

Congratulatory Address

Congratulations on your graduation and successful completion of your degree program.

It's a pity that you cannot gather together to attend this ceremony, but please accept my sincere congratulations on this day of celebration culminating from your tireless efforts and hard work since your enrollment in the university.

I would also like to express my respect and extend my cordial congratulations to your families, who have supported you over the years.

My deep respect also goes to the university faculty, who have supported you with constant enthusiasm, enabling you to grow into human resources with rich humanity and brilliant intelligence.

Although this school year was the last of your college life, due to the state of emergency the government issued to control the spread of COVID-19, we had to ask for your cooperation with various restrictions and voluntary restraint, ranging from campus closure to limited extracurricular activities and cancellation of the college festival. Let me take this opportunity to express our heartfelt gratitude for your long cooperation.

You are embarking on a new chapter in your life. Some of you will take employment, while others will further pursue research at graduate school. Whichever path you are taking, I hope you will fully display your competence and fly high in the future with the help of the knowledge, skills, capability to solve various problems, and social connections you have acquired at Osaka Prefecture University.

Coupled with the progress of digitalization, the new normal created by COVID-19 has brought about new changes in society as a whole. For example, universities have introduced online classes.

Taking such changes as opportunities, Osaka Prefecture will accelerate its efforts toward the revitalization and further growth of Osaka while taking advantage of the expected impact of Expo 2025 Osaka.

Furthermore, in 2022, Osaka Prefecture University and Osaka City University will merge into a new university.

We aim to make an advanced-study-oriented public university that will survive domestic and global inter-university competition and drive the development of Osaka. For that purpose, Osaka Prefecture, Osaka City, and the university corporation will work together as one to preserve and further develop the traditions from the two universities to make a new appealing university.

As your area of activity expands from Osaka to the whole country and to the world, I sincerely hope you will keep your pride of having studied at Osaka Prefecture University and your unchanging love for Osaka.

Congratulations again on your graduation and successful completion of your degree program. I wish you all the best, and for your future success. Thank you.

March 24, 2021

Hirofumi Yoshimura, Governor of Osaka
Prefecture