

Graduation Ceremony

2017 / 2018

Speech by President of Macao Polytechnic Institute Prof. Lei Heong Lok

First of all, on behalf of Macao Polytechnic Institute, I wish to express my warmest welcome to Ms Sonia Chan Hoi Fan, the Acting Chief Executive, Dr. Tam Chon Weng, Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, to all the distinguished guests from government sections, social sectors, peer higher education institutions, to friends, graduating students and their parents, and to MPI colleagues, for attending MPI's graduation ceremony for the academic year of 2017/2018.

Today we joyfully gather here for the graduation ceremony of MPI, the 19th graduation ceremony of MPI that I have presided over.

MPI has a campus that is "small but beautiful and exquisite" now, developed from a school in rented buildings in 1999 on Macao's return to China; it is now a higher education institution with fruitful academic achievements, offering 37 degree programmes

including 22 bachelor degree programmes, 12 master degree programmes and 3 Ph.D degree programmes, with students jointly or independently recruited; it is now one favourite higher education institution among students at home and abroad with about 18,000 graduates; and it is also the first higher education institution in Macao to pass successfully the accreditation by the UK Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA)... Frankly speaking, MPI would not have attained all of these achievements, without the guidance from the Macao SAR Government, concern from all sectors of society, support from peer higher education institutions, and, most importantly, endeavor and cooperation from MPI colleagues!

It is the task of higher education to serve the society with high-level teaching and research of professional standards, and higher education institutions are the specific executants of these worthy goals. The

achievements of MPI, one public higher education institution, authentically mirror the continual development and progress of higher education in Macao, as well as those of society, culture and economy in Macao, since its return to the Motherland.

It is a Chinese virtue to harbor a thankful heart. On this joyful occasion of celebration for the students freshly graduated from MPI to start their new journey of life and for MPI to have fulfilled again its task of cultivating talents for the society, I, on behalf of the MPI Board of Management, would like to express my sincere gratitude and respect to the Macao SAR Government, to all social sectors, to peer higher education institutions, to MPI colleagues, and to friends from Beijing, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Portugal, Britain and America!

The graduation ceremony symbolizes a lifetime milestone for the students, a replenishment chance for the society, and a transitional point for the education sector to carry out its course and forge ahead into the future.

Here and now, the MPI Board of Management sincerely wishes all the graduates a bright and promising future, and looks forward to continuing support from the society for the worthy task of educating our young generation!

Thank you very much!

28 June, 2018