MESSAGE

On behalf of the Ateneo de Manila University, I congratulate and thank the Chinese Studies Program for 25 years of excellent work in education and research, and deepening our understanding and appreciation of China and the Chinese roots of our heritage.

The lectures that have been organized in this series to celebrate the anniversary of the program are an interesting reflection of the richness of China and its multi-faceted relationships with other countries in the region. In an increasingly connected global community, and with ASEAN integration not far away, initiatives like the Chinese Studies Program's lecture series can only help broaden our horizons, sharpen our sensitivity to the things that bind and differentiate us, and strengthen the formation of our young people who will have to lead and navigate their way in this new and interlocking world.

Again, congratulations to the Chinese Studies Program and to all the people who have contributed to its mission all these years. May this mission be sustained as the world looks to Asia in the years to come.

Jose Ramon T. Villarin, SJ

President