

UPSA **Innovation** **WEEK**



theme:
from
Ideas
to **Impact**

"Bridging the Gap between Academia and Industry through Innovation"

Monday, 17 August - Saturday, 22 August 2026

THE VICE-CHANCELLOR'S INITIATIVE



“

*What
you need
are ideas;
innovative
ideas that
offer real
solutions to
the world”*

Prof. John Kwaku Mensah Mawutor,
Vice-Chancellor, UPSA

Youth Economic Forum 2026, 26
February 2026, Kofi Ohene-Konadu
Auditorium

Table of Contents

Foreword by the Vice-Chancellor
Leadership Message

Background: UPSA Innovation Week
Context, Purpose, and Objectives

Innovation Week Overview
The Six-Day Programme at a Glance

Day 1 | Official Launch & Faculty Training (Session One)
Monday, 17 August 2026

Day 2 | Faculty Training (Session Two)
Tuesday, 18 August 2026

Day 3 | Faculty Innovations
Wednesday, 19 August 2026

Day 4 | Trends and Innovations in Teaching Pedagogy & Research
Thursday, 20 August 2026

Day 5 | UPSA Innovation Day
Friday, 21 August 2026

Day 6 | Family Day
Saturday, 22 August 2026

Foreword by Vice-Chancellor

“A university is judged not only by the knowledge it produces, but by the problems that knowledge is able to solve.”

In an era defined by artificial intelligence, rapid digital transformation and shifting economic realities, the responsibility of a university extends well beyond the production of knowledge. The urgency to convert scholarship into enterprise, policy and measurable social value should be everyone's business. It is against this backdrop that the maiden UPSA Innovation Week becomes not merely desirable, but imperative.

The University of Professional Studies, Accra has consistently demonstrated leadership in curating pivotal conversations that drive national development. Our commitment is reflected in a sustained effort to bridge the gap



between academia and industry, fostering dialogue that leads to actionable solutions. Innovation Week carries that commitment into a new register. It takes the work of our students, faculty and staff out of the lecture room and the research file, and places it before the very institutions that stand to use it.

Our legacy is one of scholarship with professionalism, collaboration and a relentless pursuit of relevance. UPSA Innovation Week 2026 is a manifestation of that legacy: a platform on which academia, industry and policy converge, and on which every idea is asked the question that finally matters, does it work, and for whom?

This maiden edition rests on a foundation already laid. Our pioneer interdisciplinary research cohort has spent the year doing precisely what was asked of them, combining information technology with accounting, finance, marketing, communication, law and management to confront problems that are recognisably ours. Their work now moves from academic defence to public pitch, before an audience of companies, banks, regulators and development partners. Alongside them, our faculty will train, exhibit and debate the future of teaching and research; and on the final day, our families will remind us that innovation is, in the end, a human enterprise.

I therefore invite every member of the University community to participate with an open mind and a practical question: what can we

improve, and how must we work across disciplines to make that improvement real? To our industry, professional and development partners, I extend a warm welcome, not as spectators, but as co-creators, adopters and, where merit demands it, investors. Your support, insights and collaboration are crucial in ensuring that this week becomes a catalyst for change rather than an entry on a calendar.

May this maiden programme produce partnerships that outlast the week, solutions that travel beyond our campus, and a generation of graduates prepared to shape Ghana, Africa and the world.

Thank you.

Prof. John Kwaku Mensah Mawutor

Vice-Chancellor

University of Professional Studies, Accra



Background: UPSA Innovation Week

Context

Ghana's most pressing economic challenges are not, in the main, problems of insufficient knowledge. They are problems of translation. Small and medium-sized enterprises collapse for want of decision support that already exists in our lecture notes. Graduates enter a labour market misaligned with the competencies employers actually demand. Public institutions carry a digitisation burden that university research is well placed to lighten. The distance between what is known in the academy and what is applied in industry remains the single most expensive gap in our development story.

UPSA Innovation Week is the University's deliberate response to that gap. It is the Vice-Chancellor's Initiative and an annual, University-

wide celebration of creativity, interdisciplinary thinking and applied research, conceived not as a showcase for its own sake, but as a structured meeting point between those who generate solutions and those who can adopt, fund or regulate them.

What Is The UPSA Innovation Week?

Following the University's published Call for Expressions of Interest, Innovation Week 2026 opens the platform to students, faculty, administrative and professional staff, industry players and the general public. It will spotlight final-year project work, faculty-led research, institutional improvement proposals and technology-enabled solutions, with



a deliberate emphasis on interdisciplinary work cutting across accounting, business administration, marketing, banking and finance, communication, public relations, law and information technology.

The Pioneer Interdisciplinary Research Cohort

Under the Interdisciplinary Research Project, a pioneer cohort of student teams was constituted across faculties and required to solve real problems using a business-friendly framework covering problem statement, value proposition, target market, business model, financial plan and implementation roadmap.

Following a preliminary pitch to University Management and invited partners, the strongest projects were shortlisted for the public final. They were assessed on four criteria, Business Potential, Value Proposition, Implementation Capacity and Financial Proposition, and the same criteria will govern the final round. The public final of this competition is the centrepiece of Day 5 - Innovation Day.

Priority Innovation Domains

Digital Transformation and AI	Public-Sector Reform and Institutional Governance
Fintech and Inclusive Finance	Communication, Media, and Public Engagement
Marketing Innovation and Consumer Insight	Data Analytics and Decision Support
Sustainable Business and the Green Economy	Social Entrepreneurship and Community Development

Innovation Week Overview

**Theme: From Ideas to Impact: Bridging the Gap between
Academia and Industry through Innovation**

DAY	DATE	PROGRAMME	STRATEGIC EMPHASIS	VENUE	TIME
1	Mon. 17 Aug	Official Launch	Set The University's Innovation Ambition Publicly	PCU Auditorium	10 AM – 12 PM
2	Tue. 18 Aug	Faculty Masterclass I	"Teaching in the Age of Artificial Intelligence: Relevance, Integrity and the Future-Ready UPSA Classroom"	PCU Auditorium	9 AM – 3 PM
3	Wed. 19 Aug	Faculty Masterclass II	"Research in Action: Translating Faculty Knowledge into Enterprise, Policy and Societal Value"	PCU Auditorium	9 AM – 3 PM
4	Thu. 20 Aug	Faculty Masterclass III	"Trends and Innovations in Teaching Pedagogy & Research"	PCU Auditorium	9 AM – 3 PM
5	Fri. 21 Aug	UPSA Innovation Day	Public Final of the Interdisciplinary Research Business Pitch Competition; Connect Innovations to Adopters, Partners, and Investors.	KOKA, Main Hall	10 AM – 2 PM
6	Sat. 22 Aug	Family Day	Celebrate One UPSA Through Wellness, Creativity, and Family-Centred Innovation.	Rev. J. K. Antwi Astro Turf, UPSA	7 AM – 1 PM

DAY 1 | MONDAY, 17 AUGUST 2026

Official Launch of Innovation Week

Theme: Launching the UPSA Innovation Agenda: From Ideas to Impact

VENUE: PCU Auditorium

TIME: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

TIME	PROGRAMME ITEM	LEAD / RESPONSIBILITY
9:30 AM – 10:00 AM	Arrival and Registration	Protocol / Registration Team
10:00 AM – 10:10 AM	Opening Formalities, Prayer and Introductions	Master of Ceremonies
10:10 AM – 10:20 AM	UPSA Anthem	University Choir
10:20 AM – 10:35 AM	Vice-Chancellor's Keynote <i>"From Ideas to Impact: Building a Future-Ready Entrepreneurial University"</i>	Vice-Chancellor
10:40 AM – 11:10 AM	Industry Response <i>"What Ghand's Innovation Economy Needs from Its Universities"</i>	Industry Leader Access Bank, MD (TBC)
11:10 AM – 11:35 AM	Official Launch of UPSA Innovation Week	Council Chairman
11:35 AM – 11:50 AM	Unveiling of the Week's Programme and Acknowledgement of Partners	MC
11:50 AM – 12:00 PM	Vote of Thanks	TBC
	Official Photograph	MC

Faculty Masterclass I

“Teaching in the Age of Artificial Intelligence: Relevance, Integrity and the Future-Ready UPSA Classroom”

VENUE: PCU Auditorium | **TIME:** 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

TIME	PROGRAMME ITEM	LEAD / RESPONSIBILITY
PART ONE : FOR ALL FACULTIES		
09:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Masterclass: <i>Topic: “Interdisciplinary Research in Practice: Building Cross-Faculty/Student Teams for Enterprise, Policy and Societal Value”</i>	Facilitator(s): Prof. John Kwaku Mensah Mawutor
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM	Health / Refreshment Break	Organising Team
PART TWO: BREAK OUT SESSIONS		
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM	Faculty of Management Studies Venue: PCU Building (Room ...)	
	Time: 1:00 PM-2:00 PM <i>Topic: “Professional Branding and Scholarly Visibility in the Digital Academy”</i>	Facilitator(s): Dr. Akushika Andoh Dr. Kailan Ibn Abdul-Hamid
	Time: 2:00 PM-3:00 PM <i>Topic: “AI and Digital Technology Augmented Teaching and Learning”</i>	Facilitator(s): Prof. Alexander Preko Dr. Frederick Pobee Dr. Timothy Zilevu
	Faculty of Accounting and Finance Venue: PCU Building (Room ...)	
	Time: 1:00 PM-3:00 PM <i>Topic: “From Syllabus to Market-Ready Solutions: Industry-Embedded Teaching and Research”</i>	Facilitator(s): Dr. Joseph Quarshie Mr. Ernest Sogah Dr. Eric Boachie Prof. Gladys Nabieu Prof. Abdullah Mumuni Prof. John Amoh

Faculty Masterclass I

“Teaching in the Age of Artificial Intelligence: Relevance, Integrity and the Future-Ready UPSA Classroom”

VENUE: PCU Auditorium | **TIME:** 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

TIME	PROGRAMME ITEM	LEAD / RESPONSIBILITY
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM	Faculty of Information Technology and Communication Studies (Venue: PCU Building (Room ...))	
	Time: 1:00 PM-1:30 PM Topic: “Collaborative Team Teaching: Coordinated Course Design, Delivery and Results Declaration”	Facilitator(s): Prof. Godfred Yaw Koi-Akrofi
	Time: 1:30 PM-2:00 PM Topic: “Designing Robust Assessment Instruments: Standards, Formatting Protocols and Assessment Integrity”	Facilitator(s): Dr. Joshua Ofoeda
	Time: 2:00 PM-2:30 PM Topic: “Classroom Communication, Management and Learner Engagement in the Modern Lecture Room”	Facilitator(s): Dr. Mohammed Sadat
	Time: 2:30 PM-3:30 PM Activity: Lecturers present a course syllabus of their own design, demonstrating how emergent innovations and contemporary developments have been embedded into course content, delivery and assessment. Format: Four presentations per Department, 10 minutes each, followed by 5 minutes of feedback from a four-member panel. Departmental sessions to run concurrently.	Facilitator(s): For the Department of Information Technology TBC For the Department of Communication Studies TBC
3:00 PM	Closing Remarks by Deans	

Faculty Masterclass II

“Research in Action: Translating Faculty Knowledge into Enterprise, Policy and Societal Value”

VENUE: PCU Auditorium | **TIME:** 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

TIME	PROGRAMME ITEM	LEAD / RESPONSIBILITY
	PART ONE: FOR ALL FACULTIES	
09:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Masterclass: <i>Topic: “Grant Writing Techniques that Win: From Concept Note to Funded Proposal”</i>	Facilitator(s): TBC
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM	Health / Refreshment Break	Organising Team
	PART TWO: BREAK OUT SESSIONS	
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM	Faculty of Management Studies Venue: PCU Building (Room ...)	
	Time: 1:00 PM-2:00 PM <i>Topic: “Experiential Learning in Practice: Embedding Applied Hands-On Sessions into Lecture Delivery”</i>	Facilitator(s): Dr. Mustapha Iddrisu Dr. Robert Neequaye Kotei
	Time: 2:00 PM-3:00 PM <i>Topic: “Student-Led Learning: Peer Instruction, Co-Creation and Active Inquiry in the Classroom”</i>	Facilitator(s): Prof. Anthony Kumasey Prof. Fidelis Quansah
	Faculty of Accounting and Finance Venue: PCU Building (Room ...)	
	Time: 1:00 PM-3:00 PM <i>Topic: “Competitive Grant Writing: Securing External Research Funding for Societal Impact”</i>	Facilitator(s): Mr. Ernest Sogah Dr. Fiifi Insaído Dr. Alice Aboagye Dr. Emmanuel Debrah

Faculty Masterclass II

“Research in Action: Translating Faculty Knowledge into Enterprise, Policy and Societal Value”

VENUE: PCU Auditorium | **TIME:** 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

TIME	PROGRAMME ITEM	LEAD / RESPONSIBILITY
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM	Faculty of Information Technology and Communication Studies (Venue: PCU Building (Room ...))	
	Time: 1:00 PM-1:30 PM <i>Topic: “Building a Compelling Promotion Portfolio: Evidencing Scholarship against the Eligibility Criteria”</i>	Facilitator(s): Professor Godfred Yaw Koi-Akrofi
	Time: 1:30 PM-2:00 PM <i>Topic: “Navigating Peer Review: Strategies for Faster Acceptance in High-Impact Journals”</i>	Facilitator(s): Dr. David Aboagye-Darko Dr. John Demuyakor
	Time: 2:00 PM-2:30 PM <i>Topic: “Harnessing Artificial Intelligence across the Teaching and Research Lifecycle”</i>	Facilitator(s): Dr. Elias Ocquaye Dr. Dickson Keddy
	Time: 2:30 PM-3:30 PM <i>Activity: Lecturers present a course syllabus of their own design, demonstrating how emergent innovations and contemporary developments have been embedded into course content, delivery and assessment.</i> <i>Format: Four presentations per Department, 10 minutes each, followed by 5 minutes of feedback from a four-member panel. Departmental sessions to run concurrently.</i>	Facilitator(s): For the Department of Information Technology TBC For the Department of Communication Studies TBC
3:00 PM	Closing Remarks by Deans	

Faculty Masterclass III

“Trends and Innovations in Teaching Pedagogy & Research”

VENUE: PCU Auditorium | **TIME:** 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

TIME	PROGRAMME ITEM	LEAD / RESPONSIBILITY
PART ONE : FOR ALL FACULTIES		
09:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Masterclass: <i>Topic: “Trends and Innovations in Teaching Pedagogy & Research”</i>	Facilitator(s): TBC
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM	Health / Refreshment Break	Organising Team
PART TWO: BREAK OUT SESSIONS		
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM	Faculty of Management Studies Venue: PCU Building (Room ...)	
	Time: 1:00 PM-3:00 PM <i>Topic: “Embedding Innovation in Course Outline Design: From Learning Outcomes to Assessment”</i> <i>Format: Presentations per Department, 10 minutes each, followed by 5 minutes of feedback from the audience. Departmental sessions to run concurrently.</i>	Facilitator(s): Dr. Kailan Ibn Abdul-Hamid Dr. Abdulai Munkaila
	Faculty of Accounting and Finance Venue: PCU Building (Room ...)	
	Time: 1:00 PM-3:00 PM <i>Topic: “Setting Fit-For-Purpose Examination Questions and Managing the Contemporary Classroom”</i>	Facilitator(s): Prof. Gladys Nabieu Prof. Abdullah Mumuni Prof. John Amoh

Faculty Masterclass III

“Trends and Innovations in Teaching Pedagogy & Research”

VENUE: PCU Auditorium | **TIME:** 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

TIME	PROGRAMME ITEM	LEAD / RESPONSIBILITY
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM	Faculty of Information Technology and Communication Studies (Venue: PCU Building (Room ...))	
	Time: 1:00 PM-1:30 PM <i>Topic: “Presentation on a Proposal for Practical Summative Examination of Skills-Based Curricular Offerings”</i> <i>By: Department of Information Technology</i>	Facilitator(s): Dr. Frank Banaseka Dr. Mohammed Nurudeen Dr. Samuel Attuquayefio
	Time: 1:30 PM-2:00 PM <i>Topic: “Presentation on a Proposal for Practical Summative Examination of Skills-Based Curricular Offerings”</i> <i>By: Department of Communication Studies</i>	Facilitator(s): Ms. Sandra Yeboah Ms. Alice Mensah Ms. Abena K. Duah Mr. Tawfiq Adamu
	Time: 2:00 PM-2:30 PM <i>Topic: “The QUINTET Approach for Leveraging Your Currency as a Lecturer at UPSA”</i>	Facilitator(s): Professor Adwoa Amankwah
	Time: 2:30 PM-3:30 PM <i>Activity: Lecturers present a course syllabus of their own design, demonstrating how emergent innovations and contemporary developments have been embedded into course content, delivery and assessment.</i> <i>Format: Four presentations per Department, 10 minutes each, followed by 5 minutes of feedback from a four-member panel. Departmental sessions to run concurrently.</i>	Facilitator(s): For the Department of Information Technology TBC For the Department of Communication Studies TBC
3:00 PM	Closing Remarks by Deans	

DAY 5 | FRIDAY, 21 AUGUST 2026

UPSA Innovation Day

“Theme: Turning Innovation into Enterprise and Policy to Contribute to National Development”

VENUE: Kofi Ohene Konadu Auditorium, Main Hall | **TIME:** 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

TIME	PROGRAMME ITEM	LEAD / RESPONSIBILITY
9:30 AM – 10:00 AM	Arrival and Registration	Organising Team
10:00 AM – 10:10 AM	Welcome Remarks	Vice-Chancellor
10:10 AM – 10:20 AM	Announcement of Judging Criteria and Pitch Protocol	Head Judge
10:20 AM – 11:20 AM	Interdisciplinary Research Pitch Session I	Student Teams / Judges
11:20 AM – 11:40 AM	Faculty Prototype Demonstration(s)	Faculty Innovator(s)
11:40 AM – 11:50 AM	Musical Interlude	Logistics / Partnership Team
11:50 AM – 12:50 PM	Interdisciplinary Research Pitch Session II	Student Teams / Judges
12:45 PM – 1:05 PM	Judges' Deliberation Musical Interlude	Judges / Audience
1:05 PM – 1:30 PM	Partner Conversation <i>Pathways to Adoption, Incubation, Commercialisation and Policy Uptake</i>	Invited Companies, Banks, Regulators & Development Partners
1:30 PM – 1:50 PM	Awards, Citations, Recognition of the Pioneer Cohort and Vice-Chancellor's Innovation Charge	Vice-Chancellor
1:50 PM – 2:00 PM	Vote of Thanks	Programme Chair
	Official Photograph and Media Engagement(s)	Organising Team

Family Day

“Theme: One UPSA, One Community”

VENUE: Rev. J. K. Antwi Astro Turf, UPSA | **TIME:** 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

TIME	PROGRAMME ITEM	LEAD / RESPONSIBILITY
7:00 AM	Arrivals	Welfare / Sports Team
8:00 AM – 8:10 AM	Welcome Message	Registrar
8:10 AM – 12:50 PM	Inter-Unit Games and Friendly Challenges	Sports Team / Volunteers
	Young Makers Corner: Design, Build and Storytelling Activities	Student Volunteers / Facilitators
	Wellness Session: Healthy-Workplace Habits	Wellness Facilitator
	Family Creativity Showcase and Talent Moments	Participants / MC
	Recognition and Prizes	Awards / Welfare Team
12:50 PM – 1:00 PM	Closing Message and Departure	Vice Chancellor



VICE-CHANCELLOR'S INITIATIVE

Office of the Vice-Chancellor
University of Professional Studies, Accra



Copyright 2026
Public Affairs Directorate
www.upsa.edu.gh