

### Welcome Address at the Convocation for New Students 2017-18

1 September 2017 College Hall, HSMC

Governor Dr. Ho Tzu-leung, Council Chairman Dr. Moses Cheng, Colleagues, Students, Ladies and Gentlemen,

My heartiest congratulations and warmest welcome to all new students joining the big HSMC family! I am very glad to see happy faces of over 1,400 students and some 30 exchange students starting your learning journey here at HSMC.

As a new student, most things here may be new and exciting to you: new friends, new learning environment, and new university life. At the same time, many of you may also encounter new challenges such as new learning methods, time management, interpersonal relationship, financial management and social engagement. I encourage you to have an open mind, take a proactive role in learning and make the best of your university experience here. Do rest assured that our teachers, staff and senior year students will guide you and inspire your new campus life.

I believe the purpose of pursuing university study is not solely for a better job prospect after graduation, but also cultivating your personal values, interests and needed competencies to become a well-rounded responsible person. Today, I would like to elaborate three points with all new students: opportunities, attitude and transformation.

#### **Opportunities**

With our “Liberal + Professional” education model and the “iGPS” graduate attributes framework (covering ‘i’ for Intellectual Competence, ‘G’ for Generic Skills, ‘P’ for Personal Development and ‘S’ for Social Engagement), ample learning resources and opportunities are offered here to help you achieve your potential and enrich your university life. These include in-class learning, guest talks and public lectures, close teacher-student interactions, internship and exchange programmes, experiential and service learning, cultural, arts and sports activities, student societies leadership, independent guided research, residential college life combining living and learning, and so forth.

Do actively engage yourselves in different learning opportunities so that you will know yourself better, broaden your horizons, boost your self-confidence and develop a mindset of caring for others and the society.

Also, take the initiative and time to interact closely with at least several teachers. No matter where you come from and what academic preparations you have, our teachers treat every student as an individual with respect. You will get enlightenment and inspirations from them who will ignite you for a life time.

### **Attitude**

With the wide range of learning opportunities offered here and the help from our teachers, it is entirely up to you to derive the level of achievement and satisfaction from your university education. I suggest you to adopt a positive and proactive attitude to learn, reflect and grow.

I also suggest you to embrace the sustainability goals in our green campus, and to learn how our personal attitude and daily habit changes can bring impact to the environment and our society.

In the end, attitude matters most and it is a matter of choice.

### **Transformation**

As a freshman in the beginning of the academic year, you might feel tiny and inadequate when facing your new university life. But don't worry, do have confidence in yourself and HSMC. Your passion to learn, to reflect and improve, your courage to step out from your comfort zone and to transform yourself will be the key to your university success. I have witnessed many HSMC students who have transformed into exceptional individuals. I am sure you can be one of them too.

In wrapping up, opportunities and a stimulating environment are made available for you, and our student-centered teachers are ready to guide you. Adopt a positive attitude and work hard to realize your potentials. I trust that after 4 years of transformational experience at HSMC, you will not only be proud of the profound knowledge you have acquired, but also a mature person with full personality and responsibility, and the ability to scale new heights.

I wish you all a fruitful and fulfilling learning journey at HSMC!