

It is a pleasure and a privilege for me to congratulate the Cavendish University Uganda Class of 2022. It's especially heartening, seeing as it has been 3 years since we were all able to gather at a full-fledged physical graduation ceremony!

I am especially aware that the Class of 2022 has had to endure unique circumstances to complete studies, from difficulties related to travel restrictions, illnesses, demises, and finance, to undertaking online classes and exams, for which we were the first university to be permitted by regulators in Uganda. Our university has been generally successful in building on this initial recognition, by steering our students, staff and stakeholder communities into pole position in delivering unmatched quality digital education in Uganda and the region, and in fostering a strong collaboration between our staff and students, who have unambiguously embraced **our new mission of transforming and inspiring our students to reach their full potential in employment, entrepreneurship, and ethical leadership**. Together, they have demonstrated that with a firm commitment to our mission, the right policies, sustained support from sponsors, parents, guardians and regulators, along with a student-centred teaching and learning approach, our university can reach a significantly much higher and more sustained level of performance across a wide range of academic and operational metrics.

Our university has been voted for the 4th straight year as Uganda's leading private university by consumers! Working with Airtel Uganda, our university was this year able to negotiate free internet for our staff and students seeking to access our online learning portals making the experience of our users that more pleasurable and affordable. Little wonder that our student satisfaction surveys have remained generally high with Net Promoter Scores (NPS) consistently ranging above +20 and reaching highs of +60 in certain periods and for certain categories of students, including our flagship Faculty of Law whose students have consistently come on top in local, regional and international debates and moot competitions.

Our University Vice Chancellor, Prof. John Mugisha, was elected to represent Private Universities on the Board regulating higher education in Uganda, the National Council for Higher Education (NCHE) and the Board of the intergovernmental organisation that fosters collaboration among universities in the EAC region, the Inter University Council for East Africa (IUCEA). Our academic staff, students and alumni have intensified their undertakings in quality research and publications culminating in 3 of them being ranked among the top 500 scientists in Uganda by the AD Scientific Index in its recent 2022 report. This is the result of a sustained commitment by our university's sponsors, leaders, staff, students and stakeholder communities and it is a tribute to the strong vision and leadership that has been put in place over the past few years.

It is always heartening to get spontaneous messages from our students, in person and on our online media, commending the great work of our university and we recognise that it is a collective effort of which they play a very pivotal role, themselves.

To our graduands: Remember always, that there is a big and important question for you to answer throughout your life, a question so simple on paper, yet so difficult to answer in real life: ***"How useful is what I do?"***

I wish once again to congratulate the Class of 2022. You have much already through your creativity, resilience and resourcefulness, demonstrated by your awards today. You are capable of accomplishing much more. Good luck and Godspeed!

Mr. David Mutabanura
Executive Director