

## Graduation speech

Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor, distinguished guests, fellow graduates, University staff and guests. On behalf of the graduates receiving their awards today, I would like to sincerely thank you.

To the lectures and tutors, who assisted us during our learning journey here at Federation University. Whether it be delivering a tutorial whilst holding an unsettled newborn, to moving the deadline from 5:00p.m to 11:59p.m, we thank you. To the administration staff, who so graciously helped those of us who found ourselves in less than desirable situations. From finding us various placements, and hounding us for the necessary paperwork, we thank you. To the family and friends, for the endless support during stressful times. From dealing with the highest of highs, when we received that first High Distinction, to the lowest of the lows, when we might have felt like giving up, we thank you. To the graduates here today, we thank each other, for the support and the motivation to keep going.

Whilst we continue on our path to success, it's important that we stop and celebrate what we have already achieved. We stand here today, proud. We've all had a different journey, a different University experience. From those who studied abroad in locations such as England, Singapore and China all the way through to those of us who missed the 8:30 Thursday tutorials due to "illness", we can be proud. Whilst some of us have begun our professional career in our chosen fields, some of us will return to study to further expand our knowledge. And whilst the late nights, and survival on 2 minute noodles and bread might not be over just yet, it will be soon. The friendships and the life skills we have acquired during our time here, will assist us in the future. There will be things that we miss about University, whether it be the friends, the staff or the social events, and there will be things that we can't wait to leave behind, like referencing. But our future is bright, and it's calling us. And whilst the first few steps can be shaky and scary, we will get there. We can overcome anything.

As we start the next chapter, we can only look forward, and if university has taught us anything, it's that we are the makers of our success.

Thank you.