

## The Inclusive MSA Manifesto

Myers Nii Akwei

The vice president of the UDS MSA is to a large extent the extension of the President's vision and will as well as handling activities required of him by the general assembly of the association. Nonetheless, the specific duty of the vice president in coordinating the activities of our standing committees is no less of a Herculean task and one myself, and my team, representing the Inclusive MSA idea, is eager to undertake and transform.

In having the the president spending a majority of his time handling association matters at the clinical year, it presents a unique opportunity to get our preclinical year members vibrantly engaged in our standing committees. Being an ex-officio member of all the standing committees, it would not be a stretch to say I would be in a position to directly contribute and participate in organizing and carrying out programs regardless of import.

This is, to me, the very baseline to, if not drastically improve, spark an increasing interest and participation of our members. I fully intend to continually liaise with the local committee heads; assisting with establishing contact with various institutions that would directly contribute to successful and engaging programs. An active advertisement of the various committees, consistently through the year, would be my foremost plan to get our members to understand all there is to about the committees; and there is a lot that would interest many if we do it right.

This ties in solidly with my assistance in the President's duties, with keen interest in the editorial board and duties of the Public Relations Officer. A steady, reliable and timely stream of information between the executive body and members, as well as between members of the UDS MSA, would go a long way to improve the outlook of the association.

A close eye on the Finance and Fundraising Committee and Organizing Committee would not be amiss. I intend to lend my experience from my professional background and, by extension, the wealth of hands-on experience in our parallel classes to improve the level of organization in the association structure and activities which would perchance lead to a more transparent association where knowledge of all aspects of the associations dealings is known to all members alike. The enthusiasm and infectious energy of our regular classes would be the vital pivot around which full member participation could be achieved thus our personal goal of total inclusivity.

I intend to bring to the table an exclusive partnership with Rare Disease Ghana Initiative and AIESEC International, which are both excellent avenues for internship and exchange opportunities that would be of immense benefit to the skill sets of our members. Also, looking at the dynamism that can be found in the medical school these days, I look forward to instituting an annual magazine, that would feature not just scholarly articles but creative pieces for and by the MSA.

As said by our one of our founding fathers, Dr. Kwame Nkrumah, "Thought without practice is empty; and action without thought is blind." I ask that you vote right; vote for proactivity and inclusiveness to the benefit of each and every member of UDS MSA. Vote for a promising outlook for the IDS MSA.