

## Speech at the Opening Ceremony 2025/2026 Representative of the Teachers Associate Professor Xiao, Xuanxuan September 6, 2025

Honorable Chair Professor Joseph Hun-wei Lee, Vice-Chancellor and President of Macau University of Science and Technology,

Distinguished guests, teachers, students, ladies and gentlemen,

## Good morning!

I am Xuanxuan Xiao from Faculty of Innovation Engineering. It is a great honor to speak today as a representative of the faculty at this opening ceremony. First of all, I would like to extend my warmest welcome to all of you. Welcome to the Macau University of Science and Technology. With your arrival, our university is more vibrant and full of promise than ever.

Dear students, youth is extraordinarily beautiful, but beautiful times pass swiftly and never return. The four years of university are precious—please cherish this precious prime of your youth. Read widely, think diligently, and practice boldly. Remember: a bit more self-discipline today brings a bit more ease tomorrow. Do not wait until you are thirsty to dig a well; when knowledge is needed, you will regret not having acquired enough of it. May you water your dreams with sweat and write a youth without regrets here at MUST.

Your university journey will bring you not only dreams and honors, but also setbacks and failures: demanding coursework, less-than-ideal exam results, disappointments in relationships, and more. When faced with these unexpected headwinds and challenges, you may doubt your abilities. Yet experiencing failure, learning from it, and growing through it is also a required course in university. Since you have chosen to pursue distant goals, meet the wind and rain with courage. Adjust your mindset and keep moving forward. Believe firmly: "Sunshine always comes after the storm."

In these most wonderful years, you will meet dear classmates and dedicated teachers. They will discuss problems with you, stay up late to prepare for exams with you, and talk with you deep into the night. This goodness will continue to inspire and warm you, giving you the courage to face life's setbacks and keep going. So I say: cherish every friend, classmate, roommate, and teacher you meet



in university. These precious friendships will become important assets in your future life. When you face challenges ahead, remember: with these friendships, you will not be alone.

Today is a memorable day and a brand-new starting point in your lives. You will wave goodbye to the naive youth you once were and embrace the most brilliant and exciting years of university. May you all study diligently, and tomorrow, set sail, using your strengths to serve the nation.

Finally, I sincerely wish you a joyful, fulfilling, and successful four years at the Macau University of Science and Technology. Thank you all!