Chancellor, deputy chancellor, faculty members, graduates, families and friends, good morning.

I feel extremely honoured to deliver this occasional address. I would like to congratulate every one of you for your great achievement.

Today reminds me of my engineering degree which took me 5.5yrs to finish. I did it in part-time mode whilst I was working full time, every day after work and weekends was about classes, study and assignments.

As you could imagine, I was so excited when I finally finished the degree. I went straight back to HK the same weekend after the graduation ceremony and started my very own adventure. I found a job pretty quickly, have a place to live in, enjoyable lifestyle, business trips, lots of friends’ gatherings. It was a great change.

But it only lasted for about six months ...

So I came back to Sydney for my MBA degree. Despite that was another years of part time study (till 2008), I now feel that was one of the best decision I have made. Not only I got my lovely family, but also the continuous education provided the breadth and depth of skills required to understand and adapt to the rapidly changing world.

Talking about change, nowadays with technological advancement, the drive for innovation, new business models. There are lots of great opportunities and possibilities especially for the open minded and prepared ones. The speed of change are increasing, as an example, It took almost a century for traditional landline telephones to reach saturation in household demand. Mobile phones, by contrast, achieved saturation in just 20 years, for smartphones and tablets the penetration are even faster. And I am sure you know how fast did the mobile phone game Pokémon Go got to everyone’s smartphone. We were all part of this evolution weren’t we.

Changes could also come in at a day-to-day personal level such as change in interpersonal relationship, things happened to family or friends. Or at work level changes such as new opportunities come up, change in work arrangements, re-organisation that might impact you. Some could bring positive outcome some might not.
A key learning that I have is that the way we respond to a change situation reflects who we are, what we value and our principles. Also importantly how other people perceive who we are and decided in their mind how they would work or relate with us in future. So if you face a situation in the future, whether it is your integrity or resilience that you would like to demonstrate, passionate or humbleness, ambition or enabling others ... it is your choice.

In closing, I wish you all the best in the future and have a great celebration of this very key milestone with your loved ones and the people who supported you during your journey. Thank you!