

SPEECH BY
YBhg Dato' Dr Amir Abbas
Chancellor, International Medical University
Convocation at IMU Bukit Jalil, 8.45 am

YBhg Dato Prof Gan Ee Kiang, Pro Chancellor, IMU

YBerusaha Professor Abdul Aziz Baba, Naib Canselor, IMU

YBhg Tan Sri Dato' Dr Yahya Awang, Pengerusi, Lembaga Gabenor

Ahli-ahli Lembaga Gabenor

Ahli-ahli Senat

Tan Sri-Tan Sri, Puan Sri-Puan Sri

Dato'-Dato', Datin-Datin

Dif-dif Terhormat

Para graduan dan tuan-puan hadirin sekalian

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As the Chancellor of the University, I am pleased to warmly welcome you to this graduation ceremony. It is also with great pleasure that I express my most sincere congratulations to the graduating cohorts, our newest members of the alumni. These graduands have accomplished a lot and gained a significant achievement. Not only did they earn a degree today but they have also matured emotionally and socially through the years in this University.

Graduands,

Today is the culmination of a challenging and hopefully also a very rewarding experience. You'll be feeling a number of emotions, relief that you've made it, a sense of reward in the recognition of your hard work and perhaps also a sense of excitement combined with trepidation as you look forward to the next leg of your journey. It is indeed an honour to see the pride on your faces and the faces of all those who have

supported you financially and emotionally throughout your IMU journey. Some of them who have travelled thousands of miles to celebrate this memorable occasion with you. Today it is very important to remember them. So, before I continue I would like you to join me in a round of applause for all who have made your achievements possible.

The University is proud to send all those who are graduating today into the world to be doctors, pharmacists, chiropractors, psychologists, nurses and scientists. These students are graduating from an array of programmes offered at the University by its five Schools.

Among those who are graduating today are our chiropractic students. We are very proud of these students who have consistently done well in the annual World Spine Day competition. I was informed that our Semester 4 chiropractic students organised the 2015 World Spine Day activities and won first prize in the chiropractic educational institutions category at the 2015 World Spine Day competition. What a fantastic achievement by our students!

This activity together with other extra-curricular activities such as the IMU Cup, Chariofare, community service projects, sport activities and club activities aim to prepare our graduands for an exciting future as healthcare professionals who are team players, critical thinkers, reflective and yet proactive. This gives our graduands a quality wholesome education.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Leadership is an important factor for making an organisation successful and this is especially true in IMU. In this context, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the contributions of YBhg Tan Sri Dato' Dr Abu Bakar Suleiman who had stepped down from his position as the University's Vice-Chancellor on 31 December 2015. During this time, IMU had seen exponential growth and development. Personally, I have always admired IMU for its evident vitality and commitment to its community. Please join me in thanking YBhg Tan Sri for his great contributions to IMU.

You will be pleased to know that Prof Abdul Aziz Baba who was previously the Vice-President responsible for the Medical and Dental programmes has taken over as Vice-Chancellor of the University and will continue to advance the growth and development of IMU.

In view of this, the IMU is placing more emphasis and importance in its Partnership with Industry programme. Over the last year, the University has entered into MOUs with

collaborating universities and industries, locally and internationally. Some of the collaborating institutions are Hiroshima University, Novartis Malaysia and Nestlé (Malaysia) Berhad. These collaborations covers many areas that are mutually beneficial to both parties, especially to our current students.

Graduands,

As you leave our campus today, with your degree in hand, know that you will always be a part of the IMU family, connected to us. You will be joining an international alumni with more than 8,000 members, more people with whom you can share your experiences and challenges, and from whom you can further your knowledge. Our alumni have gone out and achieved great things. Notable achievements are from being the CEO of a company to the youngest Director in a local hospital. They are also award winners in various fields of expertise in the US and the UK, and they are all practicing and contributing to the healthcare industry all around the world, from Saudi Arabia to Sarajevo, from Ireland to Australia, from US to the UK, and of course not forgetting Malaysia. You will all be a part of this as you continue on in the profession. So, stay connected with our Alumni Office as your careers and your lives expand. We are certainly very proud of all our alumni and eagerly welcome and applaud news of their accomplishments.

We are confident that the education you have received here will serve you well. May your years ahead be richly rewarding and fulfilling, and may you enjoy much happiness. Congratulations once again, and good luck.