

## **END OF YEAR EXHIBITION 2015**

### ***A PATH TO ENLIGHTEN***

Speech of Fr. Walid Moussa, President

June 25, 2015

Dear Friends,

A week ago, Pope Francis published his Encyclical Letter *on care for our common home*. He started his letter quoting the words of Saint Francis of Assisi, the lover of nature, who reminds us that our common home is like a sister with whom we share our life and a beautiful mother who opens her arms to embrace us. Our Sister and Mother Earth, who sustains and governs us, and who produces various fruit with colored flowers and herbs, now cries out to us because of the harm we have inflicted on her by our irresponsible use and abuse of the goods with which God has endowed her.

Pope Francis states that “the urgent challenge to protect our common home includes a concern to bring the whole human family together to seek a sustainable and integral development... Humanity still has the ability to work together in building our common home”.

Moreover, Pope Francis’ invitation to you today is to be among those who are striving in countless ways to guarantee the protection of the home which we all share. To be among those who tirelessly seek to resolve the tragic effects of environmental degradation on the lives of the world’s poorest. You, young people, are the pioneers of change. Be the ones who always wonder how can anyone claim to be building a better future without thinking of the environmental crisis and the sufferings of the excluded?

“A PATH TO ENLIGHTEN” or “LIGHT” End of Year Exhibition 2015:

If you look up the words “enlighten” and “light” in your dictionary, you will find synonyms to “enlighten” like inform, instruct, edify, educate, clarify; and to “light” like bright, elegant, agile, not heavy.

This is the spirit and scope of our education. To enlighten and be the light, as well as, be light.

Today, to our faculty members and administrators, I say THANK YOU for all the dedication and care you have for our students.

To parents and friends, I say THANK YOU for entrusting NDU with your most loved ones.

To Minister Ziad Baroud, I say THANK YOU for accepting to share with us the moments of celebrating success.

To you, our students, and soon our graduates, I say I am proud to be your president.

I invite you today to always take the lead with the work you do, be the ones who enlighten the path and guide the mind. Let your creativity be elegant and bright, seek goodness and beauty. Let your work be pleasant to the senses, instructive to the intellect, and enjoyable to the heart.

Hold responsibility and respect towards humanity and our common home, our Sister and Mother Earth.

Congratulations.