

**UNIVERSITY STUDENTS ASSOCIATION OF GHANA**  
**(USAG)**

**OFFICE OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY**

**MINUTES OF THE FIRST SENATE**  
**MEETING**

**VENUE;**  
**KWAME NKRUMAH UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND**  
**TECHNOLOGY, SUNYANI CAMPUS AUDITORIUM.**

**DATE; 21<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2007**

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**MINUTES OF THE FIRST SENATE MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS ASSOCIATION OF GHANA (USAG) HELD AT THE KWAME NKRUMAH UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY SUNYANI CAMPUS OF 21<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2007 AT THE AUDITORIUM**

**1.0 Opening**

The meeting started at exactly 3;00pm after Hon. Wiafe Akenteng Zodiac; the local NUGS President of the host institution had said the opening prayer.

**1.1 Members Present**

Please refer to appendix b

**1.2 Quorum**

The meeting was ready to commence after the Coordinating Secretary had taken a role of member institutions present and had declared that a quorum was formed

**1.3 Standing Orders**

The standing orders of the house were demonstrated by the President of the Association and chairman of the meeting.

**1.4 President/Chairman's Opening Remarks**

The President and Chairman of the meeting; Hon. Andrew Poku Bonsu, in his opening remarks urged members present to see each other as instruments of unity in the culture of social commitment and not a platform of inferiority and superiority complex of any institution.

**1.5 Welcome Address**

In his welcome address the local SRC President of KNUST Sunyani campus described as a privilege and honour to his institution the right to host the first NEC and Senate Meetings of the USAG for the 2007/2008 USAG year. He recounted the immense contribution the KNUST Sunyani campus on both the NUGS and USAG fronts and mentioned the hosting of the 39<sup>th</sup> Annual NUGS Delegates Congress by his institution as one of such instances. He also urged all senators present to help salvage the image of the USAG devoid of personal and political sentiment and the gallery of words.

**1.6 NUGS Solidarity Message**

The NUGS solidarity message was made to the house by the Coordinating Secretary of NUGS Hon. Vitus K Gbang. His is message, he assured members of the unflinching support of NUGS to the Association. He also mentioned that it is the wish of NUGS to see all blocs strengthened to make it relevant to the students of Ghana. He also urged senators to discuss issues on the floor of the house dispassionately putting the interest of the students of Ghana first.

**2.0 Secretariat Report**

The report was read to the house by the Coordinating Secretary of USAG. The report touched on issues like;

Patrons, the old account and some projects and programmes for the USAG year.

## **2.1 Matters Arising**

### **2.1.1 USAG Account**

Hon. Domprah Emmanuel; local SRC Secretary for UEW – M wanted to know measures the secretariat is putting in place to avert the chronic incidence of opening and closing account year after year. A member also sought information from the executive on measures being instituted to stop the empty coffers syndrome gripping the Association. The President responded to these concerns by saying that the new constitution makes provision for reserves and that could be a sure way of addressing that empty coffers syndrome. Hon Theophilus Tawiah; local NUGS President of UCC described as serious the inability of the past executives to change signatories to the account and submit to auditing. He thus suggested that the issue should not be taken lightly at all. Most members shared their opinions on the subject with some calling for legal action to be brought against those who have refused to submit to auditing. After a long debate on the subject the President informed the house that a written reminder would be sent to the ex-President on the change of signatories as well as the auditing, the outcome of which will inform our next line of action.

### **2.1.2 Patron**

A member of the house urged the executive to take measures to streamline the anomalies on the issue of patrons for the Association.

The President explained that Mr. Mawunegya who was introduced at the last congress as a patron of the Association has explained that he is not as he (Mr. Mawunegya) has not been administered any oath. He (Mr. Mawunegya) requested that the ex-president calls him after which he will get back to the Association with his decision. And as at the time of the meeting he was yet to get back to Association.

## **3.0 Projects and Programmes**

The President threw more light on the projects and programmes earmarked for the year as;

### **3.0.1 ‘Nnobua Fund’**

This shall be fund for the needy university student. He noted that the working document had been completed and sent to the various SRC and NUGS President for inputs. He said funding shall be by appeals, corporate body sponsorship and donations from local campus churches. He also added that beneficiaries shall be needy and not only brilliant.

### **3.0.2 Initiative Awards**

This shall be awards scheme for students who come up with innovative ways of solving some of the problems of society. SRC’s with good standings and good governance shall also be awarded by the Association.

### **3.0.3 Secretariat**

The Chairman informed the house that it was very much necessary for the Association to have a secretariat and informed the house that talks are still ongoing but inputs were still needed from members.

### **3.0.4 USAG Travel Programme**

The Chairman said the aim of the programme is to generate some money from large numbers of students who travel outside the country for vacation jobs and further studies whilst helping them in the process. He said this programme will streamline student travels and facilitating local SRC’s will also benefit from the programme as the GH¢10 per student accruing shall be shared between the Association and the facilitating local SRC’s.

### **3.0.5 USAG Newspaper**

The Chairman informed the house that a newspaper that will carry events of the Association and other relevant national issues will be published by the Association to educate and inform the general public on the activities of the Association.

### **3.0.6 Motivational Talk Shows**

The Chairman informed the house that a free of charge motivational talk shows for all campuses shall be organized by the association starting from UDS in February 2008.

3.0.7 **Series of seminars** on National Orientation will be organized for all especially student leaders.

### **3.0.8 The Website**

The President informed the house that the website shall be reconstructed to make it more interactive.

3.0.9 **The WOCOM** has a number of projects to undertake. They included;

Medical screening on breast cancer, fun games for member institutions, debate competitions on topical issues, TV/Radio talk shows on hygiene for head porters, visitation to selected orphanage(s), and leadership seminars.

## **3.1 Matters Arising**

### **3.1.1 'Nnobua Fund'**

Hon Yussif Kanton Salifu; local SRC Secretary of UDS Wa campus called for proper documentation on the fund to ensure its sustenance and the eradication of ambiguity. Hon Maxwell Ziyerley Agbambilla; local NUGS Secretary for UG, ACC wanted to know why no preference shall be placed on the academic standing of a prospective beneficiary, yet the working document says one must have a G.P interpreted as 2<sup>nd</sup> class upper or lower divisions. To support this point Hon Jeffery Akurang of UMaT suggested that the varying grade point system of member institutions should be taken into consideration when determining beneficiaries.

The President responded to these concerns that determination of beneficiaries shall be the sole duty of the Board of Trustees (**BoT**), but one thing is for sure, that the beneficiary must necessarily be needy.

A member suggested to the house that in the selection of Trustees, the leverage level of such personalities should be taken into consideration. And there must be full disclosure of facts to the house, like which part of the USAG year and audited account will be read to the house.

A member also wanted to know the number of times one could access the fund.

The Chairman informed the house that that lies within the domain of the **BoT**.

Hon Jeffery Akurang of UMaT, suggested that a beneficiary should be able to access the fund at most twice throughout the students period of study. He also added that care should be taken not to over burden the already burdened student. Hon Maxwell Agbambilla suggested that the academic standings of the prospective beneficiary should be considered.

### **3.1.2 USAG Bulletin**

Hon. Godwin Benin; local SRC President of UEW – K was of the view that a small amount be charged on the news paper to raise some money for the Association. Hon Rosemond Asianoa; local WOCOM for UEW – K pointed out that the financial standing of the Association can not cater for the newspaper and suggested that a newspaper agency be contacted so that articles from

member institutions can be published in them instead of the Association having its own paper at this critical moment.

The Chairman told the house that GH¢1,800 will be needed to undertake the project barring any sponsorship. And this should be within the domain of the Association if member institutions pay their dues on time.

### **3.1.3 Initiative Awards**

Hon. Mary Anderson of UCC suggested that this should be open to all university students of all levels who shall apply for the award with their work which shall be vetted by a selection panel to decide which applicant merits the award.

## **4.0 Budget Statement**

The budget statement was read to the house by the financial controller of the Association; Hon Asare Amoako Atta Jnr.

### **4.1 Matters Arising**

Hon Edmund Barwuah of UDS wanted to know why debts left the Association were not captured by the budget. The financial controller answered that the budget was a projection into the future and therefore did not need old debts but that such debts will be captured by the financial statement.

### **4.2 Secretariat Acquisition**

Hon Edmund Barwuah of UDS suggested that the acquisition and furnishing of a secretariat should be scrapped out of the budget to enable the association save some money. Hon Pearl Ekua Agyemang couldn't agree with him more on the submission when she called for the surplus accruing to be used to finance the debts of the Association. Some members of the house also held an opposing opinion when they in their submissions continuously pointed out the need to have a secretariat. After a long debate on the subject, a motion was tabled at 5 ; 52 pm by Hon Ernest Asare of UCC moving for the scrapping off of the acquisition and furnishing of office accommodation out of the budget. The outcome was as follows;

For the motion;	05
Against the motion	25
Abstention	01

Interpretation; motion was not carried.

### **4.3 Dues**

A member wanted to know what criterion was used to arrive at the figures for dues for the various institutions. The financial controller answered that the old figures (i.e the previous year's dues) were maintained without any change due to the late promulgation of the constitution.

### **4.4 Deficits**

A member wanted to know what measures are being put in place to avert the problems of deficits and empty coffers this USAG year. The financial controller and Chairman both assured the house that other sources of finance would be sought to save the Association some money. In addition, the new constitution makes provision for some reserve and this the executive will comply with.

#### **4.5 Sponsorship**

A member wanted to know why monies from sponsorships were not captured in the budget. The financial controller answered that it was unclear how much money that would yield and as such will be unwise for it to be factored in the budget statement.

A member also urged the Association not to only look at the income from the travel programme but other sources of income could come handy.

After several minutes of elaborate scrutiny of the budget statement, the motion for acceptance was tabled at 6 ; 07 pm by Hon Prosper Hoetu; local NUGS President of KNUST Kumasi which was duly seconded by Hon Zodiac Wiafe Akenteng; local NUGS President of KNUST Sunyani campus. The outcome is as follows;

For the motion	10
Against the motion	02
Abstention	00

Interpretation; motion was carried thereby accepting the budget statement for the year.

#### **5.0 A O B**

- ✓ Hon Dotse of UG Legon wanted when USAG was going to pay the supposed debt owed UG, Legon.
- ✓ Hon Maxell Agbambilla of UG, ACC asked of the Association to make USAG known to all especially university students.
- ✓ A member also called for drastic action against leaders who refuse to account for their stewardship by submitting themselves for auditing. As this will deter corrupt leaders from entering the system.
- ✓ Hon Tweneboa Kodua of UEW – M suggested that a temporal office accommodation be sought from the Ministry to support the activities of the Association. To this suggestion the coordination Secretary of NUGS Hon Vitus K Gbang said the Ministry would not support such a move.
- ✓ Hon Jeffery Akurang of UMaT wanted to know why committees had not been formed as mandated by the constitution.
- ✓ A member called for a compulsion clause for the perpetual sustenance of the ‘Nnobua Fund’.
- ✓ Hon Ishmael Tweneboa-Kodua; local NUGS of UEW – K urged members to pay their dues on time to enable the Association relies what he called ‘wonderful programme’ for the year.

#### **6.0 Closing Remarks**

The Chairman in his closing remarks urged the rank and file of the Association to be united. He also assured senators that their contributions have been well noted.

#### **7.0 Closure**

The motion for the closure of the meeting was tabled by Hon Albert Amer Kpabi; local SRC Secretary of UMaT and seconded by Hon Gariba Kabiru Lawal of KNUST Kumasi. The closing

prayer was said by Hon Konoboa Paul Yeboah; local SRC President of UEW – M. The meeting ended at 9 ; 26pm.

### **DEFINITION OF TERMS**

USAG	University Students Association of Ghana
NUGS	National Union of Ghana Students
SRC	Students Representative Council
WOCOM	Women’s Commission(er)
UEW – K	University of Education Winneba, Kumasi
UEW – M	University of Education Winneba, Mampong
UEW – W	University of Education Winneba, Winneba
UG, Legon	University of Ghana, Legon
UG, ACC	University of Ghana Accra City Campus
KNUST, Kumasi	Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology
KNUST, Sunyani	Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology
UDS	University for Development Studies
UMaT	University of Mines and Technology, Tarkwa
CSUC	Christian Service University College
UCC	University of Cape Coast

**APPENDIX A**

<b>No</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Institution</b>	<b>Portfolio</b>
1	Aaron Osei Agyemang	<b>KNUST - Suyani</b>	SRC President
2	Emelia Afi Agbenyo	<b>UG - Ilegon</b>	SRC Secretary
3	Kabiru Lawal Garbey	<b>KNUST Kumasi</b>	Rep. of SRC President
4	Adom Kwakye Douglas	<b>UDS Navrongo</b>	Rep. of SRC President
5	Akparep John Yaw	<b>UDS Wa</b>	SRC President
6	Augustine Amoah	<b>UCC</b>	Local NUGS Secretary
7	Jeffery Kofi Ofori Akurang	<b>UMaT Tarkwa</b>	SRC Vice President
8	Daboh Ernest	<b>UG, ACC</b>	SRC Vice President
9	Ayithey Godwin	<b>CSUC</b>	SRC President
10	Pearl Ekuia Agyemang	<b>UEW - W</b>	SRC President
11	Konoboa Paul Yeboah	<b>UEW - M</b>	SRC President
12	Ashmiu Sulemana	<b>UDS Nyankpala</b>	SRC President
13	Asare Amoako Atta Jnr.	<b>USAG</b>	Financial Controller
14	Amuzu Prince	<b>USAG</b>	Treasurer
15	Williams Kwarah	<b>USAG</b>	Coordinating Secretary
16	Fadila Iddrisu	<b>USAG</b>	WOCOM
17	Domprah Emmanuel	<b>UEW - M</b>	SRC Secretary
18	Appiah Yaw Joseph	<b>UEW - M</b>	NUGS Secretary
19	Ibrahim A.S Mallam	<b>UDS - Wa</b>	NUGS Treasurer
20	Ernest Asare	<b>UCC</b>	SRC Treasurer
21	Augustine Amoah	<b>UCC</b>	NUGS Secretary
22	Ampong-Ansah Francis	<b>UEW - W</b>	NUGS Secretary
23	Asare Kotor	<b>UEW - W</b>	SRC Secretary
24	Daboh Ernest	<b>UG, ACC</b>	SRC Vice-president
25	Wiafe Akenteng Zodiac	<b>KNUST, Sunyani</b>	Local NUGS President
26	Justice Dotse Dzisenu	<b>UEW -W</b>	Local NUGS President
27	Ishmael Tweneboah-Kodua	<b>UEW - K</b>	Local NUGS President
28	Joseph Essel-Bonney	<b>KNUST, Sunyani</b>	Local NUGS Secretary
29	Jeffery Kofi Ofori Akurang	<b>UMaT</b>	SRC Vice President
30	Theophilus Tawiah	<b>UCC</b>	Local NUGS President
31	Rosemond Asianoa	<b>UEW - K</b>	WOCOM
32	Acheampong Frederick	<b>UDS, Nyanpkala</b>	SRC Secretary
33	Ayeriga Mary W.	<b>UDS, Navrongo</b>	WOCOM
34	Faustina Asamoah	<b>UG, ACC</b>	WOCOM
35	Kantou Salifu Yussif	<b>UDS, Wa</b>	SRC Secretary
36	Getrude Serwaa Quaning	<b>KNUST, Sunyani</b>	WOCOM
37	Amer Kpabi Albert	<b>UMaT, Tarkwa</b>	SRC Secretary
38	Acheampong Kwame Agyare	<b>UMaT, Tarkwa</b>	SRC President Elect
39	Agyemang Nyame Mohammed	<b>KNUST, Sunyani</b>	Local NUGS Treasurer
40	Asamoah Samuel Snr.	<b>KNUST, Sunyani</b>	Observer

41	Danso Bright	<b>KNUST, Sunyani</b>	SRC Organizer
42	Agyei Ameyaw Samuel	<b>UEW - K</b>	SRC Financial Secretary
43	Alfred Hayford	<b>KNUST, Sunyani</b>	Vice President
44	Betty Archer	<b>UEW - K</b>	Observer
45	Ofosu Maxwell Boakye	<b>UDS, Wa</b>	Observer
46	Konadu Kwaku	<b>UEW - K</b>	Observer
47	Beatrice Asare-Bediako	<b>UMaT Tarkwa</b>	Observer
48	Gladys Obotey	<b>UMaT Tarkwa</b>	Observer
49	Beatrice Bema	<b>UMaT Tarkwa</b>	Observer
50	Aggrey Philips Daniels	<b>UMaT Tarkwa</b>	Local NUGS Secretary
51	Tettevi Eyram	<b>UMaT Tarkwa</b>	Local NUGS President Elect
52	Rita Mintah	<b>KNUST, Sunyani</b>	SRC Secretary
53	Amponsah Williams A.	<b>UEW - K</b>	Observer
54	Manu Arkoh Maureen	<b>UEW - K</b>	Observer
55	Yeboah Dorothy	<b>KNUST Kumasi</b>	Observer
56	Barwuah Edmond	<b>UDS, Nyanpkala</b>	Observer
57	Pemboh Wilson Sedem	<b>UEW - W</b>	Observer
58	Emmanuel Ngula	<b>UEW - K</b>	Observer
59	Asihene Ernest	<b>UEW - K</b>	Observer
60	Owusu Yeboah Billy Jones	<b>UDS, Navrongo</b>	Observer
61	Gyan Daniel	<b>KNUST, Sunyani</b>	Observer
62	Kusi Freeman Benjamin	<b>UEW - K</b>	Observer
63	Owusu Samuel	<b>KNUST, Sunyani</b>	Observer
64	Samuel Obeng Kwarteng	<b>KNUST, Sunyani</b>	Observer
65	Ivy Der Souza	<b>UDS, Nyanpkala</b>	WOCOM
66	Ali Yakubu	<b>UMaT Tarkwa</b>	Local NUGS President
67	Dorcas Karikari	<b>UMaT Tarkwa</b>	WOCOM
68	Maxwell Ziyerley Agbambilla	<b>UG, ACC</b>	Local NUGS Secretary
69	Ebenezer B. Gogoe	<b>UG, ACC</b>	SRC Secretary
70	Prosper Hoetu	<b>KNUST Kumasi</b>	Local NUGS President
71	Mary Anderson	<b>UCC</b>	WOCOM

Compiled by

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All corrections should be forwarded to [secretary@usagtoday.net](mailto:secretary@usagtoday.net). Thank you