

## DEAN'S MESSAGE

March 23, 2023

On behalf of Hokkaido University Faculty of Medicine, I extend our sincere congratulations to you all for your having completed a degree at Hokkaido University Graduate School of Medicine. I am honored to announce that 71 graduates are conferred a degree this spring. Those are 19 of Master's Program and 52 of Doctoral (PhD) Program in Medicine. We highly respect the fact that you have continuously concentrated on diligent work and finally have this graduation day.

This year, Hokkaido University Graduate School of Medicine decided to hold the downscaled commencement ceremony, considering it necessary to prevent the infection and spread of COVID-19. We appreciate your understanding in this situation.

In the beginning at the Graduate School of Medicine, you set your own research question. For that assignment, you have carried out the experiments or conducted research through your own efforts, discussed the matters, and derived the conclusion. This is none other than that you have addressed the challenge of creating new knowledge by yourself. It must have been no easy road to come along. However, we believe that you were able to have chances to be exposed to the academic essence. It was so tough, but you have your joy and excitement during your school life. You concluded the result of your research in the form of master's thesis or doctoral dissertation, passed the exam by the examination committee, and gained the degree. Not only will your product belong to you but also will be taken over for long as an asset of knowledge shared by many people.

At this graduate school of medicine, you have created knowledge. Also, we presume that many of you have fostered 'Global Perspectives', which is one of four basic philosophies of Hokkaido University. As you may know, Hokkaido University was originally established as Sapporo Agricultural College. Since its foundation, Sapporo Agricultural College has opened the gate of spirit to diverse world, by introducing Western culture, science, and technology, and providing students with the classes in English by international teachers. From then till now, many alumni and alumnae have been playing the active roles in the international scenes, which proves that fostered 'Global Perspectives', our university's philosophy, has been succeeded in various ways.

Today, we human beings are faced with many challenges. What is important when confronted with unpredicted situation in your own path is to have the ability to survive your life. To predict future as accurately as possible and to ease the people's anxiety have been part of the roles of the academic discipline where you belong to, and also are the missions that you will have to be committed to. I wish you much success.

Lastly, I would like to give you the message that Hokkaido University Graduate School of Medicine will be always with you. Graduation is not the farewell to the university, but the start of new collaboration. We sincerely ask your kind and positive corporation to the growth and development of this graduate school of medicine which has a long tradition and history. We truly wish for your health and success in your new positions. And once again, congratulations to you all.

Bon Voyage!

Sincerely

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