

## **Welcome Address at the Convocation for New Undergraduate Students 2025-26**

4 September 2025

Yip Kit Chuen and Yuen Yuk Hing Hall, Yuen Campus, HSUHK

Dear Students and Colleagues,

My heartiest congratulations and warmest welcome to all new students joining the Hang Seng University family! I am delighted to see the happy faces of about 2,300 new undergraduates embarking on a new learning journey here.

As new students, you have started an exciting journey which will be filled with opportunities, discoveries, and personal growth. You will meet new people, taste diverse learning experiences, and take part in a wide range of university activities. The transition to university life will bring challenges - such as balancing your academic life with your social life, managing your time and finances effectively, and coping with stress. Rest assured, we will walk this journey with you together.

At HSUHK, we are committed to providing a vibrant and supportive learning environment that empowers you to thrive both academically and personally. Some of our features include our compact award-winning green campus, innovative programmes, interactive small-class teaching, enriching residential college life, and comprehensive student development and support services. It is within this supportive setting that we empower our students to thrive and adapt to the evolving global landscape.

In today's VUCA era, characterised by Volatility, Uncertainty, Complexity, and Ambiguity, we are witnessing a time of major global transition. These include geopolitical tensions, aging populations, economic structural changes, widening wealth gaps, growing concerns over climate and environmental sustainability, and among others, the rise of generative artificial intelligence (AI) technologies. In such a dynamic environment, we will ask ourselves: what kind of talents should we nurture to lead our society forward? How should you prepare yourselves for such a dynamic world?

Some of you may view university education as a stepping stone to a good job, a good income, and eventually higher social mobility. However, as AI continues to evolve and reshape workplaces, many existing jobs may be automated or replaced by technology, while countless new opportunities, in areas we might not yet have imagined will emerge, especially those which need more unstructured judgement, personalised attention, human

compassion and original creativity. It seems unlikely that you will stay within the same profession or sector for an entire life. Therefore, we suggest you to equip yourself to face the future with adaptability and flexibility, through acquiring proper values/attitudes and transferable competencies.

Indeed, University education goes far beyond acquiring knowledge and technical abilities or preparing for employment. It is also a journey of self-discovery and building your own core values – values such as respect, integrity, diligence, responsibility, compassion, perseverance, and unity. Through taking part in various learning opportunities, you will discover your passions, define your values, and grow into the person you find meanings and fulfilment.

At the core of your learning experience at HSUHK is our unique “Liberal + Professional” education model. “Liberal” represents our commitment to nurture students’ freedom to think and thrive in the global village. Our aim is to empower students to pursue their aspirations by fostering the 5 “C” transferrable core competencies, which include Critical thinking, Creativity, Communication/ collaborations skills, Caring attitude, and Continuous active learning. “Liberal” also represents a broad and cross-disciplinary approach to connect different knowledge domains, facilitate thinking, and solve problems.

“Professional” represents the incorporation of professional subject elements in many of our major programmes, which equip students with transferrable professional competencies, professionalism and ethics that are required in your future career choices.

We believe in the transformative power of this educational model, which will facilitate students’ realisation of their full potential and equip them to tackle the complex challenges of their future life/work with confidence and fulfilment. I strongly encourage you to take full advantage of the learning resources and opportunities available to you here, embrace new perspectives, try new things, and step out of your comfort zone.

2025 holds special significance for HSUHK as we celebrate the 45th Anniversary of our University. I encourage you to take part in these memorable celebrations and share in the pride and joy of this special chapter in HSUHK’s history.

The new semester will be busy and exciting, challenging and rewarding for you. As you settle into your studies, please also take good care of your health and wellness, and strike a balance between study and life. Only with a healthy body and mind can you pursue your dreams and passions.

Wishing you all a smooth start to your university life and a fulfilling academic year ahead!

Thank you.