

23rd Congregation (FH) – Congratulatory Address by Professor Winnie CHENG

Graduating students, Parents, Distinguished guests, Faculty Dean and Colleagues

On this momentous day when our graduating students are about to move their tassels from one side to the other, I am most honored and thankful to deliver a congratulatory address to our students and to wish all of you a very good luck for the new beginning in life.

This graduation day of pride and accomplishment is also a time of reflection and a time to prepare for your future.

As graduating students from The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU), you will know PolyU's pledges "Opening Minds • Shaping the Future" as the promise for education and research. What do these pledges mean and how are these pledges achieved? On the website I read some of the ways in which "Opening Minds • Shaping the Future" can be, or have been, achieved, including "Learning to Service, Serving to Learn" and "Bettering the World for All".

Reflect on your studies in the past years. Reflect on what you have learned from your academic programme. Also reflect on the wide range of different PolyU, faculty, departmental and external activities and events that you have taken part in, and perhaps organised. Think not only about how hard, and how meaningful, you have worked to get to where you are, but also in what ways your intellectual capacity has grown, your abilities have developed, your perspectives have broadened, and, more importantly, in what ways you have contributed, even in a small way, to the community and the society.

Preparing for your future could involve taking steps to better yourself. The steps can lead to career success and personal fulfillment. Preparing for your future could involve setting priorities for family, health and leisure. Preparing for your future could, and should, also involve setting the life goals of "Working to Service, Serving to Work" and "Bettering the World for All". How to attain these goals would depend on different circumstances and other contextual factors. As the saying goes, "Social responsibility is no longer optional for businesses"; the goals of "Working to Service, Serving to Work" and "Bettering the World for All" are no longer clichés but deeply ingrained in our lives and in our culture.

A new stage in your life starts today. Embrace it! The future is exciting!

From the bottom of my heart, congratulations on the graduation!

各位畢業同學、各位家長、各位嘉賓、院長和各位同事，大家好！

今天是個非常重要的日子，因為我們的畢業同學很快便會把畢業帽上的流蘇由一邊撥到另一邊，象徵著從大學畢業。我很榮幸獲邀在此向畢業同學致辭，並祝賀各位在人生的新篇章裡一切順利！

畢業日，既是同學們為自己的成就感到自豪的日子，也是同學們不斷思考，為自己的未來做準備的日子。

作為香港理工大學的畢業生，你們對理大的教研承諾——「啟迪思維·成就未來」不會感到陌生。但這句話是什麼意思？又如何實現這個承諾呢？我曾在校方網頁上看到達成這個承諾的一些方法，其中包括「學以致用、關顧社群」以及「改善世界、持續發展」等等。

請各位回顧一下過去幾年的學習生涯，回顧一下你們從課程中學到的知識，也回顧一下你們參與以至組織過的校內、院系內以及校外的活動。

你們不僅要思考為達到今天的成就，自己付出了多大的努力，它具有怎樣的意義，也要想想自己的知識有何增長、能力有何發展、視野如何有所拓寬；而更重要的是，你們對社會作出了何種貢獻，那怕只是一點點。

要為自己的未來做準備，就需採取一系列步驟來提升自我。這些步驟有助於事業的成功和實現自我價值。要為自己的未來做準備，就需要學會在家庭、健康和閒暇方面取得平衡。要為自己的未來做準備，你們還不要忘記將「學以致用、關顧社群」以及「改善世界、持續發展」設定為自己的人生目標。而如何實現這些目標，則取決於眾多的環境和因素。人們常說，「社會責任對企業而言已不再是可有可無」；「學以致用、關顧社群」及「改善世界、持續發展」的目標也不再是陳腔濫調，而是成為深深植根於我們的生活和文化中的一種信念。

人生的新階段始於今天，請盡情擁抱它吧！未來令人神往！

衷心祝願各位同學前程遠大！