



The Light of Truth

# Martin Luther Christian University

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**Dear Students,**

**January 3, 2021**

My heartiest and warm New Year 2021 greetings to all of you, and your dear and near ones.

“Another year over; And a new one just begun”. Many of us would have heard these words of John Lennon many times or played the music during this Christmas season. This indeed reminds us to reflect on the year gone by (of 2020) and to look ahead to the coming months of 2021.

We have witnessed and experienced how the year 2020 had been a year of immense challenges in higher education due to COVID-19 pandemic. Amid these challenges, we at MLCU had weaved and harvested, with much satisfaction, the new opportunities in e-teaching-learning that became a global norm. Each of you has been part of the success stories at MLCU with our e-learning through online classes, for which we would like to express our appreciation to you and all the teachers in the University.

As we step into the New Year of 2021, academically at MLCU we also begin our Spring Semester. Welcome to the Spring Semester for which your teachers are already well-prepared to take you through the Semester. You will be hearing from them as soon as the academic session begins. However, we remain extremely challenged with elements of uncertainty in the higher education system. As we await Government directions and guidance, the news of coronavirus mutating in new forms are all around and, therefore, we urge you to remain vigilant and self-practicing on matters of health, hygiene and safety. But let me assure you that at MLCU we have a strong mix of distinctiveness with dedicated faculty, committed academic administrators and management team that will continue to support every one of you in your journey of learning and life. As we look ahead to 2021, I am confident that MLCU is well placed to make continuing progress.

In the midst of on-going COVID-19 pandemic, and now with its ‘*silent mutating variants*’ for which we will continue to strictly adhere to the pandemic guidelines, as ever, I find the creativity, enthusiasm and selflessness of our Board members, faculty, staff, scholars and students very inspiring. True to the core values of our University as well as the overall traditional community ethics of our region, each of you including our large Alumni family continue to be our source of inspiration and our resolve to perform evermore.

The year 2020 also saw continuing activities in academics and research areas as evidenced through the series of regional/national/international webinars organised by the various Departments of the University and academic publications of the faculty. Such examples epitomise our desire to develop the University in a way that benefits everyone in our community, state and region. And above all, these are part of the handholding processes that support in your learning journey in higher education. I believe these are strong evidence of our significant and important progress during 2020, which will continue to be the foundations for our continuing endeavour in the New Year of 2021.

My best wishes for a happy and rewarding 2021. May the New Year bring prosperity, good health and happiness to all of you.

**Dr Vincent T Darlong**  
**Vice Chancellor**

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