Message from the Vice-Chancellor to the Graduating Class of 2014

I want to first congratulate you for your achievement in successfully completing your studies at the University of Guyana. It is an achievement worth celebrating after all the hard work and pain that you went through. It is our hope that the additional qualification that you have earned will propel you to higher heights.

As you are all aware, your education at the University of Guyana is highly subsidized by taxpayers through the Government of Guyana. You therefore owe the citizens of this country gratitude for facilitating your education. It is my hope that you will express your gratification by contributing to the development of Guyana through effective use of your newly acquired knowledge.

I challenge you to get involved in social development activities that will uplift under-privileged children and persons who are differently able. Be a mentor to somebody. Ensure that you contribute to the development of those around you so that together we can build a better and prosperous nation.

Yes, you are graduating this evening. Please ensure that this is not the end of your learning. You still have a whole lot to learn. Ensure that you continually improve your skill base through life-long learning. Our doors remain open to you to further your studies. If not a higher degree, you can benefit from a second degree that enhances your ability to create employment for others.

As you bid us this temporary farewell, I charge you to show appreciation to all those who supported you throughout your stint at the University of Guyana: your parents, spouses, children, relatives and friends. Send them a thank you card or give them a call just to say “thank you for your kind support.” I will also request of you to please join me, as alumni, in building our University. We need your contributions in whatever form you can give. Be a partner as we strive for excellence.

Let me close by recognizing the dedication and hard work of my colleagues: Lecturers, Heads of Departments, Deans, Administrators, Technicians and maintenance crew who have given enormous support to the functioning of this University. These persons have in no small measure contributed to your success. I say thank you for your perseverance and love for The University of Guyana. May the Lord bless you and your family.

To the class of 2014, I say farewell, be our ambassadors and congratulations.

Professor Jacob Opadeyi
Principal and Vice-Chancellor