

Conferring Ceremony 12

Federation Business School

Graduate Speaker – Sujan Bharati, Federation Business School

3.30pm, Thursday 11 December, 2014

Good afternoon Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor, distinguished guests, fellow graduates, University staff, family members and guests. On behalf of all the graduates receiving their awards today, I welcome you all to share this very special day together as a celebration of years of hard work and proud achievement.

Federation University Australia has diversity of students coming from various parts of the world. With its great multicultural environment and excellent academic courses, this University gives feeling of pride and belongingness to all the students. I come from Nepal located in South Asia and a home to many highest peaks in the world and a land of Gautam Buddha. And today it gives me great pleasure to speak on behalf of all my fellow graduates of Federation University Australia who are attending this ceremony from Melbourne, Sydney, Adelaide, Singapore, Malaysia and many other overseas countries.

Firstly, I would like to take the opportunity to congratulate all of my fellow graduates in successfully completing their studies. I know it has not been easy for any of us, as my own days of hard work, sleepless nights, meeting deadlines for assignments and examinations attest. Much time was demanded of us to meet our academic responsibilities in a way that involved our unconditional devotion to the tasks in front of us. Personally, it was sometimes painful not having enough hours in the day to spend with my six-year-old daughter and I know many of you with young children experienced similar tugs of love. Being here today however, and receiving our graduate awards makes us all realise that the dedication and discipline we have invested in our studies have contributed to not just our own well-being, but to all those around us. Our achievements will benefit all our loved ones, our families, partners, friends, colleagues and teachers in the days to come.

Today I feel both humbled and proud; humbled because I am indeed fortunate to be among so many wonderful, hard-working and dedicated individuals representing different faculties and from different countries in the world, and proud not only for what I have achieved, but for what all of us have accomplished. All of the graduates should feel very happy with their efforts.

My fellow graduates, as we receive these awards today, it is not the end of our journey, but rather, the beginning of another journey where we'll face the at times difficult challenges of life as we try to achieve our dreams. I am confident that you will not be bewildered by the rigours of life tossed up to you but will face all problems with a strong determination and enthusiastic desire to achieve your goals on the road ahead.

As author Joshua J. Marine has said: Challenges are what makes life interesting and overcoming them is what makes life meaningful.

We will all face tomorrow as it dawns but today is a time for all of us to celebrate our success with our family and friends. I will end this address with a special note of thanks to my husband, Mr Sushil Adhikari and my daughter Anushri without whose support I would not have successfully completed my studies. Unfortunately, my parents would not attend the ceremony, but I would like to thank them for always being there for me and their love and support. A special thanks to our friend Paulyne for coming all the way from Melbourne to be here with me and my husband and I thank all the teachers for their contribution to all our success. Lastly, on behalf of all my fellow graduates, I would like to thank the Chancellor, Vice Chancellor, university staff, family and friends for being here today to celebrate with us. I wish all of you the best of luck in the future.