE CHANCELLOR

ENG. DR. PROF. BADRU M. KIGGUNDU

DELIVERED ON THE

**OCCASION OF THE 16th GRADUATION CEREMONY OF
BUSITEMA UNIVERSITY**

ON FRIDAY 28TH NOVEMBER 2025

Your Excellency, The President of The Republic of Uganda,
Honourable Ministers,
Members of Parliament,
The University Council, Senate, And Management,
Distinguished Guests,
Staff and Students of Busitema University,
The University Partners, Stakeholders & Collaborators
Ladies And Gentlemen,

It is with deep humility and profound gratitude that I stand before you today as the newly appointed Chancellor of Busitema University. I thank God for this great privilege given to me to serve the people in this capacity as a Chancellor of this great institution. I also extend appreciation to the President of the Republic of Uganda His Excellency Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, for entrusting me with this noble responsibility, and I pledge to serve with integrity, dedication, and an unwavering commitment to the advancement of Busitema University.

Allow me to take this opportunity to acknowledge the tireless efforts of Prof. Vinand Nantulya Mutakabala, the outgoing Chancellor, and I promise to build on his efforts to make Busitema University a Centre of Excellence.

Busitema University was founded on the vision of being a centre of excellence in science, engineering, technology, and innovation — a vision that aligns perfectly with Uganda's aspirations for socio-

economic transformation. Today, we are not just educating students; we are shaping problem-solvers, innovators, and leaders who will drive our nation forward.

As a University Chancellor, my role shall be to:

- i) Advance Academic Excellence and Championing it by supporting research, innovation, and quality teaching. Busitema University is known for practical, hands-on, problem-solving education. Whether in Engineering, Agriculture, Health Sciences, Natural Resources, Management Sciences, or Education, our students rely on the skills they are equipped with, that are relevant to Uganda's development. As we look ahead, we will continue strengthening curriculum innovation, promoting interdisciplinary collaboration among campuses, and supporting research that addresses national and regional challenges—from food security to environmental sustainability to technological advancement.
- ii) Strengthen Support for Academic Staff and promoting partnerships with industry, government, and international institutions to expand opportunities for our students and staff. We cannot achieve excellence without supporting the people who make it possible. The wellbeing and growth of staff are essential to the university's success, and I am committed to ensuring that staff have the space and

resources to thrive and develop the values that support development.

- iii) Build integrity among students, faculty, and society through honesty in research, fairness in assessment, and transparency in governance. Discipline fosters responsibility, accountability, and respect for rules, creating an environment where learning and innovation can thrive. Service connects the university to the wider community, encouraging students and staff to apply knowledge for social good and civic responsibility

Busitema University was built with a strong regional and national mandate. Our communities look to us for solutions, for leadership, and for innovation. The research, outreach, and partnerships with government, industry, and civil society contribute directly to national development. As we move forward, we will continue to strengthen these connections and amplify the visibility of our work—ensuring that Busitema’s contributions are recognized locally, nationally, and internationally.

To our graduating students

Standing here today as your newly appointed Chancellor, I feel a deep sense of pride and gratitude. Pride, because I see in front of me a generation ready to shape the future. Gratitude, because I get to begin my own journey in this role by celebrating yours.

You've worked hard, stumbled at times, and risen stronger each time. That resilience is what will carry you forward. The world beyond these gates will test you, but it will also reward your courage, creativity, and compassion.

Remember that success is not just about titles or wealth. It's about the impact you make, the lives you touch, and the values you uphold when no one is watching. Carry with you the friendships you've built, the lessons you've learned, and the belief that you are capable of more than you imagine.

As you step into the next chapter, dare to dream boldly, but also dare to serve humbly. Let your story inspire others and let your actions speak louder than your words. The world is waiting for your brilliance—go out there and shine. As Henry David Thoreau said, “***Go confidently in the direction of your dreams. Live the life you have imagined.***”

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

To our staff

I am honored and humbled to address you today, as your newly appointed Chancellor. This moment marks not only a celebration of our students' accomplishments, but also a recognition of the unwavering dedication and service of the staff who have made this achievement possible. You are more than educators and researchers—you are mentors, nation-builders, and facilitators of

learning who shape the future of Uganda. I am proud to walk this journey with you and confident in what Busitema University will achieve through your dedication.

Your tireless efforts in teaching, research, mentorship, and administration have laid the foundation upon which our graduates now stand. Each success story that we celebrate today is a testament to your commitment to excellence and to the values that define Busitema University.

As we look to the future, let us continue to uphold the highest standards of scholarship, integrity, and innovation. Together, we shall strengthen the university's role as a beacon of knowledge, a pillar of national development, and a source of inspiration for generations to come.

I pledge to work hand in hand with you, to foster collaboration, to honor your contributions, and to ensure that Busitema University continues to flourish in its mission of transforming society through education.

On this day of celebration, I extend my deepest gratitude to you all. May our collective efforts guide Busitema University to even greater heights of distinction and service. Let us continue working together, united in purpose and guided by the values that define this great institution.

To parents, guardians, and families,

This day is not only a celebration of academic achievement, but also a tribute to the love, sacrifice, and unwavering support that you have given to our graduates.

Behind every success we honor today stands a parent or guardian who believed, encouraged, and invested in the future of their child. Your commitment has been the silent strength that has carried them through the challenges of study and the triumphs of accomplishment.

On behalf of the entire university community, I extend my deepest gratitude to you. Today, we celebrate your children, but we also celebrate you—for without your guidance and sacrifice, this moment would not have been possible. May this day inspire us all to continue working hand in hand for the brighter future of our nation

To stakeholders, esteemed partners, and friends of Busitema University,

As the newly appointed Chancellor, I recognize that the strength of this institution lies not only in its students and staff, but also in the unwavering support of its stakeholders.

Your contributions through policy, partnership, mentorship, or resources—have enabled Busitema University to grow into a center of excellence that nurtures leaders for Uganda and beyond. Together,

we have built bridges between academia and industry, between research and community, and between vision and reality.

As we look ahead, I invite you to continue walking this journey with us. Let us deepen our collaborations, expand opportunities for our graduates, and strengthen the role of Busitema University as a driver of national development.

On behalf of the entire university community, I thank you for your trust and commitment. May our shared efforts continue to illuminate the path of transformation for generations to come

In conclusion, I extend my deepest gratitude to the staff, parents, guardians, and stakeholders whose dedication has made this day possible. Together, we shall continue to strengthen Busitema University as a pillar of excellence and service. I call upon all of us to unite in purpose and let us make Busitema University a beacon of knowledge, innovation, and service — not just for Uganda, but for the entire region.

May God bless Busitema University, and may God bless Uganda.

FOR GOD AND MY COUNTRY