

Ashesi and women's empowerment. . . . Young African women learn to succeed, to lead, and to reach out to others.

Ashesi actively recruits and empowers young women with leadership potential.

- **The Ashesi administration has a strong commitment to gender parity.** Women made up only 27% of the first Ashesi class in 2002. Active recruiting of outstanding young women from across West Africa has raised that to 44%.
- **Our generous scholarship program makes it possible for more women to attend.** About half of all Ashesi students receive need-based financial aid; 20% come from extreme poverty. Many talented students could not attend without aid. Special programs help students who did not have access to a quality high school improve their core skills.
- **Women at Ashesi develop confidence and leadership skills.** In 2006, Ashesi students elected Yawa Osebreh to be the first female University Student Council President in Ghana. Ashesi women have held many student leadership positions, and the student-run "Women's Forum" invites female community leaders to speak on campus. Our pro-active career services department, our emphasis on internships, practical projects, and community service all ensure that Ashesi students graduate ready to make an immediate contribution.

Women have top leadership positions within the Ashesi administration.

- Adzo Ashie, Dean of Student & Community Affairs, previously Research Associate for the National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy in Washington, DC and Education Director for Orphanage Africa.
- Dr. Nana Apt, Dean of Academic Affairs, previously Professor of Sociology and Director of the Centre for Social Policy Studies at the University of Ghana.
- Carol Asamoah, Director of Admissions & Strategic Planning, previously Director of the MBA Career Management Center for Emory University's Goizueta Business School.

Ashesi women graduates are succeeding in Africa and working for change.

Our female graduates hold leadership positions in many fields including finance, computer science, and the non-profit sector. Here are a few especially inspiring profiles:

- **Angela Osei-Kufuor '07 works to strengthen the private sector in Africa** at a local firm that provides capital for local growth opportunities. At Ashesi, she was encouraged to apply for, and was selected to participate in, internships with both Goldman Sachs, London and the Ghana office of the IFC (the private sector arm of the World Bank). Her senior thesis project assessed performance of both NGOs and local banks engaged in microfinance in Ghana.
- **Araba Amusi '07 manages an orphanage and is modernizing their curriculum.** A scholarship student with a degree in computer science, Araba found her community service work at the Village of Hope orphanage so effective and personally fulfilling that she turned down several lucrative job offers in IT to become their Operations Manager. Araba is now reforming the curriculum at the orphanage, teaching basic programming to challenge the children to think critically and gain solid skills for the future. Araba hopes to one day lead a transformation of primary education throughout Ghana, away from memorization and towards more productive learning.
- **A multi-student project reaches out to empower impoverished girls.** All Ashesi students design and execute community service projects to address a local need. In one project, "College for Ama" (COFA), Ashesi female students and faculty host close to one hundred adolescent girls from impoverished rural communities on Ashesi's campus for a week. Many of the girls are from schools with 100% failure rates on high school entry exams. Each rural girl is paired with an Ashesi student mentor who helps guide her through the week—showing these girls that they, too, can one day attend college if they continue their education. (Photos and profiles of COFA, Angela, Araba and others are in our brochure.)

Ashesi University is an African-initiated private, secular, not-for-profit university in Ghana. Our mission 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. Ashesi is a catalyst for locally-led progress.