

PRESS RELEASE

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From Buildings to Legacy: WUST Celebrates a Milestone in Its Journey

“We now have the buildings—it’s time to build the legacy,” declared WUST Chancellor [Abubokor Hanip](#) as he addressed staff during a special celebration marking the university’s milestone achievement of acquiring its own campus facilities.

“Today is truly a proud moment. I want to credit all of you—your dedication and hard work made this possible,” Mr. Hanip said during the staff appreciation luncheon held on Wednesday, April 8.

Reflecting on the university’s remarkable progress, he described how a long-cherished dream became reality through the acquisition of two buildings within just one year—WUST’s own campus building at 2900 Eisenhower Avenue and the adjacent property at 2800 Eisenhower Avenue. He also acknowledged WUST President [Dr. Hasan K. Burk](#) for his unwavering support throughout the process, noting that such a significant achievement would not have been possible without his commitment.

“Nothing can be achieved alone,” Mr. Hanip emphasized, while also recognizing [Mrs. Hanip](#), CFO of WUST, for her continuous encouragement and support in taking this major step forward.

Later, Mrs. Farhana Hanip reflected on the university’s early days, recalling how key decisions and bold actions shaped the institution from the very beginning. “We purchased a university during the challenging days of COVID-19—but we did it,” she said proudly. She credited the collective efforts of the entire WUST team, including President Dr. Hasan K. Burk, Vice Presidents Dr. Jeffery Pirim, Dr. Shane Choe, deans [Prof. Apostolos Eliopoulos](#) and [Dr. Mark Robinson](#), as well as directors and managers, for helping make today’s success possible.

President Dr. Hasan K. Burk praised Mr. Hanip’s strong vision and determination, highlighting his clear commitment to building a university equipped with comprehensive facilities and long-term academic excellence.

“Buildings are important, no doubt—but I want to see WUST become a premier private institution of education for everyone. That is my goal,” Mr. Hanip added. “Degree–Skill–Career is not just a dream—it is the mission we will achieve together.”

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He expressed gratitude to every staff member, from front desk personnel to senior leadership, for their contributions. “Keep working hard—every effort will pay off,” he said, while also sharing that the leadership team is now focused on developing a dedicated dormitory for students as part of the university’s next phase of growth.

Mr. Hanip extended special thanks to the Bank of Clarke for its trust and financial partnership in supporting the development of the WUST campus. The bank’s president, [Alex Saidii](#), who attended the event, expressed his appreciation for Mr. Hanip’s vision and his satisfaction in supporting an educational initiative of this scale.

Also present was [Mr. Andrew Colangelo](#), Managing Partner of Clarefield Partners, who commended Mr. Hanip’s dedication and perseverance in achieving this milestone.

[Mr. Siddique Sheikh](#), a member of the WUST Board of Directors, reflected on the institution’s journey and described it as a true example of how goal-oriented efforts can lead to meaningful success.

WUST Vice President Dr. Shane Choe, one of the university’s earliest team members, noted that under Mr. Hanip’s leadership the institution has continued to achieve a new milestone every two years: a new name in 2022, relocation to a new campus in 2024, and ownership of another building in 2026—while continuing to look ahead toward even greater achievements.

The session was moderated by WUST Marketing Director [Mr. Jose Ortega](#).

The celebration concluded with everyone enjoying the luncheon, followed by informal conversations, networking, and rapport building among colleagues as they reflected on the university’s inspiring journey and exciting future.

Prof. Mahmood Menon Khan

Assistant Professor and Coordinator, CS/IT Labs

Email: mahmood.khan@wust.edu

Web: www.wust.edu