



CHRISLAND UNIVERSITY

Owode, Abeokuta, Ogun State



**BOOK OF
6TH
CONVOCATION
SPEECHES**

**Tuesday 29th October, 2024
10:00am
University Auditorium**

SPEECH DELIVERED BY HIGH CHIEF DR. MRS. WINIFRED ADEFOLAHAN AWOSIKA, OON, FOUNDER AND CHANCELLOR, CHRISLAND UNIVERSITY, ABEOKUTA AT THE 6TH CONVOCATION CEREMONY OF THE UNIVERSITY

*His Excellency, the Executive Governor of Ogun State, Prince Dapo Abiodun,
Royal Fathers,
My Lords Spiritual and Temporal,
Distinguished Members of the Board of Trustees,
The Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of Council, Chrisland University,
Distinguished Professor Ayodeji O. Olukoju (FNAL),
Members of the Governing Council,
The Vice-Chancellor, Chrisland University, Prof. (Mrs.) Chinedum Paece Babalola, FAS, FAAS, FPSN
Visiting Vice-Chancellors,
Our Esteemed Convocation Lecturer, Engr. Umar Bubar Bindir,
Management Staff,
Visiting Principal Officers of other Universities,
The Deans, Heads of Departments, and other members of the Senate Staff of Chrisland University
Friends of the University,
Parents, Guardians, Graduands, and Esteemed Guests,
Gentlemen of the Press
Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,*

Opening: Gratitude to God

It is with profound gratitude to God that I stand before you today. His protection, grace, and abundant provisions have guided us through the highs and lows of this journey. Despite the many challenges confronting our nation, God has remained steadfast in His faithfulness, enabling us to gather for the 6th Convocation Ceremony of Chrisland University. I give Him all the glory.

Chrisland University began as a seed of faith in 2015 with just seven students, and today, it has blossomed into an institution that stands as a beacon of hope, excellence, and leadership in higher education. The growth we have witnessed over these few years is a testament to divine providence and the dedication of all who have been part of this great project. We are here today because of God's grace and the hard work of

many individuals who have contributed in various ways.

A Special Moment: Honouring the Graduands

Today, we celebrate you, our esteemed graduates. This is a day of immense pride and joy, which marks the beginning of a new chapter in your lives. Your journey through Chrisland University has been filled with learning, growth, and transformation. You have worked diligently, faced challenges, and stood resilient through it all. Today, you stand on the cusp of greatness, ready to make your mark on the world.

As you step out into the society, I charge you to be the shining light that the world needs. The knowledge you have gained, the values instilled in you, and the skills you have acquired are your tools for shaping a better future. The world you are entering is one that requires leaders of integrity, courage, and vision. You are equipped with the intellectual radiance that Chrisland University is known for. Go out there and transform your world with that radiance, never compromising on your principles.

Remember, your actions reflect not just on you but also on this great institution and your families. Hold firmly the core values of discipline, respect, and hard work, which have been ingrained in you during your time here. Let your integrity be your guide, and always strive for excellence in all your endeavours.

My prayer is that the Almighty God will bless your path, grant you wisdom in your decisions, and strengthen you to overcome every challenge. May you be beacons of hope, success, and inspiration to others wherever life takes you.

Parents and Guardians: A Celebration of Sacrifice

To the parents and guardians present here today, I celebrate you. This is a day of victory for you as well. Your unwavering support, sacrifices, and prayers have brought your children to this momentous point in their lives. You believed in their potential and invested in their future by choosing Chrisland University, and today, you witness the fruits of your labour.

However, your role does not end here. As your children step into the next phase of their lives, they will continue to rely on your wisdom and guidance. Their challenges may change, but your influence remains invaluable. I encourage you to continue to nurture them with love, support, and prayers. May God continue to strengthen you, and may you live long to enjoy the rewards of your sacrifices.

Charge to the Alumni: Uphold the Legacy

To our esteemed alumni, you are the living legacy of Chrisland University. You are ambassadors of this institution, carrying its values

and reputation into the wider world. As our alumni network grows, so does the influence of this great university. Each of you plays a crucial role in shaping the future of Chrisland University and ensuring that its name continues to stand for excellence and leadership.

I urge you to remain connected to your alma mater. Your involvement is vital to the continued growth and success of this institution. Whether through mentorship, collaboration, or financial support, your contributions will help us build a lasting legacy for future generations. Chrisland University is your home, and we are proud of all that you have achieved. I encourage you to continue to uphold the values of Chrisland University wherever you go.

The Uniqueness of this Convocation

Today's Convocation Ceremony holds special significance for several reasons. Firstly, we are celebrating a monumental achievement—the graduation and induction of our very first set of Nursing graduates.

These graduates have successfully completed the rigorous academic and professional requirements set by the Nursing and Midwifery Council of Nigeria. Today, they leave this institution as Registered Nurses and Midwives, fully licensed and prepared to make their mark in the healthcare sector. Soon, they will also qualify as Public Health Nurses, adding yet another layer to their professional expertise.

This accomplishment is a source of immense pride for us all. It reflects not only the hard work of the students but also the commitment and leadership of those who have guided them along the way. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to Prof. Prisca Olabisi Adejumo, the Pioneer Dean of the Faculty of Nursing, whose dedication and vision brought us to this point. Her leadership has been instrumental in building the Nursing Faculty to the level of excellence we celebrate today. To all the staff of the Faculty of Nursing, I say thank you for your unwavering commitment to excellence. To God be the glory for this incredible achievement.

The second aspect of today's uniqueness is that it marks the conclusion of a glorious seven-year stewardship of our distinguished Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Chinedum Peace Babalola. While a formal valedictory ceremony is scheduled for tomorrow, 30th October, I would be remiss not to acknowledge her outstanding contributions to the growth of this university. Prof. Babalola's time has been nothing short of extraordinary. Her leadership has seen Chrisland University grow in leaps and bounds, with remarkable advancements in academic programmess, infrastructure, and student enrollment. She has led with wisdom, grace, and an unrelenting

commitment to excellence. Her visionary leadership has left an indelible mark on this institution, and her legacy will continue to inspire future generations of leaders.

Prof. Babalola has dedicated herself to this university with utmost passion and integrity. She has always gone above and beyond the call of duty, treating her position not merely as a job but as a mission. She has successfully navigated the complexities of leadership, maintaining peace and harmony across all levels of the university, her tenures have been marked by numerous accomplishments that will forever be remembered.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees and the entire Chrisland family, I extend my deepest appreciation to Prof. Babalola. Your tenures have been a gift to this institution, and while we must now release you to new responsibilities, you will always remain a part of the Chrisland family. We are eternally grateful for your contributions. I pray that God will continue to bless and guide you in all your future endeavours.

Appreciation

I cannot end this speech without expressing my profound gratitude to those who have played critical roles in the success of Chrisland University.

To the members of the Board of Trustees, I thank you for your steadfast support, your wisdom, and your commitment to the vision of this university. Your contributions have been invaluable in shaping Chrisland into the institution it is today.

To the Governing Council, led by Distinguished Professor Ayodeji Olukoju, FNAL, I extend my sincere appreciation. Your leadership and policies have been instrumental in steering the university through its growth and achievements. Your dedication to the cause of education is truly commendable.

To the management, staff, and students, I thank you for your loyalty, dedication, and hard work. You are the heartbeat of this institution, and it is your collective efforts that have brought us to this day of celebration.

To the Ogun State Government, under the leadership of His Excellency, Prince Dapo Abiodun; (the Executive Governor) I say thank you for providing an enabling environment for this university to thrive. Your support has been critical to our success, and we are deeply grateful.

To our Convocation Lecturer, Engr. Umar Bubar Bindir, thank you for your insightful and thought-provoking lecture. It has enriched us all, and I am confident that it will inspire action as we strive for a brighter future for Nigeria.

Finally, I must acknowledge our regulatory and collaborative agencies,

whose guidance and partnership have been crucial to our continued growth and success. Your support is deeply appreciated.

Closing Prayer and Wishes

As we draw this ceremony to a close, I commit each of you to the hands of the Almighty God. May His grace continue to shine upon you and protect you as you go forth into the world. May His wisdom guide your steps, and may His blessings follow you all the days of your life.

To the graduands, go forth and make your mark. To the parents, continue to be pillars of strength for your children. To the alumni, uphold the legacy of this great institution. Together, let us continue to build the Chrisland University of our dream.

Thank you all, and may God bless you abundantly.

High Chief Dr. Mrs. Winifred Adefolahan Awosika, OON
Founder/Chancellor,
Chrisland University, Abeokuta

“LIVING, LEAVENING AND LEAVING”
ADDRESS BY PRO-CHANCELLOR AND CHAIRMAN
OF GOVERNING COUNCIL, CHRISLAND UNIVERSITY,
ABEOKUTA AT THE SIXTH CONVOCATION CEREMONY
HELD ON TUESDAY, 29 OCTOBER 2024

Your Excellencies

Your Royal Majesties and Highnesses

My Lords Spiritual and Temporal

The Executive Secretary of the National Universities Commission

Chancellor and Chair of BOT, Chrisland University, High Chief (Dr) Mrs Winifred Awosika, OON

Members of the Board of Trustees

Members of the Governing Council

Vice Chancellor and Management

Chrisland University Staff

Friends of the University

Parents and Guardians

Graduating Students

Gentlemen of the Press

Ladies and Gentlemen

It is with deep gratitude to God and great delight that I heartily congratulate the Chancellor and Chair of Convocation, High Chief (Dr) Mrs Winifred Awosika, OON, on behalf of other stakeholders on the occasion of the sixth Convocation of Chrisland University. On behalf of the Governing Council, I thank the Chancellor and the Board of Trustees for the unstinting individual and collective support given to this University. I salute members of the Governing Council for their fulsome cooperation and unwavering support without which we would not have achieved the much that has been recorded in barely a decade of the take-off of this University. I commend the University Management, Staff and Students under the able leadership of our indefatigable Vice Chancellor, Professor Chinedum Peace Babalola, FAS, FAAS, on working together with other stakeholders to take this University to greater heights.

I am deeply grateful to God for the privilege of presenting this fifth, successive address to the Convocation of this great citadel of knowledge production and human capacity development. For the record, the first address in the aftermath of a terrible pandemic was entitled **The Difference that “PPE” Makes** (“PPE” ordinarily referred to “Personal Protective Equipment” but was reframed as “Power of Personal Example”). It underscored the imperative and impact of personal example in leadership in all spheres of life. The second address entitled **REmemberED** stressed the importance of responsible membership and team work, the need to uphold the legacy of Chrisland University and our individual duty to do good deeds and be remembered for them. The next address, **Anvil or Hammer?**, reflected on a post-First World War German song in which the defeated Germans rejected continual treatment as the anvil (the hammered object) and declared themselves the hammer (the subject of importance). In the language of the Holy Bible (Deuteronomy 28:13), they deprecated their relegation as “the tail” and demanded respect as “the head.” A year ago, I admonished on **Grace, Grit and Greatness**, to emphasize the need for diligence and doggedness while we harness the grace of God for greatness. We submitted that inasmuch as greatness comes by the grace of God, it is the hard worker who truly manifests that grace. This year's address entitled **Living, Leavening and Leaving** sustains our tradition of admonishing our graduating students and sending a message to the generality of the people present and represented on this auspicious occasion.

The subject of this year's Address captures our mood as this institution undergoes an inevitable leadership transition after seven years of significant milestones. These outstanding accomplishments have been documented in the Vice Chancellor's Valedictory Address to this Convocation. With reference to the institution and its departing Chief Manager, we wish to highlight some salient points on living, leavening and living.

- We are not in this world by accident or chance but we are in it to live, thrive and fulfil a divine purpose.
- We are, therefore, required to produce and reproduce, and to be gainfully occupied in our respective social, political and economic spaces.
- No matter how well we have done and no matter how long we live, we shall leave by vacating the space or position that God has

positioned us to occupy at some point.

- We are required to be the leaven that adds value and spice to the community and system in which we operate.

Leaven or yeast might be insignificant in itself but its absence is felt as much as its presence. Its absence makes the baked flour flat and uninspiring. But its presence is unmistakable because it immediately leavens the lump. Let me assure theologians that I am not unaware of the Lord Jesus Christ's reference to sin as leaven (Matthew 16:6, 11-12; Mark 8:15; Luke 12:1). But, I am employing the imagery of the leaven advisedly and contextually in a positive light as Jesus Christ contextually likened the Kingdom of God to leaven in the positive sense of its capacity for ensuring exponential growth (Luke 13:20-21). It is in that second sense that we adopt the leavening effect in this Address.

We call on everyone to live and thrive wherever they might be placed under whatever circumstances. Moreover, like yeast, we should add value, make a difference, exert a significant systemic effect on our micro or macro domain, and leave a lasting legacy. We should take the purpose of life as living for others and making life better for them. Time flies swiftly, and our time on earth itself or in any position of influence is short in the light of eternity. We should make the best of it. We should strive for noticeable impact now and enduring legacy afterwards. We shall always be remembered by what we have done. Our ultimate reward will come from God because humans can never fully reward us; indeed, mere mortals too often forget or fail to appreciate our efforts. Therefore, let us make our lives count here in time and in eternity. Let us **live** meaningfully and purposefully, knowing that we shall **leave** some day. We should always be conscious that we were made for a purpose, positioned to achieve a higher goal set by God, and that we and our world will be the better for it if we could act our part as the **leaven** that makes a difference.

The Governing Council acknowledges with deep gratitude the uncommon passion and dedication, and the immeasurable physical, intellectual and material sacrifice and investment with which Professor Chinedum Peace Babalola, Fellow of the Nigerian and African Academies of Science, discharged her official duties as Vice Chancellor, Head of Management and Chair of Senate. We wish her well in her future endeavours and we are confident that she will continue to be a matchless Goodwill Ambassador of Chrisland University, a sure way of sustaining her leavening impact on the institution. In that sense she will leave now but her legacy lives on.

This is also a pointed message to our latest members of the Chrisland

University alumni: live for God, serve humanity, add your contribution like leaven to societal development, and when you leave, you will leave behind a good legacy. I congratulate you and wish you well as you continue life's journeys.

On behalf of the Governing Council, I thank God for all He has done and continues to do for us and through us, and for enabling us to celebrate yet another Convocation of Chrisland University. May all alumni and alumnae of Chrisland University, in particular, and everyone present and represented on this occasion, **live** optimally to the glory of God, be the life-enhancing **leaven** and booster wherever they go, and **leave** a lasting legacy in time and eternity, in Jesus Mighty Name. Amen.

I thank you for your patience.

God bless.

Ayodeji O. OLUKOJU, Ph.D., FNAL

Distinguished Professor

Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of Governing Council

29 October 2024

ADDRESS BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR, PROFESSOR (MRS). CHINEDUM PEACE BABALOLA, ON THE OCCASION OF THE 6TH CONVOCATION CEREMONY, AWARD OF DEGREES, OF CHRISLAND UNIVERSITY ON TUESDAY, 29TH NOVEMBER, 2024.

PROTOCOLS

- His Excellency, the Executive Governor of Ogun State, Prince Dapo Abiodun
- His Royal Majesty, the Alake of Egbaland, Oba Michael Adedotun Aremu Gbadebo, the Okukenu IV
- Other Royal Majesties and Highnesses
- Chancellor and Chair, Board of Trustees (BOT) of the university, High Chief (Dr.) Mrs. Winifred Awosika, OON – Moojila of Egbaland
- Members of the Board of Trustees
- The Pro-Chancellor/Chairman, Governing Council of the university, Distinguished Professor Ayodeji Olukoju (FNAL)
- Members of the Governing Council
- Visiting Vice-Chancellors of other universities
- The Guest Speaker, Engr. Umar Bubar Bindir, *Ph.D*
- My Lords Spiritual and Temporal
- The Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Olatunde Farombi
- The Registrar, Mr. S. B. Omotoso
- The Acting Bursar, Mr. Moses Esah
- The Acting University Librarian, Mr. Goodluck Ifijeh
- Deans of Faculties
- Directors of Centres and Units
- Visiting Principal Officers of other universities
- Members of Senate
- Heads of Departments and Students
- Members of Chrisland University Alumni Association
- Staff of Chrisland University
- Friends of the University
- Parents and Guardians
- Graduating Students
- Gentlemen of the Press
- Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen

WELCOME

It is with immense pleasure and a deep sense of honor that I welcome you all to the 6th Convocation Ceremony of Chrisland University, Abeokuta, where we gather to celebrate the awarding of first degrees, honorary degrees, and the presentation of prizes.

First and foremost, I extend my profound gratitude to the Executive Governor of Ogun State, His Excellency, Prince Dapo Abiodun, for his unwavering support and for fostering an enabling environment for academic excellence in our state. We are truly fortunate to have his continued support as our host governor.

I am equally delighted to recognize the presence of His Royal Majesty, the Alake of Egbaland, Oba Michael Adedotun Aremu Gbadebo, the Okukenu IV. His Royal Majesty has graciously honored us by attending every one of our convocation ceremonies, and his steadfast support has greatly strengthened the relationship between the "Town and Gown.". Your Majesty—*K'ara o le o Baba! K'ade pe l'ori, ki bata pe l'ese, Irukere a tun pe l'owo o, Kabiyesi o.*

I also warmly welcome our Founder and Chancellor, High Chief (Dr.) Mrs. Winifred Awosika, OON, the Moojila of Egbaland. She has been an enduring beacon of guidance, care, and support for this institution. We are grateful to have you, our esteemed Matriarch, with us today.

My deep appreciation also goes to the distinguished members of the Board of Trustees (BOT), the Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of Council, Distinguished Professor Ayodeji Olukoju (FNAL), and other esteemed members of the Governing Council. Your unrelenting dedication and unwavering support have been pivotal to the growth of this great institution.

I would like to extend a special thanks to our esteemed Guest Speaker, Engr. Umar Buba Bindir, Ph.D., for accepting the invitation to deliver today's convocation lecture. Engr. Bindir is not only an esteemed boardroom strategist but also a highly accomplished Agricultural Engineer, whose contributions to national development are widely recognized.

Finally, I warmly welcome all our graduands, for whom we gather in celebration today, as well as their proud parents, Vice-Chancellors and Registrars from other universities, members of the Chrisland University

Alumni, and our distinguished guests and well-wishers. Your presence today adds grace and significance to this momentous occasion.

On behalf of Chrisland University, I welcome you all.

INTRODUCTION

It is with a sense of both humility and nostalgia that I stand before you today to deliver my final convocation address on the occasion of the 6th convocation ceremony as the Vice Chancellor of this esteemed institution. I am profoundly grateful to God Almighty, the Alpha and Omega, the I am that I am, my Sustainer, for His abundant grace and guidance throughout my seven-year tenure as Vice-Chancellor of this university from November 1, 2017 till date. It has been a journey of growth, challenges, and fulfillment through this land called 'Chrisland'. My tenure has been a remarkable journey, one filled with challenges, triumphs, and unforgettable experiences. But most importantly it has been an interesting and rewarding journey, a journey of discovery and re-discovery.

I recognize that without God's wisdom, strength, and protection, this journey would not have been possible. God has given me and this family of Chrislanders His grace far beyond measure to achieve what the university has achieved. My songs today, two of which I sang on my day of inauguration are:

1. What shall I say unto the Lord, All I have to say is Thank you Lord
2. I never knew he will answer me this way (3x); Answer me this way, Thank you my Lord.
3. The third song goes 'See how far you've brought me, Lord, I've come to worship You'
4. Now thank we all our God

Today, on this special occasion, I stand before you to deliver my final convocation address at the 6th Convocation Ceremony as the Vice Chancellor of this esteemed institution. My tenure has been a remarkable journey, one filled with challenges, triumphs, and unforgettable experiences. But most importantly it has been an interesting and rewarding journey, a journey of discovery and re-discovery.

In light of this, I kindly ask you to join me in giving glory and adoration to Almighty God. He has been my guide and protector at every turn, my

sustenance and counselor. I cannot thank Him enough. May His name continue to bless each and every one of us, in Jesus' name. Amen.

This convocation holds special significance for me, firstly, as it was on November 1st, 2017—just two days' shy of completing seven years on this campus—that I was entrusted with the incredible opportunity to serve as the Vice-Chancellor of this esteemed institution, Chrisland University. Secondly, I am particularly overjoyed that the University will graduate the first set of Nursing students, who joined this University at 100 level, five years ago. They were inducted into the Nursing profession yesterday, 28th, October, 2024.

My heart overflows with joy and gratitude, not only because we are celebrating the graduation of our sixth set of students but also because God has faithfully seen me through a successful seven-year journey in good health, supported by the steadfast help of capable hands. Once again, I must express my heartfelt gratitude to our indefatigable Chancellor, the Board of Trustees, the Pro-Chancellor, Council members, staff, students, parents, my family, friends, and well-wishers. This ceremony marks the conclusion of my 7-year tenure as Vice-Chancellor, and to God be all the glory.

THE GRADUATES

Your Excellences, distinguished ladies, and gentlemen, the graduates we celebrate today come from various departments within the College of Arts, Management and Social Sciences (CAMASS), College of Natural and Applied Sciences (CONAS), College of Basic Medical Sciences (COBAMS), and the Faculty of Nursing Sciences. We are releasing 183 stars today with 24 First Class, 95 Second Class Upper Division, 47 Second Class Lower Division, and 17 Third Class. The best-graduating student, Miss **OMODEHIN, Adeola Oluwasemilore**, graduated with a CGPA of **4.99** out of 5 from the Department of Psychology making her the valedictorian. It is our prayers that these Stars of today will fly the flag of Chrisland University to all corners of the globe with pride and honor.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen at Chrisland University, we place a premium on good character as part of good education, because education devoid of character is a menace to the society. Hence, today we will be awarding prizes to the best-behaved graduates namely Mr. CHINEYEMBA, Emmanuel Oluwasemilore of the Department of Mass Communication as the best-behaved male, and Miss ELEGBEDE, Hannah Oluwatimileyin of the Department of Mathematics as the best-behaved female, thus promoting our focus on character and learning.

ANALYSIS OF THE 2024 GRADUATING STUDENTS ALONG WITH CEDLEP

Total Number of Graduating Students – 240
For Regular Undergraduate Programme – 185
For CEDLEP Programmes – 55

Breakdown by Class of Degree

Category	Total	Percentage
First Class	35	14.6%
Second Class Upper	121	50.4%
Second Class Lower	65	27.1
Third Class	19	7.9%
Total	240	100%

Breakdown by College

College	Number	Percentage
CAMASS	119	49.6%
CONAS	41	17.1%
COBAMS	3	1.3%
NURSING	22	9.2%
CEDEP	55	22.8%
TOTAL	240	100%

CHARGE TO THE GRADUANDS

Distinguished graduates, congratulations and BRAVO! You have reached this remarkable milestone through your hard work, determination, and dedication, and now it's time to celebrate your success! Hats off to you for your well-deserved accomplishments. We are immensely proud of who you have become and what you've achieved. May your degree open countless doors as you embark on your journey ahead. Enjoy this special moment! Remember, this journey you're on is just beginning. Approach it with an open mind, a curious spirit, and a steadfast commitment to these principles. As you step forward, we look forward to seeing you redefine possibilities and leave a legacy of innovation and integrity.

The Overcomer: Recall that the theme for this year in the university 'the

year of overcomers and winners'. Today, you stand at the threshold of a future brimming with possibilities, ready to shape the world with the talents and knowledge you've honed at Chrisland University. As you go forward, I charge each of you to embrace the mindset of an *overcomer* and a *winner*. Life's journey will undoubtedly present challenges, but it is how you respond to these moments that will define your path. ***Winning doesn't always mean being first. Winning means you're doing better than you've ever done before.*** – **Bonnie Blair**

As graduates of Chrisland University, you have been equipped with not just a bachelor's degree but also a certificate in Entrepreneurship and Leadership. The world beyond is fast-paced and highly competitive, and you must continually acquire new knowledge and skills to excel. When you reflect on the past few years, you'll realize that many of your greatest lessons came from outside the classroom. Always remember, learning doesn't end with your degree. Today is a milestone that shows how far you've come, but it's also a stepping stone for what lies ahead. Keep learning, keep innovating, keep venturing, keep envisioning, and keep dreaming.

The Four Cs: Secondly I want to leave you with a charge rooted in four essential principles termed the 4Cs that will serve as your guide in the pursuit of innovation and impact—*Collaboration, Character, Competency, and Capacity*.

- 1. Collaboration** – Innovation doesn't happen in isolation. Seek out partners among your peers, across departments, with faculty, and even globally. Break down the silos; build bridges instead. Some of the most groundbreaking ideas emerge from teams that bring together diverse perspectives. Remember, you are part of a community that extends beyond these walls. Be like the ant—partner, collaborate, and form business groups. You can become the founders of the next Flutterwave or Paystack. Many great organizations thrive on partnerships, and collaboration can multiply your impact.
- 2. Character** – In everything you do, character matters. Integrity, respect, and a strong sense of ethics will define your reputation far more than any degree or title. Stay grounded, and let your values be the foundation of your journey.
- 3. Competency** – To realize your ideas, you'll need skills—often skills you may not acquire in the classroom alone. You are lifelong learners now, constantly adapting to a changing world. Technology, like artificial intelligence, is a great leveler, offering

opportunities to master new skills. Embrace learning continuously, and develop the expertise to turn your ideas into reality.

- 4. Capacity** – Know that achieving your goals requires a robust support system. Beyond your personal abilities, lean on your family, your university, and the resources available to you as alumni. Seek out grants, partnerships, and mentorships. Success is not yours to achieve alone; embrace the community and network around you.

Challenge status quo: Thirdly I urge you to challenge the status quo, to question what seems immovable, and to approach life with a relentless pursuit of improvement and innovation.

Every great leap in history was made by individuals who refused to settle for "good enough." When you encounter practices, beliefs, or structures that limit potential or prevent progress, do not merely accept them—challenge them. Let dissatisfaction with the ordinary drive you to create the extraordinary. Remember, change does not come from complacency; it comes from those brave enough to stand up, to speak out, and to act.

Influencer & Change Agent: Fourthly I challenge each of you to step forward as influencers and change agents. In our world today, the power to create positive change doesn't solely lie in positions of authority but in the courage to stand for what matters, to innovate, and to inspire others. As change agents, you have the power to identify needs in society and address them. Don't be afraid to ask hard questions. Remember, influence and change start from within. Lead by example, uphold your values, and be relentless in your pursuit of a better world. Your time at Chrisland University has equipped you with the skills, knowledge, and confidence to make a difference.

Be Ambassadors of Integrity and Excellence: Your education here has been more than the pursuit of academic knowledge; it has also been an education in character, values, and integrity. Let these values guide every step you take. As you go forth, remember that the world looks to you for leadership, honesty, and purpose. Let integrity be the cornerstone of all you do, and strive to set standards of excellence that others will aspire to follow.

Hold on God: Above all, hold firmly to your faith in the Almighty, serve Him with reverence, and maintain strong morals. These values will set you apart and help you make a lasting impact in your generation. You have

encountered God's presence in this Christian land called Chrisland University. The Chapel/auditorium is a reminder that you worshipped God here. One of the Chancellor's popular statement is 'God is with us in Chrisland' I cannot agree less. The University and the Chaplain has offered a Godly and moral environment. Please do not lose it.

Be mindful of the company you keep—surround yourself with people who inspire and support your goals. Avoid those who distract you from your purpose, and choose your friends wisely. Time is precious; how much of it are you spending on irrelevant things? How much are you investing in self-development?

As you stand on the threshold of a new chapter, reflect on the journey that brought you here and the exciting path ahead. You have been equipped with knowledge, critical thinking, and social responsibility—qualities that will guide you in the years to come. Whether you are pursuing further studies, entering the workforce, or launching your own ventures, embrace challenges as opportunities for growth. The world needs your unique perspectives, your innovative ideas, and your passion.

Go forth, overcome, and win. The world is waiting for your contributions, and we at Chrisland University are cheering you on with pride. Congratulations once again!

GUEST SPEAKER

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen, permit me at this juncture to say a word or two concerning our Guest Speaker, Engr. Umar Bubar Bindir. He is a highly accomplished engineer with a distinguished career in academia, industry, and public service.

Engr. Bindir who calls himself an academic politician is an International Innovation Expert.

He is the inventor, patent holder and leading technocrat on the K-Allo device, meant for solving the challenges of Out of School Children (OOSC) menace in Africa.

He has served in the Academia, worked in Industry, was a full Director for many years in the main stream Nigerian Federal Civil Service. He was once the Director General/CEO of the National Office for Technology Acquisition and Promotion (NOTAP), the main institution regulating and

promoting Industrial Property and Technology Transfer in Nigeria from 2009 to 2015.

Engr. Bindir is an International Innovation Expert. He is the inventor, patent holder and leading technocrat on the K-Allo device, meant for solving the challenges of Out Of School Children (OOSC) menace in Africa.

Engr. Bindir is a thorough Technology Penetration Expert, an accomplished Academic & Engineer, an administrator per excellence, and now a politician. His ingenuity and exquisite skills in ideas generation, innovative Project Development and Implementation easily stands him out in all his places of primary assignment.

My Journey Through the Land Called 'Chrisland'

Ladies and gentlemen, esteemed members of the governing council, distinguished faculty, cherished students, respected alumni, beloved parents, and our honored guests:

Today marks a significant moment for us all as we gather to celebrate and reflect upon the journey that Chrisland University, Abeokuta, has embarked upon over these past seven years. Standing here as the Vice-Chancellor, I am overwhelmed with gratitude, humility, and pride as I recount the progress we have made together since 2017. This occasion not only celebrates our collective accomplishments but also symbolizes a new beginning for the university.

When I assumed this role in 2017, I felt both the weight of responsibility and the immense potential of Chrisland University. I knew we could achieve greatness by fostering a community built on academic excellence, innovation, inclusivity, and a deep commitment to societal progress. I am proud to say that the dreams we envisioned then have transformed into impactful realities through the efforts of each one of you.

Ladies and gentlemen, as I reflect on my time here, a powerful metaphor comes to mind—my journey through Chrisland has been much like traversing an undiscovered land, rich with possibilities, challenges, and remarkable beauty. Each step has been a blend of ambition and curiosity, guided by purpose, resilience, and a deep-seated commitment to make a difference.

Seven years may seem like just a number, but to me, it represents the completion of a cycle. It has been a time of hard work, building strong

foundations, and watching this institution thrive. Through the collective efforts of dedicated staff, Students, and supportive stakeholders, Chrisland University has evolved into the dynamic and innovative institution it is today.

First Steps: The Early Days

When I first arrived at Chrisland, it was like setting foot on unfamiliar soil. I was filled with a vision, a mission, and a multitude of ideas. Yet, as with any new terrain, there was an initial learning curve. I quickly realized that this was not just an institution—it was a vibrant ecosystem filled with bright minds, each holding unique stories, dreams, and aspirations. In those early days, I spent countless hours with our students, faculty, and staff, understanding the heartbeat of this place and sowing seeds for a future we could all be proud of.

The Peaks and Valleys: Facing Challenges Together

Every land has its mountains and valleys, and so did our journey at Chrisland. We faced challenges—some foreseen, many unexpected. But what defined those moments was the spirit of unity that surged in our hearts. Through financial constraints, academic adjustments, and global uncertainties, we came together to persevere. These moments weren't setbacks; they were stepping stones, reminding us that the land we are building here is fortified by resilience and determination.

The Blossoming Fields: Celebrating Milestones

Over the years, we saw our efforts bear fruit in ways that surpassed our dreams. I recall the feeling of immense pride as we introduced new programs, welcomed innovative research, and celebrated each graduation ceremony. These milestones became our collective harvest—a testament to what we could achieve together. It was a privilege to watch our students, like seeds planted in fertile soil, grow into capable individuals, ready to make their mark on the world. I am endlessly proud of the heights we reached and the lives we have touched.

The Rivers of Knowledge: Lifelong Learning

In Chrisland, I learned the beauty of lifelong learning—both within myself and in every person I encountered. Every class, every conversation, every challenge was a river flowing through this land, filling it with knowledge, wisdom, and growth. Together, we fostered an environment that embraced curiosity, nurtured creativity, and pushed boundaries. Chrisland became not just a place of education but a dynamic hub of exploration, where every mind was free to wander, question, and innovate.

A Lasting Legacy: Leaving the Land in Good Hands

In these past years, we have seen an unprecedented expansion in our academic programs, aligning our curriculum with global standards while addressing the unique challenges faced by Nigeria and the African continent at large. From the launch of new faculties and departments to the development of cutting-edge research centres, we have created an environment where intellectual curiosity thrives. These efforts have resulted in more than just impressive graduation rates and accolades; they have empowered our students with the skills, knowledge, and values to be leaders in their communities and beyond.

As my journey through this land called Chrisland draws to a close, I am overcome with mixed emotions. I am grateful for the memories, inspired by the accomplishments, and hopeful for the future. Although I may be stepping away from my formal role, I know that Chrisland will continue to thrive. We have built a legacy here, and I trust that the capable hands that remain will carry it forward with dedication and pride.

This moment also symbolizes a renewal. While my time as Vice-Chancellor comes to a close, the university is poised for a new era of growth. New leadership will take over, and with that will come fresh perspectives and even greater accomplishments. I am confident that the future holds remarkable opportunities for this institution, built on the solid foundation that we have worked hard to establish.

Looking back on these seven years, I am filled with gratitude. Gratitude for the trust placed in me, gratitude for the support of the incredible people I have worked with, and gratitude for the opportunity to serve this great institution. It has been an honor and a privilege to lead Chrisland University, and I am proud of the progress we have made together.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, permit me to take you on a journey of reflection, starting from the beginning. I assumed office at a very challenging and critical period in the annals of the young university. The university has had four full-time or Acting Vice Chancellors between 2015 and 2017. At that time, the number of academic staff was very low, with me being the only professor. The situation was further worsened with very few administrative staff available – the Registrar, two (2) administrative staff and one (1) hostel supervisor. The Vice Chancellor's office had no secretary; indeed, there were lots of gaps.

However, one positive development was regular payment of staff salary by the Board of Trustees. With the support of the Board of Trustees and

Governing Council, I confronted these challenges.

When I assumed office as the Vice-Chancellor, I had my own Vision and Mission, a comprehensive plan titled 'My 7 Strategic Goals.' And specific objectives.

MY VISION AND MISSION AS VICE CHANCELLOR

Vision: My vision as Vice Chancellor was to make Chrisland University to become a foremost university excellent in knowledge, character, innovation, entrepreneurship and leadership.

Mission: My mission was to create an enabling environment that will provide rounded education for the total person, and to produce graduates that will improve the quality of life of people in their generation.

MY SEVEN STRATEGIC GOALS AT ASSUMPTION OF DUTY

1. Staff development and welfare
2. Curriculum review in line with global standards
3. Transformational Teaching, learning activities
4. Increase in Student enrollment.
5. Drive for Resource mobilization and Internally Generated Revenue (IGR)
6. Research, innovation and service
7. Students' conduct and welfare

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- To build a foundation for academic excellence
- To provide a platform for an enriching student experience.
- To review existing curriculum in line with global standards
- To create platforms that will significantly increase student accrual rate
- To enhance teaching and learning skills and promote active-based and experiential learning
- To promote leadership, innovation and entrepreneurship among students and staff
- To promote extra-curricular and life building skills (sports, music, speech, debate etc
- To create and/or consolidate a culture of participatory governance for campus progress, harmony and peace

- To promote staff and student welfare
- To engage in strategic resource mobilization and continued increment in internally generated revenue (IGR)
- To pursue enabling infrastructure development that will drive the teaching, learning, research and service activities of the university
- To promote staff and student welfare
- To set up plans for quick university-private-public (town-gown) partnership
- To lead the university to identify and promote translational research and development activities that translate to nation building and improve quality of life through team building, collaborations and scholarly activities.
- To develop sound undergraduate academic programmes, preparatory to early postgraduate program take-off
- To develop ethical policies that will guide staff and student conduct

These goals, vision and mission were penned down shortly before I assumed office and I have worked with them for the last 7 years; I can say that God has helped to achieve almost all and beyond but at various degrees. They are all embedded in this address. I am particularly gratified by the small leap of yesterday and the giant leaps we as a university have recorded together.

THE ROLE OF TRANSFORMATIONAL AND STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP IN CHRISLAND UNIVERSITY AS VICE CHANCELLOR

As Vice-Chancellor of Chrisland University, transformational and strategic leadership have been foundational in guiding our institution's growth, inspiring innovation, and positioning us as a centre of academic excellence and social impact. These leadership approaches have driven the changes needed to adapt to challenges, foster a forward-thinking culture, and ensure that every member of the university community is empowered to contribute to our shared vision.

1. **Vision and Purpose: Setting a Clear Direction**
2. **Empowering People: Building a Collaborative Culture**
3. **Innovating Through Challenges: A Proactive, Strategic Approach**
4. **Inspiring Excellence: Setting High Standards and**

Celebrating Achievements

- 5. **Sustainability and Legacy: Building for the Future**
- 6. **Encouraging Change and Innovation: Cultivating a Forward-Thinking Mindset**
- 7. **Building Partnerships and Expanding Influence**

Transformational and strategic leadership have been essential in shaping Chrisland University's identity and success over the past several years

SUMMARY OF ADMISSION AND GRADUATION

ii) Admissions

Chrisland University continues to attract more students into her undergraduate programmes.

The number of matriculants has been increasing over the last six years

S/N	Session of Admission	Number of Students
1	2018/2019	72
2	2019/2020	148
3	2020/2021	300
4	2021/2022	387
5	2022/2023	459
6	2023/2024	394

iii) Graduation

The number of graduands has been increasing over the last five years as per the below table.

S/N	Session of Graduation	Number of Graduands
1	2018/2019	7
2	2019/2020	26
3	2020/2021	44
4	2021/2022	52
5	2022/2023	133 (91 Regular)
6	2023/2024	241 (185 Regular)

36 ACCREDITATION/ VERIFICATION AND LICENSING

- i. **Full Operational License:** When I assumed office as Vice Chancellor, Chrisland University was operating under a provisional license. However, through collective effort and

determination, the National Universities Commission (NUC) granted us a full operational license in April 2019, marking a significant milestone in the university's growth.

ii. NUC ACCREDITATION EXERCISES

- (a) **Full Accreditation of Nine Programmes in 2018:** In October and November 2018, the University went through its mandatory National Universities Commission (NUC). The University recorded unusual feat especially from a very young University and at a first attempt with 100% in all the nine programmes presented for accreditation in 2019. The programmes are: Business Administration, Economics, Accounting, Criminology and Security studies, Psychology, Computer Science, Political Science, Microbiology and Biochemistry.
- (b) **Full Accreditation of Three Programmes in 2020:** The University recorded 100% success in all the three programmes presented for the October/November 2020 accreditation exercise, namely; Banking/Finance, Mass Communication and International Relations.
- (c) **Full Accreditation of Two Programmes in 2021:** In the same stint of success University documented 100% success for the two programmes presented for the 2021 October/November accreditation exercise, namely; Nursing and English language.
- (d) **October/November 2022 NUC Accreditation Exercises:** The University recorded success in the 2022 NUC Accreditation. Six departments were accredited namely: Medical Laboratory Science, Doctor of Physiotherapy, Software Engineering, Cyber Security, Industrial Chemistry, and Mathematics.
- (e) **Full Accreditation of Eleven Programmes in 2023:** In October and November 2023, the National University Commission (NUC) accreditation team visited the university. Again, the university achieved 100% in all the 11 programmes presented for the accreditation. The programmes are: Accounting, Business Administration, Public Health, Computer Science, Biochemistry, Microbiology, Molecular Biology and Biotechnology, Criminology and Security Studies, Economics, Political Science, Psychology.

iii. NUC RESOURCE VERIFICATION

- (a) **NUC Resource Verification for the new College of Basic Medical Sciences (BMS) and the addition of more programmes in the College of Natural & Applied Sciences (CONAS) 2019:** The University presented Nursing, Physiotherapy, Medical Laboratory Science, Anatomy, Physiology and Public Health for BMS and other programmes in CNAS (Biotechnology, Software Engineering, Cyber Security, Physics with Electronics) for verification in November, 2019. The founders committed lots of fund for the successful hosting of the verification including construction of buildings needed for the exercise. In March, all the 12 programmes were granted approval to commence operation. Professors O. Omotade and O. Walker, the two medical experts were of tremendous assistance for the College of BMS.
- (b) **College of Law Verification 2022:** The NUC team visited the University for Resource Verification for the College of Law in January, 2022 and a concluding exercise in February. The outcome led to the approval of NUC for Chrisland University to law in the 2021-2022 session.

iv. VERIFICATIONS/ ACCREDITATION BY PROFESSIONAL BODY

- (a) **Nursing Verification:** The Nursing and Midwifery Council of Nigeria (NMCN) conducted advisory visit (Resource Verification) in September, 2021. The Nursing Council Team led by its Chairperson Dr. (Mrs.) Bola Ofi conducted a thorough exercise including visit to Holy Trinity Hospital, Ikeja, Lagos. We are glad that the University performed excellently well.
- (b) **Nursing Accreditation:** The Registrar of the Nursing and Midwifery Council of Nigeria (NMCN) Dr Faruk Umar Abubakar and his team, during the accreditation visit to Chrisland University in May 2022, were very impressed with the facilities and organization of the Department. They acknowledged that ours is one of the best Nursing programmes in the country. The Council subsequently proposed upgrading the Department of Nursing to a Faculty status and increasing the

student intake quota from 50 to 150. I am pleased to announce that this vision has now become a reality, and the University proudly houses a fully established Faculty of Nursing.

- (c) **Verification of College of Law:** After securing an approval from the NUC to commence Law Programme in March, 2022, the University was visited by the Council of Legal Education led by the Director General Professor Isa Chiroma for resource verification in July 2022 with expected success.
- (d) **Physiotherapy Board Pre-Accreditation Visit:** The Medical Rehabilitation Therapists (Reg.) Board of Nigeria (MRTB) visited the University in June, 2022 for the pre-accreditation of the Department of Physiotherapy. The programme was approved and the University was asked to go for NUC accreditation. Some of the high points raised were lack of designated space for Physiotherapy, staffing, and more infrastructures.
- (e) **ICAN Accreditation 2021:** The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria (ICAN) President, Prof. Onome Joy Adewuyi and her team members visited Chrisland University on Friday 19th February, 2021 for accreditation exercise. The result for ICAN accreditation that took place in 2021 returned positive. The university was invited for the award ceremony in May in Lagos, 2022.
Today, Chrisland University's Accounting students receive top-tier education and actively participate in ICAN exams, positioning them for success in their professional careers.

v. JOINT EXAMINATIONS PRELIMINARY EXAMINATIONS BOARD (JUPEB):

On May 17, 2021, the team conducted a general inspection of the University's facilities for the JUPEB programme. The University achieved an impressive score of 76.4%, earning a silver medal. Chrisland University has consistently admitted students into the nine months JUPEB programme, showing notable improvements over the years. Most recently, the results for 2024 were released, revealing a remarkable pass rate of over 70%. This achievement is both historic and commendable, reflecting the University's ongoing commitment to ensuring that our students receive quality education and are thoroughly prepared for their examinations.

vi. NATIONAL UNIVERSITY COMMISSION (NUC)

RANKING: In 2021, the National Universities Commission (NUC) ranked Chrisland University 17th out of 133 universities nationwide and 9th among private institutions. This significant achievement, especially for a young university less than a decade old, highlights our commitment to academic excellence and research. Chrisland surpassed many older universities, demonstrating our dedication to quality education. However, we recognize that this is just the beginning.

The University is on course for an even higher ranking in the next NUC evaluation. We have strengthened collaborations both locally and internationally, intensified our research efforts, and made strategic investments in state-of-the-art equipment essential for delivering quality education. While we celebrate this milestone, we are not resting on our oars—we are determined to keep advancing until we reach even greater heights.

vii. **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU'S) WITH REPUTABLE BODIES:** Over the last 7 years, in our quest to expand the University's academic programmes and strengthen stronger professional relationships, we have signed Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with several reputable organizations and institutions. These partnerships are designed to enhance our academic offerings, promote collaborative research, and provide our students and staff with valuable opportunities for growth and development. These reputable Organizations includes:

- Holy Trinity Hospital, Ikeja Lagos, 2019
- Federal Neuropsychiatric Hospital, Aro, 2019
- St. Mary Catholic Hospital, Ibadan, 2019
- The University College Hospital, 2019
- The Eye Institute, Eleta Ibadan, 2019
- The Federal Medical Centre Abeokuta, 2019
- NEW Horizons System Solutions Limited, 2021
- Classera Inc. (Classlight LMS), 2021
- University of Lethbridge, Canada 2021
- Climax Advances Studies, 2020-2021
- Pace Educational Institute, 2022-2021
- The Chattered Institute of Administrators (CIA), 2022
- Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators of Nigeria (ICSAN), 2024

viii. **CENTRE FOR DISTANCE LEARNING AND EXECUTIVE PROGRAMME:**

We thank God for the progress we have made in our Part-Time programme since its inception in 2020. It started with courses from the College of Arts, Management and Social Sciences (CAMASS). The programs include: Business Administration, Accounting, and Mass Communication. The Program has grown over the years with over 100 students matriculated since its kick-off and on this 6th convocation occasion, 28 students will be graduated. Some other departments such as Computer Science have shown interest in joining this program.

ix. **SETTING UP OF A STATE-OF-THE-ART COMMUNICATION AUDIO AND VIDEO STUDIOS:** In a world where information is constantly being consumed and shared, the need for well-trained professionals who can navigate and contribute to this dynamic field is greater than ever. In 2019, the University, made a significant investment in multimillion-naira state-of-the-art broadcasting facilities, establishing audio and video studios that rival those of any leading university in Africa. This investment provides our students with access to top-tier communication facilities, equipping them with the necessary tools to not only succeed in their careers but also to make meaningful contributions to society through responsible journalism, media production, and communication strategies.

x. **SETTING UP OF CENTRE FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT STUDIES (CELDS):** In our commitment to producing entrepreneurially minded students and in alignment with my policy to ensure that all graduates earn at least two certificates, we established the Centre for Entrepreneurship and Leadership Development Studies (CELDS). The Centre plays a vital role in training students in entrepreneurship, going beyond traditional vocational skills acquisition. It organizes specialized training programs that culminate in the award of entrepreneurship certificates, equipping students with the knowledge and skills necessary for success in today's competitive business landscape. Additionally, the Centre serves as a Technical Advisor to the University on venture creation, overseeing existing ventures while

representing the University in the management of third-party businesses operating on campus. Through these initiatives, CELDS not only enhances the entrepreneurial spirit within the University but also encourages partnerships that benefit our students and the broader community.

Over the years, students have acquired a range of vocational skills through this center, including makeup, bag making, shoemaking, and Adire design. This year, the center and the General Studies unit hosted the annual Sustainability Project 3.0, where students showcased innovative startups in fields like technology, agriculture, fashion, and healthcare. The event, attended by industry leaders and investors, highlighted student creativity and entrepreneurial spirit. It was a pleasure to witness, and I commend the students and tutors for their hard work. Congratulations to all involved.

xi. **TRAININGS, WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCES**

From the beginning of my tenure, it has been a priority to focus on staff and student development through various trainings, workshops, and conferences, as outlined in my strategic goals. Over the past seven years, we have hosted, conducted, and facilitated numerous trainings, workshops, and conferences, providing support for both staff and students to enhance their overall development.

Here are some of the key trainings and workshops hosted and conducted for staff over the past seven years:

- The University had training for all Academic Staff. The training tagged: **“TEACHING IN AN ONLINE ENVIRONMENT”** was carried out by an Education Technologist expert; Eng. Daniel Adeboye of Trysting EduNetwork, whose service was engaged to assist with training of staff and students on E-Learning.
- Similarly, in order to improve staff satisfaction and morale, and to increase productivity as well as adherence to quality standards among members of staff, the University held a two-day staff training. The training started on Thursday, 15th of April, 2021 and ended on Friday, 16th of April, 2021 at the University Auditorium had as theme, **“The Total Staff”**

- The University also held a Four-Day Hands-on Training on Computer-Aided Drug Design, in a bid to enhance research and the development of drugs in Nigeria. The training was done in collaboration with Jaris Computational Biology Centre, Jos, and the title was **“Basic of Computer-Aided Drug Design”**.
- Equally, the University partnered Harvard University TH Chan School of Public Health, USA, for a special 2-day webinar with focus on thematic topics stemming from the **“Rethinking Malaria in the Context of COVID-19”** global engagement—Malaria Governance, Integrated Service Delivery, Training & Capacity Building for Malaria on September 28–29, 2021. The webinar drew a global academic audience of students, faculty, and alumni along with global health professionals.
- Team of experts from the University of Ibadan, led by Prof. K. Babarinde, a past Director of Teaching and Learning Centre were invited to train the academic Staff on Pedagogical Skill of Learning. The team emphasized that learning has gone past didactic method to active based learning formats; hence, the Academic staff were advised to be fully equipped to deliver teaching in that capacity.
- The Institute of Public Administration also organized training for the Non-Academic staff with the theme **“Distilling, Transforming and Exploring Alternatives for Tertiary Institution Growth.”** They gave practical illustrations on conflict resolution amongst staff, handling of difficult students and ways of fostering good relationship between the Academic and Non-Academic staff..
- Chrisland University held a two-day staff training for the both Teaching and non-teaching staff in April, 2021 at the University Auditorium, themed, **“The Total Staff”** Among the keynote speakers was the former Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta, Prof. Mrs. Morenike Dipeolu, who spoke on the topic **“Imbibing Good Academic Culture”**, admonished staff members to demonstrate commitments to students' development, teaching and research. She also emphasized the need for them to always observe academic ethics and integrity. She described academic culture as normal

behavior and norms expected of an academic staff.

- **Jaris Workshop:** Chrisland University in collaboration with JARIS Computational Biology Centre, Jos organised a 4-day hands-on training, titled "Hands-on Computer-Aided Scientific Research". The training held from 9th - 12th of August 2021, at the University's Campus.
- A similar workshop on Computer-Aided Drug Design was organized by the Department of Chemistry on 2nd September, 2022 with Dr. Gbolahan Oduselu (a Bioinformatics Researcher at Covenant University, Ota) as the Facilitator. This face-to-face, hands-on workshop was a golden opportunity for scientists conducting research on drug discovery, designs and interactions to learn in silico techniques that will help save time, energy and money spent on lab-based studies.
- As part of the institution's drive to imbibe its teeming teaching workforce with hands-on skills and expertise in research development, series of interactive seminars were organized by the University's College of Arts, Management and Social Sciences (CAMASS), College of Natural and Applied Sciences (CONAS), and College of Basic Medical Sciences (COBAMS) in 2022. The seminars were to brainstorm and deepen lecturers' knowledge of the intricacies of undertaking quality research and other academic work capable of positioning them as top international scholars and guaranteeing better recognition for the Institution in global ranking.
- Centre for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL) one day workshop on CCMAS – Chrisland University, February 19, 2024.
- CAMAS and Glotan Research Services Annual Conference, themed 'Exploring the key issues in the Nigerian 2023 General Elections' 19th – 20th April, 2023.
- A One-Day workshop on writing, editing and publishing ebooks, May 4th, 2023.
- 1st Tertiary Institution Based Training Workshop in Nigeria on the Istanbul protocol and establishment/ inauguration of the first tertiary institution anti-torture club in Nigeria, 2nd September, 2023.
- 4th Annual International Conference of Forensic

Investigators' Society, 29th – 30th September, 2023.

- Finance and Grant Management workshop organised in collaboration with Oxford University, GPPS, GHRU. The workshop took place on Tuesday, October 8, 2024.

All of these programmes were fully funded by the University so as to develop and train her staff so as to be able to compete among the comity of universities.

Conferences Hosted by the University

- **National Association of Computing Students (NACOS) National Annual Conference:** Chrisland University hosted the National Annual Conference of NACOS for the first time from 16th to 18th August, 2022. It attracted over 100 participants from across different geo-political zones in Nigeria.
- **Nigeria Computer Society (NCS), Ogun State Chapter, 9th Annual Information Technology Development Programme:** The University hosted a conference for the first time in November 22nd & 23rd, 2018. It was the 9th annual Information Technology (IT) Development Programme organised by Nigeria Computer Society (NCS), Ogun State Chapter. The theme was 'E-Agriculture: Panacea for Economic Sustainability'. It attracted 148 participants from 11 tertiary institutions in South West Nigeria, members and experts from various places. It was sponsored by Accenture, INLAKS, Nigeria Computer society (NCS) and Chrisland University.
- **International Conferences, Workshops and Staff Development:** The University had its first ever International Pan- African conference in collaboration with CEO Africa with the theme “**Challenges of Growth and Sustainable Development in Africa**” on 24th and 25th June, 2019. Former World Bank Vice-President, Dr. Oby Ezekwesili was the guest speaker while Ex-Liberian Vice-President, Joseph Boakai was the Chairman at the conference. Notable key outcomes of the conference were the identification of bad leadership in Africa and that efforts should be made towards raising new breeds of leaders,

instilling quality leadership through qualitative education and curbing drug abuse. It was agreed that Africans should build a sustainable and human capital development, thus the call was made on African leaders to develop the Gross Domestic Product of their countries and ensure that Africa is no longer the poorest continent. The event brought Chrisland University to international radar.

- **Online International Conference:** The University had its Maiden Virtual Conference on entrepreneurship with the theme "**Entrepreneurship training in tertiary institutions in Nigeria: How effective?**" on Tuesday September 15th, 2020. The conference was being organized by the University's Centre for Entrepreneurship Development Studies (CEDS). Participants for the programme are drawn from regulatory agencies such as the National University Commission (NUC), Association of Vice Chancellors of Universities, as well as directors of Entrepreneurship Centres, entrepreneurship educators, students from tertiary institutions, organised private sector and other stakeholders.
- **Book Presentation/Seminar and hosting a Nobel Laureate:** The University's first appointed Professor, Prof. Babafemi Badejo in collaboration with Chrisland University held a seminar and book presentation in March 2022. Nobel Laureate, Jose Ramos-Horta, who is former President of Leste-Timor, chaired the occasion virtually and led a pack of eminent personalities to grace the event of seminar and public presentation o a book, Nigerians' Views On National Turmoil: A Situational Quadruple Nexus Analysis, authored by Prof Babafemi Badejo, a retired United Nations official and a Professor of Political Science and International Relations in Chrisland University.
- **Herbal Medicine Conference:** Chrisland University hosted the Herbal Medicine Conference from October 14th to 17th, 2024, themed "**Traditional and Herbal Medicine: Challenges and Prospects for Translational Research.**" The event attracted a diverse group of researchers, clinicians, pharmacists, and practitioners of herbal and traditional medicine. We are particularly proud of our students, who presented their research papers, showcasing their academic rigor and engaging with experts

in the field. The conference successfully facilitated discussions on integrating traditional practices with modern science while addressing challenges in herbal medicine.

xii. **STAFF MATTERS**

For the past seven years, this administration steadfast commitment to excellence has significantly shaped Chrisland University. This dedication has attracted talented and capable individuals to our institution, allowing us to effectively leverage their expertise. Throughout the years, our staff have demonstrated exceptional dedication to their work, and the University has recognized their contributions through promotions. Additionally, there has been a notable increase in the number of Ph.D. degrees awarded. Some of these achievements remain highlighted below:

• **Appointment of Substantive Registrar**

The University has appointed Mr. Samuel Omotoso as the Substantive Registrar through a joint effort by the University and the Board of Trustees (BOT). He assumed office in 2022.

• **Appointment of Acting Bursar**

Mr. Moses Esah, the Deputy Bursar, has been appointed Acting Bursar, also through a joint effort with the BOT. He has held this position since August 2022.

• **Appointment of Acting Librarian**

The Principal Librarian has been appointed as the Acting University Librarian, marking him as the first full-time University Librarian. He assumed office in May 2024.

Harvest of Ph.D. Degrees

To align with world-class standards, numerous academic staff have earned their Ph.D. degrees while at the University. Notable graduates include:

- Dr. Emmanuel Olumuji (Mass Communication)
- Dr. Abayomi Agbeyangi (Computer Science)
- Dr. Samuel Ayesa (Biological Sciences)
- Dr. Michael Gbadebo (Biological Sciences)
- Dr. Jacob Adeyemi (Economics)
- Dr. Lateefat Odeniyi (Computer Science)
- Dr. Winifred Odeigha (Psychology)
- Dr. Modupe Adesemowo (Accounting)
- Dr. Oluwatosin Amosun (Business Administration)
- Dr. Michael Ogbemudia (Mass Communication)

This year, 2024, the following staff members earned their PhDs:

- Barrister Ibidun Olude (Law, University of Ibadan)
- Dr. Ogunmefun (Dept of Conflict Management, Unilag)
- Dr. Fyke Adamu- Adedipe (Dept of Nursing, Babcock University)
- Dr. Abolarinwa (Dept of Physiology, University of Ilorin)
- Dr. Abolarinwa (Dept of Guidance and Counselling, University of Ibadan).

Their achievements reflect their dedication and commitment to academic excellence.

Confirmation and Promotion Exercise

In 2021, the Appointments, Promotions, and Disciplinary Committee promoted several qualified staff, marking the first promotion exercise in the University. Highlights include:

- Dr. Babafemi Badejo was appointed as the first Professor of Political Science.
- Dr. Raphael Mordi was promoted to Full Professor in Chemistry after positive assessments from three evaluators.
- In 2022, Dr. Isaac Odun-Ayo was appointed as a Professor of Computer Science.

This year, 2024, several long-serving staff members were promoted in recognition of their efforts and dedication. Their names are highlighted below:

- Dr. Joan Mbagwu was promoted to Full Professor of Criminology and Security Studies)
- Adjunct Professor. Augustine Onyeaghala was promoted to Full Professor of Medical Laboratory Science.
- Dr. Olakunle Olawunmi was promoted to a Reader in the Dept. of Accounting, Banking and Finance.
- Mr Olusola Aladesuru was promoted from Principal Assistant Registrar to the Deputy Registrar.
- Mrs Funmilola Adetoye was promoted from Senior Assistant Registrar to Principal Assistant Registrar.

Staff Development, Recognition, and Achievements

- Dr. Akin-Deko underwent training in Zambia on pedagogical skills in 2018.
- Prof. Chinedum Babalola won the 2018 Annual May & Baker

Professional Service Award in Pharmacy.

- Mr. John Adebayo was selected as a fellow for the 2019 IFLA/OCLC Fellowship in the USA.
- Mrs. Sheffra won an International Support for PhDs from the Chinese government in 2019.
- Dr. James Akinola was selected to attend the 2019 ADHO Workshop in the Netherlands.
- The Vice-Chancellor received the 2019 Kwame Nkrumah Award for Scientific Excellence in Addis Ababa.
- In 2021, the Vice-Chancellor was awarded a Fellowship by Alvan Iko Federal College of Education.

In addition, several faculty members have undertaken research leaves and fellowships at prestigious institutions, further enhancing the University's academic profile.

xiii. PROBLEM-SAVING/ COMPETENT-BASED TEACHING AND LEARNING PRINCIPLES

From the onset of this administration, I have promoted a problem-solving and competency-based learning approach for both staff and students to enhance pedagogical skills and adopt best practices in teaching, learning, and evaluation. This method empowers our students not only to acquire knowledge but also to apply it effectively. We have conducted in-house and external seminars, which are ongoing. While we acknowledge that there is still work to be done, we are making significant progress.

As Vice-Chancellor, I personally review all examination questions to ensure compliance with our standards. Our motto emphasizes teaching students life skills relevant to their programs. Chrisland University is committed to encouraging critical thinking and problem-solving abilities, minimizing rote memorization and the “cram and pour” approach.

Student attendance is taken seriously, with records published before examinations to ensure that only those meeting the minimum attendance requirement of 75-80% are eligible to sit for exams. This attendance data is shared with parents alongside exam results. Additionally, lecturers are evaluated by students at the end of each semester, and feedback is communicated to enhance educational outcomes.

xiv. **STUDENT MATTERS**

- **Enrollment/Population**

On this note, I would like to share a brief story. Over the last 7 years, we have recorded very significant achievements. One of such is the substantial increase in our student population. When I assumed this role, the university had a total student population of 57 students. Initially, I was asking myself, how will I turn this situation around. Immediately, I was reminded of the story of our Founder and Mama, High Chief (Mrs) Winifred Awosika who started Chrisland Primary School with 5 students. And guess what, 3 of the 5 students were her children. But today that small leap of faith has birthed Chrisland group of schools and to the glory of God, the crowning jewel - university. This interesting story gave me a measure of confidence, so, I purposed in my heart and with absolute faith in God Almighty, I was confident that the same spirit that did it for our Mama will do it for us in Chrisland University.

Today we have a student population that is hitting 2000, and still counting. Interestingly we now have students on our admission waiting list which is a testament to our commitment to providing quality education and fostering a vibrant learning environment. These modest achievements occurred in a state that has the highest concentration of universities (19) made up of 15 private universities, 3 state universities and a federal university, and in a country with over 234 universities (111 private, 63 state and 60 federal universities. We give glory to God.

- **Admissions**

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, it is with deep humility and immense joy that I proudly announce that Chrisland University is no longer just another institution. Today, we stand as a university of choice for both students and parents alike. We now have the privilege of maintaining an admission waiting list—a rare achievement in Nigeria.

- (a) **Student Enrolment for 2024/2025 Session**

For the 2024/2025 academic session, over 600 students have applied so far, and the numbers continue to rise. Hence, a proper post- UTME exam is being conducted in batches. This involves proper screening of results and documents, computer-based test

(CBT), and oral interview for both candidates and parents/guardian. The Vice- Chancellor along with the Management Staff also engage the parents on discussions about the University, its rules and regulations during the process. This is yielding results and giving us the opportunity to select good and strong candidates. This remarkable demand reflects the growing reputation of Chrisland University as a leading institution, where students seek not only academic excellence but also holistic personal development. We are thrilled by the interest and trust shown by prospective students and their families, and we are committed to upholding the standards that have made our university a top choice.

- **Alumni Relations**

- (a) **Employment of Graduate of the University**

In line with Chrisland University's policy of offering employment to its first-class graduates as Graduate Assistants, provided they express interest, we have proudly upheld this tradition. To date, the University has employed over four of its exceptional graduates, further strengthening our academic community and nurturing future leaders from within our own ranks. This initiative not only promotes academic excellence but also fosters a deep sense of loyalty and growth among our alumni.

- **Developing Sound Undergraduate Learning and Research Culture**

Before our final-year students embark on their projects, we organize seminars on research development to equip them with the skills needed to conceptualize and execute their research effectively. These seminars help them refine their ideas, ensuring a strong foundation for their academic work. At Chrisland University, we uphold rigorous standards, including mandatory plagiarism checks to guarantee originality in all research efforts.

Additionally, we enforce strict guidelines for class attendance. This is one university where attendance is taken very seriously—students who fail to meet the minimum attendance requirements are not allowed to sit for examinations. This policy reinforces our

commitment to academic discipline and excellence.

- **Vibrant Student Representation**

At Chrisland University, students play an active and integral role in the institution's governance. A dynamic Student Representative Council serves as a vital link between the student body and the university administration, ensuring that student voices are heard. The university empowers students to elect their own leaders through democratic elections, encouraging leadership and responsibility. Afterward, they undergo leadership training organized by the university, which exposes them to essential skills in effective communication, conflict resolution, team management, and decision-making. This training not only enhances their leadership abilities but also prepares them to serve their peers and the university community more effectively.

Additionally, student council members participate in the Student Disciplinary Committee, reinforcing the university's commitment to collaboration and transparency. These measures are designed to strengthen the relationship between management and students, promoting a healthy and inclusive campus environment.

- **Student week / Departmental Week**

These are essential opportunities for students to unwind and rejuvenate after long weeks of lectures. Held every second semester, these weeks are eagerly anticipated events in each academic session. During this time, students engage in a variety of activities designed to enhance their educational experience and promote camaraderie.

These weeks are characterized by diverse activities, including workshops, cultural performances, sport activities and social events. Students also embark on educational trips to major companies and establishments across Nigeria. Such excursions provide invaluable exposure, allowing students to connect theoretical knowledge with practical applications relevant to their fields of study.

Through these initiatives, our students not only enjoy a well-deserved break but also gain insights and experiences that enrich their academic journey. Overall, Student Week and Departmental Week foster a vibrant community spirit while enhancing personal and professional development among our students.

xv. **CHAPLAINCY**

The Chaplaincy Unit was established in 2018 and is headed by the University Chaplain, Rev. Oluwajuwonlo Onasanya (B.Sc., MPH, M.Div.). The unit is responsible for developing the spiritual life of students and deepening their Christian faith for Godly character. This aligns with the University's mandate to raise an outstanding generation of young leaders who radiate strong physical, mental, and spiritual intellect. I can confidently say that the unit has consistently met expectations and fulfilled its responsibilities over the years.

The Chaplaincy unit holds several activities such as:

- A mandatory Sunday service for every student to attend and voluntary for members of staff who wish to attend.
- Student fellowships on Fridays.
- Staff Meetings on Mondays.
- Monthly Prayer/Revival Meetings.
- Wednesday general assembly.
- College Family Thanksgiving service.
- The God of all tribes (Annual Chapel Festival).
- Choir rehearsals.
- Christian Discipleship and Leadership Programme.
- Music Programme.
- Water Baptism and Confirmation Service.
- Love Life and Marriage class (A twelve weeks (June-August) teaching series on preparing the young adults for marriage, family life and societal responsibilities)

Among other special programs held for the enrichment of students and staff.

xvi. **INAUGURAL LECTURE**

An inaugural lecture is a formal event typically delivered by a newly appointed professor or academic staff member at a university. This tradition has several significant meanings, including the celebration of the professor's achievement and the opportunity to introduce their research and expertise to the university community. It serves as a platform for the professor to share their academic journey, engage with colleagues and students, and encourage a vibrant intellectual environment within the institution. As a university, Chrisland University is no exception. To date, it has hosted two inaugural lectures. The first took place in July 2023,

delivered by Professor Babafemi Adesina Badejo, the first appointed professor at Chrisland University and a Professor of Political Science and International Relations. He spoke on the topic “Interests.”

The second inaugural lecture took place in July 2024, delivered by Professor Isaac Ayodeji Odun-Ayo, a Professor of Computer Science. He presented on the topic “Who Are These That Fly as Clouds: Scaling Computing Metaphors.” These events have been enlightening, attracting prominent scholars from around the world. This is an annual tradition at the university, encouraging academic engagement and discourse.

xvii. **GRANTS**

On October 8, 2024, Chrisland University hosted a Finance and Grant Management workshop in collaboration with Oxford University, the Centre for Global Programmes and Services (CGPS), and the Global Health Research Unit (GHRU). The workshop focused on Good Financial Grant Practices (GFGP), including standards, certification, and practical application. In 2024, Chrisland University also applied for a Bio-Manufacturing Consortium under the African CDC Regional Capability Capacity Network for West Africa, following an approach from NAOTA KABAF. The application was submitted on July 31, with Chrisland University selected as the focal institution among five universities. If successful, this initiative will significantly enhance the University's income, ranking, and contributions to teaching and research.

Additionally, the University has partnered with another organization for the IDICE enterprise, an initiative by the Bank of Industry focused on entrepreneurship and innovation. Recently, Dr. Stephen Ibidunni from the Department of Business Administration received a \$3,000 research grant. Furthermore, Mr. A.M. Adeyemi from the Department of Chemistry was part of a team awarded a TETFund Institution-Based Research Grant of 4,260,000 Naira. Although the project is based at the Federal University of Health Sciences, Ila-Orangun, a portion of the research will take place in our Chemistry laboratory, enhancing our institution's contribution to scientific advancement.

xviii. **UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTRE**

The University Health Center is responsible for addressing the health needs of the entire university community, including disease prevention and infection control. Open 24/7 to all students and staff, the center is staffed by professionals ready to assist. Earlier this month, a team from the Ogun State Ministry of Health visited for a pre-accreditation assessment. We are

pleased to announce that our Health Center has been approved, officially registered, and deemed fit to admit and treat our students and staff.

The recently concluded 2023/2024 session was an active period for the University Clinic where acute illnesses such as Malaria, asthma, dysmenorrhea, infections, skin diseases, and minor injuries received prompt evaluation, diagnosis, and treatment at the clinic. We are bold to say that our university clinic is well equipped with state-of-the-art equipment and most recently a new Ambulance, new hospital beds, and materials were gotten for the clinic. We extend our sincere appreciation to the Chancellor and the Board of Trustees for achieving this milestone.

xiv. **THE POSTGRADUATE SCHOOL**

According to NUC requirements for commencing a postgraduate school, Chrisland University is ready to launch its postgraduate school as it graduates its 6th set of students in this Convocation ceremony. So far, ten departments within the College of Arts, Management and Social Sciences, and the College of Natural and Applied Sciences are prepared to begin and have submitted their curricula.

The university has extended an invitation to the NUC for resource verification, which is a crucial step towards securing approval for new academic programs. The verification process is expected to take place soon, with preparations underway to ensure all necessary resources and documentation are in place. In the near future, Chrisland University will begin admitting students into the program.

xv. **INTERNATIONALIZATION**

Ladies and gentlemen, our international reputation is rapidly growing, with Chrisland University now welcoming students from abroad, including Miss Akossiwa Joyce Rosemund Abassa from the Republic of Mali, studying International Relations. Recently, during the admission screening for the 2024/2025 session, we received applications from several international candidates. Notably, Pan Xing Hua from Liaoning, China, has applied for Software Engineering, further demonstrating our growing global appeal. Chrisland University continues to get international recognition and in terms of collaboration, it has established partnerships with several international universities, organizations, and individuals.

In June 2019, former Vice President of Liberia, Sr. Joseph Boakai, along with dignitaries from various African countries, participated in a two-day international conference organized by Chrisland University and CEO Africa on June 24-25. In addition, Chrisland University received Mrs.

Adeyinka Badejo-Sanogo, a Deputy Director at UN World Food Programme, in South Sudan within in 2021 to interact with the students and to serve as a role model to them. She shared her knowledge on what the UN stands for in the world and how the students could join the workforce of the Organization.

The University also received a visit from the US Consulate General, led by Public Affairs Officer Jennifer Foltz, who donated e-library resources. Additionally, the Consulate General facilitated the arrival of American Fulbright Scholars to enhance the University's research and development capabilities by providing thesis writing training for both students and staff. Most recently, the University hosted Oxford University, the Centre for Global Programmes and Services (CGPS), and the Global Health Research Unit (GHRU) for a Finance and Grant Management Workshop on October 8, 2024.

xvi. **BENEFACTORS**

Ladies and gentlemen, over the past seven years, Chrisland University has been truly fortunate to receive the generous support of numerous individuals, organizations, and cherished friends. These donations and gifts have been instrumental in advancing our vision, enriching the Chrisland experience, and expanding our mission of academic excellence and community impact.

To all other individuals, companies, and organizations who have supported us, though time may not allow us to mention every name, please know that your contributions have not gone unnoticed. Your generosity is both humbling and inspiring, and its impact will be felt for years to come. (see list of benefactors in the brochure)

xvii. **COLLABORATION/PARTNERSHIP**

The University has, over the last seven years, established collaborations with several reputable institutions, encouraging partnerships in joint seminar organizations, staff and student exchange programs, and a variety of other initiatives aimed at enriching the academic experience and promoting professional development. Some of these collaborations are listed below:

- Chrisland University participated in the 8th Inter-university International Symposium on, “Drug Policies in Africa: What works”. It was held on Saturday, March 3, 2018 at the International Conference Centre, Olusegun Obasanjo Presidential Library, (OOPL) with award winning students of the university.

- **CARNEGIE:** Chrisland University received an Associate Professor from the University of Lethbridge, Canada, Dr. Olu Awosoga as a Carnegie Fellow under the Carnegie African Diaspora Fellowship Program (CADF). The fellowship forged an initiative to advance research in the University. The fellowship is also in partnership with the College of Medicine, University of Ibadan. A statistical consulting centre sponsored by Dr. Awosoga to serves as a means teaching and guiding students and researchers on the statistical aspects of research. Through this partnership two Prentice Fellows of Lethbridge University, Canada, Prof Akinbobola and Prof Babalola were appointed.
- The United States Consulate visits the University and donates E-Library USA: Deputy Director Mrs. Jennifer Foltz, leading the Public Affairs Unit of the United States Consulate, visited the University twice in February 2022 to establish and strengthen ties. The first visit, on February 17, focused on building a relationship and included the donation of an E-Library USA, offering students and staff of CAMASS (about 150 participants) valuable resources and insights into educational and entrepreneurial opportunities in the U.S. The virtual session introduced CONAS and COBAMS students and staff (about 300 participants) to the extensive E-resource database. On February 25, Mrs. Foltz returned with six Fulbright scholars to deepen the collaboration by providing thesis and project-writing training, further enhancing the University's research and development capabilities.
- Chrisland University partnered with the Chartered Institute of Administration (CIA), a Nigerian professional body that regulates the training and practice of administration. As part of this partnership, Chrisland University staff and students were inducted as fellows or members of the professional body, with a reduction in direct membership fees.
- Earlier this month, Chrisland University established a partnership with the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators of Nigeria (ICSAN). This collaboration aims to enhance professional development for both students and staff, providing pathways for certification and training in corporate governance, administration, and related fields. Through this partnership, members of the University community gain access to ICSAN's resources, professional network, and opportunities for

mentorship, fostering a robust foundation for future careers in administration and corporate governance.

xviii. **CHRISLAND COUNSELLING AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES (CCAPS)**

Chrisland University boasts a robust Counseling and Psychological Services (CCAPS) unit, established on February 2, 2018, in response to the need for mental health support for our students. Headed by Dr. Akindeko, the unit provides essential counseling services to both students and staff, addressing a wide range of challenges, including academic, non-academic, and family-related issues.

Since its inception, CCAPS has successfully engaged students through both individual and group sessions, with many seeking help through referrals from staff or self-referrals. Recognizing the stigma often associated with mental health, we have prioritized group workshops and presentations to reach a broader audience, encouraging more students to seek support.

We have observed significant changes in our students' lives, especially as they are required to undergo counseling when they commit an offense. This process not only addresses their challenges but also fosters personal growth and development, reinforcing our commitment to nurturing well-rounded individuals. Over the years, the unit has organized various programs such as:

- Chrisland Cares (An initiative in conjunction with the University Community)
- Nugget mini-presentations have been on topics like Cyber-bullying and Self-care the effects of Alcohol.
- Workshop Topics: Stress management, Study Skills, Understanding Depression and Suicide.
- Awareness activities through posted flyers. E.g. World Health Awareness Day.
- Individual Counselling and Consultations
- Arranged drug screening/ testing
- QPR Suicide Prevention Gatekeeper Training
- On Top of My Game: the ABC of Study Skills

Amongst other specialized programs. Issues presented by students included anxiety, depression, medication compliance, substance misuse, relationship problems, assertiveness, self-esteem, and anger management. There was also an increase in professional interactions with the Health

Center physicians to provide comprehensive support for identified students. Additionally, the two departments collaborated on a form to share with external health providers, enhancing the information available when students were discharged from outside facilities.

Our ultimate dream for CCAPS is to be a renowned income generating and training unit with best practice and international standard of care. In addition to serving our students, we hope to open up to the community since there is a definite dearth of professional providers in mental health issues.

Xix. **ICT INFRASTRUCTURE/ ONLINE TEACHING**

The University adopted the e-learning method for teaching and learning immediately after the COVID-19 lockdown in March 2020. Methods adopted were Google Classroom, Zoom, WhatsApp, among others.

The University signed an agreement with, HP (Inc.), Classera (R) and Mirai partners to participate in the 'Be-Online Education Program. Classera provides E-Learning System Services, a Learning Management System (LMS) for the University. The providers of Classera are based in the USA and Middle East (United Arab Emirate and Saudi Arabia) and have conducted series of training sessions for staff and students of the University and is in use till date. Chrisland University is the first beneficiary of the programme in Nigeria.

The ICT unit has successfully completed the following:

- Development of Examination Attendance Card portal for students and staff.
- Re-activation of the University existing portal
- Online Registration of all students on the portal
- Re-activation of the University's portal access for lecturers to upload results
- Design and deployment of a new website for the university
- Re-activation of the University's portal access for students to check results
- Deployment of the Classera LMS for blended learning (First, Second and Summer Semesters)
- Re-activation of the Internet facility for the entire University (Students and Staff).

xx. **SECURITY**

The two most valuable things to mankind are lives and property. The protection of lives and property in Chrisland University became imperative when the University began to gather people and property on the Campus in 2015. The significance of the protection of lives and property is glaring today as Chrisland University has a population of over Two thousand (2000) people including students, academic and non-academic staff, traders, contractors' employees and a host of others who earn their living through the existence of the University. Chrisland University has established partnerships with various security agencies, including the Nigeria Police Force (NPF), the Nigeria Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA), the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC), the Department of State Security (DSS), and the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC). These agencies provide security coverage for major events at the University, with the Nigeria Police Force consistently deploying officers daily. This collaboration is coordinated with our internal security personnel and outsourced guards to ensure a safe and secure environment for all. Today, we have 5 home grown internal security officers and over 30 outsourced guards posted within the University campus and our annex hostels.

xxi. **INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT**

University's Science Laboratories: The University's science laboratories have state of the art equipment that continually encourages research and all-round development among lecturers and students. In addition, our students can boast of possessing standard laboratory skills needed now and later in life.

Computer Laboratory: Similarly, our computer laboratory has been recently upgraded with hardware and software that are highly relevant to learning and teaching in the contemporary world. Our students can now use the facility to enhance their studies.

As you would notice around the campus, there are many massive constructions works ongoing. Some of these are to accommodate more programmes and give room for the expansion of the existing ones. We consider all these significant for meeting the needs of our society and nation at large.

Mass Communication Department's Broadcast and Photo Facilities: In line with this, we have invested massively in the upgrade of our equipment for improved service delivery to our ever-growing student population. For example, we have injected into our Mass Communication Department a multi-million-naira state-of-the-art standard broadcast

facility and a well-equipped photo studio that can compete with any established university in Africa. Very soon you will begin to hear Chrisland radio and television. Above all our products will be one of the best in this field. We are working towards starting our own Radio broadcasting via both the terrestrial band and online channels.

Well-Equipped Gymnasium Hall: We place so many premiums on the physical and mental well-being of our members of staff and students. As a result, we have set up a well-equipped gymnasium hall for daily exercise with an in-house gym instructor for the purpose. Our cafeteria has been re-organized in such a way that it does not only give room for the competition of quality, balance and healthy meals but ensure value for money being spent there by the university community members.

Creation of a mini football pitch

Electricity and Water Supply: Conscious of our responsibility to the students who are the reason for our being here, we have within the period under review renovated the hostels and tried as much as possible to address the issues of light and water supply. To this effect, the University has installed and commissioned her 33KVA power generator and the University now runs nothing less than 19 hours of power supply per day.

Automated Teller Machine: Moreover, we are making concerted efforts with regards the ease of assessing cash by our students. We had initially contacted a bank for collaboration towards building an Automated Teller Machine, and it has begun operations.

The facilities needed are always being improved upon on a regular basis. Regular internet facilities and Wi-Fi for students and staff members, power, water, and other amenities are available.

Hostel Accommodation: The hostels were also recently renovated for a better environment for learning. The rooms are ensuite with five students per room for the females and three students per room for the males. Our goal is to provide an enabling environment for learning and character.

E-Learning: Chrisland University is a global thinking institution and immediately swung into action by being one of the first institutions in the country that embraced E-learning system making us ahead of the situation. We in the last few months raised the bar for our online learning. Along the line, the university was drafted by HP (Inc), Classera (R) and Mirai partners based in USA and UAE to participate in the 'Be-Online Education Program'. Classera provides E-Learning Learning Management System (LMS) for the University. Chrisland University is the first beneficiary of the program in Nigeria and the providers deployed their services free from July to November 2020. Classera has provided a robust system for the

online learning already adopted and was used to conduct the second semester examinations and summer system lectures and examinations. Meanwhile, negotiation is ongoing with Classera for us to run a blended learning system because of its huge benefits. Our lecturers are the heroes and have been fantastic in adopting and implementing the learning systems and have participated in several online trainings.

Blocks of Classrooms. The new blocks of classrooms have reduced the lecture room needs of the lecturers and students.

Construction of College of Law Complex: the construction of the College of Law complex has been completed and relevant facilities have been provided. The College building was launched by the Chancellor, High Chief Dr. Mrs. Winifred Awosika, OON, during the University's third Convocation Ceremony which was held in December, 2021.

Construction of College of Basic Medical Sciences Complex: the construction of the College of Basic Medical Sciences complex has been completed and relevant facilities have been provided. The College building was commissioned by the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Mrs. Peace Chinedum Peace Babalola in 2022.

We appreciate the BOT and Council members for their prompt response to the security issues of the University. The BOT has provided CCTV Cameras, Metal Detectors, Walkie-Talkie, Solare lights, Dogs and the fence raised. We just built a new park for the visitor's vehicles coming into the campus. The Chancellor commissioned the two new buildings this morning, the Ultra-Modern Classrooms/Offices and the Basic Medical Sciences. Currently, we are renovating the hostels to create an enabling environment for the students. We have been working to create a situation where our staff will feel more convenient staying at work than going back home because the environment is friendly and serene.

Biometric Machines: The University has installed Biometric Machines for staff and students Attendance. These aid monitoring and recording staff and students prompt daily attendance to work and lecture to enable efficient performances and maintain high discipline.

Xxii CONVOCATIONS CEREMONIES

The University had its maiden convocation in 2019. The first graduands were termed the “**Seven Stars**”. The maiden convocation was a three-day event running through Wednesday, 30th October to Friday, 1st November, 2019. It commenced with a convocation lecture delivered by **Prof. Peter Okebukola**, a former Executive Secretary of NUC with the theme” **Bu ilding a World Class University in Africa: The Roles of Private**

Universities.”

The Award of Degrees was held on Friday, 1st November, 2019. His Excellency Peter Obi was the Guest Speaker and delivered a lecture titled “**Creativity, Innovation and Entrepreneurship: A Critical Intersection for Economic Development in Africa**”.

Graduation and the 2nd Convocation Ceremony

The Second Convocation Ceremony of the University was held on Thursday, 26th of November, 2020 at the University's auditorium under the Chairmanship of **His Excellency, Chief Olusegun Obasanjo**. In line with the vision of the University to become a world-class university, **Her Excellency, Professor Mrs. Sarah Anyang Agbor**, the Commissioner, Human Resources Science & Technology, African Union, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia was the Guest Speaker. She is a Professor of African and Commonwealth Literatures.

The 3rd Convocation Ceremony

The 3rd Convocation Ceremony was held in December, 2021. **Mr. Aigboje Aig-Imoukhuede, CON** was the Guest Speaker. Mr. Aig-Imoukhuede is a prominent contributor to the development of Banking and Finance in Africa. He has been a champion of sound fiscal policies and played eminent leadership roles in both the public and private sectors.

The 4th Convocation Ceremony

The 4th Convocation Ceremony was held on Tuesday, 8th November, 2022. Dr (Mrs) Ajoritsedere Awosika, MFR was the Guest Speaker. A guest speaker who was a Pharmacist, my senior professional colleague and from the Awosika dynasty Dr. (Mrs.) Ajoritsedere (Dere) Awosika, MFR, the Chairman of Access Bank and Honorary Consul of Czech Republic.

The 4th convocation ceremony was the first time the university awarded honorary degrees Honorari Causa to two distinguished and accomplished Nigerians - His Royal Majesty, the Alake of Egba Land, Oba Michael Adedotun Aremu Gbadebo, the Okukenu IV and the Vice-Chairman of Famfa Oil Limited, Apostle (Mrs.) Folorunso Alakija.

The 5th Convocation Ceremony

The University had its 5th Convocation Ceremony on Tuesday, 31st October, 2023. The Guest Speaker was **Professor Toyin Falola**. He is an African Historian and the Jacob and Francis Sanger Mossiker Chair Professor in the Humanities and a Distinguished Teaching Professor at the

University of Texas at Austin. He is a Fellow of the Historical Society of Nigeria and a Fellow of the Nigerian Academy of Letters.

Xxiii THE FUTURE OF CHRISLAND UNIVERSITY

What is the future of Chrisland University in the coming years? All I can see is a glorious future brimming academic excellence and massively impacting the society. The future is bright for the university considering the solid foundation it is built. New programmes will be introduced while consolidating and strengthening existing programmes in line with its core value of intellectual radiance. I see Colleges of Medicine, Pharmacy and I see the establishment of a postgraduate college being established. I see a better learning environment with more infrastructure and facilities that can accommodate more students and staff. I see development in the permanent site (Owode Campus) while consolidation the facilities in the current take-off site. I see institutionalization of research and development that will prepare staff to attract grants. Now is time to actually focus on research and development (R&D), which is the bedrock for improvement in our national and global ranking. I see our students and our graduates standing out amongst their peers. I see better partnership and MOUs with local and international institutions. I see the establishment of a standard Quality Assurance Unit and a purposed-built entrepreneurship and innovation centre. I see the foot prints of donor agencies, philanthropists and benefactors supporting the University. I also see our Chrisland Ventures properly positioned to increase the internally generated revenue (IGR) improving and increasing our IGR.

FINAL REMARKS

Describing Chrisland University as a Center of Excellence – 100% Scoring University

Chrisland University stands out as a beacon of academic excellence and achievement, consistently achieving a remarkable 100% performance rate in various key assessments and evaluations. This distinction is not merely a testament to our commitment to quality education but also highlights the unwavering dedication of our faculty, staff, and students. In the verification of new programs by both the National Universities Commission (NUC) and all relevant professional bodies, Chrisland University has consistently demonstrated an exceptional 100% success rate. This achievement reflects our rigorous adherence to the highest standards of educational quality and our commitment to continuous improvement.

Furthermore, our dedication to excellence is evident in the accreditation process for both new and existing programs, where we have also achieved a flawless 100% rating. This speaks volumes about our curriculum's relevance, our faculty's expertise, and our commitment to fostering a learning environment that empowers students to excel. Our students have consistently performed exceptionally well in professional examinations across various disciplines. For instance, we have achieved 100% success in the Nursing Council exams, Midwifery professional exams, Physiotherapy exams, and Medical Laboratory Science professional exams. These outstanding results underscore the quality of our training programs and the preparedness of our graduates to meet the demands of their respective professions.

Moreover, Chrisland University's excellence extends to international standards, as demonstrated by our 100% pass rate in the EC Council exams for Cyber Security, an internationally recognized examination. This achievement reflects our commitment to equipping students with the skills and knowledge necessary to thrive in today's rapidly evolving digital landscape.

In summary, Chrisland University is not just an institution; it is a hub of excellence where academic rigor, professional integrity, and a commitment to nurturing future leaders converge. Our consistent 100% performance in various evaluations showcases our dedication to delivering quality education, and we are proud to be recognized as a university that not only meets but exceeds the expectations of our stakeholders. As we continue on this path, we are determined to uphold our standards and further enhance our reputation as a leading institution in Nigeria and beyond.

None of these achievements would have been possible without the support and dedication of our faculty and staff. You are the lifeblood of this institution, and your commitment to nurturing and guiding our students has shaped Chrisland into a university that stands as a source of pride for Nigeria. To our faculty, I extend my deepest gratitude for your tireless work, your passion for teaching, and your unwavering belief in the potential of each and every student.

To our students and alumni, you are our greatest ambassadors. You have carried the values of Chrisland into the world, and your successes in various fields are a testament to the transformative education you received here. As you continue to make an impact on society, remember

that Chrisland is always here to support and celebrate you. As I take my leave as Vice-Chancellor, I do so with immense pride and confidence in the future of Chrisland University. The journey we have embarked on together is only the beginning, and I am excited to see the heights this institution will reach under new leadership. Let us continue to dream boldly, act with integrity, and strive for excellence in all we do. Thank you for the privilege of serving as your Vice-Chancellor. It has been an honor, and I am profoundly grateful to have shared this journey with you all. May Chrisland University continue to be a beacon of hope, knowledge, and transformation for generations to come.

Xxiv APPRECIATION

“Let us be grateful to the people who make us happy; they are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom.” —Marcel Proust

31st of October, 2024 will make it exactly the end of my seven-year sojourn in this glorious land called Chrisland as the Vice-Chancellor. It has not been an easy ride but God travelled with me through the hills, mountains, valleys, oceans, narrow roads, straight roads, ups and downs, of the journey. I was not an island on this journey, but God raised wonderful men and women who contributed immensely to these stories of success.

Gratitude to Mama Chancellor – High Chief (Dr) Winifried Awosika (OON), Moojila of Egbaland, Founder Chrisland Group of Schools and Chrisland University, Abeokuta

I am filled with immense gratitude and respect for the exceptional leadership and guidance you have provided during my time in office. Your unwavering commitment to excellence, vision, and dedication to our institution's growth have been a constant source of inspiration.

Mama, your leadership has been instrumental in shaping Chrisland University into a beacon of academic excellence, innovation, and inclusivity. Your usual wise counsel has enabled us to navigate complex challenges, seize opportunities, and achieve remarkable milestones.

I am deeply thankful for the trust you placed in me, affording me the privilege of serving as Vice Chancellor and even my appointment for a second tenure. Your encouragement and empowerment allowed me to foster a culture of innovation, academic rigor, and student-centeredness.

Your support has been invaluable in, achieving record enrollment, introducing cutting-edge programs and facilities.

Mama, your engagement with the university community has been remarkable. Your presence at campus events, interactions with students and faculty, and advocacy for our interests have made a lasting impact. Your undying and undiluted love for Chrisland university specifically and education generally ability to connect with people at all levels has been a hallmark of your leadership.

As I reflect on my tenure, I am proud of the progress we have made together. However, I am even more grateful for the strong foundation you have laid for future success. Your legacy will continue to inspire and guide Chrisland University for generations to come.

As I pass the baton to my successor, I have every confidence that University will continue to thrive under your leadership. I wish the university community continued success, prosperity, and growth.

Thank you, our Mama and Chancellor, for:

- Your unwavering support and guidance
- Your vision and leadership
- Your commitment to excellence
- Your trust and confidence in me
- Your dedication and undying love for Chrisland University.

Please accept my heartfelt appreciation and deepest gratitude.

Tribute to the Mrs Adeyemi – Managing Director Chrisland Group of schools

As I bid farewell as Vice Chancellor, I want to express my deepest gratitude to our esteemed financial promoters.

Your Visionary Support:

- Investing in the establishment and growth of Chrisland University
- Believing in our mission to provide quality education
- Entrusting us with your resources

Has been instrumental in shaping our institution.

I appreciate Your Commitment in:

- Providing financial sustainability
- Enhancing our infrastructure and facilities
- Supporting academic programs and research initiatives
- Empowering our faculty and staff

Your contributions have transformed lives.

I am deeply grateful for Your Trust:

- Confidence in our leadership and vision
- Partnership in our strategic plans
- Flexibility during challenging times
- Encouragement and guidance

Your trust has strengthened our resolve.

To Board of trustees (BOT) I want to take a moment to express my profound appreciation to the esteemed members of our Board of Trustees. Your unwavering support, visionary leadership, and commitment to excellence have been the bedrock upon which we have built our successes. Through times of growth and periods of challenge, you have been our constant source of guidance and strength, helping us to achieve a standard of education, innovation, and community that we can all be proud of. You have become my brothers and sisters

Appreciation to the Pro-Chancellor, Distinguished Professor Olukoju, and Members of the Council

As I reflect on my journey at Chrisland University over the past seven years, it is essential to take a moment to express my heartfelt appreciation to our Pro-Chancellor, Distinguished Professor Olukoju, and the esteemed members of the Council as well as the past members and pro-Chancellor. Your unwavering support, guidance, and commitment have played a pivotal role in shaping the success of this institution.

Professor Olukoju, your leadership and wisdom have been a beacon of inspiration throughout my tenure. Your dedication to academic excellence and governance has not only strengthened our university's reputation but has also fostered an environment of growth and innovation. You have consistently encouraged us to aim higher, dream bigger, and uphold the values that define Chrisland University.

To the members of the Council, thank you for your collaborative spirit and unwavering support. Each of you has contributed your unique insights, experiences, and expertise, which have collectively enriched our decision-making processes and guided our vision. Your commitment to the mission of this university has been instrumental in navigating the challenges we faced and celebrating our achievements.

Together, we have embarked on a journey filled with accomplishments and milestones that will leave a lasting legacy. I am immensely proud of

what we have achieved as a team, and I am grateful to have had the privilege of working alongside such distinguished individuals.

As I step down from my role, I carry with me the invaluable lessons learned and cherished memories created alongside you. Thank you for your trust, partnership, and friendship over these years. I have no doubt that under your continued leadership, Chrisland University will soar to even greater heights in the future. Thank you and God bless you all.

Appreciation of the Royal Fathers, Ogun State Government, and the Community

As I stand before you today, reflecting on the incredible journey we have embarked upon at Chrisland University over the past seven years, it is important to take a moment to extend my heartfelt appreciation to the royal fathers, especially the Alake of Egbaland, as well as the Ogun State government, led by Mr. Dapo Abiodun, and the wider community of Ogun State.

To our esteemed royal fathers, your support and guidance have been invaluable to our institution. The leadership you provide fosters a sense of unity, tradition, and cultural richness that enhances our university's environment. Your commitment to education and community development has inspired us and has been a driving force behind our efforts to create a lasting impact in the region. Thank you for being our champions and for believing in the transformative power of education. I also want to express my sincere gratitude to the Ogun State government, under the leadership of Mr. Dapo Abiodun. Your unwavering support for educational initiatives and your dedication to improving the educational landscape in Ogun State have been crucial to our growth and success. Your vision for a better future for our youth aligns seamlessly with our mission at Chrisland University, and we are honored to be part of this shared goal.

To the community of Ogun State, thank you for welcoming Chrisland University with open arms. Your collaboration and partnership have enriched our university's mission, allowing us to engage in meaningful community service and development initiatives. The trust and support you have extended to us have strengthened our resolve to contribute positively to the lives of those around us. Together, we have built a vibrant relationship that empowers both the university and the community.

As I prepare to depart, I carry with me a deep appreciation for the connections we have forged and the collective accomplishments we

have achieved. I am confident that the bonds we have built will continue to flourish, and I look forward to seeing the positive impact of our collaboration in the years to come.

Thank you all for your unwavering support and commitment to the vision of Chrisland University. Together, we will continue to pave the way for a brighter future for our students, our community, and Ogun State as a whole.

**Appreciation to the Esteemed Friends of Chrisland University,
Especially Dr. Olusegun Obasanjo**

I want to take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt appreciation to our esteemed friends, with particular emphasis on Dr. Olusegun Obasanjo, the former President of Nigeria. Your unwavering support and guidance have profoundly enriched our academic community and contributed significantly to our growth and success.

Dr. Obasanjo, your remarkable legacy as a leader, statesman, and advocate for education has been a source of inspiration for us all. Your commitment to promoting quality education in Nigeria resonates deeply within our institution. Your visits and engagement with our university have not only elevated our profile but have also encouraged us to pursue excellence in all that we do.

Your insights and wisdom have left an indelible mark on our faculty, staff, and students. By sharing your experiences and encouraging dialogue, you have helped foster a culture of innovation and collaboration at Chrisland University. Your belief in our vision and mission has inspired us to strive for greater heights and to remain dedicated to nurturing the leaders of tomorrow.

As I prepare to step down from my role, I carry with me the valuable lessons learned from your leadership and the cherished memories of our interactions. Your continued support has played a pivotal role in shaping the identity of Chrisland University as a leading institution in Nigeria and beyond.

Thank you, Dr. Olusegun Obasanjo, for being a vital friend of Chrisland University. Your legacy will undoubtedly continue to inspire future generations of students and scholars, and I look forward to seeing how your influence will further enrich the university in the years to come.

**To the staff - The Deputy Vice-Chancellor and other Principal officers,
Deans, Directors, Heads of Department, Academic and Non-Academic
Staff**

As I stand before you today, reflecting on my time at Chrisland University, I want to extend my deepest gratitude to each member of our university community, including the management staff, deans, heads of department, academic and non-academic staff, registrars, accountants, and our acting bursar. Your unwavering commitment, hard work, and dedication have been the backbone of our successes over the past seven years.

To the management staff, thank you for your strategic vision and tireless efforts in steering this institution toward excellence. Your leadership has inspired us all to strive for greatness and foster an environment where innovation and collaboration thrive.

To the deans and heads of department, your guidance and dedication to academic excellence have been instrumental in shaping the educational experiences of our students. You have not only led your departments with integrity but have also been mentors and advocates for your colleagues and students alike. Your passion for education is evident in the outstanding programs and initiatives you have implemented.

To our academic staff, thank you for your relentless pursuit of knowledge and your dedication to nurturing the minds of our students. Your commitment to teaching, research, and community engagement has enriched the lives of countless individuals and has elevated the reputation of Chrisland University.

To our non-academic staff, the Deputy Registrar and the Principal Assistant Registrar, your behind-the-scenes contributions have been crucial in maintaining the smooth operation of the university. Your hard work ensures that our academic mission is supported and that students and faculty alike have the resources they need to succeed.

To the Registrars past and present, thank you for your meticulous attention to detail and your dedication to maintaining the integrity of our administrative processes. The digital Registrar, Mr S. B. Omotoso thank you for your sacrifice

To the Acting Bursars past and present, Mr. Moses Esah, I thank you for your contributions to the management of the finances of the university and your office.

Together, each of you has played an essential role in making Chrisland University the remarkable institution it is today. I am incredibly proud of what we have achieved as a united team, and I am grateful for the support and camaraderie we have shared.

As I bid farewell as Vice Chancellor, I am filled with profound gratitude and pride. Our collective journey has been transformative.

You are the pillars of this institution, and your:

- Unwavering dedication
- Expertise
- Passion for teaching, research, and service
- Mentorship and guidance
- Collaborative spirit

Have created a world-class learning environment.

Appreciation for Your Partnership:

- Attending parents' forums and university events
- Providing feedback and guidance
- Encouraging your wards to excel
- Your contributions have enhanced our community.
- Gratitude for Your Sacrifices:
- Investing in your children's education
- Making sacrifices for their future
- Demonstrating unwavering support
- Your commitment to their success is inspiring.

Celebrating Our Shared Successes:

- Academic achievements and milestones
- Research breakthroughs and innovations
- Leadership and community service
- Graduations and alumni success
- Together, We Have Shaped:
- Confident and compassionate individuals
- Critical thinkers and problem solvers

Future leaders and change makers

As I take my leave, I carry with me the cherished memories of our collaboration and the valuable lessons learned. Thank you for your contributions, dedication, and the unwavering spirit you have brought to this university. I have every confidence that Chrisland will continue to thrive under your stewardship, and I look forward to witnessing the great things you will accomplish in the years ahead.

Deep Appreciation to My Secretaries and Personal assistants

As I reflect on my time at Chrisland University, I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt appreciation to two exceptional individuals who have been instrumental in my journey: my secretary of five years, Mike Tejuoso, and my secretary of two years, Mrs. Akindiji.

Mike, you have been the backbone of my office, providing unwavering support and exceptional dedication throughout our time together. Your

organizational skills, attention to detail, and ability to keep everything running smoothly have made a world of difference in my daily operations. Your professionalism and commitment to excellence ensured that I could focus on my responsibilities without the stress of logistical challenges.

Mrs. Akindiji, thank you for your invaluable contributions during your time with me. Your dedication and ability to adapt quickly to the needs of the office have made a lasting impact. Your efficiency and enthusiasm have brought a fresh perspective, and I am grateful for the dedication you displayed in supporting our work.

To Mr Decampos, John, Victor, Muiyiwa, Mrs Akintoye and others who worked closely with me, I am grateful

My Personal assistants over the years – Tomi, Ife, Gloria, Matilda, Lola, Esther - you have played crucial roles in helping me navigate the complexities of my position. Your contributions have not gone unnoticed, and I am deeply appreciative of the hard work and commitment you have shown.

I want you both to know how grateful I am for your support and dedication over the years. You have made my tenure at Chrisland University so much more manageable and enjoyable. I look forward to seeing the incredible paths you will both continue to forge in your careers. Thank you for everything!

Appreciation for Our Students and Alumni

It is essential to take a moment to express my heartfelt appreciation for our incredible students and alumni. You are the heart and soul of this institution, and your contributions, spirit, and achievements have made our time here truly remarkable.

To our students, thank you for your enthusiasm, energy, and commitment to your education. You have been the driving force behind everything we strive to achieve at Chrisland. Your willingness to engage, innovate, and challenge the status quo has fostered an environment where creativity and academic excellence flourish. Your thirst for knowledge and dedication to personal growth have inspired not only your peers but also the faculty and staff who have had the privilege to guide you on this journey.

Each of you has left an indelible mark on this university, whether through your academic achievements, participation in extracurricular activities, or community service initiatives. You have demonstrated resilience in the face of challenges and have shown us all the power of

determination and collaboration. As you graduate and step into the world, carry with you the values and lessons you've learned here, and continue to be agents of positive change in your communities.

Appreciation of Chrisland Parents and the Parents Forum

I acknowledge the tremendous support we have received from the parents of our students. Your unwavering commitment and partnership have been vital in shaping the success of our institution and enriching the experiences of our students.

To the parents, thank you for entrusting us with the education and development of your children. Your involvement and support have made a significant difference in their lives and have contributed immensely to the nurturing environment we strive to provide. You have stood by us, meeting the financial responsibilities of your children's education and participating actively in our community. Some of you defended the university in many ways. The Lord will bless you.

I would also like to extend a special acknowledgment to the Chair persons of the Parents Forum so far. Your leadership and dedication have fostered a strong sense of community among parents, allowing for open communication and collaboration between families and the university. Your efforts in organizing events, facilitating discussions, and addressing the needs of our students have been invaluable in ensuring their academic success and overall well-being.

Together, as a collective force, you have demonstrated the importance of partnership in education. Your willingness to engage in dialogue, provide feedback, and collaborate with us has created a supportive atmosphere where our students can thrive.

Appreciation to Regulatory Bodies and Professional Organizations

I want to take a moment to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the various regulatory bodies and professional organizations that have played a pivotal role in our success. Your dedication to ensuring quality standards in education has not only kept us on our toes but has also inspired us to strive for excellence in training our students.

I would like to express my deep appreciation to the National Universities Commission (NUC) and other esteemed professional bodies, including the Council for Legal Education (CLE), the Nursing and Midwifery Council of Nigeria (NMCN), the National Medical Laboratory Science Council of Nigeria (NMLSCN), and the Physiotherapy Board. Your rigorous oversight and commitment to

upholding high standards in education have been instrumental in shaping our programs and ensuring that we provide our students with the best possible learning experiences.

The 100% success we achieved during verification and accreditation exercises is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our faculty, staff, and students, as well as the invaluable guidance provided by your organizations. Your constructive feedback, support, and collaboration have empowered us to continuously improve our curriculum, enhance our teaching methods, and adapt to the evolving needs of our students and the industries they will enter.

As I end this phase, I carry with me a deep sense of gratitude for the partnerships we have built with these regulatory bodies. Your unwavering commitment to educational excellence has helped us create a strong foundation for our students, equipping them with the knowledge and skills they need to excel in their chosen fields.

Thank you for your continued support and for holding us to the highest standards. Together, we have worked toward a common goal: to nurture the next generation of leaders and professionals who will make a positive impact on society. I am confident that our collaborative efforts will continue to bear fruit, ensuring that Chrisland University remains a beacon of excellence in higher education.

Appreciation of Ministers of the Gospel

I want to take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt appreciation to our esteemed Christian leaders and ministers of the gospel, particularly led by Rt. Rev. Dr. Emmanuel Adekunle, Bishop of Egbaland. Your unwavering support, spiritual guidance, and commitment to the values of faith and education have played a pivotal role in shaping our university community.

Your dedication to fostering an environment where faith and learning coexist has greatly influenced our mission. Through your teachings and exemplary leadership, you have instilled in us the importance of integrity, compassion, and service. Your presence in our community has not only uplifted our spirits but has also provided us with the moral compass needed to navigate the challenges we face in academia and life. I am especially grateful for the partnership and collaboration we have shared. Your commitment to nurturing the spiritual well-being of our students and staff has made a profound impact, reminding us all of the importance of holistic development—intellectually, emotionally, and spiritually. You have been a source of inspiration, demonstrating that

education and faith are not mutually exclusive but rather complementary forces that can drive positive change.

Thank you, Canon Juwon Onasanya, for your unwavering commitment to modeling a life of faith and integrity. Your contributions have made a lasting difference in the lives of our students, and I am confident that your impact will continue to shape the future of our university community for years to come. May your new role bring you continued strength and guidance as you serve others in faith.

Thank you, Rt. Rev. Dr. Emmanuel Adekunle, and to all Christian leaders and ministers, for your untiring support and dedication to the mission of Chrisland University. Your belief in our vision has helped create a vibrant community where students are encouraged to grow in faith and knowledge.

As I prepare to step down, I carry with me the memories of your encouragement and the lessons learned from your leadership. I believe that the bonds we have formed will continue to flourish and that together, we will inspire future generations to strive for excellence while upholding the values of our faith.

Thank you for everything, and may your continued efforts bear fruit in the lives of many.

Appreciation to Security Organizations in Ogun State

As I reflect on my time at Chrisland University over the past seven years, I feel it is essential to express my heartfelt gratitude to the security organizations in Ogun State that have worked tirelessly to help us maintain a safe and secure environment for our students, staff, and the broader university community. They include police, Fire service, DSS, NDLEA and others.

I want to extend a special acknowledgment to the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA). Your partnership and collaboration have been invaluable in creating a safe educational environment at Chrisland University. Your commitment to upholding the law, promoting awareness, and preventing drug-related issues has not only safeguarded our campus but has also served as an educational tool for our students.

Appreciation to the Media

I would like to take a moment to extend my sincere appreciation to the media, particularly CEOAFRICA, led by Mr. Cletus Ilobanafor. Your unwavering support and dedication have played a pivotal role in promoting our university and showcasing our successes to the world.

The power of the media in shaping perceptions and spreading awareness cannot be overstated. Through your diligent reporting, thoughtful features, and insightful coverage, you have effectively communicated the vision, achievements, and values of Chrisland University. Your efforts have not only highlighted our academic accomplishments but have also captured the spirit of our vibrant community.

Your partnership has been instrumental in positioning Chrisland University as a leading institution in Nigeria and beyond. By sharing our milestones, innovative programs, and community engagement initiatives, you have helped us reach a broader audience and attract prospective students who resonate with our mission.

I am particularly grateful for your commitment to highlighting the stories of our students, faculty, and staff. Your ability to showcase their achievements and contributions has fostered a sense of pride within our university community and has inspired others to join us in our pursuit of excellence.

Appreciation to Our Vendors and Suppliers of Goods and Services

I want to take a moment to extend my heartfelt appreciation to our dedicated vendors and suppliers of goods and services. Your unwavering support and commitment have been essential to the smooth operation of our institution, and I am deeply grateful for the relationships we have built together.

Your ability to deliver quality products and services consistently has greatly contributed to our success. Whether it was supplying essential materials for our academic programs, providing services that enhance our campus environment, or supporting our various initiatives, you have always been reliable partners in our mission to provide an exceptional educational experience for our students.

I appreciate the professionalism and dedication you have shown in your work. Your willingness to go the extra mile, often adapting to our unique needs and challenges, has not gone unnoticed. You have played a crucial role in helping us maintain high standards, and for that, we are incredibly thankful.

Gratitude to Our Benefactors

I am filled with profound gratitude for our generous benefactors who have supported us in so many meaningful ways. Your

contributions—whether through donations, endowments, cash gifts, books, services, materials, or simply goodwill—have significantly enriched our institution and the experiences of our students.

Your philanthropy has enabled us to enhance our academic programs, provide resources that foster learning, and create an environment where students can thrive. The endowments have helped us to establish scholarships and support initiatives that make higher education accessible to many who might not otherwise have the opportunity. Your donations of books and materials have enriched our libraries and laboratories, ensuring that our students have access to the latest knowledge and resources in their fields.

The goodwill you have shown has fostered a spirit of collaboration and support within our community. You have believed in our mission and vision, and your generosity has empowered us to strive for excellence in everything we do. Your commitment to our cause has inspired both faculty and students alike, motivating us all to push the boundaries of knowledge and innovation.

Your contributions have made a lasting impact on our institution, and I am truly grateful for everything you have done. Thank you for being invaluable partners in our journey, and I wish you continued success in all your endeavors.

Deep Appreciation to My Fellow Vice Chancellors and Professional Associations

I feel compelled to extend my deepest appreciation to my esteemed colleagues—fellow vice chancellors—within the Council of Vice Chancellors of Nigeria Universities (CVCNU) and the Conference of Vice Chancellors of Private Universities in Nigeria (CVCRPUN). To my colleagues in the CVCNU, where I had the privilege to serve as Vice-Chairman, and to the CVCRPUN, where I currently serve as Treasurer, thank you for your unwavering support and camaraderie throughout my tenure. Your collaboration, shared wisdom, and commitment to advancing higher education in Nigeria have been both inspiring and instrumental in my personal and professional growth. Together, we have navigated challenges, celebrated achievements, and fostered an environment of excellence in our institutions.

I want to especially acknowledge the female vice chancellors, whose leadership and dedication have made a remarkable impact on our

educational landscape. Your resilience and passion for advancing education and gender equality in academia inspire not only your peers but also the next generation of female leaders.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to Professor Lillian Salami, the Chairperson of the CVCNU and Vice Chancellor of the University of Benin, for her outstanding support and guidance. Your visionary leadership and commitment to collaboration have been a beacon of hope in our pursuit of excellence. Thank you for fostering an environment of mutual respect and cooperation among us all.

I am grateful to Professor Olagbemi who was a VC for almost 18 years. I see him as my mentor in this job. The same goes to Rt Rev, Professor Dapo Asaju. They were my counsellors.

Deep Gratitude to My Mentors and Teachers

I want to express my heartfelt appreciation to Prof. Adeyinak Falusi, a role model par excellence, and Prof. Olaniyi, whose fatherly guidance has profoundly impacted my life and career.

Prof. Falusi, your dedication to excellence, unwavering support, and commitment to nurturing the next generation of leaders have inspired me beyond measure. You have been a guiding light, encouraging me to strive for greatness and to approach every challenge with resilience and determination. Your exemplary leadership and innovative thinking have set a standard that I aspire to emulate.

Prof. Olaniyi, thank you for being a father figure in my academic journey. Your wisdom, kindness, and genuine concern for my personal and professional growth have created a nurturing environment that has allowed me to flourish. You have always been there to offer sage advice and encouragement, reminding me of the importance of integrity and service in our profession.

I would also like to extend my gratitude to all my teachers and colleagues who have played pivotal roles in my development. Your insights, support, and collaborative spirit have enriched my experience at Chrisland University, creating a vibrant community of learning and growth. Each of you has contributed to my journey in meaningful ways, and I cherish the knowledge we have shared and the friendships we have built.

Deep-Seated Appreciation to My Mentees

As I stand before you today, I am overwhelmed with deep-seated appreciation for my numerous mentees, who have felt like cherished, yet

sometimes abandoned, children throughout these past seven years. Each of you has played an invaluable role in my journey at Chrisland University, and I want to take a moment to acknowledge your contributions and the unique relationships we have built.

To my graduate students, both those who have graduated and those who are still on their academic journey, thank you for your dedication and hard work. Watching you grow, learn, and achieve your goals has been one of the most rewarding aspects of my role. You have not only enriched my life but have also inspired me to strive for excellence in all that I do. I am incredibly proud of each of you and am excited to see where your journeys will take you.

Deep Gratitude to Friends, Relations, Colleagues, and Fellow Pharmacists

I feel compelled to express my deepest gratitude to all my friends, relatives, colleagues, fellow pharmacists, and the various organizations in the field of pharmacy who have supported me throughout this incredible journey.

Your unwavering support, encouragement, and camaraderie have been a source of strength and inspiration during my tenure. To my friends and relatives, thank you for your belief in me and for standing by my side through every challenge and triumph. Your love and understanding have provided me with the emotional grounding I needed to navigate the complexities of my role.

To my esteemed colleagues, your collaboration and shared vision have enriched my experience at Chrisland University. Together, we have fostered an environment of learning, innovation, and excellence in pharmacy education. I am grateful for the knowledge we have shared and the bonds we have formed in our pursuit of advancing the field of pharmacy.

To my fellow pharmacists, your dedication to our profession and your commitment to the well-being of our communities have inspired me daily. Thank you for your support in promoting the ideals of our profession and for advocating for the importance of pharmacy in healthcare. Your passion and drive have made a significant impact not only on my career but also on the future of pharmacy as a whole.

As I stand here today, reflecting on the incredible journey of the past seven years at Chrisland University, I feel compelled to express my deepest emotional and sentimental gratitude to my beloved husband, Rt.

Revd. Collins Olufemi Babalola, now Bishop of Ajayi Crowther Diocese. Your unwavering support, sacrificial love, and relentless encouragement have been my anchor throughout this journey.

Deep hearted gratitude to my husband – Rt. Rev. Collins Olufemi Babalola

From the very beginning, you have been my confidant, my rock, and my greatest cheerleader. Your belief in me and in our mission at Chrisland University has fuelled my passion and determination to serve our community. Through the highs and lows, your steadfast presence, counsel have reminded me that I am never alone in this endeavor. Your sacrifices have often gone unnoticed, but they have not been in vain. Whether it was standing by me during long hours of work, sharing your insights, or simply being a source of comfort and understanding, your support has been invaluable. You have modelled what it means to lead with grace and integrity, and I have learned so much from your example.

Thank you, my beloved husband, for your unimaginable support and for journeying this path with me. May God bless you abundantly as you take on this new chapter, and may we always find strength in each other as we serve our Maker together.

Expression of Deep Gratitude to My Children

My heart swells with emotional gratitude for my beloved children: Cyrus, Temitope, Chibuzor, and Cephas, as well as my newest addition, my grandson, Ireoluwakintan. Each of you has played a vital role in this journey, and I want to take a moment to express my profound appreciation for your love, understanding, and unwavering support. Your ability to understand the sacrifices I have made during this time has been nothing short of remarkable. There were moments when my duties required long hours and the weight of responsibility felt heavy, yet you remained patient and kind. You offered words of encouragement when I needed them most, reminding me of the importance of our work and the impact it has on our community.

Cyrus and Temitope, your maturity and resilience have been a source of strength for me. You have embraced the challenges of being a part of this journey with grace and understanding. Chibuzor and Cephas, your energy and enthusiasm have brought joy and laughter into my life, even on the most demanding days. And little Ireoluwakintan, your presence is a reminder of the beauty and hope that life brings, and you inspire me to

strive for a better future for all of you.

To my Dad and family members:

To my Dad, Sir Dr Isaac Eberechukwu Anyabuike, my siblings, in-laws and other family members, you have been a pillar of support these years and I thank you very much

Overwhelming Gratitude to My Maker

As I stand before you today, I am overwhelmed with gratitude to my Maker, the all-knowing God, who has been the cornerstone of my journey at Chrisland University. You are the best transformational leader, my anchor, and the rock on which I stand. In moments of uncertainty, you have been my solid rock, providing me with the strength to face every challenge with courage and resilience.

Your divine wisdom has guided my decisions and actions, illuminating the path before me. Your favour has opened doors that I could never have imagined, allowing me to pursue my vision for this institution. You have been my preserver and protector, shielding me from harm and granting me the grace to overcome obstacles.

In every triumph and trial, your unwavering support has been my greatest source of encouragement. You have surrounded me with the right people, opportunities, and resources to fulfill the mission entrusted to me. I am truly grateful for your presence in my life, for the peace that surpasses all understanding, and for the profound sense of purpose that you have instilled in my heart.

Lessons Learned Through Leading Chrisland University

1. The Power of Listening
2. Balancing Vision with Flexibility
3. Investing in Relationships
4. Encouraging Innovation and Critical Thinking
5. Maintaining Integrity and Accountability.
6. Empowering Others to Lead
7. Learning from Mistakes
8. To trust in God more

No journey is without its challenges, and I learned that mistakes can be some of our greatest teachers. Reflecting on and growing from setbacks not only improved my leadership but helped create a more compassionate and understanding environment.

I have also been blessed in various ways in this land:

- Larger community

- More friends
- Stronger relationship
- Better CV
- Ability to lead effectively
- Ability to be a better communicator
- A better manager of resources
- A better manager of human beings
- Being more creative and innovative
- Being blessed and being a blessing
- A multi-tasker

Expression of Apology

As I reflect on my seven years serving as Vice Chancellor of Chrisland University, I am deeply grateful for the trust placed in me and for the privilege of working with such a dedicated and passionate community. While I have striven to uphold the highest standards of leadership, I am aware that, in the course of this journey, there may have been moments when my actions or decisions did not meet everyone's expectations.

To anyone I may have inadvertently offended or who felt misunderstood or marginalized during my tenure, I offer my sincere apologies. It was never my intention to cause harm, and I regret any instances where my words or actions may have fallen short of fostering the environment of respect, inclusivity, and support that every member of this community deserves.

Please know that I carry these experiences with me as lessons for growth, and I remain committed to learning from them. I am hopeful that, as a community, we can continue to build on the foundation we've established and move forward with mutual respect and understanding. In the end, my journey through Chrisland has been one of purpose, joy, and transformation. I leave not with sadness but with gratitude for every person, every moment, and every milestone that made this journey worthwhile.

Thank you, Chrisland, for being my home, my passion, and my cherished land.

Now to the God eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, the Lord of Lords, the King of kings, my Succour, my Maker, my Right hand, my Protector, my Provider, my Helper, my Wisdom, my Counsellor, my All in All, I have no words to express my thanks to You. I can roll the length and breadth of this hall, and it will not be enough. If I have trillions of tongues to

say Thank You, they are not enough. I stand in awe of You and I bow my knees before Your throne. Where will I be today if it had not been for You? Ese, Modupe, Imela, Nagode. I lay my trophies and successes at Your feet. To You alone be the glory, great things You have done for me and for Chrisland University. I have not been perfect and I ask You to forgive all my errors, weaknesses and wrong judgments and interpretations (including those forgotten in this appreciation) and grant me grace to please You more.

As I step down, I wish Chrisland University and the incoming Vice-Chancellor the very best.

God bless you abundantly for your attention.

Professor Chinedum Peace Babalola (FAS, FAAS, FPSN, FCIA, FIPAN, FNAPharm)
Vice-Chancellor

Parting Words

As I pass the baton, remember:

- Excellence is a continuous pursuit
- Innovation is a mindset
- Collaboration is key
- Integrity is non-negotiable
- Community is everything

I will miss this community, but I will carry the lessons, memories, and friendships with me

I close with this hymn

NOW THANK WE ALL OUR GOD

1 Now thank we all our God
with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done,
in whom his world rejoices;
who from our mothers' arms
has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.

2 O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us,
to keep us in his grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills
of this world in the next.

3 All praise and thanks to God
the Father now be given,
the Son and Spirit blest,
who reign in highest heaven
the one eternal God,
whom heaven and earth adore;
for thus it was, is now,
and shall be evermore.