

# DECC



**Department of Events, Conferences and Communication**

Office of the Vice-Chancellor, *University of Guyana*

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UNIVERSITY of GUYANA

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

*University of Guyana / Greater Georgetown / Guyana / Friday, December 9, 2022*

***UG Winner - Merecia Younge - Bachelor's Degree in Pharmacy*** “A failure is one [who] gives up after failing to get something done without trying again. UG taught me that winners never quit...”



### ***Merecia Younge - Bachelor's Degree in Pharmacy***

25-year-old Merecia Younge, an aspiring pharmacist, is graduating with a Bachelor's Degree in Pharmacy.



This budding Pharmacist expressed: “My passion is to help others in need and those I can reach by sharing my knowledge and expertise to promote better health and lifestyle in my community is the reason for my chosen programme.”

Like many other graduands, Younge came onto campus with many misconceptions about UG. She shared some of these with us, “One of the biggest misconceptions I had about UG [was] that UG [was] a free ride. This is not so! You have to remain vigilant and focused and remember why you chose to be there. UG made me realise that you wouldn’t be handed things on a platter but you have to be passionate and driven to achieve the goals you set.”

In the quest for academic success, Younge encountered severe health challenges that made her question her ability to successfully step over the finish line. She spoke: “In my last year I ended up in the hospital sick, unnoticed by many, and unsure if I would make it through to achieve a goal I set for myself and be the first person in my family to complete University with a degree. Laying on that hospital bed, I thought maybe I should quit because at that moment nothing mattered and I was exhausted mentally and physically. I was upset because it all seemed unfair just when I was coming to the end of my academic journey.”

Younge added: “I coped with these challenges through my faith in Jesus Christ, praying and the prayers from loved ones while I was mentally, physically and emotionally exhausted. Also, I danced and worshipped as that was, and is a way I relieved my stress and tension.”

In giving words of advice to current and prospective students, Younge urged: “Set a schedule that best suits you, find a lecturer or mentor that can provide guidance to you during your UG years, enjoy the new relationships, cherish every moment because life is short, and try not to cry after a failure, learn from it and don't let it define you. A failure is one [who] gives up after failing to get something done without trying again. UG taught me that winners don’t ever quit.”

This year, UG’s 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/>.

## 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,

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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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