

## Speech of the Dean of the Faculty of Chemical and Food Technology prof. Ing. Anton Gatiaľ, DrSc.

Dear graduates of doctoral studies, parents, relatives and acquaintances!

Today, we were supposed to go through one of the most beautiful moments in life together, an occasion in the ceremonial hall of the Slovak University of Technology, where our new doctors were supposed to receive an award for multiple years of work to the sound of celebratory fanfares. I believe that this substitute form of doctoral graduation ceremony organized as a result of the situation regarding the coronavirus will be satisfying enough. This significance of this event also lies in the fact that your academic title of PhD. (philosophiae doctor) in chemistry, chemical engineering and technology, biotechnology, food technology or automation and regulation of processes is being awarded at a university with a long-time tradition, its own name and which has significantly contributed to the development of technical sciences in Slovakia, as well as to the upbringing of our own technical intelligence. You can be proud of the fact that you are doctoral graduates of the Faculty of Chemical and Food Technology, a faculty with 80 years of history, at which most of you have already received two other degrees, bachelor and master. I would like to thank you for your faith in the quality of education at the faculty, at which you have now completed three levels of studies.

Allow me, in my name and in the name of the leadership of the Faculty on Chemical and Food Technology of STU and its academic community, to congratulate you on the successful defense of your dissertation thesis and on the completion of the highest, third level of higher education. The road to these achievements was not easy. Many of you had to deal with demanding requests placed upon students in order to shape them into hard-working, initiative and socially as well as professionally able individuals. It's a display of your tenacity and effort, but responsibility towards your parents and relatives as well, those who have created the best conditions for your studies. It is a display of responsibility towards our school, its teachers and our country. I believe that you will be just as successful in your future life as you were, up until now, in studies at the faculty.

Dear doctoral students,

You have spent many years of intensive studies, successful work and wonderful youth at the faculty. Aside from the amount of scientific knowledge and contacts with our teachers and other employees, during the years of your studies, you have established new connections and friendships. You are leaving our school with memories that will stay with you throughout your whole life. I am convinced that they will only be good memories, and any wounds that could have occurred will be healed swiftly. I wish that you will remember our school and teachers only well, and you will not forget that your present teachers will be glad to share new knowledge with you, advise you in your problems and will find ways to stay in touch in the future as well.

We will keep meeting some of you at the faculty, whether it be at post-doctoral positions or as new colleagues-employees that will continue the road of the high quality of education and research.

In closing, I once more heartily congratulate you and your closest ones on your achievement and wish you much satisfaction and success at your new workplaces and in your personal life.