



MESSAGE FROM AIT PRESIDENT

Dear AIT Students:

1. On behalf of the members of the AIT Board of Trustees and the Management of this University, it is my privilege and honour to use this opportunity to touch base with the student body of AIT to brief and update you on academic activities and developments at your university since my last message to you all.
2. Although the COVID-19 is still with us, we as a University have made and continue to make progress on a number of fronts. You may recall that in my last message to you I reported that our Main School Day and Evening students successfully completed the semester and their end-of-semester exams. On our Weekend Seaview Students, I reported that they have successfully completed their online classes and have since completed their end-of-semester exams by the on 16th July 2020. I also reported at the time that the Open University students as well as the KCC Weekend School commenced their new Trimester in July. On the whole, we completed the last Semester successfully with respect to all the Schools.
3. Moving on, since my last message to you. I have been informed that Summer school for the Main School Day and Evening students commenced 29th June 2020 and they are due to complete their end-of-semester (open-book) exams by 31st August 2020. The Weekend Seaview Students also commenced their Summer School on 27th July 2020 and will complete their end-semester (open-book) exams by 4th October 2020. The KCC Weekend Students will do their regular end-of-trimester (open-book) exams for the trimester they started in July 2020 by 11th September 2020. The Open University students will also complete their end-of-trimester (open-book) exams by 13th August 2020. Again on the entire University is on track and on schedule with respect to our continuing students across all schools and categories.
4. Let me now turn my attention to those who have successfully completed their studies and waiting for graduation. As I reported in my last message, the COVID-19 pandemic has indeed disrupted our graduation plans and I pointed out that we were working hard to have our Graduation Ceremony before September. I am pleased to announce that we are at an advanced stage to have our 15th Graduation Ceremony on Saturday 29th August 2020 for the Open University graduating students (Bachelors, Masters, and PhDs). We hope to do the Graduation Ceremony for the Main School graduating class a week or two later. This year, we are adopting a hybrid mode for the graduation, with some graduating students opting to participate in the graduation ceremony online and the vast majority opting for participation in a regular face-to-face graduation ceremony at KCC. Either way, AIT promises an engaging and enriching graduation ceremony this year, COVID or no-COVID. We are all looking forward to it.
5. Finally, you may recall that in my last message to you, I expressed our expectations and the hope that by September we will be able to see our way forward clear enough to resume on-campus studies while adopting some of the quality teaching and learning facilitation processes and systems we successfully experimented during the online studies. Well, it is now clear to me that, this expectation is misplaced,

given that the COVID-19 pandemic situation has not cleared up as we hoped. We are still in the midst of the pandemic despite all the best efforts by all stakeholders. We at AIT have however risen to the occasion given the situation on the ground to ensure that your education is not disrupted by the COVID situation in any way. Thanks to you, the Academic and the Administrative Staff of this University, we have proved that we have the resources, technologies, and the competency at hand to continue to deliver quality education and learning experience to all our students. Ensuring your safety during this pandemic while still delivering our trademark high standard university education has been our priority all along and still remained the case.

6. We have therefore decided that for now, we will start the new semester scheduled to commence on 7th September 2020 online for the Main School Day and Evening students, while we study the COVID situation as we go to inform us on the way forward. The Faculty Board has met to take stock and to prepare ourselves to serve you better next semester while pursuing your uninterrupted quality university education in safety at AIT. I am sure you will continue to stay safe and commit to your studies as you have demonstrated during this COVID period.

7. I want to take this opportunity to congratulate all our continuing students for staying the course and putting efforts into your education during this difficult period. I am sure there are challenges here and there that a number of you if not all are facing during these difficult times. I want to encourage you to stay strong and focus on your studies. We shall overcome..and get to the other side of this COVID business in flying colours. My regards and appreciation to your parents/guardians, spouses, children, and everybody else who have been supporting you to achieve your goal to work towards completing your university education at AIT.

WE WILL GET THERE!! ... Stay Well and Stay Safe. GOD BLESS

Professor Clement Dzidonu
President, AIT
17th August 2020