

## 2020 School Opening

Good morning my dear freshmen and all colleagues:

I met most of you in Falling in love with English camp, and had talked to you about Wenzao's history, founders, and being Catholic university, Ursuline school group member, and being a globalized university. On welcoming you today in this important day, marked as the first official day of your college life, I have been thinking over and over again what to tell you as your president, and as an alumna, your school sister, who also graduated from here.

Three things I would like to share with you today. You can plan your future, but you have to always be prepared for the changes due to many unpredictable factors, and live fully in this moment. For example:

The influence of the Covid-19 pandemic has affected our human being's life all over the world very seriously. It affects ways of learning; it affects ways showing our concern; it affects so many business, it affects global economy; it affects our belief in human's ability in conquering disasters. Actually, it affects countless things we are unable to think of until they appear in front of us.

So, what can we do if future is not our to see? I am not a philosopher, I have been a very practical person in my whole life up to now. My advice to you is to seize the moments you have in your hands. Now you have decided to come to Wenzao, you have decided your major study, you have decided to live in the dorm, or outside the campus, or commute everyday. You have already made many decisions that will affect your life at least in the first semester. So, we have to confidently, faithfully and happily live on our choices and decisions until we have experienced trials and errors, and live to the time when making changes is necessary.

To conclude, your now is your four year and five year college life. You decide What kind of picture you want to paint for your life here at Wenzao, you are the only person to decide for yourself, and that is something real you can hold onto, and nobody can take it away from you.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> thing I like to share with you is: We all need to have a dream, but we cannot just have dreams, we have to live inside the dreams so that the dreams can become true, become reality. Very often we talk about dreams, In Martin Luther King's famous speech, He repeated 6 times "I have a dream". If we have chance to listen or read his speech again, it is clear that he actually had been living in his dream before he talked about his dreams to millions of people on the day when they joined together to demonstrate for freedom in the history of their nation.

We can find out what he expressed in his speech about his dreams was not just empty talks. It had aims, plans and actions. Most importantly, he himself is the leader and maker of the dreams. If America is great today regarding acceptance of diverse cultures, Martin Luther King owns the great part of it.

If to be a great person is too far-fetched, at least, we should have the ambition to build our own dreams and be inside the dream as a real maker. The time you are going to spend at Wenzao should be the golden age of your life, and the best time for any of you to fulfill your dreams.

Just now you have received your student ID, the simple ritual demonstrated here tell us that we openly recognize and accept you as Wenzaorians, and at the same time we remind you that with the new identity, you are expected to live up to the name as Wenzaorians and own Wenzao's DNA.

Therefore, here comes my last advices, please seize all opportunities to become wise globalized Wenzaorians who take pride in daringly seeking the truth and in being brave enough to speak up for righteousness, especially in a world where no one cares much to tell right from wrong, to defend for truth or to stop the fraud(cheating) from the general public.

You are now begin to become globalized Wenzaorians who in this AI age understand perfectly well that learning does not happen in the classrooms only. It comes in many different forms; it happens in your mobile phones, on campus in lectures and workshops, in extracurricular activities, and also off campus community service, and in your own social activities and part-time jobs. In short, Your life here should be full of challenges, meanings, and achievements if you are willing to be successful Wenzaorians.

Lastly, as I promised you at the first time we met in your camp, all faculty and staff here at Wenzao are standing beside you. We will help you to overcome difficulties and challenges, and we will help you to become confident and successful Wenzaorians, and we want you to be proud of being Wenzaorians and we want you to enjoy your college life with our full support. Finally have a wonderful semester. Thank you for listening.