

Graduation Ceremony 2015/2016

Speech by Chief Executive of Macao SAR
Dr. Chui Sai On

Today, we have joyfully gathered here at the annual graduation ceremony of Macao Polytechnic Institute. To begin with, please allow me to speak on behalf of the Macao SAR Government in extending our heartfelt congratulations to all the graduates and your parents; and to express our highest appreciation and deepest respect to MPI's devoted and committed teaching faculty and staff for their hard work.

Currently, we are living in a competitive world characterised by fierce competition for capable talents. Given that education provides an essential means for nurturing talents, our emphasis on education underscores our unequivocal determination for development. Education thus not only lays a solid foundation to sharpen our overall competitiveness, but also ensures that our residents' living standard can be improved continually.

For this reason, the Macao SAR Government has remained steadfastly committed to prioritising its policy on education development. In the Five-Year Strategic Plan that is being drafted currently, strategies of "Bolstering Macao's Economy by Education" and "Building Macao by Capable Talents" are well-placed in position for implementation. Such policies further highlight our conviction that Macao's future development depends on education, which in turn hinges on innovation.

The Macao SAR Government is now executing its education development policies in full swing, constantly injecting dynamics to quest for innovation, speeding up its efforts to establish a sustained and effective mechanism for developing education and nurturing talents, with a view to buttressing up its overall development from multiple

levels that encompass favourable policies and support structures, investment of resources and mechanism refinement. The tertiary education sector is now calling for a long-term strategic plan, and the Higher Education Law as well as its relevant regulations are still awaiting further reforms; investments into tertiary education can expect to be increased, and the teaching environment and facilities will be upgraded and optimised; government support will be provided for teacher training so that a top-quality and efficient team of teaching faculty and staff can be established to further enhance the overall teaching quality of higher education. The government is also determined to integrate its policy incentives to encourage Macao citizens to receive higher education; to orient Macao's economy towards moderate diversification; and to cultivate talents with multiple capabilities, so as to sharpen our residents' competitive edge and to gear our economic and social development towards a sustainable future.

The Macao SAR Government fully embraces MPI's management philosophy of "Global Vision, Local Roots, and Community Service", applauding its efforts in leveraging the unique features of its programmes to nurture practical talents. We are also impressed by MPI's initiatives to undergo academic reviews by local and overseas education assurance agencies. Subsequent to its successful institution review conducted by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education in the UK, MPI should endeavour to fulfill the three social functions of enhancing teaching and research as well as serving the community; thus making its unique contributions to deepening the exploitation of Macao's human resources and broadening its talents pool.

We hope that, our graduates can put what you have learned from MPI into practice, contribute your intelligence and talents to serving our community and thus reward your parents and teachers for the care and nurturing that you have received from them, and realise your ultimate dreams in life.

Finally, I wish all graduates phenomenal success in their future endeavours; and wish all our guests a very healthy, wealthy and happy life ahead!

Thank you very much!