

# ***“Be Prepared for the Future of Work”***

**The 2014 Sino-American Joint Program Commencement Ceremony at  
The Ningbo Institute of Technology (NIT), Zhejiang, China**

**Commencement Address by Dr. Robert L. Manuel, President, University of Indianapolis  
Delivered by Dr. Phylis Lan Lin, Associate Vice President for International Partnerships,  
University of Indianapolis**



[PHYLIS] Hello from Indiana and the University of Indianapolis. I am proud to represent the president of the University, Dr. Robert L. Manuel, and to bring you his greetings on this august occasion.

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First, I wish to apologize for not being able to join you in person today for your Commencement ceremony. But I know well the sacrifices you graduates have made in order to be here for this important event, and I applaud your accomplishment.

I wish, too, to congratulate NIT on its recent distinction. I was so pleased to learn recently that the Ningbo Institute of Technology has once more been ranked number one among China's independent colleges. It is clear that such an achievement is a most difficult one to attain, and earning this distinction for a second consecutive year is even more impressive. The ranking makes this, the 10th anniversary of the joint program between NIT and the University of Indianapolis, even more special and significant, and brings honor to our institution as well.

Please allow me, on behalf of the University of Indianapolis, to acknowledge several individuals for their support. Thank you, President JIN Weiliang, Vice President YANG Jiangang, and Party Secretary General FEI Yingqin, for your crucial roles in ensuring the success of our joint program and of our students here today. Your tireless efforts are deeply appreciated. I am grateful, too, to the professional staff of the Foreign Affairs Office and of Academic Affairs; to the academic units represented in the program; and to the UIndy faculty who teach at NIT. The

success earned by this program in its first decade reflects the inspired leadership it has enjoyed, as well as the concerted efforts and dedication of many individuals and units on both campuses.

At this juncture, please allow me to acknowledge and thank Dr. Phylis Lan Lin, who is bringing you my greetings today. Dr. Lin, our Associate Vice President for International Partnerships, has been a champion of the joint program since its inception, and I know we are all most appreciative of her devotion to the enterprise and her continuing efforts on its behalf. I'd also like to thank Dr. Jen Drake, Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences at the University of Indianapolis. Dr. Drake has also made the journey to Ningbo in order to represent UIndy and take part in your ceremony today.

At every Commencement, we pause to consider all those who have helped to make possible the success of the students who are graduating. We would be remiss if we did not make special mention of the parents represented here today. Parents, your pride in your graduating students is justified, but that pride is surely matched by the gratitude your students feel for your financial and moral support over the years. Few of us are able to achieve our most ambitious goals and to excel without our support system, and achieving this milestone is indeed a testament to the generous support enjoyed by each of these graduates. Thank you.

Now allow me to turn to those who have achieved a most significant goal as of today, and whom we celebrate in this ceremony. Congratulations, graduates, on your accomplishment.

Congratulations, too, on your understanding of the importance of preparation, and on identifying and developing the tools you will rely on throughout your lives and careers. Preparing for the future of work requires many skills. The diploma you receive today demonstrates your awareness of their importance. I would simply remind you that you must continue to develop these tools from this day forward.

What are these tools? They are many, but let me suggest just a few of them here. Comprehending the importance of preparation, as I've just mentioned, is key. Your new diploma is evidence that you understand the need for discipline, another key tool. I encourage you to consider its role in your life and learning in your journey so far, and to affirm a continuing commitment to this mastery of the self. Through this discipline, you have developed a specialization with a crucial set of skills that prepares you for change and adaptability in the world of work ahead of you.

Further, as you embark on a career, continue to consider your own strengths and abilities. Evaluate carefully how those strengths set you apart from others, and how they may be paired with the knowledge and abilities you have gained through your education. These can contribute greatly to your life skills and be developed into a competitive advantage in your field.

Clearly, the need to be technologically savvy is crucial to the world of work, today and tomorrow. The pace of technological change, with all its ramifications for work systems and applications to every industry, is increasing at such a rate that we constantly run the risk of becoming obsolete ourselves; we must keep up with change or risk falling hopelessly behind. We must each cultivate creative and sophisticated technological solutions to problems, and continually reevaluate how technology might allow for both fundamental and incremental improvements in our products and processes.

Technology, especially with its many avenues for communication, is a major vehicle for another tool that is important to the future of work: international connectedness. Literally every day, countries and cultures are becoming more intertwined, through countless billions of personal and business interactions and social and professional networks. Being adept in this environment of international connectedness is key, and no field is exempt.

Our joint program is a powerful example of such connectedness, and your presence here today demonstrates your appreciation of its benefits. Both of our cultures benefit as a result of such collaborations. I hope you treasure the opportunity to pair an American education with your traditional Chinese education. It is a great advantage as you strive toward becoming a truly global citizen.

A few years ago on the UIndy campus, we adopted four learning goals—the qualities and abilities we wished to impart to our students. One is critical thinking, so that students will be able to employ the use of reason in making judgments. Another is creativity, enabling students to be able to apply innovative thinking to the challenges they face. Still another is performance, with a focus on students being able to convey the expression and demonstration of meaning as they go about work and life. And the goal of social responsibility concerns students developing their moral consciousness and responsiveness to others. As you embark on your careers, I encourage you to give thought to each of these goals, too, and to consider how you might adopt them as your own—how you might cultivate and exemplify them in your own lives.

I hope that you will take great pride in being a graduate of the joint program, as we take great pride in you and your achievements. I hope, too, that you will consider both the Ningbo Institute of Technology and the University of Indianapolis as your alma maters. I thank you for allowing me to be a part of your celebration.

# “为将来就业作好准备”

## UIndy — NIT Joint Program 2014 年毕业典礼演讲

印第安纳波利斯大学校长 **Dr. Robert L. Manuel** 致辞  
协理副校长 **Dr. Phylis Lan Lin**(藍采風博士)宣读

[藍采風博士] 大家好！这是来自于美国印第安纳和印第安纳波利斯大学的问候！值此隆重的毕业典礼之际，我非常荣幸地代表我们的校长先生，Robert L. Manuel 博士，带来他对大家的问候。

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首先，我要向大家道歉，因为我今天没能亲自来到典礼的现场。但我知道，在座每一位毕业生都是费尽周折来到这里，共同来见证这一重大时刻，我要衷心祝贺你们学有所成。

同时祝贺浙江大学宁波理工学院获得新的荣誉。得知贵校在中国独立院校的新近排名中再次名列前茅，我甚感欣喜。众所周知，贵校上回排名第一已然不易，在第二个连续的年度重摘桂冠更是难上加难。今年刚好迎来宁波理工大学和印第安纳波利斯大学合作办学第 10 个年度，这一荣誉的取得对两校的合作有着特殊而深远的意义，也为我校增光添彩。

请容许我代表印第安纳波利斯大学向如下人士的大力支持表达衷心的感谢。他们是：校长金伟良，副校长杨建刚，党委书记费英勤，感谢你们不遗余力积极推进，确保合作项目取得成功，确保在座的每位学生学有所成。你们花费了大量时间，投入了无穷精力，为此我甚为感激。同时我还要感谢贵校外事办和教务处的工作人员；相关合作学院；以及在贵校从事教学的我校教师。俗话说，十年磨一剑。两校在坚持合作的第一个 10 年中有幸所取得的任何成就都离不开双方校领导们的远见卓识，也是两校相关学院和教员们共同努力、

无私奉献的见证。

值此之际，请容许我也向 Phylis Lan Lin 博士致以谢意。她此刻正在替我转达对你们的问候。蓝教授是我校国际合作计划协理副校长，自从合作办学项目全面启动以来，她已然成为这一项目的领导者。一想到她十年前的大胆创举，目睹她十年如一日在自己的岗位上兢兢业业、全心投入，我想我们中的每一位心怀的不只是钦佩还有感激！同时我要感谢我校文理学院院长 Dr. Jen Drake，今天他也代表我校来到现场参加同学们的毕业典礼。

在每一届的毕业典礼上，我们都不得不停下来仔细想想，当届学生能够圆满毕业，究竟还有谁的功劳？不特别提到今天在座的家长或者家长代表们，就是我们职责的疏忽。家长们，请尽情地以自己的儿女为荣吧！因为在你们心中有几多自豪，你们的儿女心中就有几多感激！感谢你们多年来给予他们慷慨的经济援助，大力的精神支持。没有你们的援助与支持，他们的雄心壮志可能已经成为泡影。如今，顺利完成学业，实现人生重大转折不正是每一位儿女对家长慷慨解囊、全力支持的最好回报嘛！感谢每一位家长！

此刻，请容许我向在座的每位学生宣布：你们已经实现了人生的一个重大目标，今天的典礼为你们而举办！祝贺你们学有所成，圆满完成学业！

我感到欣慰，因为你们已经意识到为就业作准备的重要性，意识到必须逐渐确立、培养起人生和事业所赖以生存的基本素养的必要性。要为将来打基础，没有实际的技能怎么行？你们对此深有体会，才会一路求学，到今天终于获得了毕业文凭。但是，光有文凭还不够，我对你们的期许是：从今天开始，你们仍然需要坚持、完善那些曾经给你们带来成功的素养。

那么，究竟何谓素养？素养体现在很多方面，下面请听我来细数一二。如我之前所提及的，意识到现在就应当开始为将来就业积极作准备、作规划，即是职业素养的一大关键。你们刻苦学习，求得文凭，应该已经知晓自我克制

的必要性，而自制力就是素养的另一大关键。迄今为止，在你们的学习和生活中，自我约束到底有多重要，请务必仔细衡量一番。你们不难发现，一个人要获得成功，自制力是必不可少的！将来你们也要加强自律！唯有具备了强大的自律能力，你们才能逐渐掌握一系列的重要技能、某项专长，才能在未来的职场上如鱼得水，灵活应对职场变化，及时作出自我调整。

接下来，即使你们已经身处职场，仍需不断地反省自身所具备的优势和能力。有哪些优势助你一臂之力，使你从芸芸众生之中脱颖而出？你又应当怎样把它们跟所学的知识、习得的才能结合起来，向下一个成功进阶？只有这样，你在职场的生存能力才会变强，竞争优势才能尽显，你才能成为自己领域内的专家，引领他者。

众所周知，当今和未来的职场急需另一大职业素养：拥有精湛的技术。随着职业市场的日益细分，随着技术在各行各业中的广泛应用，技术的变革日新月异。我们目不暇接，唯有慨叹：自己怎么又落伍了？要想不被社会淘汰，我们必须适应新的变化！我们中的每一个人都应该用创新的思维来探讨问题，用最先进的技术来解决问题，时时刻刻重新审视还有什么新技术可以提高产品的质量，优化生产的流程。

技术，尤其是应用于交际领域内的技术，是未来职场又一大关键素养的主要媒介，掌握了它，你就能跟国际接轨。事实上，每天在世界的各个角落，不计其数的人们利用网络互相交流，积极互动，私人的，商务的，社交的，专业的。国与国之间的距离日渐缩小，不同的文化日趋融合，势不可挡。身处这样的环境，若你还能继续精通自己的领域，感觉得心应手，那你就是赢家。各行各业，无一例外。

我们的合作办学项目正是与国际接轨的最好例证！今天，你们汇聚一堂，分享学有所成的喜悦，感悟跟国际接轨的裨益，何等幸运！国际合作办学一定能带来双赢！我衷心希望，大家能够珍惜这一难得的机会，将美式教育和中

国传统教育完美地结合，扬长避短。当你奋力把自己打造成一位名副其实的全球公民之后，你会发现，自己强大的竞争优势已然尽显！

好几年前，UIndy 开始将以下四大学习目标拟为校训，引领并号召我们的每位学生努力向其靠近。在 UIndy 学什么？怎样学？首先，要培养自己批判性的思维习惯，理性分析问题，明智作出决策。其次，面对挑战时要打破陈规，勇于创新。再者，要及时采取行动，着重培养自己在日常生活和工作实践中顺畅表述见解、阐明意义的能力。最后，要具备社会责任感，树立社会道德意识，对他人有体恤之心。在此，我想向你们中的每一位呼吁，哪怕你们已经毕业，踏上岗位，你们也要时时刻刻牢记这些校训，把它们作为自己人生的准则 — 让它们引领你，鞭策你，完善你！

同学们，为自己有幸参与国际合作项目并学有所成而自豪吧！我们也为你们骄傲！浙江大学宁波理工学院和印第安纳波利斯大学都是你们的母校，你们应该以之为荣！感谢大家给予我这个机会，在此与你们共同见证、庆祝你们圆满毕业！

（此中文稿由上海师范大学外国语学院吴芳老师翻译自英文原稿。）