

The Education University of Hong Kong
23rd Congregation
Words of Appreciation by Miss Lui Wing Sze
(Session 7)

Professor Lee, distinguished guests, fellow graduates, ladies and gentlemen, good afternoon!

I'm Lui Wing Sze, a graduate of the Bachelor of Education (Honours) (Early Childhood Education) programme, and it's my honour to speak on behalf of the graduates today.

Time flies. Today is the conclusion of our hard-working study years. We finally graduated!

To become a professional educator for young children, EdUHK has given us professional training. We have gained an all-round education in not only skills and knowledge that we need, but also in our attitude of being a responsible person. I noticed that a teacher is not just a teacher. Teachers are counselors to children beset by problems; teachers are travel agents that schedule children's trips; teachers are friends that wipe away a crying child's tears; teachers are party planners that celebrate children's birthdays and festivals; teachers are doctors that take care of a sick child; teachers are even clowns that make children laugh. Sometimes, I feel like I am a CD with a thousand songs in my head.

Of course, this is not all. After five years here, I have learnt why a teacher is not just a teacher. Like all our teachers sitting down here; you are much more than being a teacher to us. Thank you for your patience and kindness during these years. Everybody, I hope you can join me in giving a big hand to our professors, lecturers and mentors!

We were also blessed with a unique campus life here. I feel so lucky and grateful to be a part of it. EdUHK's campus life provided us the chance to take part in so many valuable activities. Even though some of us live not far away from the campus, we still had a chance to experience hall life. Hall life gave me a sense of independence and good friendship that will last a lifetime. Student associations also helped to develop my life skills. I enjoyed the opportunity to organize voluntary teaching activities in Mainland China. I also went to Australia for exchange and internship programmes. There is no doubt that all these activities and experiences did broaden our horizons.

Even though I've only worked in early childhood education for a few months, I know that being a kindergarten teacher is not an easy role. Robert John Meehan, an American Educator, once said: "We are not just teachers, we are the managers of the world's greatest resource: children!" I believe that my fellow graduates will dedicate ourselves for a lifetime to build a great future for our children and even the society, and we should be proud to say "We are kindergarten teachers!"

Happy Graduation! Thank you!