

Welcome Address at the Convocation for New Students 2018-19

6 September 2018, College Hall, HSMC

各位同事、各位同學：

首先，歡迎大家加入恒生管理學院這個大家庭！今天是一個非常特別的日子，是各位新鮮人的一個新里程碑。很高興看到新生和交換生們帶着喜悅和自信於恒管開展您們的學習旅程。作為新生，你們將面對許多新鮮事物和挑戰，我鼓勵你們保持開放的態度，包容不同的想法和觀點，探索自己的志趣和價值，並積極主動地學習，不怕艱難挫折，不斷尋求進步。相信恒管的教職員以及你們的師兄姐會幫助你們過渡新的大學生活。

Colleagues and Students,

My heartiest congratulations and warmest welcome to all new students joining the big HSMC family! I am very glad to see happy and confident faces of around 1,400 students with some 30 exchange students embarking on your learning journey here at HSMC. I believe your engagement in HSMC will infuse the College family with fresh talent, new ideas and passion.

As a new student, most things here may be new and different to you; new friends, new learning environment, and new campus life. At the same time, you will be meeting new challenges and stimulations. I encourage you to be open-minded, appreciate different ideas and views, explore your own interests, strengths and values, and take a proactive role in learning. At HSMC, we strive to help you grow and mature to your fullest potential. Do rest assured that our dedicated teachers, staff and senior year students are ready to help your smooth transition to a fully-engaged university life.

Before I move on, I would like to ask you two questions: What is the value of university education? What do you wish to acquire most out of your undergraduate education here at HSMC?

To many of you, university education may be a stepping stone to a good job, a good income, and eventually higher social mobility. Success in this sense can be important to many of you, and is quite understandable though no one can guarantee such, especially in the current fast-changing, diverse and more competitive global environment.

To me, the worth of a person cannot be measured by 'success' indicators such as academic achievement, income, wealth, fame or power. We need to differentiate between 'success' and the less tangible 'value'. Many important life goals or values are in less physical forms, such as exercising honesty and justice, feeling happiness, finding love, building close relationships with peers and teachers, realising one's potential, contributing to the community, and enhancing the life of others.

'Value' is to do things which are meaningful and with fulfillment. And when value really clashes with the 'tangible' success, I hope many of you would choose value. I think this is the moment when we feel most satisfied and fulfilled.

During your study at HSMC, besides gaining professional knowledge and skills, you will have a deeper understanding of yourself and learn to establish your own personal values, so that you can handle your future challenges in work and life confidently.

In the coming years, you will meet people from different backgrounds with different views here, and we need to learn to respect each other's views. Always exercise your own critical thinking before making a value judgement. Being 'critical' means to act with a careful attitude, an open mind and rational reasoning, and not to easily follow the crowd without raising enough questions starting with 'why?'.

To prepare you to pursue a liberal approach to life, one distinctive feature of HSMC is its "Liberal + Professional" education model which incorporates the iGPS "desired graduate attributes" framework: "I" = Intellectual Competence; "G" = Generic Interpersonal Skills; "P" = Personal Development; and "S" = Social Engagement. We aim to nurture students to become responsible global citizens with critical thinking, innovative minds, human caring attitude, moral values and social responsibility.

HSMC attaches great importance to our students' all-round development and provides them with a transformative learning experience that contributes to their intellectual, inter-personal and intra-personal growth. Let me briefly highlight some of the major learning opportunities here at HSMC.

Residential life is an integral part of undergraduate education and an enriching experience combining living and learning. As a member of a residential college, you will have the opportunities of intellectual interactions with faculty members and fellow students in a casual setting, engagement in self-learning and self-management. I highly recommend you to learn more about the themes of each of the four residential colleges (RCs) at HSMC, become affiliated with or stay at least one year in one of them, and participate actively in RC activities. You will soon learn that the RC is not just a place of accommodation but also your second home with caring and love.

Apart from learning on-campus, you can gain hands-on experience through joining our internship programmes offered locally, regionally or internationally. You can also take advantage of other overseas learning activities such as exchange study, study trips, service learning and independent research projects, etc. to broaden your global perspectives. Through RC and these learning opportunities, you will develop more transferable competencies such as reasoning, problem-solving, communication, teamwork and leadership, among others.

I trust that with a positive mindset, proactive attitude and purposeful participation in different learning opportunities at HSMC, your university life will prove to be an immensely rewarding experience. After a few years, you will find yourself transformed with self-confidence and humility walking into your next endeavor of life.

I wish you all a fruitful learning journey at HSMC. Thank you.