

Congratulatory Address

(By Ir Dr CHAN Fuk Cheung, BBS,
Former General Manager of CLP Engineering Limited and Outstanding PolyU Alumni 2013)


It gives me great pleasure to congratulate you all, the graduates of the Faculty of Humanities, on the occasion of your graduation. Your graduation marks a milestone in your expertise and lays solid foundation of your coming career. I am sure our society will be better served with the skills you have gained from our PolyU postgraduate courses enabling you to overcome various difficulties that you will encounter.

For the past two and half years, our world is suffered from the COVID-19 pandemic. We have experienced an unprecedented shift in our way of life. From travel restrictions being in place, International Students and collaborations have been significantly reduced compared to pre-COVID times; to face mask and social distancing, universities are being mixed mode of teachings with a combination of face-to-face with online lectures. Today our Congregation is also held in a hybrid mode. Many of us have adapted to working from home, minimising travelling on public transport and group meetings in the office. Zoom and Microsoft Teams meetings even became our New Normal. In the times post-pandemic, economies around the world have adapted the use of new technologies and innovations to evolve after the pandemic. COVID-19 was a crisis but the New Normal contains many opportunities for you to capture.

These days, organisations are seeing lifelong learning as a core component in employee development. To enrich our innovation capabilities to contribute, we need to enhance our knowledge in all aspects in coming years. Your pursuit in a postgraduate course is a kind of formal learning. On the other hand, informal learning is the key component to enrich knowledge, particularly to meet the required organisation needs. In fact, knowledge is an important catalyst to promote innovation. I strongly advise that a good habit be formed in pursuit of lifelong learning. Remember to ask yourself two questions regularly: What have I learned in the past six months? What is my plan to learn in the coming six months?

Of course, the next question you may ask is what area I should expand to enhance my knowledge? There are many new technologies like 5G, AI, IoT, Blockchain, Metaverse, etc. and should I put them as my new knowledge? My answer to you is “Yes”. Even if you are not an engineer or technologist related to those new technologies like 5G, AI, IoT, etc., you still need to understand some in-depth details or at an appropriate level of mastery in order to engage experts to help to use them to achieve organisational goal.

Let me give you an example of one of our graduates, Dr Enrico Santus, who is our Outstanding Young Alumni Award in Professional Achievement of PolyU Faculty of Humanities 2022. He obtained a Ph.D in Computational Linguistics at the Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies of the PolyU in 2016. He expanded his skill from basic language to Digital Humanities area, including Natural Language Processing, Computational Linguistics, and Argument Complexity. Indeed, all these related to Artificial Intelligence and Big Data. In his previous workplace, he contributed to the exploration, design and implementation of numerous AI solutions for pharmaceutical and crops sciences. Most recently he has switched to human computation at



the world's primary distributor of financial data. Expanding your horizon is therefore the target for a new knowledge. We are now in a New Normal, a fast pace of knowledge economy; learning a new knowledge, from beginner to mastery, in a short period of time to achieve an appropriate level of competency is required in order to innovate. I suggest you adopt a good learning method, called "Ultra-Learning". There are 9 principles for this fast-learning method as suggested by the book "Ultra-Learning" written by Scott Young. To catch up with the knowledge economy, fast learning is essential in this New Normal era. In the word "Learn", if you can quickly remove in a short period the learner's name plate "L", the word becomes "Earn" and hence you earn that new knowledge for application.

Forming a habit of Lifelong learning, expanding your knowledge horizon, acquiring the required competency rapidly are areas that I would like to share with you all today. The road ahead will be long and full of challenges. With effort and determination, I hope you will bring success to realise your dreams to make the impossible possible. I look forward to seeing you all serving our society better with more good contributions.

To conclude, let me congratulate you once again on your graduation, and offer you my encouragement and good wishes. I wish you all every success in future endeavours.

CONGREGATION



祝賀辭

(英文原文由中電工程有限公司前總經理及2013年傑出理大校友

陳福祥博士、工程師，BBS撰述)

我非常榮幸，今天能祝賀人文學院的同學畢業。畢業，是大家修習專業知識的一個里程碑，會為你們將來的工作奠定堅實基礎。我相信，你們會運用從理大研究生課程中學到的技能造福社會，克服未來遇到的各種困難。

過去兩年半，全球深受新冠疫情所困，我們的生活方式經歷了前所未有的轉變。因旅遊限制影響，與新冠疫情爆發前相比，國際學生人數大不如前，國際上的院校合作亦顯著減少。為了應對口罩帶來的不便，以及保持社交距離，大學結合面授及網上課堂，採取了混合教學模式，今天的典禮亦同樣以混合模式舉行。許多人已適應了在家工作，亦盡量避免乘搭公共交通工具或在辦公室開會。在Zoom和Microsoft Teams上開會，甚至已成為了新常態。在疫情後的時代，世界各地的經濟體已習慣使用各種新技術及創新產品，與時並進。新冠疫情無疑是一場危機，但新常態也帶來了不少你們能夠把握的機會。

如今，各式各樣的機構組織，均視終身學習為員工發展的核心部分。為了加強我們的創新能力以貢獻社會，我們需要在未來數年增進各方面的知識。你們修讀的研究生課程屬於正規教育，但另一方面，非正規教育同樣是豐富知識的關鍵一環，在滿足機構組織的需求方面尤其重要。事實上，知識是促進創新的重要催化劑。我強烈建議大家養成終身學習的習慣，記得要經常問自己兩個問題：過去六個月，我學到了甚麼？接下來的六個月，我有何學習計劃？

當然，你可能會問：我應該增長哪些領域的知識？5G、人工智能、物聯網、區塊鏈、元宇宙等大量新技術湧現，我是否應該學習這些方面的新知識？我給你的答案是：應該。即使你並非與5G、人工智能、物聯網等新技術相關的工程師或專家，你仍然需要深入了解一些細節，或掌握一定程度的知識，以便接觸相關的專家，協助組織使用這些技術達到目標。

我舉個例子。我們的畢業生，Enrico Santus博士，他是2022年理大人文學院「傑出青年校友專業成就獎」得主。他在2016年完成了中文及雙語學系計算語言學博士學位，將自身的基礎語言技能拓展至數碼人文領域，包括自然語言處理、計算語言學及複雜性論證學，這些範疇實際上都與人工智能及大數據相關。早前，他為製藥與作物科學探索、設計，並實施了許多人工智能技術。最近，他已轉到一間全球金融數據主要提供負責人工計算的工作。學習新知識，就是為了開拓自身眼界。

我們正處於知識經濟快速發展的新常態。學習新的知識，並在短時間內精通，達到一定的能力水平，是創新的必備條件。我建議大家採用名為「超速學習」(Ultra-Learning)的良好學習方法。Scott Young在其著作「超速學習」中提出，這個快速學習方法有九項原則。要在新常態的時代追上知識經濟，快速學習不可或缺。在「Learn」這個字裏，如果你能在短時間內除去象徵著初學者的「L」，「Learn」就會變成「Earn」，代表你獲得了可以應用的新知識。

今天想跟大家分享的重點，就是養成終身學習的習慣，拓展知識界限，以及迅速獲取所需能力。同學未來任重而道遠，希望大家能夠以努力和決心成功實現夢想，化不可能為可能。我很期待以後看到大家貢獻未來，造福社會。

Congratulatory Address

(By Mr KWAN Chuk-fai, MH, JP, Professor of Practice of Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies and Chairman of The Community Investment and Inclusion Fund, Home and Youth Affairs Bureau, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region)

It is indeed a great honour and pleasure for me to attend the Congregation today. First, I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the graduates for your great accomplishment in academic pursuit and personal development in the past four years. We all know that it was no easy path in the face of the pandemic that impacted your studies as well as the university life in the past three years. From a positive angle, however, the crisis has also brought about opportunities. It was the moment of truth for individuals and organisations which put their resilience under a stress test.

Therefore, my first piece of friendly advice to you is *A for Agile* i.e., maintain resilience and remain agile in handling changes.

In this regard I can share with you that being a teacher we are as agile as you. We learned to teach online, shuffle between Blackboard, Zoom, Teams and the like. To me I also demand a seamless transition between PowerPoint, video, excel and word files during the class, not to mention manage the chat box at the same time. For those joining my Master Class would remember my calling your names for answering quiz. This was one way to ensure that you were awake...In a nutshell, *A for agile* is important for us regardless of our capacity and position.

Today is the start of your long-haul career journey which I am sure will be equally fulfilling and rewarding. It sounds a little anti-climax though when I also assure you that you will bump into ups and downs in the life marathon. From experience there will be trying moments in the journey that require you to face the music and make important decisions. A bold and positive attitude together with a calm mindset will be imperative despite setbacks or any other difficult situations.

My second piece of advice to you is *B for Bold*. Be bold and willing to take responsibility. Just follow your heart to pursue your interest and dream. I would stress that integrity is the backbone of the lifelong journey. *We not only Do the Right Thing but Do It Well to.*

Despite the disruption caused by the pandemic, we are in the age of acceleration brought about by rapid technological advancements. As a result, ideas that were previously regarded as unthinkable have become possible and are materialised. Cloud, Blockchain, NFT are just some of them. Metaverse or Internet 3.0 is around the corner and going to disrupt a lot of modus operandi that we used to. One thing for sure that will not stop is creativity for a better world and a better life.



Dear student, do keep up your curiosity and put on your creative thinking cap. Rooms are wide open for your pursuit.

C not only stands for Creative but also continuous learning. It is important to stay hungry for knowledge, keep enhancing ourselves and on the pulse of the changing trends in the world. We can grasp new opportunities only when we have well equipped ourselves. Moreover, the ability to screen information, condense it into knowledge and insights are essential in the face of flooded information, not to mention there are rampant fake news.

Finally, I would like to share with you a belief that I have been holding dear to my heart since graduation - ***“Make a life, not just a living”***. I will not satisfy for only earning a living. I want to enrich my life to make it meaningful, fulfilling and bring positive impact to the society. While making a living we can also care about people around us and support those in need. Mutual trust and support are all important social capital for the society that is resilient in facing adversity.

To conclude I would very much like to see you being A for Agile, B for Bold, C for creative and continuous learning. So, when you look back after 20, 30, 40 years, you have accomplishments and moments that you take pride. Eventually you can proudly tell yourself and the others that you have made a life, not just a living.

My heartfelt congratulations to you all again and wish you all the very best in future endeavours. Thank you very much.



祝賀辭

(英文原文由中文及雙語學系實務教授、香港特別行政區民政及青年事務局
社區投資共享基金委員會主席關則輝先生，MH，JP撰述)

我很榮幸今天能夠出席這場典禮。首先，我衷心祝賀各位畢業生，過去四年，大家在學術和個人發展方面都取得了驕人的成績。我們很清楚，過去三年的疫情對你們的學業和大學生活造成了很大影響，但從正面的角度看，這場危機亦帶來了不少機遇，也是考驗我們個人和組織韌性的壓力測試。

因此，我想給大家的第一項建議，就是「**A for Agile**」：保持韌性，靈活地應對各種變化。

關於這方面，我可以跟大家分享一些心得。說到靈活，我們老師跟同學相比也不會遜色。我們學會了在網上教學，能夠靈活運用Blackboard、Zoom、Teams等平台。我也能在課堂上流暢地切換PowerPoint、影片、Excel和Word等工具，與此同時還要操作聊天室。我的碩士班學生應該記得，我會點名同學回答問題，令你們保持清醒……總而言之，無論身份地位為何，「A for Agile」，靈活處事，對你我而言都十分重要。

今天，你將展開漫長的職場旅程，我相信這場旅程將會十分充實而富有意義。這樣說可能會有點掃興，但我可以向你保證，在這場人生馬拉松之中，你將會遇到許多跌蕩起伏。經驗告訴我們，你可能會在途中遇上一些艱難的時刻，而你必須勇於面對，作出重要的決定。雖然你會遭遇挫折，或者陷入困難的局面，但你必須培養出大膽積極的態度，以及沉著冷靜的心態。

第二項建議，是「**B for Bold**」：敢於承擔，放膽追求興趣和夢想。我要強調，正直良善是人生的支柱，我們不但要「做」正確的事，還要「做好」正確的事。

疫情固然帶來了不少阻礙，但我們正處於科技急速進步的提速時代，因此以前認為不可思議的想法，如今也能夠實現了。雲端、區塊鏈、NFT，只是其中的一部分。我們即將迎來的元宇宙，即所謂的第三代互聯網，將會顛覆我們過去的做事手法和模式。可以確定的是，造福世界、改善生活的創意，將會繼續不斷湧現。

「**C**」不僅代表「**Creative**」，有創意，亦代表「**Continuous Learning**」，持續學習。我們必須保持對知識的渴求，不斷提升自我，緊貼不斷變化的趨勢。惟有好好裝備自己，才能把握新的機遇。現今社會資訊氾濫、假新聞猖獗橫行，我們必須具備篩選資訊，以及將資訊濃縮為知識與洞見的能力。

最後，我想和大家分享我在畢業後一直堅守的信念：「**Make a life, not just a living**」，「人生不僅僅是為謀生，而是要活出豐盛人生」。我不會只滿足於賺錢謀生，而是要豐富我的生活，使生命充實而有意義，能為社會帶來正面影響。在為生活奮鬥的同時，我們也應關心身邊的人，支持有需要的人。互相信任扶持，是令社會能夠頑強面對逆境的重要資本。

最後，我非常希望看到你們可以藉着「A for Agile」、「B for Bold」、「C for Creative and Continuous Learning」，成為靈活、大膽、有創意，並會持續學習的人。而在20年、30年、40年後，當你回首往事，你會有值得自豪的成就與回憶，最終可以驕傲地告訴自己和別人：「我沒只顧謀生，而是活出了豐盛的人生」。

在此，我再次衷心祝賀各位學業有成，在未來的日子一切順利，謝謝。