

NATIONAL UNION OF GHANA STUDENTS

NUGS CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING

DATE: Saturday 3rd June, 2017

VENUE: University of Education Winneba-Winneba Campus

NUGS SECRETARIAT REPORT 2016/17

Central Committee Members!!

The National Executives!!

Blocs!!

Interim Management Committee!!

Dear students!!

Friends of the union!!

Keen observers across all member institutions!!

All protocols duly acknowledged!!

Let me start this all important exercise enshrined in article 21 of the NUGS constitution, by first of all, citing a quotation from a great Greek philosopher SOCRATES, thus "the unexamined life is not worth living"

The examined life however is worth living only when lessons learnt become a guide for future progress and future reflections. The intention of this dictum is to serve as a premise or a springboard for me and for all of us here in this assembly to underscore and take a walk down the state of affairs, the progress, the successes, the challenges, the difficulties and of course, the achievements chalked insofar in the journey of our mother union (NUGS)

The Union In Focus

Let me say this in clear and without a scintilla of equivocation that on the 25th of November last year thus; 2016, our dear union was served a notice of invitation to feature on the international

organizing Committee (OIC) pursuant to the 12th annual delegates conference in Sudan by the 19th to the 23rd of December-2016. The union was duly represented by the NUGS President Mr. Luqman Abubakari in Khartoum-Sudan in the sub region of Africa.

Hon Central Committee Members, on this occasion of AASU summit in Sudan, many nagging issues which of course, international, national and are of students concern were raised and debated to the core, many inputs were made in this respect from individual student (s) leaders, spanning from the over fifty-three (53) countries representing including Ghana. Permit me to say that, issues of scholarships were discussed, issues bothering on student exchange program learning were discussed and of course the general welfare of students in African and in the sub region were all addressed by all and sundry present at the 12th summit. On our part as the National Union Of Ghana Students, of which Mr. Luqman Abubakari represented with Mr. Peter Kwasi Kodjie, we reiterated the fact that scholarships to students across the continent should be a matter of urgency and concern to AASU, NUGS making inputs of the exchange learning programs in our universities across the sub region, we argued strongly for;

1. Inter-University collaborations
2. sharing of E-library resources
3. Have a greater say in tuition fees and the likes.

Friends of this union, the AASU Congress was climax on the 23rd of December 2016 in the sacred city of Khartoum-Sudan with exchanging and signing of protocols and visitations to the beautiful scenery of Sudan by delegates, the NUGS REP to AASU thus; in the person of Mr. Peter Kwasi Kodjie emerged as the winner of the Secretary General executive position of the intercontinental body. I stand here today on behalf of all CC members present, my good self and the gallant executives here in this assembly, to say congrats once again to Mr. Peter Kwasi Kodjie and to all the membership of the All-African Students Union. Let me use this opportunity to announce that NUGS and AASU were able to secure a fully funded scholarship for students who are willing to pursue undergraduate and post graduate programme in Sudan.

Honorable house, please allow me to take your minds back to some of the numerous programs, projects and services that the National Union of Ghana Students (NUGS) undertook at the local scene (Ghana) and this thus far makes it imperative for the saying that our union "thinks Globally and act locally" by 26th of December, the union had paid many courtesy calls and friendly

exchanges with both government agencies and diplomatic missions here in Ghana. Significant among them were the South African High commission, the Germany Embassy, the Guinean Embassy, the U.S embassy and most of the ministries in Ghana with whom NUGS collaborates to champion the student's interest.

The union has also taken a bold initiative to craft a virtual platform, an official interactive website connecting all campuses, blocs and the world at large which will be launched very soon. It is not the normal traditional website but an interactive one where students can share their good and bad moments with the world. It will also have sections ranging from education, politics, sports and many others where people can meet and debate on issues pertaining to national interest and development.

We believe in democracy and collective rule, so there will be what is termed "idea box" where students suggest various ideas to NUGS, this idea will be voted on by students across the country and implemented by popular requests.

Honorable house, we cannot also loss focus but to state that, on the 18th of February, 2017: the young African Women's Summit (YAWS) in partnership with the National Union of Ghana Students (NUGS) women's commission, presented a program christened "panties up" a feminist educative advocacy program with the theme "Raising and Equipping the next generation of women leaders with the requisite knowledge and skills". This programme's aim (s) and objective (s) among other things were to equip our young women with the necessary handy skills in the art of soap making, bead making and all other motor skills that are hidden in our young women folks across our universities to harness their collective potentials in these areas and to better equip them for the yearning needs of this competitive knowledge based economy of our time.

The union also Plans for the state -of the-art -NUGS souvenirs which plans are underway to unveil the NUGS cloth/ Tops, NUGS Mugs, Diary, breast pins and bow ties for the purposes of unique identification of our members and all students of Ghana.

Let me proceed on a rather sad note to make an account on the issues involving our colleagues, brothers and sisters from the recent ugly developments in the case of the Ghana School of Surveying and Mapping (GSSM) that has resulted in the closure of the school, NUGS stood head up in solidarity to GSSM and registered its displeasure by way of an open letter to the seat of

government making a couple of suggestions in the general interest of the students and of course, in the interest of peace for national development, NUGS had also use this occasion to jointly signed a strong worded petition and submitted jointly with bloc heads and the Ghana National Union of Technical Students (GNUTS) to the seat of government for urgent and swift actions to be considered in the matter involving the Ghana school of surveying and mapping. Our sympathies are still with our brothers of this noble flagship institution as we continue to press home the rightful demands of these innocent students.

Honorable CC members, invited Guest, Observers, we say a very big thank you to the hard working executives and to the interim management committee, which by extension is an arm's length of this union for the yeoman's job they did quite recently at the four-square of the university of Ghana main campus by putting up a well thought through, tailored and well architected program by way of an entrepreneurship summit which saw in attendance young politicians ,Students, CEO's of Government institutions, civil society, NGOs, interest groups and corporate Ghana as well as persons from the creative art industry of Ghana. The Theme for the summit was simply put; unlocking the Genius in you; Youth in entrepreneurship, lightbearers of the 21st century. The following speakers graced the occassion; Mr. John Kumah (CEO, YOUTH ENTERPRISE SUPPORT), Mr. Franklin Owusu-Karikari (Entrepreneur, Author, Speaker/Trainer, Management Consultant and CEO of E-Juice Company Ltd.) Henry Nana Boakye-Nana (Deputy Executive Director, National Service Scheme) Mr. Courage K. Nobi (Education Activist and former Gen. Sec. of NUGS), Chief Moomen (Poet & Playwright)

I must say that this occasion kept our union in the spotlight in canvassing and unearthing the enterprising potentials in our youth and thus far equipping them to think differently in the world of work and living to the expectations of the joy of work and the dignity of self labour.

In leapfrogging with this maiden secretariat report, a mentioned should be made with your indulgence that, the National Union of Ghana Students (NUGS) shall in the nick of time outdoor its hearty project of donating of a targeted one million (1,000 000) books to basic schools which hitherto are deemed deprive and hence their pupil's cannot afford to buy exercise books for themselves, NUGS has taken the pains to gather a secondary data on some of these schools and their locations and shall reach out to them latest by middle of this month, let me also use this occasion to thank our Union and the architects of this noble project for their show of ingenuity in

solving classical problems with simply intuition. I must also say that, CC members and all of us must take it as a duty to locate communities that have deprive school plants so that NUGS can reach out to them in their catchment area (s).

Honourable house, let me end the message on the state of our dear union by admonishing that, NUGS is one, and we are determined to put our acts together to call on those students who have gone so soft and are bent on dividing this union to join their ranks with us to forge ahead as a one union devoid of the unnecessary storming and brouhaha, but having said this, we are particularly humbled and take solace in the fact that, the high court of Ghana under the human rights division gave a straight forward ruling sometimes last month inherent in an interlocutory injunction that NUGS, Mr. Luqman Abubakari including Mr Boakye Yiadom the NUGS Coordinating Secretary as the main plaintiffs in this case . The August court herein granted in our favor, and of course, this current regime thus the President and the rest of the nine (9) executives of the union with our Judicial, steering committee and EC chair to take up with the running of the affairs of the union until the time that the matter before the high court is properly determined, I stand here to state that we are grateful to the court for this ruling handed unto us given the circumstances, most especially in the direst need and times of the students welfare, we pledge to remain steadfast, committed and resolute in the fight for the sole interest of the students, we pledge herein to also live side-by-side and in tandem with the NUGS constitution to make sure that the character orientation of this union is given its fullest meaning.

We wish all CC members and observers present here a fruitful discourse and May God Bless us All.

ALUTA Continua.....

Victoria Ascerta....

Read By; MR. EMMANUEL KWAKYE YEBOAH (CHIEF JUSTICE, NUGS 2015/2016)

for; NUGS