



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

*University of Guyana / Greater Georgetown / Guyana / Tuesday, December 6, 2022*

*“UG changed my life, and now I will be able to help heal others” – Shineika Cort*



*Shineika Shadae Precious Cort – Bachelor’s Degree in Pharmacy*

Shineika Shadae Precious Cort, 22, recalls finding her zeal and enthusiasm for pharmacy while being engaged in her work-study stint at the St. Joseph Mercy Hospital. She was encouraged

to register at the University of Guyana to read for a Degree in Pharmacy and come December 9, 2022, she will proudly graduate with a Bachelor's Degree in Pharmacy.

Ms Cort recalled: "After working with the pharmacists and pharmacy technicians, I was inspired to become a Pharmacist. I knew I would be able to become a pharmacist once I applied to the University of Guyana, and now I can say I have come to the end of this journey successfully. UG changed my life, and now I will be able to help heal others."

According to Ms Cort, one of her fond moments occurred while being a part of the Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship Club at the Turkeyen Campus. "I remember the first day the Club transitioned to outdoors on the lawns near the Library. We truly had a grand time and it was admirable seeing students participating in the activities. It warmed my heart knowing how comfortable it felt to be able to worship in the open and share God's word with our peers," she expressed.

Though Ms Cort was striding on a strong trajectory to complete her Degree, this took a sudden downturn as her mother's health declined during her final year of studies. She said: "For months while trying to cope with the different challenges that arose from my studies, I was in and out of doctors' offices trying to figure out what was responsible for my mother's major decline in health."

Due to the severity of her mother's symptoms, her mother was unable to work. Cort expressed: "My mom was in a state you wouldn't want to see anyone you hold dear to your heart. It was bittersweet, scary and overwhelming."

Luckily, Cort's mother was able to receive the right diagnosis and the accompanying correct treatment so that her recovery has led to her being re-employed.

Cort expressed gratitude and appreciation to her friends and family members who helped her cope along the journey. In sharing words of encouragement to persons wishing to attend the University of Guyana, Cort said: "If you fall on hard times, do not give up, remember your goals and work towards them even if you have to repeat a course or take a leave of absence and return. Whatever you do, do not give up."

This year, the graduation exercises will be blended with the majority of the graduands attending face-to-face and the remaining participating virtually. The event will be streamed live on the University's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/uniofguyana> and on UG Broadcasting Service at <https://broadcasting.uog.edu.gy/>.

For the Turkeyen graduands, there will be four different ceremonies for clusters of different faculties/schools/divisions as follows:

**Friday, December 9, 2022 - from 10 am to 12 noon**

College of Medical Sciences (CMS)

College of Behavioural Sciences and Research (CoBRES)

Faculty of Agriculture and Forestry (FAF)

Faculty of Earth and Environmental Sciences (FEES)

Institute of Distance and Continuing Education (IDCE)

School of Entrepreneurship and Business Innovation

**Friday, December 9, 2022 - from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm**

Faculty of Engineering and Technology (FET)

Faculty of Natural Sciences (FNS)

**Saturday, December 10, 2022 - from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon**

Faculty of Education and Humanities (FEH)

**Saturday, December 10, 2022 - from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm**

Faculty of Social Sciences

**The ceremony for the UGBC graduands will be held on Saturday, December 17, 2022, at 15:30 h (3:30 pm) on the University Lawns, Berbice Campus, Tain Settlement.**

**UG IN BRIEF**

The University of Guyana, now in its 59th year, was founded in October 1963. "UG" as it is fondly referred to offers 150 programmes in over 60 disciplines in online, face-to-face or blended formats. UG delivers in a Guyana-based system across eight campuses. It is the largest, oldest, most advanced and only state University in Guyana with a student population of over

10,000. “UG” has provided education, training and research for over 50,000 alumni over its 59-year history. UG’s national and global impact and footprint are significant. Its graduates have risen to populate the commanding heights of national, regional and international organisations of repute in over 150 different disciplines. The mission of the University is to discover, generate, disseminate and apply knowledge of the highest standard for the service of the community, the nation, and all mankind within an atmosphere of academic freedom, innovation and universal respect.

UG’s forward-thinking Blueprint 2040 is currently setting the course for the University’s future design and institutional response to the changing needs of Guyana, the region and the world. UG will celebrate its 60th anniversary in 2023 and is stepping up its focus on becoming one of the leading and most sought-after educational institutions in the world for both staff and students.

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