

## Graduate Speech – Rachael Lloyd

Faculty of Science and Technology

10.30am, Wednesday 6 May, 2015

‘Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor, distinguished guests, fellow graduates, University staff and guests. On behalf of the graduates receiving their awards today, I would like to say a huge thank-you to our supervisors, university staff, friends and family for their support over the years.

It is a pleasure and an honour to be here today to speak on behalf of my fellow graduates.

Congratulations on reaching this milestone. Be proud of your achievements by celebrating and reflecting on this occasion with family and friends. Today is evidence of the hard work and sacrifice you have made over the last few years.

Whether you are from near or far, university life and study provides opportunities to expand on your perspectives, learn, network, develop new skills and disciplines, and make life-long friendships. Take time to reflect on what you have learnt during your time at university and use it to be the best person you can be.

The next stage of your life will see you become part of communities and society in a way that you will contribute your skills and knowledge through careers in science, information, technology or engineering. You will educate our future leaders and shape the future of our communities.

Life will present you with countless decisions and new experiences. Your life will soon be filled with first jobs, partners, travel, children, further study, buying your first home and so on. It all happens so fast, so cherish every moment and learn from your mistakes. Find the time to keep a balance in your life by enjoying the little things and taking time to reflect.

You now have the world at your feet so dream big and take advantage of as many opportunities that come your way. Be proud of who you are, never stop learning, but most importantly listen, for how can we learn otherwise.

May the friends and colleagues you have made throughout this journey stay with you and may the knowledge you have acquired help you prosper. I wish you every success in your future endeavours as proud alumni of Federation University Australia.

