

Speech at the Opening Ceremony 2025/2026 Representative of New Undergraduate Students Leong Ka Wai (Program of Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery) September 6, 2025

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

Distinguished members of Senior Management, guests, teachers, students, ladies and gentlemen, good morning!

I am Leong Ka Wai from the Faculty of Medicine, and I am truly honored to stand here today as a representative of the undergraduate freshmen. With great excitement and hopeful anticipation, we now officially embark on a brand-new chapter of our lives.

The university is both the starting point of our dreams and a stage for our personal growth. From the moment we set foot on this campus, I have been deeply impressed not only by its profound academic atmosphere but also by the boundless opportunities and possibilities it presents. Here, we will pursue truth in the library, test hypotheses in the laboratory, broaden our horizons through student clubs, and refine our thinking in discussions with teachers and peers. Over the next four years, I look forward to not only acquiring professional knowledge but also developing greater independence and a broader perspective. It is here that we will strive to become well-rounded individuals, equipped with both the expertise and the sense of responsibility needed to thrive in this new era.

Reflecting on my past academic journey, I have come to deeply understand that learning is far from a passive process—it demands active exploration and engagement. Whether through the diligent preparation for college entrance exams in high school or the long hours spent getting ready for university interviews, each breakthrough has reinforced a valuable lesson: true growth springs from a genuine passion for knowledge and unwavering perseverance. Now, as we stand at the threshold of our university education, it is essential that we transition from passive acceptance to active pursuit. We must dare to ask questions, think critically, learn from our mistakes, and strive continuously for improvement.



Of course, navigating the freedom and diversity of university life requires thoughtful planning. First, we must establish clear short-term tasks and long-term goals aligned with our interests and academic aspirations. Second, we need to manage our time effectively through structured schedules, learning to prioritize responsibilities and resist procrastination. While maintaining self-discipline, we should also stay adaptable—persistent in our efforts yet open to adjustments when necessary. After all, the value of university extends far beyond academic transcripts; it lies in our holistic development. Let us therefore build a foundation of diligence and nurture an insatiable curiosity for knowledge, both within and beyond the classroom. Let us embrace practice as our pathway—transforming theory into competence through internships, volunteer work, competitions, and other experiential opportunities. Most importantly, let us approach diversity with an open mind: seeking mentorship, cultivating meaningful friendships, exploring unfamiliar fields, and unlocking our limitless potential.

Dear fellow students, as we stand at the threshold of a new beginning, we are not only dream-chasers but also architects of the future. Let us aim high while remaining grounded, dare to step beyond our comfort zones, and cherish every opportunity to learn and grow. The years ahead represent our shared journey—a time to realize our fullest potential, to honor the trust our teachers have placed in us, and to rise together to meet the challenges of our generation with courage and conviction.

Let us extend our deepest gratitude to the university for providing this exceptional platform for learning and growth. To our professors and mentors, we offer our sincere thanks for your guidance as we embark on this transformative journey. Together, let us make the coming years a time of extraordinary achievement and personal discovery—a chapter we will always remember with pride. Thank you!