

AIT

ACCRA INSTITUTE
OF TECHNOLOGY

The
Nation's Premier
Open University

The University of the Future



About AIT

AIT is an independent technology-focused university committed to academic excellence, cutting-edge research and R&D work. The University is modeled on internationally recognized institutes of technologies like the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), USA and the Indian Institute of Technologies (IITs), among others. AIT consists of a number of schools: School of Advanced Technologies, Engineering and Science (SATES); Advanced School of Systems and Data Studies (ASSDAS); School of Professional Certification Programs (SPCP); the AIT Business School (ABS); the Professor Francis Allotey Graduate School (AGS); and the AIT Flying School (AFS). Also operating within the AIT system as constituent education and training provision divisions are the AIT Virtual University (the AIT Virtual Campus), the AIT Online - (Your e-University), the Institute of Lifelong Learning (IL3) and the AIT Institute of Career Advancement (ICA)

AIT is accredited by the National Accreditation Board (NAB), Ghana to offer campus-based and open university degree (BSc, BEng, MSc, PhD) programs in Engineering, Computer Science, Information Technology, Project Management, Business Administration among others.

The AIT Board of Trustees

The AIT Board of Trustees (BOT) is the highest decision making organ of the University. The membership of the Board is made up of eminent and internationally distinguished personalities comprising:

Professor Francis K. A. Allotey, Internationally Renowned Physicist, Mathematician and Computer Scientist; and Former Pro-Vice Chancellor, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), **Chairman**

Professor Edward S. Ayensu, Former Director & Senior Research Scientist, Smithsonian Institute, USA and Chairman, The World Bank Inspection Panel, **Vice Chairman**

King Tackie Tawiah III, The Ga Mantse, **Member**

Professor Ivan Addae-Mensah, Former Vice Chancellor, University of Ghana, **Member**

Dr. K.Y. Amoako, Former United Nations Under-Secretary General and Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, **Member**

Professor Samuel K. Adjepong, Former Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast; President, Methodist University College of Ghana; Chairman, Nat. African Peer Review Mechanism Governing Council, **Member**

Dr. Grace Bediako, Government Statistician, Ghana Statistical Service, **Member**

Professor Jophus Anamuah-Mensah, Former Vice Chancellor, University of Education, Winneba, **Member**

Rev. Ama Afo Blay, Former Director General, Ghana Education Service (GES), **Member**

Professor Clement Dzidonu, President of AIT-The University of the Future, **Member Secretary**

Mr. Joe Issacher, Former Head of the Ghana Civil Service, **Member**

Professor Emmanuel Owusu-Bennoah, Former Director General, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), **Member**

Mr. K.S Yamoah, Managing Director, The Ghana Stock Exchange (GSE), **Member**

Introducing the President of AIT

Professor Clement Dzidonu, the President of AIT, is a world renowned Professor of Computer Science, educator and author. He received a Meritorious Award for Distinguished Services to the Field of Computer Science in 1998. In 1999 he was awarded the Outstanding People of the 20th Century Medal by the International Biographical Center, Cambridge, U.K for his contribution to university education in general and to the field of computer science in particular.



Professor Clement K. Dzidonu
PhD, BSc, FIAP, FINIT, MBACS, C.ISP,
MICS, C.Stat, MIEE, EuroJE
President

Professor Dzidonu is listed in the Who's Who in the World as a distinguished educator and also acknowledged in the Who's Who in Science and Engineering in the USA. In recognition of his immense contribution to the field of Technology, he was awarded the World Technology Award in 2003; the first African to win this prestigious international award.

The other winners of this award were: Tony Blair, the Former British Prime Minister, Al Gore, the former Vice President of the USA and a Nobel Laureate (2007) and Paul Kagame, President of Rwanda (2009)

Professor Dzidonu brings to his job as AIT President vast experience in the area of providing modern university education in the technological era. His vision as the Founding President of AIT is to do all he can to work towards the achievement of the "cradle of excellence" mission of the University. He heads an excellent team of equally distinguished and experienced academics and university administrators committed to this mission.

The University Advisory Council

The AIT University Advisory Council (UAC) membership is made up of distinguished personalities from business, public sector, labour, academia, and the professions. The Council assists the Board of Trustees and Principal Officers and key constituent bodies of the University in an advisory capacity on matters relating to: the university's strategic, operational and financial direction; its academic, professional, and research programs; and on faculty and students issues. The current membership of the University Advisory Council is made up of:

Professor E.H.K. Akaho, Director General, Ghana Atomic Energy Commission (GAEC)

Professor Walter Alhassan, Former Director-General, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), and Chairman of the Council of the Meridian University College, Ghana

Nii Adote Obuor II, Sempe Mantse

Mr. Kwasi Adu-Amankwah, Former General Secretary, Ghana Trade Union Congress (TUC)

Alhaji Hamidu Ibrahim Baryeh, Former Executive Secretary, Lands Commission

Ms. Mary B. Buako, Chief Executive Officer, Chartered Institute of Bankers, Ghana

Dr. Osei K. Darkwa, President, Ghana Telecom University College

Mrs. Josephine Okutu, National President, Chartered Institute of Marketing, Ghana (CIMG)

Mr. Saied Fakhry, Chairman, Interplast Limited

Ing. Dr. Essel Ben Hagan, Former President, Ghana Institution of Engineers (GHiE)

Mrs. Leticia Osafo Addo, Vice President, Association of Ghana Industries (AGI)

Dr. Osei Boeh Ocansey, Executive Director, Private Enterprise Foundation (PEF)

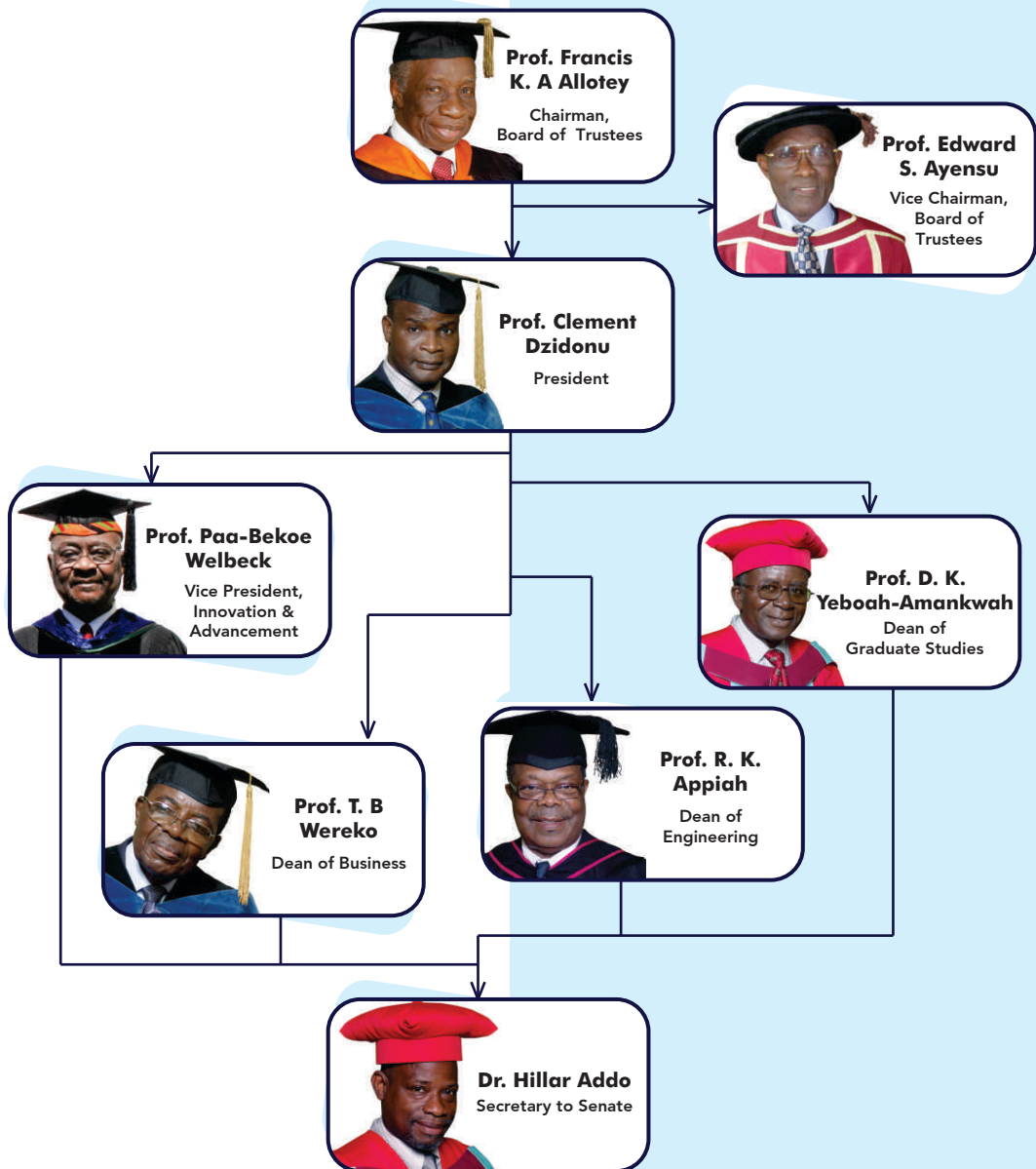
Mr. Frank Ocran, Former Executive Chairman, State Enterprises Commission (SEC)

Professor T. B. Wereko, Former Director General, GIMPA

Mrs. Florence Seriki, Managing Director/CEO, The Omatek Group of Companies

Professor Paa-Bekoe Welbeck, Vice President, Advancement and Innovations, AIT and Former Vice President for Technology, Virginia Union University, USA

THE ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP TEAM



Why Open University?

AIT has introduced the Open University approach to education delivery in Ghana in order to dramatically improve enrollment and broaden access to tertiary education. AIT does recognize that the accelerating pace of technological change is having a major impact on university education, including altering and influencing how students, faculty, and staff interact. Students expect to interact with their peers and with faculty 24 hours/7 days and to have immediate access to digital resources, instructional technology, and interactive learning. Online information, sophisticated Internet-based search engines, digital libraries, and multimedia learning resources are transforming where and when students learn and what constitutes a classroom. Learning that was once closely held in designated spaces now becomes available from any location where there is computer access and a willing learner.

The ease of access to information and learning resources by students and faculty members, coupled with the availability of sophisticated online teaching and learning multimedia resources and technologies and the ability of students to use these resources to enhance and enrich their learning opportunities and outcomes is forcing traditional universities to rethink what learning spaces look like and whether current lecture halls and associated approaches to teaching are still effective.

There is no doubt that in today's global society, learning is required throughout our lives - not only to remain competitive in the job market, but also to enhance one's participation in the economy and society. The need to effectively participate in the emerging knowledge economy has made it necessary for most people to learn new skills and to acquire relevant expertise to remain competitive in the job market. Open/Online Learning driven by the emerging technologies is providing new, faster and effective ways to obtain higher education and learn new skills.

Bill Gates Predicts Technology Will Make Campus-based Universities Less Important in 5 Years

According to Bill Gates, Founder of Microsoft, campus-based universities... are becoming less crucial for learning thanks to the Internet. five years from now you'll be able to find on the Web for free the best lectures in the world -- It will be better than what you can find in any single university. Only technology can bring the current average annual university education cost of \$50,000 a year over four years—a \$200,000 education—down, not just to \$20,000 but to \$2,000 in few years from now.



According to UNESCO, open/online learning (or e-learning) represents approaches that focus on opening and broadening access to education, freeing students from the constraints of time and place, and offering flexible learning opportunities to individuals and groups of learners.

Open University education through e-learning is now one of the most rapidly growing areas of higher education, and its potential impact on university education delivery systems has been greatly accentuated through the development of Internet-based information and other educational technologies.

The open university concept has revolutionized tertiary education in a number of countries. Open Universities are providing opportunities for a vast number of people to have access to quality university education without the requirements to attend lectures on campus. They have made it possible for people to 'work-earn-and-study' at the same time. The world's mega (largest) universities in terms of enrollments are open universities. These include: Indira Gandhi National Open University, India (2 million); Allama Iqbal Open University, Pakistan (1.8 million); Bangladesh Open University (600,000); University of South Africa (250,000); Open University, UK (230,000); Open University of Malaysia (90,000). The largest university in the USA which is Phoenix University is an open university with a student population of close to 120,000. Apart from South Africa, other African countries with well-established

Open University education via e-learning is not the same thing as 'Distance Education'....

The distinctive feature of the open university education delivery is e-learning - with learners having unlimited online access to learning resources anytime and anywhere, whether they are in a classroom environment, at home, at work or on-the-move (mobile). There is now a widespread agreement that e-learning is the next generation of 'education product'. Because of its interactive capacity and because it provides learning resources which can be changed and turned into new information, e-learning is qualitatively different from the traditional model in education.

The emphasis in an e-learning open university environment has moved from what teachers/lecturers can teach to what learners can learn. Learners are more in control of their learning in an e-learning open university environment. Because e-learners are increasingly in charge of their own learning – making their selections and generating their own information – lectures/teachers have been cast in the role of advisers, facilitators, guides or mentors. In this context it is clear that e-learning is not to be confused with distance education.

Open University education based on e-learning means that the learning is associated with a person – not a place. It is therefore not the same thing as distance education. This is why it is often referred to as 'customized' because the learning can be tailored for the person and accessed at any time and any place in a form that is desired, for as long as it is required. With e-learning, geography and distance is not a variable as in the case of distance education. There is no concept of 'distance' in an open university e-learning environment.

Open University are: the National Open University of Nigeria, the Tanzania Open University, The Open University of Zimbabwe, and the Open University of Egypt. The Government of Ghana is considering setting up the Ghana Open University, and AIT, given its pioneering role in promoting the open university system in Ghana, is well-placed to contribute to this national effort.

AIT believes that, Open University is the way to go if Ghana is to drastically improve university enrollment and broaden access to tertiary education to the Ghanaian public through the exploitation of the emerging educational delivery technologies and learning resources. AIT through its partners including the Open University of Malaysia (OUM) is already leading the way in offering the open university learning experience in Ghana and the sub-region.

Speech by the Minister of Education

In a speech by the Minister of Education Hon. Alex Narh Tettey-Enyo, read on his behalf by the Hon. Deputy Minister of Education in charge of Higher Education, Dr. Joseph Anang on the occasion of the launch of the AIT-OUM partnership program in Accra on 22nd January 2010, the Minister has this to say.....'The Government does applaud the pioneering step that the Accra Institute of Technology has taken to roll-out various open university undergraduate and postgraduate programs within the West African sub-region and beyond. AIT in this respect is leading the way to transform Ghana into a higher education hub within the sub-region. We in Government will encourage other institutions of higher learning to follow the lead provided by AIT to take steps to broaden access to higher education to Ghanaians using the emerging educational delivery technologies and as well attract students from the sub-region.'

The Statement continues.....'I want to take this opportunity to state that, the Government is committed to broadening access to tertiary education to increase enrollments in our universities. In this respect, we are committed to encouraging and supporting the open university concept as one way of broadening access to higher education to a greater section of the Ghanaian population including those living in the remote regions and communities of the country'



Partnership to Pioneer Open University Programs in Ghana and West Africa

AIT and the Open University of Malaysia (OUM) [www.oum.edu.my] and other partners of the two institutions have entered into a partnership agreement to enable AIT offer OUM academic programs within the West African sub-region. The OUM, set up by eleven of the Malaysian public universities, is the largest of the Malaysian universities. The OUM partnership with AIT is its first and only partnership with an African university and AIT has secured the necessary approval and accreditation from the National Accreditation Board (NAB) to offer the OUM programs in Ghana.

Under the partnership agreement with OUM, AIT is offering undergraduate and postgraduate degree programs using its open learning academic program delivery infrastructure and technologies as well as those of the OUM. The undergraduate degree programs include: Computer Science, Information Technology, Business Administration, Education and Management, among others. The postgraduate degree programs which are being offered under the auspices of the Professor Francis Allotey Graduate School of AIT include: Masters and PhD (Doctoral) degree programs in Engineering, Computer Science, Business Administration, Science and Education. AIT is offering the open university programs (www.ait.edu.gh/open) in addition to its regular campus-based undergraduate degree programs (www.ait.edu.gh).

We make your load lighter on our open university programs in a number of areas:

- No need to rush out of work in the evening (after a hard day's work) to attend evening classes on campus or worst still spend your hard earned weekend rest attending classes on campus
- You save money on petrol or public transport fares - money you would have spent travelling daily to attend evening classes after work or travelling to school every weekend to attend classes on campus
- For those residing outside Accra, you have a unique opportunity to pursue a full-time university education without the need to leave your job to come and reside in Accra or make frequent trips to Accra to attend classes
- Match your 'academic load' with your heavy work-load/schedule by doing only 3 courses per trimester (and still meet the requirements of a full-time degree program) instead of 5-7 courses on regular campus-based programs
- Have unlimited online access to all your lecture notes, e-books, extensive e-library resources and other learning resources and materials free of charge. All the learning and study materials you require for each course will be provided to you online for easy access and download.
- You will not be required to spend money on expensive text books neither will there be a need for you to take lecture notes in class. All your lecture notes and additional learning materials will be made available to you free of charge before you start each course. You access your lecture notes before the commencement of each course, so you can read well in advance
- Opportunity to participate in Online interaction and subject matter forums including: student-to-lecture; student-to-student interactions



The Open University Advantage

1. On the AIT's open university programs, we match your academic load with your workload and your household/family obligations and commitments. We do this by taking into account the fact that you are working and as such have a busy work-schedule on top of your household and family responsibilities.
2. To meet your fulltime degree requirements you will only do 3 courses per trimester of up to 14 weeks compare to a regular campus-based load of about 6 courses per semester. You will therefore do 9 courses per academic year of 3 trimesters with about 2- 3 weeks break between trimesters.
3. Our Open University students will access all their course and learning materials and other learning resources online over the Internet anywhere in the country from the comfort of your homes, offices or workplaces. Those without Internet access can avail of our free learning materials over our Learning Center Intranet systems on AIT campuses
4. Students on our open university programs will have the opportunity to attend 4-5 scheduled weekend tutorial sessions on campus within a trimester. Tutorials offer you the opportunity to meet and interact with your lecturers to discuss and assist you on your course materials. You will also interact with your colleagues to discuss and assist each other on your studies. Tutorials also offers the opportunity for doing your tests and exams on campus
5. You will access, complete and submit your assignments online using the resources of our state-of-the-art Learning Management System (LMS).
6. AIT's open university programs are offered in collaboration with the Open University of Malaysia (OUM) and other world-class universities. Students enrolled on the OUM programs at AIT will be awarded OUM degrees

Is Open University Best for You?

- Are you a worker without a first degree and want to obtain one while still at work, keeping your job and earning a living?
- Are you a worker who wants to further your education but your employer is not willing to give you a study leave?
- Are you looking for an affordable way to pursue a quality university degree program while still remaining at work, keeping your job and continue earning a salary to support yourself and your family?
- Are the high fees being charged by the private universities putting university education out of your reach?
- Do you want to attend a university that does not require you to buy expensive textbooks, but rather provide you with free access to all the learning materials, lecture notes, handouts and all the learning resources you need to pursue your degree program?
- Are you a primary or secondary school teacher who desires to pursue your Bachelor of Education (BEd) or postgraduate degree (MEd or PhD) without leaving the classroom on a study leave?
- Are you in the Police Service, the Armed Forces, the Immigration Service or other Security Agencies and you desire to pursue a Bachelor's, Master's or PhD degree program without taking a study leave?
- Are you a Civil/Public Servant with or without a degree looking for an opportunity to advance your career by pursuing a Bachelor's, Master's or PhD degree while remaining at your post earning your salary?
- Are you a working engineer with an HND or a Bachelor's degree who wants to further your education without the need to go on a study leave to do so?
- Are you a Polytechnic or University lecturer who wants to pursue your postgraduate (Masters or PhD) degree without the need to obtain study leave, but rather continue your work to earn money to pay for your education?
- Are you a worker with your first/second degree and want to pursue your postgraduate studies (Master's or PhD degree) while still remaining at work and keeping your job, position at work and your salary?
- Are you retired and have some time on your hand and want to put it to productive use by embarking on further studies to obtain one or two degrees without the hassle of going back to the classroom?
- Are you an experienced worker in your field who has managed to climb the career ladder over the years based on your practical experience and think it is now time to obtain one or two degrees to backup your experience and advance your career without looking back?
- Are you resident in that part of the country without access to good university education and wish to further your education without relocating to Accra, Kumasi, etc?
- Are you studying at another tertiary institution but wish to embark on a parallel degree program or want to register on one of our open university degree programs to supplement the tuition you are receiving from your current institution?
- Are you a self-employed who want to do your further education to acquired key expertise and skills through embarking on a degree program while at the same time running your business or organization?

If you answer YES!! to any of the above questions, then pursuing an open university degree program at AIT will be a good decision.

Profile of Our Current Open University Students

Our Undergraduate Degree Students

Our current undergraduate students come from all over the country pursuing high-value and modern degree courses in: Business Administration; Information Technology; Hospitality Management; Tourism; Education; among others.

Our Master's Degree Students

We have students currently pursuing their Master's degree in: Business Administration; Project Management; Information Technology; Human Resource Development; Education; Instructional Development; among others. Some of our Masters students are working in the Banks, others are senior IT personnel in leading companies; Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies; some are lecturers working in other universities and institutions; others are members of the security agencies (Police, Army etc). We also have on our Master's program qualified civil, mechanical, electrical and electronic engineers and other engineers working in key sectors of the economy.

Our PhD Students

Currently we have over 50 PhD students enrolled to do their PhD degree in a number of subject areas including: Business Administration; Information Technology; Engineering; Management; Education. Some of the PhD students enrolled with us reside in other African countries. The profile of our current group of PhD students include: lecturers from a number of public and private universities and polytechnics; civil servants including Directors and Chief Directors; senior managers and administrators from private and public sector establishments and institutions, among others.



How to Apply for Our Open University Programs

To apply for any of our open university programs, please visit our website (www.ait.edu.gh/open) to download the application forms and to access all the necessary details on our programs including, program and course outlines, fees, calendar, etc.

You can also visit our Cantonments Campus for details and for the Form. We are opposite the Morning Star School. You can also call us or send us an e-mail for details.

The logo for AIT (Accra Institute of Technology) is displayed in a large, bold, black serif font. The letters 'A' and 'I' are significantly larger than the 'T', and they are all closely spaced together.

**- This is Where You
Want to go to University**



P. O. Box AN-19782 Accra-North

Tel. +233-28-8181817, +233-28-5118668

+233-28-9181817, +233-302-786053

E-mail: open@ait.edu.gh Websites: www.ait.edu.gh/open, www.ait.edu.gh