

MANIFESTO BY NANTOGMA HAJARA NEENA AS ASPIRANT FOR THE OFFICE OF GENERAL SECRETARY FOR THE 2023/2024 ACADEMIC YEAR.

The chairperson, current MSA executives, various committee heads, fellow aspirants, colleague students, ladies and gentlemen, all protocol duly observed.

MSA has quite a large number, my class alone (pbl2A) has almost a hundred and fifty students. I am sure if given an opportunity, each UDSMSA member can occupy the office of secretary. Why should I be given an opportunity instead of any other person in this hall?

Ladies and gentlemen, my name is Nantogma Hajara Neena. A student of the pbl2A class and an aspirant for the position of general secretary.

I believe that a secretary is not just an administrative role; it is a position of power, influence, and indispensable support.

The chairperson, the office of general secretary is more than just writing minutes and keeping records, but to work tirelessly with other executives to achieve the goals and purpose of the association. Having studied, processed, and understood the constitutional roles of the office, I have propounded three policies.

To begin with, how many preclinical students can speak or understand Dagbani, a necessary skill in the clinical year? I believe most of us do not know of any other word aside 'amaraaba and Tamale kawula' which we probably learnt from Johnny Hughes on the Ghana's Most Beautiful show. I plan on working on a Dagbani medical glossary with volunteers from our association. I believe this glossary would be of great help to us in the clinical year.

In addition, I would want to improve communication between the association and the students. I believe that the first step of transparency and accessibility of a good leadership is effective communication. To achieve this, I would compound a secretariat that would work to create a regular newsletter that highlights upcoming events, important announcements, and student achievements. I would also work with the various class representatives to take suggestions from each class periodically.

Last but not least, as J. Loren Norris once said, "if you cannot see where you are going ask someone who has been there before". As someone who believes in the power of mentorship, I deem it a great necessity to reinstate and possibly improve the mentorship program for freshmen. I would work with members of the association who have experiences of their own to help freshmen find footing. Medical school is stressful enough, a little guidance would be greatly appreciated.

The chairperson, current executives, ladies, and gentlemen. I can testify to the great works of MSA executives in the time I have spent in UDS medical school, and I see their achievements as a relay race. I believe each one of us wouldn't want to elect someone who would either slow the race or run in an opposite direction.

The chairperson, all protocol duly observed. I believe I am the best candidate for the office of MSA general secretary because of variety of experiences under my belt. My most recent ones being General Assembly Representative for my class and prep prefect in my alma mater, Aburi Girls' Senior High School. I humbly solicit for your votes, and I do hope you would not hesitate to give me a 'YES' when it is time to vote.

Thank you for your time and have a nice day.