

A New Chapter, A Silver Dawn

by Professor Lily Kong

Welcome, dear students, to pages still white,

Where dreams are the ink and your courage the light.

The book of your life awaits, eager and new,

Here at SMU, we write the story with you.

Each class, each friendship, each challenge you meet

Is a line in your chapter, both bitter and sweet.

So lift up your pen, let your spirit explore—

Each word that you write will open a door.

The world beyond is shifting fast,

No job, no skill will forever last.

Our Chairman urged—be nimble, be wise,

With resilience, adapt, persevere and rise.

Some of you know your chosen way,

Others will find it day by day.

Both paths hold promise, both paths are right—

In a changing world, be bold, take flight.

At SMU, this is our creed:

To blend both rigour and real-world need.

We'll push you to question, to stretch, to connect,

To learn in ways you might not expect.

Our city campus opens doors

To industries humming, ideas to explore.

Overseas journeys broaden your view,

While peers here bring perspectives anew.

Whether city streets or the world abroad,

You'll find new skills, new friends, much to applaud

We'll stretch you to explore, to lead and try,

To blend skill with purpose and aim for the sky.

Like any good story, SMU's pages have shown

Both trials and triumphs we've made our own.

Now at our Silver Jubilee,

You may well ask, what do we foresee?

Many more chapters come into sight

Milestones of pride and a future bright

For the pages ahead are the best of all

Young though we be, we can stand tall

So join in the chorus, be part of the cheer,

Your SMU narrative is written from here.

For no great story is ever one voice—

It's woven from many, each with a choice.

So make this chapter vibrant and true,

For SMU's story is written with you.

Your chapter is waiting—make it your own,

And know that you'll never write it alone.

Now, once again, welcome, dear students—step in, play your part,

The page is before you, so write from your heart.