

## **Commencement Speech**

Congratulations on receiving your master's and doctoral degrees from Tokyo Medical and Dental University today.

You overcame great hardships due to the coronavirus pandemic in order to be here at this moment.

The great scientist Charles Darwin said, "It is not the strongest of the species that survives, nor the most intelligent that survives. It is the one that is most adaptable to change."

We now must adapt to changing conditions.

The merger between our university and Tokyo Institute of Technology is truly a matter of "adapting to changing conditions".

The new university, "Institute of Science Tokyo", which will come into being next October, has three core values: "Convergence Science", "Constant Evolution" and "Free and Flat Culture".

Based on these three core values, we aim to become a world-class university dedicated to identifying and solving societal issues together with society.

I would also like the new university to be one that attracts a diverse range of people, including not only those who pursue science and seek to create new value, but also those who are broadly interested in science.

I believe that this integration will enhance the prestige of our university and thereby positively impact your professional activities in the future.

Even though your future paths will no doubt diverge in various ways, I believe that you will be able to make important societal contributions and help your own professional development if you continue to collaborate and cherish the connections you have made through your research at our university.

I am certain that your coming contributions to the world will make us at TMDU stand proud.

On our part, you can be sure that TMDU and Institute of Science Tokyo will continue to support you.

On behalf of all the faculty and staff, I would again like to extend my congratulations and best wishes for a happy future to all of you.

September 21, 2023  
President Yujiro Tanaka  
Tokyo Medical and Dental University