

Penyampai : DATO' SERI DR SITI HASMAH BINTI HAJI MOHD ALI
Tajuk : MMU NITE 2001
Lokasi : THE CONVENTION CENTRE, SUNWAY PYRAMID
Tarikh : 28-03-2001

A very good evening to all present here. It gives me great pleasure to be here to participate in the MMU Night 2001.

2. Most of us are aware of the fact that MMU is the first private University that prides herself, even though I say so myself as her Chancellor, in ensuring that visions, inventions and innovations become the cornerstones on which technology will be harnessed as the nation strives to establish a knowledgeable human society.

3. With the advent of the K-Era, almost every aspect of our lives will be enriched beyond our imaginations. Knowledge is fast becoming an asset and a powerful engine and bearing this in mind, the University is girding her students as they embrace the opportunity to equip themselves with knowledge.

4. Through the courses taught in MMU, students will be able to gain knowledge that will give them the cutting edge and make them more competitive when they come out to lead the country. With the knowledge at hand on the intricacies of the K-Era, be it in a business sense or even a more creative sense, students of MMU today will be able to play a part in ensuring that our country gets to the forefront of the K-Era and also maintains its competitiveness.

5. With the emphasis of the nation's growth based on the Age of Information, students of MMU can be certain that they will be playing an important role in the nation's development, utilising the knowledge and expertise that they have been nurtured with at Multimedia University.

6. In our fast-paced society of today, a firm grasp of Information Communication Technologies is important to compete with other nations of world class standards and it is imperative that graduates assimilate and incorporate this technology in their daily lives. While all this takes place, it is my strong belief that university life should not just be limited to gaining intellectual knowledge. It should also provide students with an avenue to express themselves and become creative, innovative, resourceful & enterprising.

7. If you have come here merely with the intent of gaining knowledge and a digital scroll without opening and experiencing the rest of the package, then you are going to leave just as you came, probably with slightly higher intellectual knowledge. This will not serve you well in the working world, where all sorts of other skills come into play, such as communication, interpersonal and public relations, organisational capabilities, teamwork and other kinds of knowledge and experiences which cannot be derived from books.

8. I therefore urge you today, students, that while you pursue your higher education in the university, seize the opportunity to cultivate all these additional skills through the extra curriculum activities made available to you.

9. You are indeed the luckier ones in comparison to students of other institutions of higher learning, having been admitted into Multimedia University where the delights of technology and multimedia lie at your fingertips. You are able to harness the technology made available as you encounter real-life scenarios when studying, organising events, conducting performances, charitable activities and sports.

10. Today's event, for example, has captured the use of Internet, in which a website was established to promote the MMU Nite 2001. Apart from this, several other clubs in Multimedia University have created their very own WebPages.

11. It is my fervent hope that in the future, students will also utilise the e-commerce strategy in the organisation of events. All that was deemed impossible in the past have now become possibilities that

seem more limitless by the moment.

12. It is my strongest hope and desire to see that students of MMU relate to each other cordially and harmoniously, have good and beneficial activities together so that the whole student community in MMU, your university and mine, become one integrated and happy family. I like to see MMU as a model to others where integration and unity exist.

13. I remember in one session of a meeting with the teaching Faculty and students, I was asked whether we would lose personal contacts with each other because of the constant use of high technology in our various programmes while students become more and more dependent on the computers for many information and learning skills rather than from their teachers. It would be most unfortunate if teachers lose touch with their students entirely. Personal, face to face contact should be above sophisticated modern techniques of teaching and while we admit and accept the inevitable and important usage of these modern technologies, we should seek a balance to bring us together in other ways.

14. One of the ways is to have occasions like this - an MMU Nite.

15. It is indeed encouraging to witness students of the University coming together away from the campus settings on a more relaxed occasion. An event such as this provides an opportunity for students to interact with their colleagues and lecturers on a different platform and also enables them to meet key figures from the corporate world.

16. On such a lovely evening as this, I would like to remind all students to temporarily dismiss all thoughts of studies from their minds and bask in the joy of the evening as they mingle with friends and lecturers, and corporate figures present here.

17. While our impeccable apparel denotes some form of formality, let our attitudes, on the other hand, convey a free spirit, as we let our hair down and leave behind the trivial cares of the world.

18. As I conclude my speech for tonight, it is my desire that MMU Nite 2001 does not become a thing of the past after this evening, but establishes itself as an annual event that becomes the highlight of the year for all Multimedia University, in addition to each trimester's final examination, of course. With that, I bid you all a pleasant and an enjoyable evening.