



The Guest and graduates at the graduation ceremony.

64 students graduate from ISM Tawau

TAWAU: Sixty-four students graduated from the Institute of Science and Management (ISM) here after completing their GCE A-level and Diploma program recently.

The top student in the A-level program was Au Wei Jian while Chok Ken Hung obtained his Diploma with Distinction in Business Studies. For Diploma in Accounting, the top scorers were Yong Ming How, Tho Sing Ning, Liew Yi Yang and Lim Kai Yan.

Guest of honour at the graduation ceremony, Chia Seong Fatt hoped all graduates could show off their literary talents and develop their potential further once they step into society.

Chia, who is also the Chairman of Tawau Chinese Chamber of Commerce (TCCC), said knowledge can change one's fate and wisdom creates wealth. He said integrity is the way of doing business as well as in life as it is the quality of being honest and having strong moral principles, or moral uprightness. It is colloquially a personal choice to hold oneself to consistent moral and ethical standards.

He said personality is the greatest wealth for a person. A thousand miles begins with a single step. There are no simple shortcuts to success in this world. Everything must be done down to

earth and one step at a time.

"We accumulated bits and pieces from nothing. We are living a comfortable life today; it's time to give back to society, to help those less fortunate and underprivileged in order to make wealth more meaningfully," Chia said.

Meanwhile, director of ISM, Chien Mei Jiun also cited that graduation is one of those steps in life that defines a coming of age and the ending of one era of life, as a student or the one being shown the ropes, and moving on to a new stage in which they are a leader, a do-er and an achiever in the wider world.

She assured that many of the graduates had firm plans and a good idea of what's coming next, some of them have a pretty good idea of what they want to do next, a dream and a lot of hope to get them there, and some of them are just amazed that they got to this graduation point at all.

"Life doesn't usually follow the plans you lay out for yourself. You will all experience the highs and lows of life, the difficult and the easy and unfortunately, there may sometimes be times of too many difficulties and just not enough smooth sailing. Your true success will be defined by how you handle both of these times.

"Well, what's great about

graduation today, each of you now have the opportunity to accelerate the recreation and reinvention of yourself. Most of you will leave for college, university and careers, no one in your future faculty will know that you weren't invited to their great party, no one in your new job will know where it was that you hung out during your free periods. This opportunity you have is so rare in your life. Your moment has come. You currently have the identity that we all created together, but now, in this moment, you become your own author, you get to write and revise and like a paper, writing your identity is hard work, is frequently confusing work," she advised the graduates.

Chien hoped the graduates will always remember those who had given them so much to prepare them for their future. Every class they took, every lab, every essay written and every certification earned have all been preparing you to adapt to changes and challenges.

The Dean, Lawrence Kao also urged all ambassadors and alumni of ISM not to be shy to proclaim their strengths and not feel belittled that they came from a small college located in the small town of Tawau as the standard of education they have received is certainly not under-rated.