

ASHESI UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION

Educating ethical, entrepreneurial
leaders in Africa



ASHESI

HOW WILL TODAY'S YOUNG LEADERS SHAPE AFRICA'S FUTURE?

By 2030, Africa's workforce is expected to expand by more than the rest of the world's combined, and it will be home to more than a quarter of the world's total population under the age of 25. The success or failure of the continent will be felt by the entire world.

By investing in Africa's young minds and leaders, we can ensure that the continent is prepared for its pivotal global role and will be able to harness this unique demographic as a force for good and for progress.

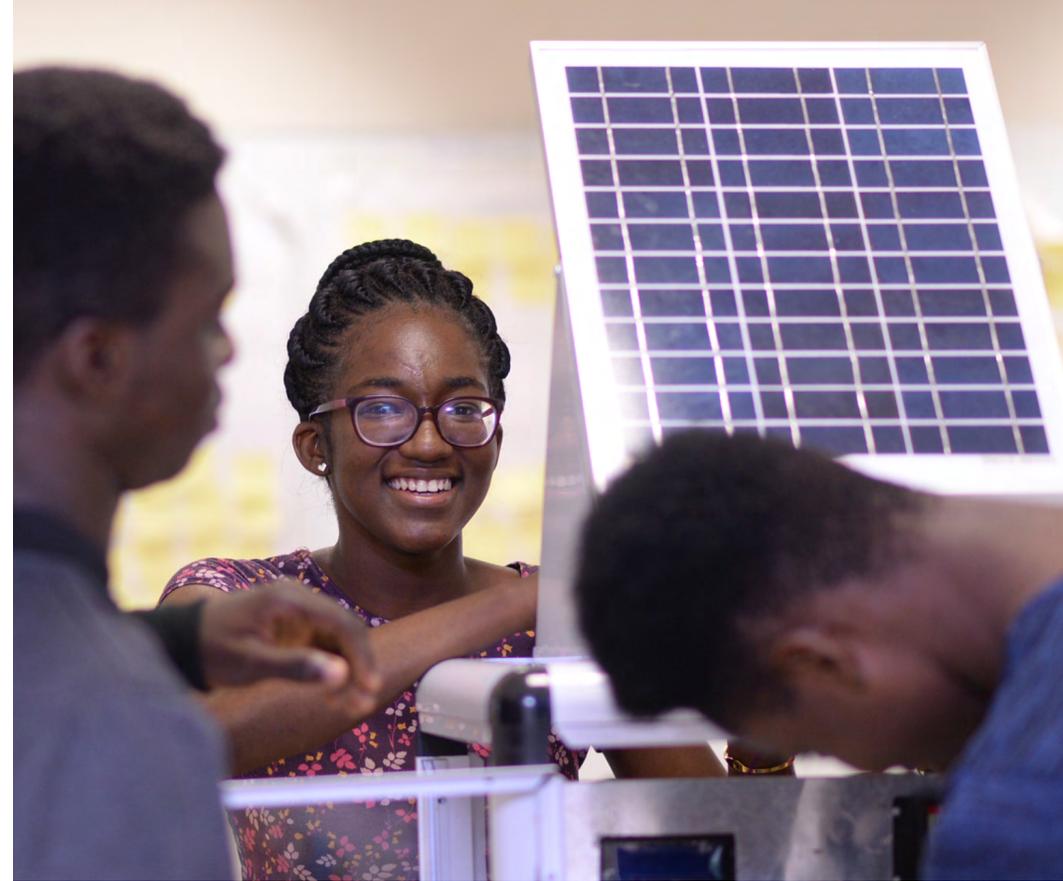


ASHESI PREPARES STUDENTS TO CREATE PROGRESS IN AFRICA

Since 2002, Ashesi has offered African students a high quality, 4-year education on their home continent that fosters ethics, innovation, and entrepreneurship in a diverse community. Our nearly 1,200 students and 1,600+ graduates have earned a reputation for integrity, an entrepreneurial mindset, and exceptional professional skills.

Ashesi combines a rigorous liberal arts core with degree programs in Computer Science, Business Administration, Management Information Systems, and Engineering. A student-led honor code, integrated community service, diverse internships, and real-world projects prepare students to develop innovative solutions for local challenges.

Ashesi is also a growing hub for global collaborations, education exchanges, and entrepreneurial ventures, and is a leading influencer in Africa's higher education landscape.



GLOBAL RECOGNITION

Ashesi has been featured in...

Forbes

Stanford **SOCIAL INNOVATION** REVIEW
Informing and inspiring leaders of social change

BBC

TED

CNN

re:Work

Over Ashesi's history, the university has been recognized in Africa and around the world for raising the bar for higher education on the continent. Ashesi is the youngest university in Ghana's history to have been granted a Presidential Charter, and its founder Patrick Awuah has received the WISE Prize for Education and is a MacArthur Fellow.

Tackling real-world challenges

Hands-on learning is woven through our curriculum to help students master concepts and develop critical thinking skills. In Foundations of Design and Entrepreneurship, freshmen hit the ground running by working in teams to conceptualize and launch startups. The year-long course imparts students with integral skills they'll employ throughout their years at Ashesi.

Learning by doing is further emphasized in each academic department. First-year engineering students design and build solar-powered smart irrigation systems for rural farmers (pictured above). These systems detect when fresh water or soil is needed and when to power on or off.

In building the irrigation systems, students gain experience in computer modeling and programming, along with familiarity with Ashesi's engineering workshop. "I grew as an engineering student," said Radiatu Mohammed '20. "From computer-aided modeling with applications like SolidWorks and MATLAB, to learning how to cut, drill and build pumps, the experience taught me a lot about how to approach and solve problems."



LEADERS AS DIVERSE AS THEIR CONTINENT

Africa's future leaders must fully represent the continent's diverse communities. Therefore, Ashesi recruits top students from varied socio-economic, national, ethnic, and religious backgrounds. Ashesi graduates design solutions with a deep understanding of community needs.

DIVERSITY AT ASHESI



24 African countries are represented

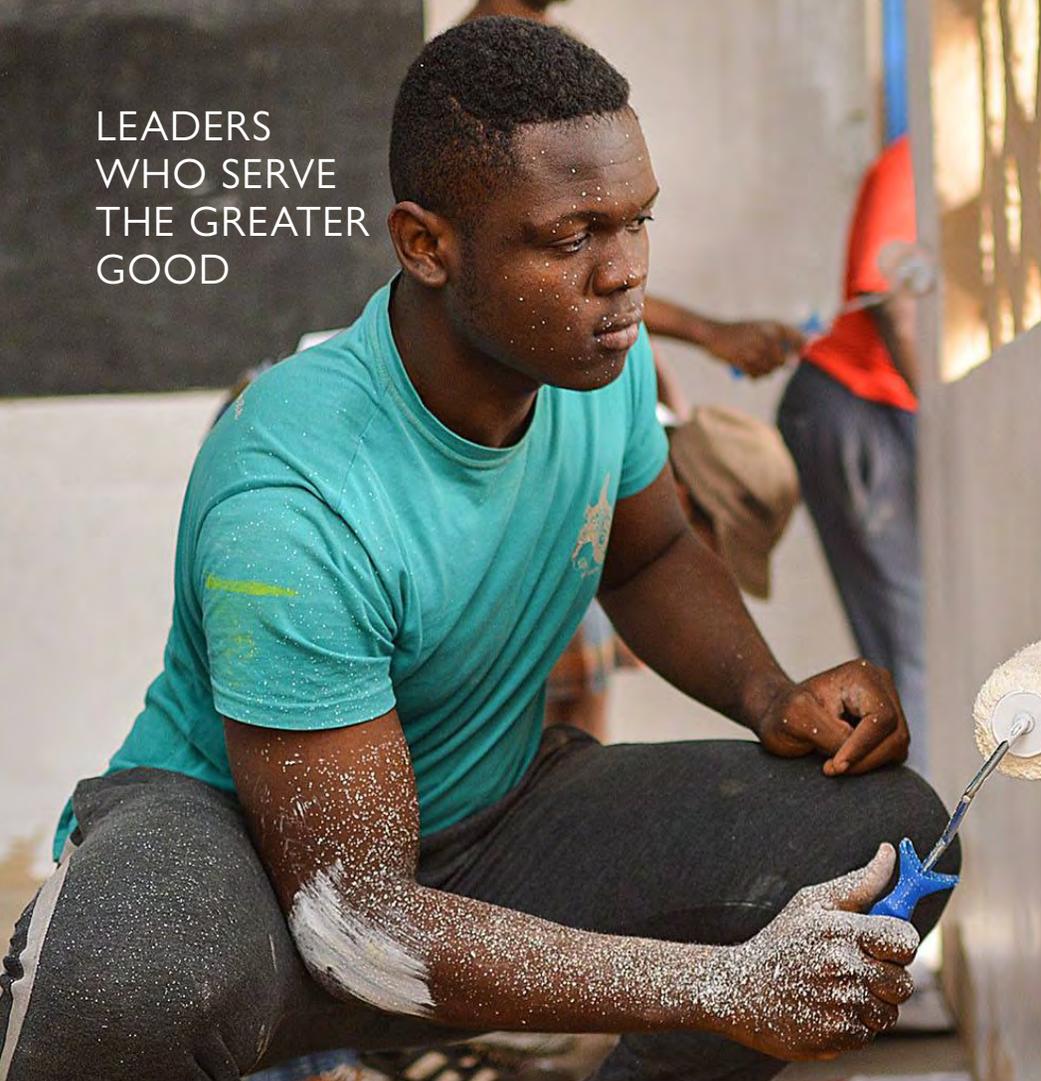


43% of students are on scholarship



48% of students are women

LEADERS WHO SERVE THE GREATER GOOD



Honor code

In keeping with our values of ethics and leadership, after committing to the honor code Ashesi students take all examinations without proctors. The Code is a step towards sustaining our high-trust community and puts students in charge of their own ethical posture.



Leadership seminar series

Interdisciplinary seminars promote ethics and foster a commitment to leadership as service. In Giving Voice to Values, freshmen simulate real-world value conflicts. “By listening to how alumni and staff have dealt with compromising situations, it is easier to relate,” said Dzifa Hodey ’20. “When confronted with similar situations, I can also look at different perspectives and hopefully make a good judgement.” In subsequent series, students explore such questions as:

- What is a good society?
- What are the most fundamental rights of humanity?
- How do we best achieve a balance of liberty, efficiency, and equality?
- What impact do national governments have on the trajectory of nations?

Community service

Through Ashesi’s core curriculum, students learn how to address local challenges. In the Leadership as Service Seminar, seniors work with their local communities to identify ways to foster positive social change. Many students begin their own social initiatives, which have addressed such issues as:

- Environmental stewardship and sustainable agriculture
- Education in technology, science, music, literacy, and health
- Girls’ and women’s empowerment
- Early childhood development
- Youth and entrepreneur mentorship

ALUMNI GROW BUSINESSES AND STRENGTHEN CIVIL SOCIETY

Ashesi alumni graduate with technical excellence in their fields, a deep sense of civic responsibility, and the vision they need to navigate and lead in a changing world. On average, 94% of Ashesi graduates receive job offers, enter graduate school, or launch a business within six months of starting their search. Over 90% of alumni have chosen to stay and work for progress in Africa.

The demand for Ashesi alumni from employers is high. The head of General Electric Ghana once told us, "I only wish I could hire more of your graduates."

Alumni are working in all sectors of the economy: growing local and international businesses, building and sustaining NGOs, and designing solutions to community problems. 1 in 25 graduates starts an entrepreneurial venture when they enter the workforce.



Filling Africa's women's leadership pipeline: Yawa Hansen-Quao '07

At Ashesi, Yawa (pictured sitting) was elected the first female student government president in Ghana's history. Next, she founded Leading Ladies' Network, whose for-profit women's career coaching arm funds mentorship programs for thousands of women and girls. "I want to provide [the women of Africa] the stepping stones to success, to prepare them to participate at every leadership table," says Yawa.



Working for justice: Enid Marful-Sau '07

"Ashesi helped me come out of my shell. As a student, I was forced to learn how to engage an audience and share my opinions and ideas. When I got to law school this was an advantage, because these skills were at the core of law training," says Enid. Now a practicing maritime attorney, Enid considers herself a custodian of Ghana's constitution, and is committed to strengthening its justice system and making it work for society's most vulnerable.



From Ashesi to Google: Thierry Gnanih '13

In 2011, a campus visit from Google sparked an adventure for Thierry that has included two internships and a current role with the tech giant's sub-Saharan Africa Customer Experience team. There, he provides support to small and medium-sized businesses using Google's advertising products in Africa. Thierry considers his Ashesi education indispensable in preparing him for Google. "To thrive [professionally], we must be able to adapt, learn, and apply new skills depending on what problems we have to solve; the liberal education experience at Ashesi, I have come to learn, teaches just that."



PARTNERS MOVE US FORWARD

In the Ashesi Dartmouth Engineering project, pictured above, faculty and students from the two universities collaborated to develop solutions to global-scale engineering challenges.

This partnership is one of many, all of which play an important role at Ashesi by strengthening our curriculum and programs and expanding opportunities for students and faculty.

Discover more Ashesi partners at ashesi.org/partners

PARTNERS INCLUDE

THE COLLEGE OF
WOOSTER

Student and faculty exchanges



Community service grants



Visiting faculty

Goldman Sachs

Internships



mastercard foundation

Scholarships



Student initiative grants

EXTENDING OUR IMPACT

The Education Collaborative

The Education Collaborative at Ashesi brings together a consortium of institutions committed to driving high-impact education innovations as the catalyst for Africa's transformation. Participants include public and private colleges and universities across Africa as well as a select group of secondary level institutions in Ghana. Launched in 2017, the Collaborative is grounded in the tenets of an Ashesi education: Scholarship, Leadership, Citizenship, Ethics, and Entrepreneurship. Alongside an annual gathering in Ghana, the Collaborative includes:

- Conferences and workshops for university stakeholders
- Targeted mentorship and consulting programs
- A high school engagement program, "Ashesi Before Ashesi"
- Year-round support via online engagement and in-person resources

Each participant has the potential to impact multitudes of colleagues and students. In eighteen years of operation, just over 1,600 students have graduated from Ashesi University. Utilizing Ashesi's learnings thus far, the Collaborative has the potential to impact over 1 million students across Africa.



The Ghana Climate Innovation Center

The Ghana Climate Innovation Center (GCIC) is a green project incubation hub on campus where entrepreneurs can access support to transform their innovative ideas into strong and viable businesses. Partners include infoDev, the World Bank Group, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, the Embassy of Denmark, and Ernst & Young.

One such entrepreneur is the Ghana Bamboo Bikes Initiative, a social enterprise that addresses climate change, poverty, rural-urban migration, and youth unemployment by creating jobs for young people, especially women, through the building of bamboo bicycles.

CURRENT PRIORITIES TO EXPAND OUR IMPACT

Ashesi can do even more for Africa — with your help. Your gift helps Ashesi to enroll more students, launch new programs, and provide more scholarships to students in need. Please give at ashesi.org/donate. Your gift will support our current priorities:

Building urgently needed student housing

On-campus housing provides an immersive experience that helps foster a sense of community among students who come from diverse national, socio-economic, and religious backgrounds. Our goal is to provide on-campus accommodation for 100% of first-year students so that they can begin their studies with a complete Ashesi immersion.

Empowering faculty to research and innovate

Supporting research and faculty development strengthens the academic and personal growth of both faculty and students and helps Ashesi expand its track record of impact and excellence. Your gift helps us invest in faculty research, support, and training and ensures Ashesi remains at the forefront of African research, innovation, and entrepreneurship.

Growing the Education Collaborative

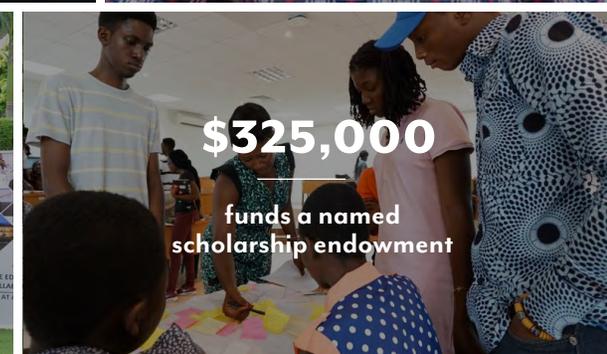
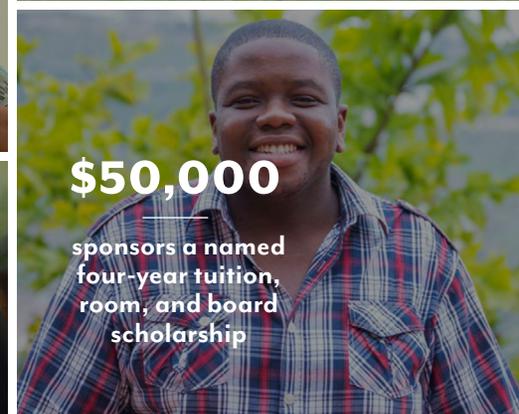
The Education Collaborative is a substantial vehicle to scale Ashesi's impact and reach throughout Africa. Your contribution supports the Education Collaborative's operations and growth, thereby helping us spread our impact exponentially across Africa.

Funding more student scholarships

Our goal is to maintain our commitment to providing scholarships to 50% of students. Your support also helps ensure that emergency scholarships are available to families who need additional support due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Gifts of all sizes to the scholarship fund are pooled together and 100% of the funds go directly to the university.

For details on these priorities, and how you can help, visit ashesi.org/priorities

GIFTS OF ALL SIZES CHANGE LIVES AT ASHESI



LET ASHESI WELCOME YOU

Due to health and safety concerns related to the COVID-19 pandemic, we've made the difficult decision to cancel our 2020 Annual Trip to Ghana and Ashesi Deep Dive.

In the absence of trips this year, we will offer a virtual Deep Dive in October, enabling participants to connect with the incredible work happening at Ashesi and the people who make it possible. Visit ashesi.org/get-involved/deep-dive to learn more.

The Annual Trip has been a highlight of Ashesi's calendar for over a decade. We look forward to hosting you in fall 2021 for the Annual Trip and Deep Dive.

Annual Trip to Ghana

Experience Ashesi on campus and beyond as we join students and faculty in the classroom, interact with Ashesi's leadership team and journey throughout Accra to see alumni at work — all while experiencing the rich culture and history of Ghana. For more information, visit ashesi.org/get-involved/annual-trip.

Ashesi Deep Dive

Participants spend two days on campus meeting with the students, faculty, alumni, and university leadership who bring our values to life. For more information, visit ashesi.org/get-involved/deep-dive.





Ashesi University is a private, non-profit liberal arts university in Ghana, West Africa. **Ashesi University Foundation** is a US 501 (c)3 non-profit organization in Seattle, WA that supports Ashesi University.

The mission of Ashesi is to educate a new generation of ethical, entrepreneurial leaders in Africa; to cultivate within our students the critical thinking skills, the concern for others, and the courage it will take to transform their continent.

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