

Graduation Ceremony

2018/2019

Speech by President of Macao Polytechnic Institute
Prof. Marcus Im Sio Kei

Good afternoon! Welcome to Macao Polytechnic Institute. First of all, on behalf of Macao Polytechnic Institute, I would like to express our warmest welcome and sincere thanks to our officiating guests of honour, Dr. Fernando Chui Sai On, the Chief Executive, to Dr. Alexis Tam Chon Weng, the Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, to all the distinguished guests from the Central People's Government in Macao Special Administrative Region, Macao SAR government departments, social sectors, representatives of our partnering higher education institutions from Portugal, the United Kingdom, Italy, Hong Kong, Taiwan and other regions, to our graduates and their families and friends, to all the MPI teachers, staff and students, for attending MPI's graduation ceremony for the academic year 2018/2019.

Today, we joyfully witness a historical moment for the 680 excellent graduates from MPI. In the past four years, you have grown up and achieved self-improvement with MPI. You are the participants and living proof of the success of the 16 MPI programmes and academic disciplines which have gained international recognition. MPI is the first Macao higher education institution to win the "National Teaching Achievement Award in 2018", in a national-level award selection which is held every four years by The Ministry of Education. The establishment and development of the MPI Chinese-Portuguese-English Machine Translation Laboratory has built up the world-

leading Chinese-Portuguese machine translation system to serve the Macao SAR government, different sectors of the community and the Portuguese-speaking countries. The MPI students and alumni have won gold, silver and bronze medals in the Asian Games; this achievement has been honoured with the Medal of Merit from the Macao SAR government. MPI students have also become the only students in Macao to have won the national "2018 China Adolescents Science and Technology Innovation Contest". Furthermore, MPI students, in two consecutive years, have won the China College Students "Internet Plus" Innovation and Entrepreneurship Competition organized by the Ministry of Education. All these worthy achievements reflect the national and international recognition of our mode of talent cultivation and excellence of teaching quality.

This year, we celebrate the 70th anniversary of the establishment of the People's Republic of China, the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the Macao Special Administrative Region and the 40th anniversary of China-Portugal diplomatic relations. What a remarkable year 2019 is! My dear graduates, in this remarkable year, this remarkable day of yours marks the beginning of your new journey. As your teacher, I would like to express a few wishes for you.

Firstly, I wish you to remain true to our commitment to be “rooted in Macao and backed up by the Motherland”. Love our city and our country continually, build up your ideals and ambitions with continued excellence, and contribute to our city and our country!

Secondly, I wish you to remain true to our school motto to gain “knowledge, expertise and global vision”. In your future, please go forward with the spirit of “MPI people”: optimistic, brave, open-minded and innovative. Please seize the opportunities from the establishment of “The Belt and Road” and “Greater Bay Area” initiatives. Please live up to this gorgeous generation and make your dreams come true. Please insist on your beliefs, dare to try and bravely go forward!

Thirdly, I wish you to remember that you are proud of MPI today while MPI will continue to be proud of you tomorrow! Dear students, wherever you go, Macao Polytechnic Institute is your home and shield forever. We always

support you on your brave adventure in your wonderful lives. We also welcome you to come back to your alma mater whenever you can, to express your concerns and share your achievements.

Finally, again, I sincerely congratulate all our graduates. I wish you unlimited future prospects. Let me wish all our guests, teachers, students and their families good health and all the best in your bright future.

Thank you.