

President's Speech to all RHU students. Start of Academic Year 2024-2025

- Good morning, RHU. Thank you all for being here.
- I am here to convey to you the warm wishes of the RHU chairperson of the Board, Ms. Nazek Rafik Hariri.
- Ms. Hariri wants you to study hard, succeed, and challenge yourself to be the best you can be.
- She wants you to focus on your professional (quantitative and digital skills, problem-solving, ethical) and personal (soft skills, smile, kindness).
- Wants you to be a good citizen, a law-abiding citizen
- As a mother and a trustee, she cares for your emotional, physical, and intellectual well-being and your safety.
- **Dear Student:** RHU is committed to providing a learning environment that develops your professional and personal skills in an ABET and ACBSP-accredited environment.

Now it is time for a Google exercise.

- Every year, Google revives 3 million applications
- For every job opening, they receive more than 1,000 applications
- The company annually hires around 7,000 people
- Total workforce: 182,000
- One in every 428 interviewees is hired

I need six volunteers (3 males and 3 females).

Please come forward.

Talk to the volunteer. Explain assignment

Talk to the audience.

I want all to raise your hands "like this"

Take your finger and point it to the ceiling

Take your finger and put it on your "CHIN."

I place my finger on my cheek.

Now, look at the person next to you and tell him or her this is not your chin.

How many people placed their finger on their chin?

None.

Now you know how the mind and visualization trick you. You always go to listen.

Visualization distorts input Quality.

You visualized, and you followed:

Had you listened, you would have answered right.

Thank you for making the right choices.

My friends, in today's presentation, I will be talking about **three fundamentals of life:**

1. Life Choices
2. Life Achievements
3. Quality of life

1. Life Choices:

- In life, there is a difference between
- I have to, and I choose to.
- Saying, "I have to study," means that you are studying against your free will. You will study, but the outcome is not certain.
- Saying I choose to study. This means this is my choice, and I am determined to study. I am determined to do a good job and earn good grades.
- So, in life, you "Do not have to do anything" you "choose to do what you do to achieve the desired outcome"
- Dear students, be selective, choose wisely, and keep your eyes and your ears open.
- Mark Tucker, who is an exceptional leader was asked for some life advice, said,

Do not let anybody set your goals for you.

- You are the only person who knows what you could truly accomplish.
- Think about that, why should anybody set a ceiling for you?
- you set your ceiling
- We at RHU will challenge you to set your ceiling.
- I tell you the time spent at RHU shall not be boring.

- Get Engaged
- Participate in clubs, societies, student competitions, marathons, etc.
- Attend the Nazek Rafik Hariri Distinguished Lecture Series. We invite scholars to deliver lectures of various kinds. Attend, participate, ask questions, shake hands, and meet the speakers.
- RHU is not just a place to bury your nose in books. It is also a platform to gain new experiences and prepare yourselves for your future careers.
- Benefit from the partnerships RHU has with universities around the world.
- Visit the coop center.
- Maintain an active relationship with your advisor
- Spend your time at the lab, at the library,
- **I would like to share with you a few thoughts on how to make the most of your college life.**
 - Aim high,
 - Work hard,
 - Be the master of your own life.
 - Choose where you want to be in three years.
 - Set your goals,
 - Work steadily towards achieving them.
 - Further your studies and work on your master's degree.
 - Our faculty and staff are more than happy to help you.
 - If you are concerned about job opportunities, participate in internship programs.
 - Graduates with outstanding academic performance and work experience are always highly desired.
 - Remember, you are the master of your destiny.
 - What you do today determines where you will be in three or four years.
 - **Believe you can succeed, and you will**
 - **Believe that you can move mountains, and you will**

- **Believe that you can do little, and you will**
- **Remember that your attitude is more important than your aptitude. (If you are rude, vulgar, or aggressive, you will not go far in life)**
- **Your ability to think is much greater than your ability to recall.**

- **2 Life Achievements**

- Cherish every learning opportunity.
- Master your chosen discipline (become the best engineer, computer scientist, accountant, etc.).
- Forty years ago, when I was an undergraduate, learning resources were scarce.
- Now, all forms of E-learning technologies are at your fingertips.
- Don't perceive courses outside your study field as unimportant.
- In a 2005 commencement address given by Steve Jobs at Stanford University, he talked about the beautiful typefaces in a calligraphy class he took in college.
- This may not have seemed important at the time; however, ten years later, it came back to him when he was designing the first Mac computer. He used this knowledge when creating typefaces for the first Mac.
- You never know what will be helpful later in life.
- Seize every opportunity to learn as much as you can.
- **Build confidence and destroy all your inner fears.**
- **Fear is real. It exists, and it can be conquered.**
- Most fear is psychological (Worry, tension, panic, embarrassment, mismanagement, negative imagination).

Fear could be conquered. How? Example.

U.S. Navy training requires all sailors to be swimmers. Began swimming lessons.

Require people to jump from a Navy carrier **60 meters high (Equal to a 20-story building)**

Conquer your fear through action.

3 Quality of Life

- Be happy
- Lead a balanced life.
- Be mindful that success is the result of hard work.
- Love your family,
- Appreciate your friends. They are essential elements of success.
- Don't take anything for granted.
- Be grateful.
- Appreciate every opportunity you are given.
- Keep your family informed about your college life and express your love and appreciation to them as often as possible.
- Care for your classmates and friends and give them a hand whenever they're in need.
- Be a compassionate person.

Now, before we conclude this session

We are going to do two Google Exercises

Help me spell: SOPT

Say it five times as fast as you can.

Now, you are driving a car.

You come to a green light. What do you do?

Green Light: You Go.

Conclusion

- It is a great honor for me to welcome you and share my thoughts with you.
- I wish you all a productive and rewarding Journey at RHU.