

Season's Message to All Students

23 December 2016

Dear Students,

The first semester is coming to a close. Apart from feeling ecstatic and relaxed at the end of the examination period, I believe you are also thrilled by the excitement of the advent of Christmas and New Year. Christmas is a time to celebrate, to thank persons who have helped us, and to express our love and care for others. It is also a time to reflect on the work since I wrote to you at the beginning of this first semester, and to plan ahead for the new season.

Looking back, the first semester was a fruitful one. I am pleased to see that our students do not just work hard academically but are also keen on their all-round development, evidenced by the outstanding performance in various local, regional and international open competitions, such as:

- the Champion in the Case Competition 2016, Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport;
- the 5 best awards in the China Daily Hong Kong Edition 2015-16 Campus Newspaper Awards;
- “My Favorite Presenter Award” in the EY Young Tax Professional of the Year 2016.

Our students are also keen on the internship and exchange programmes, and voluntary work, thereby broadening their horizons and enhancing their transferrable core competencies. I am indeed impressed by our students' “can-do” spirit, seizing opportunities to challenge themselves in different areas.

Taking the opportunity, I would like to share with you some other major College achievements in the past six months, which I think will be of interest to you:

- The implementation of the Desired Graduate Attributes “iGPS” framework which help students develop the four dimensions of qualities systematically, namely Intellectual Competence (i), Generic Skills (G), Personal Development (P) and Social Engagement (S).

- The granting of a clean pass in the Institutional Review together with the Programme Area Accreditation (PAA) Status of two Areas of Study and Training in “Business and Management” and “Languages and Related Studies” by HKCAAVQ. HSMC would also be soon granted the third PAA in “Mass Media and Communications, Journalism and Public Relations”, subject to the HKCAAVQ’s Final Report.
- Full Implementation of the Residential College (RC) system which provides a combined living and learning environment for the all-round development of students.
- The award of the Platinum rating of BEAM Plus certification to The HSMC Jockey Club Residential Colleges by the Hong Kong Green Building Council, being the fourth of such honour received by HSMC after the same was awarded to the S H Ho Academic Building, the Sports and Amenities Centre, and the Lee Quo Wei Academic Building. HSMC is proud to be the first institution in Hong Kong to have received such a platinum recognition.
- The establishment of the First-Year Study Centre to provide better learning support and experience to Year 1 students through the provision of tutoring services by senior year students for selected first-year foundation modules. The face-to-face tutoring sessions are conducted free of charge.
- The offer of a good array of around 1,000 local and overseas internship opportunities enhancing student exposure and strengthening employability of graduates. Based on a recent independent survey, our graduates were regarded by employers as having good working attitude and interpersonal skills, receptive to new ideas and opinions from others, devoted, responsible and always willing to take up further responsibilities.

All of the above achievements would not have been possible without the unfailing devotion of the College community. Please join hands with me to give a big thanks to our staff members for their support to you and for their contributions to HSMC.

Moving forward, the College is in full gear preparing for the application for the private “university” title in March 2017. Our priorities will continue to remain on fostering excellence and innovation in teaching and learning, with the aim to nurture young talents with critical thinking, innovative minds, humanistic care and social responsibilities.

While HSMC has all along been a caring institution, I hope you will also take care of your own physical and mental well-being and maintain a good study-life balance. Do always share your plans, joys and difficulties with your teachers and advisors. You

can be reassured that our staff members are always ready to support you along your journey of academic and personal pursuits.

Lastly, I hope you will enjoy the festive holiday season. Wish you and your family a new year full of blessings and happiness!