

Address by the President of the Students' Union

(Induction for the Academic Year 2023/2024)

Dear Students,

It is my utmost pleasure to be here today, as the President of the Students' Union and to congratulate you for having secured a seat at the University of Mauritius. It is with immense pleasure that we gather here for the beginning of your journey, a journey filled with knowledge, growth, and countless opportunities. You are now part of a diverse and inclusive community that cherishes academic excellence, critical thinking, and collaboration.

As you embark on this new chapter, I encourage you to embrace the transformative power of education. Each course you take, each lecture you attend, and each conversation you engage in will shape your perspective and broaden your horizons. Be open to new ideas, challenge your preconceptions, and dare to think differently. This is the time to explore, question, and seek answers that will not only enrich your own lives but also contribute to the betterment of society.

Remember that university is not only about academic matters. It is a place where friendships are formed, where you will encounter individuals from various backgrounds and cultures. Embrace the diversity around you, for it is in these connections that you will learn the true value of empathy, tolerance, and collaboration. Engage in extracurricular activities, join clubs and organizations, and seize every opportunity to expand your network and create lifelong bonds.

Undoubtedly, this journey will present its fair share of challenges. There will be moments of self-doubt, late-night study sessions, and perhaps even a few setbacks along the way. But it is during these times that your resilience and determination will shine through. Remember that failure is not an endpoint, but merely a stepping stone towards success. Embrace your mistakes, learn from them, and use them as fuel to push yourself further.

Finally, I encourage you to make the most of the resources available to you. Seek guidance from your professors, advisors, and mentors. Utilize the libraries, research facilities, and technological advancements at your disposal. The knowledge and support are there for you; it is up to you to seize them.

Dear freshers, as you embark on this exciting chapter of your lives, I want you to know that you are not alone. You have joined a community that will stand beside you, supporting and cheering you on every step of the way. Embrace the opportunities that lie ahead, cherish the friendships you will make, and make your mark on this university and the world beyond.

During these three to four years, be sure that you are aiming for the best results and aim to leave this place with a first class degree.

But most importantly create those memories, attend those parties, make friends, go out, participate in these events, have fun, because these years will be the best years of your life. These years, my friends, are a once in a lifetime thing and those memories will live on forever.

I will end with a quote from the movie: Ferris Bueller's Day Off

"Life moves pretty fast. If you don't stop and look around once in a while, you could miss it."

Thank you.