



澳門科技大學
MACAU UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Speech at the Opening Ceremony 2026/2027
President of Macau University of Science and Technology
Chair Professor ZHU Jian-Kang
September 5, 2026

Distinguished guests, dear Class of 2026,

Good morning!

Today, gathered here by the beautiful Haojiang River, we celebrate the opening of the 2026-2027 academic year at Macau University of Science and Technology. On behalf of the University, I extend my warmest welcome to every new student. I would also like to express my sincere gratitude to all those who have supported the University's development over the years.

Dear students, the university you have chosen is a young comprehensive institution that has grown alongside the Macao SAR. It is also an international and innovative university, deeply rooted in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and closely connected with the country's overall development. Since its founding twenty-six years ago, the University has upheld its motto, "Dedication to practical studies, Enhancement of knowledge, Ability and Quality." We have achieved notable results in talent cultivation, scientific research, and social service. Today, 12 of our subject areas rank among the global top 1% in the Essential Science Indicators (ESI) database; 19 disciplines were listed in the ShanghaiRanking's Global Ranking of Academic Subjects; and 89 scholars were included in Stanford University's World Top 2% Scientists list. Last year, the University was awarded the 2025 Medal of Merit for Education by the Macao SAR Government. These honors are a testament to the University's growing strength and global influence.

The world is undergoing profound changes unseen in a century, and these changes are accelerating. Artificial intelligence is sweeping across the globe, reshaping how we live, work, and connect with one another. Not long ago, the 2026 World Artificial Intelligence Conference was held in Shanghai, where President Xi Jinping highlighted the guiding principles of a people-centered approach and a commitment to using AI for good. This year also marks the launch of the national 15th Five-Year Plan, which calls for "accelerating high-level scientific and technological self-reliance and self-strengthening, and leading the development of new-quality productive forces." Last month, the Macao SAR Government released its third Five-Year Plan, identifying the visible results of integrated development in education, science and technology, and talent as one of its eight core goals. For MUST,



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a research-oriented international university, this is a critical moment to move forward with purpose. I would like to share a few reflections with you around three key themes: teaching, research, and the transformation of research outcomes into real-world value.

I. Teaching as our foundation - becoming versatile talents in the AI era

The fundamental purpose of a university is to educate and develop people. Last year, the University added frontier programs such as Nanoscience and Technology and Low-Altitude Economy and Technology, and expanded master's programs in Artificial Intelligence, AI Law, and Financial Technology. This year, our Computer Science and Software Engineering programs received full five-year accreditation from the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers (HKIE), making MUST the youngest higher education institution in Macao to receive this international recognition. These are concrete steps to align with national strategies and support Macao's moderately diversified economic development. Yet professional knowledge provides only the foundation. What will shape your future is your ability to think across disciplines and innovate. Master your chosen field, but do not stop there. Step beyond your comfort zone and enter classrooms and laboratories in other fields. In the AI era, cultivate both scientific and technological literacy and a strong humanistic grounding, and grow into versatile talents with knowledge, vision, and warmth.

II. Research as the spirit of discovery - finding your own academic direction

Research is the source of a university's innovative vitality and a pathway for you to explore the unknown and help shape the future. MUST has five national-level research platforms and more than twenty research institutes, where strategic, interdisciplinary, and frontier research is carried out across many fields. But remember: research is not about following every trend. It is about asking meaningful questions and pursuing rigorous scholarship. Breakthroughs often emerge at the boundaries where disciplines meet. The University provides outstanding research platforms and faculty members, but the most important engine is your own curiosity. Step into the laboratories, engage with the world beyond the campus, and explore the intersections of disciplines. Ask questions that have not yet been answered, and write academic chapters that are truly your own.

III. Transformation as the measure of value - bringing innovation to society and the nation

The ultimate value of knowledge lies in serving society. Just last month, MUST and Zhuguang Group launched the Hengqin MUST Industry-Education-Research Demonstration Base, marking the full implementation of the "Macao R&D + Hengqin Commercialization" model. The base will initially focus on four high-tech fields: traditional Chinese medicine, big health and natural medicines; space



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science; artificial intelligence; and new materials. This is a solid step toward moving research outcomes from the laboratory to the production line. But commercialization is not only a University strategy; it is also a mindset you should cultivate from your very first day here. I hope you will not only publish your ideas in academic papers, but also translate them into products, services, and solutions that serve society, so that the seeds of innovation can take root, sprout, blossom, and bear fruit across the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area.

Dear students, university is one of the most precious periods of your life for seeking knowledge. Cherish these years. Read widely, think deeply, and put your ideas into practice. Maintain a lasting thirst for knowledge, turn theory into ability, embrace cultural diversity with an open mind, build meaningful relationships with teachers and friends, and discover your boundless potential.

Finally, I wish you good health and every success. Thank you.