IN HONOUR OF OUR OUTSTANDING ALUMNI

Congratulating our 2013 Nanyang Alumni Award recipients

NTU HOSTS WORLD CULTURAL COUNCIL AWARDS & WORLD ACADEMIC SUMMIT

INTERACTIVE DIGITAL MEDIA BLOOMS AT NTU

PURSUING ENTREPRENEURIAL SUCCESS OVERSEAS
CONTENTS

02 Message from the President

07 COVER STORY
In honour of our outstanding alumni

ON CAMPUS
20 NTU hosts World Cultural Council Awards and World Academic Summit
22 Interactive digital media to bloom at NTU with three new research centres
24 Medical school building named in honour of philanthropist Toh Kian Chui
25 NTU launches career development centre

PERSONALITY
27 Family comes first
31 Pursuing entrepreneurial success overseas

ALUMNI CONNECT
34 南大中国校友齐聚上海
Gathering of alumni associations in China
39 Strengthening alumni ties
40 Gathering amongst friends

ALUMNI HAPPENINGS
43 Events Calendar
44 Around Taiwan on two wheels

LOVING LIFE!
47 Our alumni share

CLASSNOTES

NTULink is a quarterly magazine mailed free to all alumni of NTU. Articles and Classnotes from alumni are most welcome. Whilst care has been taken in compiling the contents of this magazine, we assume no responsibility for the effects arising therefrom. Opinions expressed therein do not necessarily represent those of the Alumni Affairs Office, the Nanyang Technological University, or the publisher. Contributions for the March 2014 issue should reach the Editor by 15 February 2014. All information is correct at press time.

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear NTU alumni,

The festive season is upon us – a joyous time of sharing. The past year has been one of the most exciting ones for NTU. As 2013 draws to a close, let me take this opportunity to share with you NTU’s achievements.

NTU continues to progress rapidly. In September this year, we were ranked No. 41 in the 2013 World University Rankings by Quacquarelli Symonds (QS). One of only two young universities below 50 years old amongst the global elite, NTU is also the fastest-rising Asian university in the world’s Top 50.

In the Times Higher Education’s World University Rankings released in October, NTU climbed 10 places to be ranked 76th worldwide. This is the third straight year of sharp ascent for NTU in the Times Higher ranking, having vaulted a phenomenal 98 positions since 2010. We have also been ranked No. 1 for industry income and innovation, a huge leap from last year’s 15th place.

With education and research at the heart of this university, I am very proud that our faculty and researchers have generated a quantum leap in research output and quality in recent years. In the latest Thomson Reuters report on research citations, NTU has shot ahead to be 1st in Asia for Normalized Citation Impact.

Our Nanyang Business School has also performed exceptionally well in 2013. The School’s Nanyang MBA programme is ranked 32nd in the Financial Times’ 2013 ranking of the world’s MBA programmes. And for the 10th straight year, it has been ranked No. 1 in Singapore by The Economist and is fourth within Asia. NBS’ EMBA programme also debuted at 13th position in the Financial Times global EMBA ranking. The EMBA programme was tops among those offered solely by Singapore universities.

Last month, our Corporate Communications Office (CCO) clinched five top international awards for communications in Switzerland, Seoul and London. NTU won two awards in the Global Alliance COMM PRIX Awards, winning in both the Reputation & Brand Management as well as Integrated Communications categories. Our latest corporate video bagged the Gold Award for Most Creative Corporate Institution Video and we emerged as the Overall Winner for most creative marketing communications at the QS-APPLE Creative Awards in Seoul. To cap it all, NTU won the first prize in the Times...
Higher Education World University Rankings Video Competition for a 20-second video conceptualised in-house and animated by third-year Art, Design & Media student Kapie Eipak.

As a research intensive university, we continue to build excellent collaborations with research partners and industry leaders, and work towards establishing more facilities to encourage the pursuit of research breakthroughs. Together with Sembcorp Marine, we have launched a new lab for offshore marine research. The Sembcorp Marine Lab @ NTU will focus its research on eco-friendly solutions for the sustainable growth of the industry, including the use of renewable and clean fuels for marine engines, emission control technologies for mitigating greenhouse gases, and innovative heat recovery techniques for marine engines.

NTU has set up Southeast Asia’s first nanomedicine research institute. The new $60 million Nanomedicine Institute @ NTU will focus on diabetes, cardiovascular, ophthalmology and skin therapeutics. It will be headed by Professor Subbu Venkatraman, Chair of NTU’s School of Materials Science and Engineering, with Professor Chad Mirkin from Northwestern University as the chairman of its advisory committee. Prof Mirkin is a scientific advisor to United States President Barack Obama and a celebrated nanotechnology expert.

We are also expanding our expertise in interactive digital media (IDM) with the launch of three new world-class research centres, LILY, ROSE and MAGIC. With a total investment of about S$90 million, these centres will gather the brightest minds from leading international universities and industry giants such as University of British Columbia, Peking University, Tan Tock Seng Hospital, Pacific Parkinson’s Research Centre, HP, NVIDIA, Lushang Group, and Tencent. Set up with the support of the National Research Foundation (NRF) and Media Development Authority (MDA), the centres are a vital part of Singapore’s investment aimed at pushing the frontiers of new IDM technologies and early test-bedding of these new technologies.

Our satellite and space research has achieved another milestone. Singapore now has a second satellite, both built by NTU, orbiting in space. VELOX-II, which lifted off on 21 November, is wholly designed and built by NTU students under the University’s Undergraduate Satellite Programme, a multi-disciplinary hands-on space project for students. Singapore’s first locally-built satellite, the X-SAT, developed by NTU and DSO National Laboratories, was launched into space on 20 April 2011.

Whilst we recently welcomed our pioneer batch of students at Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine, our collaboration with Imperial College London has moved another step forward. Top engineering students from NTU can now study at the famed Imperial College London for a year which was recently announced as NTU’s second partner after the University of California, Berkeley, in its premier Renaissance Engineering Programme (REP). Through this programme, students spend one year at a partner university and pursue their internship overseas. With this latest partnership, REP students get to choose from two world-class universities, increasing their global exposure and promoting cross-cultural exchange.

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We at NTU also play an important role in the professional development of our students in terms of preparing our students for the corporate world of the future. Just last month, we set up the new Margaret Lien Centre for Professional Success, which was made possible by a very generous $12 million gift from Singapore philanthropist Mrs Margaret Lien. With 1.5 times government matching, the total endowed funding for the new centre amounts to $30 million. The centre will offer a structured curriculum of important career skills and values students require, to gain that competitive edge in the job market and to succeed.

In September, NTU held the inaugural Conference of China-based NTU Alumni Associations in conjunction with China Convocation 2013 which was attended by 140 alumni representatives from various parts of China. To promote close fellowship amongst its China-based alumni and to strengthen their ties with the University, NTU has established 30 alumni associations in China, the first being in Shanghai in June 2007.

We also look on with pride as we celebrated the achievements of some of our outstanding alumni during October’s grand alumni homecoming. Some 1300 alumni attended the homecoming which included English and Chinese forums, a campus tour, and an Oktoberfest-themed celebration. These alumni awardees give their best in what they do, and they serve with utmost integrity. They have attained remarkable accomplishments in their respective fields of expertise and have made profound impact whilst contributing to the nation and to the University. They have played an important role in NTU’s soaring excellent reputation and name.

Whilst 2013 has seen some of the most exciting times for NTU, I can assure you that 2014 will be just as vibrant. I hope you will continue to be engaged with your alma mater because NTU will continue to excel with your unwavering support. Relish the joy of knowing that you can make a difference. I thank you for your invaluable contributions of time, talent and resource and I look forward to your continual support.

On behalf of all at NTU, I wish you and your family a very Happy New Year!

校长寄语

充满节日的季节再次来临 – 这是我们分享欢乐的时刻。对于南洋理工大学来说，过去的一年是最令人兴奋的一年。在2013年即将结束之际，让我借此机会与大家分享南大在上个季度所取得的成就。

南大正在飞速的进步！今年的九月，我们在2013年QS世界大学排行榜上名列41；南大在精英大学林立的该排名榜中是仅有的两所低于50年校龄的大学之一；南大也是居于世界前五十所大学中发展最快的亚洲大学。

南大在今年十月的英国《泰晤士报高等教育专刊》的全球大学排名榜上进步十名而排在第76名。从2010年南大被排在98名以来，这是南大连续第三年在排名榜上大幅度上升。南大今年在“业界收入和创新”两项中被列为第1，而去年则是第15名，这是巨大的进步。
由于南大以教育和科研为中心，我很自豪地与大家分享，最近几年来我们的教员和科研人员在科研成果与科研质量方面取得了巨大的突破。在最近汤森路透社在科研成果被引用的报告中，南大的标准化引用影响亚洲首位。

我们的南洋商学院在2013年也表现得格外出色。在英国《金融时报》2013年工商管理硕士（MBA）课程全球排名榜上，南洋商学院的该课程名列32。南洋商学院也已连续第10年被《经济学人》列为新加坡首位及亚洲第4名。《经济学人》的最新排名显示了南洋商学院与南大在国际上的声望。此外，在英国《金融时报》高级工商管理课程（EMBA）全球排名榜上，南洋商学院的EMBA课程首次被列为第13名。南洋商学院的EMBA课程在完全由新加坡大学所开设的EMBA课程排行榜上也名列前茅。

上个月，我们的资讯与公关处在公关资讯方面分别在瑞士、首尔和伦敦荣获五项国际奖。南大在公共关系全球联盟奖（Global Alliance COMM PRIX Awards）中荣获两个奖项即“名誉与品牌管理”以及“综合公关资讯”。我们最近的企业视频宣传片也在韩国首尔所举办的“QS-苹果创意大奖”获得了“最具创意企业宣传片”金奖，和综合“最具创意销售公关”奖。更加令人高兴的是，在英国《泰晤士报高等教育专刊》世界大学排名榜的比赛中，南大艺术、设计与媒体学院三年级学生卡比·埃帕（Kapie Eipak）创作的20秒钟动画短片荣获一等奖。

作为一所研究型大学，我们继续同科研合作伙伴和业界的领军企业们建立卓越的合作关系，并且竭尽全力建造更多的设备，以鼓励大家努力在科研上实现新突破。我们同新加坡胜科海事公司共同建造了一所新的离岸海事研究实验。 “胜科海事实验室@南大”将专注于寻找符合生态环境的解决方案，以便运用于工业的持续发展，包括船用发动机的可再生清洁燃料、温室气体排放量控制技术、船用发动机创新的热回收技术等等。

南大建造了东南亚第一所新型纳米医学研究所。这所耗资6000万新元建设起来的南大纳米医学研究所，将专注于研究糖尿病、心血管疾病、眼科疾病、皮肤病等疑难杂症和疗法。该研究所将由南大材料科学与工程学院院长苏卜教授（Prof Subbu Venkatraman）领导，并由美国西北大学的查德·米金教授（Prof Chad Mirkin）担任该研究所咨询委员会主席。米金教授也是美国总统奥巴马的科学顾问以及著名的纳米技术专家。

我们也正在把我们的专长扩大到互动数字媒体的研究领域，因为我们建立了三所世界级研究中心，即“百合卓越联合研究中心”、“博云搜索实验室”与“多平台游戏创新中心”。南大总共投资约9000万新元，设立三个新的互动式数字媒体研究中心，并且从国际领先大学和业界巨头中招聘最优秀的人才。南大的合作伙伴包括加拿大英属哥伦比亚大学、北京大学、陈笃生医院、太平洋帕金森氏症研究中心、以及业界的重量级企业，诸如惠普（HP）、英伟达（NVIDIA）、中兴集团（中国最大的国有企业之一）、腾讯公司（中国最大的互联网服务供应商）。

我们的卫星和宇航研究也走到了另一个里程碑。现在新加坡已经拥有第二颗卫星，两颗卫星都是由南大建造。在今月11月21日发射的VELOX-III卫星，是完全由南大的学生们在
“南大本科生卫星计划”下设计和建造的。该计划是学生们多学科、自己动手制作的宇航工程项目。新加坡第一颗本土制造的X-SAT卫星，由南大和新加坡科技研究局国家实验室共同研发，已于2011年4月20日发射升天。

正当我们迎接南大李光前医学院第一批新生入学之际，我们同伦敦帝国学院的合作也进入了另一个新阶段。南大最优秀的工科学生们现在可以在著名的伦敦帝国学院深造一年。伦敦帝国学院是南大最近宣布的第二个合作伙伴，我们“博雅英才课程”的第一个合作伙伴是美国加州大学伯克利分校。通过这门课程，学生们将在合作大学里学习一年，期间也可在海外实习。有了南大与伦敦帝国学院这个最新的协作关系，该课程的学生们可以在上述两所世界一流的大学之间择一进行实习，以便提升海外经历并促进跨文化交流。

南大也在培养学生们的专业经验方面发挥重要作用，让他们将来进入工商企业界做好准备。就在上个月，我们建立了“连瀛洲夫人职业辅导中心”，该中心由新加坡慈善家连瀛洲的夫人陈文贤女士慷慨捐设1200万新元设立的，加上政府一元兑一点五元的资助，总共为该中心筹集了3000万新元。该中心将为学生们提供他们所需要的有关就业技巧与价值观的结构化教学大纲，以便使他们在就业市场上具有竞争力并取得成功。

今年9月份，我们举办了首届全中国南大校友会联谊会议，该会议是配合2013年南大中国毕业典礼而举行的。有140多名来自中国各地的南大校友会代表出席。为了促进南大中国校友们的友谊与加强他们同母校的联系，南大在中国总共成立了30个校友会。第一个南大中国校友会于2007年6月在上海成立。

在今年10月举行的校友回校日里，我们也自豪地为南大一些杰出校友的成就而庆祝。约有1300位校友参加回校日活动，包括英语和华语论坛、游览校园活动、以啤酒节为主题的庆典活动。这些荣获“南洋校友奖”的校友们在自己的工作岗位上尽职尽力，用最大的诚信服务社会。他们在各自的领域里取得了非凡成就，回馈国家与母校，发挥了深远的影响。他们在提升南大的信誉和声望方面，发挥了重要作用。

虽然南大在2013年有许多最激动人心的时刻，我还要向你们保证，2014年也同样精彩。我希望大家能够继续与母校保持联络，因为南大在你们的坚定支持下将继续进步。希望校友们继续感受母校因你们而不同的美好。我感谢你们抽出宝贵的时间、能力和资源，也期待能够得到你们的继续支持。

我谨代表南大全体教职员工，祝您与家人新年快乐！
IN HONOUR OF OUR OUTSTANDING ALUMNI

Dr Wong Meng Voon @ Wong Men Won (Arts/1961), eminent champion of Singapore Chinese literature, and Mr Masagos Zulkifli bin Masagos Mohamad (EEE/1988), Senior Minister of State for Home Affairs and Foreign Affairs – NTU’s 2013 Distinguished Alumni Award recipients – share their thoughts on receiving the University’s highest alumni accolade, and more.
An international authority on the genre of mini-fiction or micro-novel, Dr Wong is one of Singapore’s most prominent and prolific Chinese-language writers. Writing under the pen name of Meng Yi, his collections of short stories and mini-fiction – including When I Meet Huilan Again, I Want to Live, Happy Nest, and Mini-Stories of Wong Meng Voon – have garnered not just local critical acclaim, but in the region as well. In 1970, Dr Wong founded the Singapore Association of Writers with fellow writer friends, and subsequently also served as its President for 20 years. The Association has since grown to become one of Singapore’s largest registered Chinese literary associations. Dr Wong received the Cultural Medallion for Literature in 1981.

“I’m deeply honoured to be conferred the Nanyang Distinguished Alumni Award. I still reminisce my experience studying at NTU. Though we had a busy schedule attending lessons during school days, I remember how we enjoyed the evening walks around the Yunnan Garden campus and chatting with classmates after dinner. NTU has played a commendable role in bridging the cultures between the east and west, as well as producing graduates who are generally bilingual. In addition, NTU has done a remarkable job in connecting with its alumni and I hope that it will continue its good work,” said Dr Wong.

As a renowned master of minifiction and one of Singapore’s most prominent and prolific Chinese-language writers, you have contributed tremendously in advancing, promoting and popularising the Chinese minifiction form to the world. What were some of your fondest memories and experiences?

As one of the main promoters of the World Chinese Mini-Fiction Research Association, I was committed to making these contributions. In December 1994, the Chinese Writers Association of Singapore sponsored the First World Chinese Mini-Fiction International Symposium, inviting representatives of mini-fiction writers from various corners of the world to attend the symposium in Singapore, and to discuss the features of this new emerging style of writing, as well as its future development. After the symposium, all of us put our promises into actions. For me, I was later elected as President of the World Chinese Mini-Fiction Research Association – for the first two terms.

In 1970, you founded the Singapore Association of Writers which has grown to become one of the largest registered Chinese literary associations in Singapore. What was your objective and motivation in establishing this Association?

After the end of World War Two in 1945, a number of writers organisations emerged in the literary and art circles in Malaya (including Singapore), but most of them were short-lived. In 1965, after Singapore’s independence, a number of Chinese writers, including Lien Shih Sheng...
books such as *The Selected Mini-fictions* 《微型小说选刊》 published by Nanchang Publishing House, and the *Selected Micro-Novels* 《小小说选刊》, published by Zhengzhou Publishing House in China, as well as some magazines published in Singapore such as *Singapore’s Chinese Literature* 《新华文学》, *Singapore Literature* 《新加坡文艺》, *Bukit Timah Literature* 《锡山文艺》, *Tuas Literature* 《大士文艺》 and the *Equatorial Wind* 《赤道风》. These often publish very good short novels, and they are worthy of reference.

**What do you think are some of the challenges in encouraging more interest in Chinese mini-fiction today?**

Under present circumstances, it might be quite difficult to encourage our young to read Chinese literature. It is also difficult to popularise the Chinese micro-novels, because micro-fiction is only one of the many styles of writings. Fortunately, a micro-novel is very short in length, and is easy to read. In this regard, there is room for us to continue encouraging interest in Chinese mini-fiction.

**If you could choose one of your many works, which would be the most special to you and why?**

I think *A collection of mini-fiction by Wong Meng Voon* 《黄孟文微型小说》 is quite unique. The book was published by Ling Zi Publishing House in 2004. This collection includes some of the popular micro-novels such as *The Official’s Chair* 《官椅》, *The Bleakness Underneath the Bed* 《床底下，迷茫》, *Happy Vulture* 《喜鹰》.

**What would you like to say to fellow alumni who might be keen in pursuing their interest in becoming Chinese mini-fiction writers?**

NTU is a local university with a higher level of Chinese language. It is very desirable that some teachers, students and alumni of NTU are interested in reading micro-fiction. I would like to encourage them to read
my father and a difficult episode for my family financially. Yet it was also a great journey of discovery as I discovered the world of engineering which NTU dispensed in a unique approach focused on producing engineers who can hit the ground running. It was also in NTU that I learnt to build a social organisation from scratch and the effort needed to gel people with diverse interests even if they’re sympathetic to your cause.”

“My years in NTU launched me well into my career and life in the real world. It put me well into a meaningful career in SingTel also in the non-career world where I rallied successful people to work together to help those in need. I hope NTU continues to produce the best in its class and produce students who do not only excel in their field of study but will be developed to contribute to society with their time and wealth they will have built in future,” said Mr Masagos.

How were you encouraged and motivated to serve in the grassroots and in the civil service?

I’ve always been involved in community service since young starting in the mosque as a youth, and later in PERDAUS which also founded Mercy Relief. Serving in the grassroots further opened my mind to the wider community that our nation is made up of.

What are your views on how we could build a harmonious and inclusive community and how can this be encouraged amongst the young?

We cannot take our harmony for granted – in a society so diverse like Singapore it needs tending to. As a start, participate in grassroots activities that build good neighbourliness and a sense of belonging to the community. The young learn this in school but nothing beats their parents bringing them along to community events.

What have been some of your memorable moments and challenges whilst serving in the civil service and grassroots?

There have been many. Apart from the bonding efforts which bear fruits quite quickly, there are others which take some time to realise. I remember a boy whom we assisted when his father passed away, followed by his mother’s death. He came back to our Meet-the-People Session years later to inform us that he will be starting his degree programme in a university!

What would you like to say to fellow alumni who might be keen in pursuing a career in the civil service or volunteering in grassroots?

It is a call of duty and an honour to serve our nation. You will find meaning in the lives you transform and the families you help. Not many will thank you directly, but you do go home and sleep well.
Five notable alumni receive this year’s Nanyang Alumni Achievement Award.

Mr Ong Yen Her
Arts
B.A./Class of 1970 & B.A.(Hons.)/Class of 1971

For more than three decades, Mr Ong Yen Her has made manifold and steadfast contributions in furthering labour-management cooperation and the tripartite partnership between employers, employees, and the Government in Singapore.

He joined Singapore’s Administrative Service in 1974 and began his career with the then Ministry of Labour. In the early 1980s, he was seconded to the National Trades Union Congress (NTUC) and was later appointed Secretary for Industrial Relations. He also served as Executive Secretary of the Chemical Industries Employees’ Union, Head of Industrial Relations in NTUC, and Advisor to Singapore Maritime Officers’ Union and Union of Telecoms Employees’ of Singapore. In 1985, he returned to the Ministry of Labour, where he served as Director of Labour Relations before being promoted to Divisional Director for Labour Relations and Welfare. Mr Ong is currently Senior Director and Advisor at the Ministry of Manpower and the lead negotiator for the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP) Free Trade Agreement on labour issues.

In the course of his career, Mr Ong has made a significant impact in the areas of industrial relations, labour standards, wages, trade unions, international labour, fair employment and work-life practices. His strong leadership has made it possible for Singapore to benefit from a near strike-free climate since 1986. An example of Mr Ong’s conciliation skills and sense of diplomacy is his ability to bring about a quick and amicable settlement to the two-day strike in 1986 which involved marine tool manufacturer Hydril and the Singapore Marine Engineering and Employees’ Union. He also settled the high-profile SIA-pilots dispute on wage cuts in 2003 during the SARS epidemic, among other resolved major industrial disputes.

Mr Ong is the recipient of the National Trades Union Congress’ Distinguished Service (Star) Award in 2012, the Public Administration Medal (Gold) in 2006, and the Public Administration Medal (Silver) in 1994.

Mr Chua Kee Seng Thomas
Arts
B.A./Class of 1979

Mr Chua Kee Seng Thomas was elected President of Singapore Chinese Chamber of Commerce & Industry’s (SCCCI) 57th Council in early 2013, after serving the Chamber in a wide range of leadership roles in its industrial, economics, Information Technology, and general affairs committees, and also as Vice President over the last 18 years. He was the first NTU alumnus to assume the position of President in the history of SCCCI.

Over the past two decades, Mr Chua has also been an active figure in the wider Chinese community in Singapore beyond SCCCI, lending his support and expertise to many different organisations. These include Singapore Hokkien Huay Kuan where he serves as Vice President, Singapore Kim Mui Hoey Kuan, Business China, and the Chinese Development Assistance Council.

An advocate of education, Mr Chua has sat on the Dunman High School Advisory Committee and School Management Committee of Singapore Hokkien Huay Kuan Affiliated Schools.

Mr Chua has also contributed to the nation by serving as member of the National Productivity & Continuing Education Council (NPCEG), and Board Director of the Standards, Productivity & Innovation (SPRING) Board.

He is a recipient of the Public Service Medal at the National Day Awards in 2012, and the Fifth International Management Action Award by the Chartered Management Institute Singapore and SPRING Singapore in 2005.

Mr Chua is Chairman & Managing Director of the mainboard listed Teckwah Industrial Corporation Limited.
Mr Lim Chow Kiat was appointed GIC’s Group Chief Investment Officer on 1 February 2013. As the fund manager for Singapore’s foreign reserves, GIC is tasked to achieve a reasonable risk-adjusted rate of return above global inflation over a 20-year investment horizon. Its aim is to ensure that the reserves are preserved and enhanced to provide a stream of income that can be spent or invested for present and future generations.

Mr Lim, who graduated with first class honours in Accountancy from NTU in 1993, was GIC’s only fresh hire that year. Since then, he has risen steadily through the ranks from his first job as portfolio manager. He developed GIC’s capability in corporate bonds, and was appointed Head of the fixed income, currency and commodities department and Deputy President of GIC Asset Management in 2008. In 2009, he was appointed president (Europe) to oversee GIC’s investments and relationships in Europe, Africa and the Middle East, before his appointment as President of GIC Asset Management in July 2011. On 1 April 2012, he was appointed Deputy Group Chief Investment Officer.

Through all of these roles, he has continued to build on GIC’s investment capability to ensure a robust investment process, and to deliver the best possible long-term returns for the benefit of Singapore and Singaporeans.

Mr Lim’s investment acuity has received international recognition. In 2012, he was inducted into the Fixed Income Analysts Society (FIASI) Hall of Fame in the United States. He joined 39 others in the FIASI Hall of Fame which recognises the lifetime achievements of outstanding practitioners in the advancement of the analysis of fixed-income securities and portfolios. Mr Lim holds the triple distinction of being FIASI’s youngest, first international, and first Sovereign Wealth Fund inductee into its Hall of Fame.

Mr Zaqy Bin Mohamad first became a Member of Parliament (MP) in 2006 to represent the people of Hong Kah Group Representation Constituency (GRC), and is now serving as MP for Chua Chu Kang GRC. He is the Chairman of the Chua Chu Kang Town Council and Vice-Chairman of the South West Community Development Council. Adopting a hands-on approach, Mr Zaqy is very much involved in his constituency’s Meet-the-People sessions and his particular concerns include low-income families, and the elderly. He has a strong interest in the concerns of the working population, in social development and cohesiveness, and in Singapore’s economic agenda.

He is the Chairman of the Communications and Information Government Parliamentary Committee (GPC). He was the youngest GPC Chairman appointed in 2008 since the GPCs were introduced. Mr Zaqy also serves in the GPCs for Finance and Trade & Industry as well as Manpower. He has been a member of the Public Accounts Committee since the commencement of the 11th Parliament of Singapore. He also pursues various other community interests, serving on the Board of Directors of the Singapore Science Centre, and previously for SPRING Singapore. He is also an Advisor to the National Transport Workers’ Union, the Union of ITE Staff and the Association of Small and Medium Enterprise Feedback Group.

He has been an outstanding leader since his student days at NTU, when he served two terms as the President of the NTU Students’ Union, championing student welfare and financial assistance programmes for needy students.

Mr Zaqy was a recipient of the Nanyang Outstanding Young Alumni Award in 2006. He is currently the Sales Head at Dimension Data (Singapore), a Nippon Telegraph and Telephone (NTT) Group company.
Mr Lan Tianli
School of Humanities and Social Sciences
MPA/Class of 2007

Mr Lan Tianli pursued his Masters in Public Administration, also known as the Mayors’ Class, at Nanyang Technological University (NTU) in 2006, and became one of the most outstanding students in his class.

After returning to work, he performed his duties excellently and made outstanding achievements.

Mr Lan was elected as the Vice-Chairman of the People’s Government of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region in 2011, and was also elected as an Alternate Member of the 18th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC)’s in 2012. Previously, he served as the Director of the Scientific and Technological Department of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, Mayor of the People’s Government of Hechi City, and Party Secretary of Hechi City, among other posts. Mr Lan was put in charge of, successively, the Guangxi Beibu Bay Economic Zone, Commercial Affairs, Foreign Affairs, Overseas Chinese Affairs, Quality Supervision, Civil Affairs, Nationality Affairs, Construction, Industry and Commerce, Tourism, Promotion of Investment, and many others.

Mr Lan was the General Director of the 9th China-ASEAN Expo and the China-ASEAN Business and Investment Summit held successfully in Guangxi. With his determination to forge ahead and his bravery in blazing new trails, Mr Lan has made outstanding contributions in promoting the cultural exchanges and co-operation between China and ASEAN, and between Guangxi and Singapore, as well as in initiating the cooperation between Nanyang Technological University and Guangxi (Zhuang Autonomous Region).

Nanyang Outstanding Young Alumni Award

Mr Yap Boon Chien (NIE/2000; 2009)
Mr Wai Chun Yip Thomas (EEE/2004; NBS/2009)

Major Agus Harimurti Yudhoyono (RSIS/2006)
Mr Lee Teng (NBS/2006)

Nanyang Alumni Service Award

Dr Leong Poo Chow (Science/1962)
Mr Teh Tatt Wah (Commerce/1975)
Mr Liew Han-Young (CEE/1995)
Dr Fan Yaqiang (HSS/1999)
Mr Zeng Xianghui (HSS/2000)
Dr Chua Kee Sze Ricky (MSE/2005; 2012)

Mr Ong Zihao James (SCE/2007)
Mr Khur Boon Kgim (EEE/2007)
Mr Li Shichang (NTC/2007)
Mr Shua Sheng Long (MAE/2008)
Mr Lim Hongyao Alex (NBS/2008)
Ms Wang Jinxiu (NBS/2009)

About the Nanyang Alumni Awards

The Nanyang Alumni Awards were launched in 2005, for the all-round recognition of alumni in various fields who have brought honour to the University. Nominations are accepted for four award categories – the Nanyang Distinguished Alumni Award, the Nanyang Alumni Achievement Award, the Nanyang Outstanding Young Alumni Award and the Nanyang Alumni Service Award.

These Awards are presented to alumni who have attained exemplary achievements in their field of specialisation nationally, regionally or internationally, or have contributed significantly to the betterment of the University, the community of the society.
This year’s NTU Alumni Homecoming, a key event in the University’s annual calendar, was held on 12 October attracting some 1,300 alumni and guests. Twenty-three outstanding alumni were presented the Nanyang Alumni Awards during the NTU Alumni Night, in conjunction with the homecoming programme.

They received their awards and certificates from Guest-of-Honour Mr Lawrence Wong, Acting Minister for Culture, Community and Youth and Senior Minister of State for Communications and Information, and NTU President Professor Bertil Andersson.

The highest accolade – the Nanyang Distinguished Alumni Award – was presented to Mr Masagos Zulkifli bin Masagos Mohamad, Senior Minister of State for Home Affairs and Foreign Affairs (EEE/1988), and Dr Wong Meng Voon @ Wong Men Won (Arts/1961), an eminent champion of Singapore Chinese literature and Cultural Medallion recipient.

Amongst those conferred the Nanyang Alumni Achievement Awards this year are Mr Chua Kee Seng Thomas (Arts/1979), President of the Singapore Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry; and Mr Zaqy Bin Mohamad (EEE/1999), Member of Parliament for Chua Chu Kang GRC.

The Nanyang Outstanding Young Alumni Award recipients included Major Agus Harimurti Yudhoyono (RSIS/2006), one of Indonesia’s most decorated young military leaders and the elder son of the President of Indonesia, Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono; and television personality Mr Lee Teng (NBS/2006).

Also, 12 alumni were honoured with the Nanyang Alumni Service Award for their dedication and commitment to the University’s causes and initiatives. Amongst them are five who have served or are currently serving in NTU’s overseas alumni chapters.

Minister Wong congratulated the awardees and commended the University for encouraging the spirit of volunteerism and giving amongst
its alumni. He believes that a great university must have strong identity and community spirit and that it must produce graduates who are proud to be associated with the university, and who feel a sense of mission to contribute to and better the society.

"Such giving makes NTU a caring community, with deep ties that extend across generations. In fact, this strong sense of community and mutual support is vital not just for universities like NTU, but also for our nation’s success,” added Minister Wong.

In his welcome address, Prof Andersson updated alumni and guests on the University’s progress and developments, and thanked the alumni for their support. “On behalf of the University, I would like to express our deepest appreciation to you, the NTU alumni, for your contributions in building this future together with us. Without your remarkable participation and advocacy, NTU would not be quite what it is today,” said Prof Andersson.

Alumni and guests were treated to entertaining musical and dance performances by NTU students after the awards presentation. The celebrations continued late into the night and the attendees were in for a delightful treat at the University’s Quad area. Following the theme of Oktoberfest, the alumni were treated with premium beer from Germany, Belgium and the US. Games such as Beer Pong and a drinking competition that saw a battle between husband and wife added to the night’s fun affair. Attendees were also treated to a wonderful array of performances into the night as a live band helped lighten the mood and NTU’s dance crews, Soul Funky and MJ Hip Hop, brought heart-pumping energy to the event with their energetic and smooth moves.

Prior to the Nanyang Alumni Awards presentation ceremony, a campus tour and English and Chinese forums on “Raising children in the digital age” and “Investing in your future” were also held.
RAISING CHILDREN IN THE DIGITAL AGE

Participants at the Alumni Forum learn how to manage modern technology’s benefits and pitfalls when bringing up children today.

NTU’s 2013 Alumni Homecoming on 12 October started with an informative forum that greatly benefited the participants. The forum, ‘Raising Children in the Digital Age’, was held at the School of Biological Sciences.

Three alumni speakers discussed issues on raising children in today’s world where modern digital technology is getting more prevalent at the session which was chaired by Associate Professor Lok Tat Seng, NTU’s Director of Students.

Ms Teo Siew Kim Ruby (EEE/2002), the Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Stafford Education Holdings started the session with her insights into ‘The Digital Learner, Parent and Environment’. She emphasised that in today’s modern world, parents have to be more involved in the process of self-learning through the use of technology.

Following Ms Teo’s insightful sharing, Dr Koh Wee Lit (SCE/2004), the Producer and Business Owner of Red Hare Studios, shared his tips on how best to select appropriate games for the younger generation. He provided information on ratings issued to video games and what those ratings actually entail. With first-hand information from an insider of the gaming industry, parents gained useful knowledge on selecting appropriate games for their children for educational and entertainment purposes.

Mdm Moliah Hashim (NIE/1997), Chief Executive Officer of Yayasan MENDAKI, wrapped up the presentations by speaking on the educational aspect. She shared that the cyber world is now the new playground where every aspect of people’s physical social lives has been replaced with technology.

The forum ended with a question-and-answer session featuring interesting discussions with the Forum Chairman and alumni speakers. Attended by 120 participants, the session served as a purposeful reminder for all to be aware of the ways to raise children well today, when the influences of technology are rampant.

Dr Koh Wee Lit shares more with NTULink.

Why do children get addicted to social networking platforms such as Facebook and online gaming? How do we ensure children are able to balance the pros and cons of these platforms?

There are several reasons why children get addicted. This addiction can be in varying degrees too. In order to understand
the addiction, one needs to first understand these platforms and games. Online games sometimes provide children with a fantasy that they may not be achievable in real life – that is what games are set out to do, to fulfill a fantasy. Addiction only happens when children start winning the game and play continuously. If they lose, many a times you find them quickly abandoning the game.

It is easy for a parent to comment that their children are addicted to online gaming, but sometimes it is also possible that parents are stereotyping without understanding the games their children are playing. If their children are actually designing a game level for other players to enjoy, then this ‘addiction’ may actually be beneficial to the children because it encourages creativity.

Unfortunately, most addictions are not always good. These addictions stem from the adrenaline rush obtained from playing games. To ensure children do not develop these forms of addictions, it all boils down to parenting style. The way a parent will relieve a child’s gaming addiction is no different from how a parent will attempt to correct a child’s bad habits. Maybe the parents can play the game together with the child, or perhaps encourage the child to play a board game instead.

Children these days are exposed to a lot of information on the internet, both good and bad. How do we protect our children’s safety when they are surfing the net, and how can we control the kind of information they access to?

I am in favour of education over control, teaching children to be responsible. Although the internet is a new medium, parenting is not a new skill. A responsible and well-informed child will be able to differentiate right and wrong regardless of the medium.

Parents cannot be around to control every single decision that the child makes. Teaching children how to make these decisions based on moral principles is better than attempting to control or restrict the child’s access to information.

Some online games may be beneficial for children to engage kids’ imagination and creativity. How can we choose suitable games for children? What should we look out for?

Games are usually designed with a specific user experience in mind, to unlock a certain fantasy or to enable players to role play in a particular role. Naturally, it is expected that games with a role play as soldiers will not improve kids imagination as compared to one that allows the child to role play as a restaurant owner. Understanding the objective of the game will help parents choose the best games for their children.

How can parents make children understand the risks associated with digital and online communication? How can parents intervene if their children are showing signs of addiction, without causing too much harm to the parent-child relationship?

Digital communication is fundamentally a form of communication. Similar to the ‘Do not talk to strangers’ message that are told to children, the same approach can be used to teach children about the dangers of online communication. The best way for parents to intervene would be to invite the child to join in other forms of games. Perhaps parents could also join the game to understand the addiction itself and help work with the child to eliminate that addiction.
18 COVER STORY – 投资您的未来

01. 曾渊沧校友向大家介绍自己的投资经验，声情并茂，侃侃而谈。
02. 校友听众与主讲者在问答环节交流投资心得。
投资您的未来

在配合南大校友回校日举办的中文论坛中，曾渊沧博士与校友们分享了他的投资经验。当天对投资感兴趣的260名校友和来宾参加了该论坛，并积极地参与讨论。戴文雪校友（文学院/1975）为论坛主席。

主讲人则是现为香港中原城市指数研究组顾问的曾渊沧博士（理学院/1975）。当天论坛的特别之处就是，爱好摄影的曾博士用他在世界各地拍摄的照片与大家分享如何正确地投资。论坛一开始，曾博士就强调分析力和语言的掌握对投资的重要性，必须打好这两方面的基础，在投资时才能正确地做出判断。

接下来，曾博士就用照片分享他过去二、三十年的投资经历，并以他丰富的个人经历与故事为例，与大家畅谈。曾博士系统地分析了投资者投资前应做的准备、投资时应拥有的心态、在股市将面对的事物以及应注意的事项。

在整场论坛中，他不断地强调投资的两大要素。第一是准确地捕捉股市周期，也就是股市的最高点和最低点，把握赚钱的良机。第二是在高低起伏不定的股市保持一颗平静的心态，这样无论股市如何，心情波动就不会太大，也不容易做下冲动的决定。

除了曾博士精彩的演讲之外，校友们也在问答环节与曾博士进行有深度的互动与交流。有建设性的交流除了解答提问者的疑惑，也使大家对投资有了更深一层的认识。

参与了这场论坛的罗明旭校友（工学院/2011）和游淋云先生（现为南洋科技创业中心学员）都异口同声地表示，他们从曾博士的演讲中学到了很多投资技巧，但更多的是对人生的感受与感悟，例如学会调节心理，保持平静。这场难得的论坛使校友们大开眼界，获益良多。

校友论坛是南大校友回校日的组成活动之一，于10月12日在南大生物科学学院举办。

在演讲过后，一些校友们也问了投资相关的问题。

请问您觉得中国和新加坡的股市处在什么样的阶段？中国的股市周期有怎样的特点？

中国的股市周期跟国际相反，中国2008年开始印钞票，股市从2009年开始下跌。中国股市现在处在含苞待放的阶段，而新加坡的股市有3/1受中国影响，2/3受美国影响。曾博士还表示他在未来三年最看好的新加坡行业是金融业。观察新加坡的股市，是7年一个周期，而现在已经是第六年，所以在投资股票时需谨慎。

在投资获利中，请问您是如何应对通货膨胀这个问题的？您是怎样打理您的盈利？

在谈到如何‘守’财时，曾博士说他会用自己投资获利的一部分来在股市或楼市寻找新的投资机会。他还分享说持有股票也是考验投资者心理的过程。他曾经向股民推荐过一些股票，但是有些投资者获得一倍盈利时就不再持有，而他自己现在已经从该股票获利了一倍。论坛主席戴文雪校友补充说松投资要靠数学和统计作基础，分析能力和沉稳的心态也非常重要。
Nanyang Technological University (NTU) hosted two prestigious events from 2 to 4 October – the World Cultural Council (WCC)’s 30th Award Ceremony and the World Academic Summit (WAS). These events brought into focus the outstanding achievements of the world’s best and most creative minds, and brought together leaders and decision-makers from around the world to discuss the opportunities and challenges related to the development of future research and innovation.

WCC honours three leading scholars and artists; academic leaders gather for inaugural summit.

Three leading scholars and artists were honoured at the WCC Award Ceremony on 2 October. The WCC, a Mexico-based international organisation that promotes academic achievement, presented its Albert Einstein World Award of Science to Professor Sir Paul Nurse, President of the Royal Society (United Kingdom), and the Leonardo da Vinci Award of Arts to Professor Petteri Nisunen and Mr Tommi Gronlund in a ceremony on NTU’s campus, which was graced by Ms Indranee Rajah, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Law and Ministry of Education.

Each year, the WCC chooses two leading scholars from around the world – one in the field of science and the second, in alternate years, either in arts or education – whose work benefits society. The WCC selects a university to host the annual awards celebration.

This is the first time in the 30-year history of the ceremonies that the
council’s awards committee selected a Singapore university to host these Awards, and to present the Albert Einstein and Leonardo da Vinci Awards together for the first time in Asia.

Singapore was also the first to host the inaugural World Academic Summit, which NTU co-organised with Times Higher Education. The Summit, which featured a slate of high profile speakers including Mr S R Nathan, former President of the Republic of Singapore; Dr Marcus Storch, former chairman of the Nobel Foundation and Lord David Puttnam of Queensgate, the Oscar-winning producer of the film ‘Chariots of Fire’, focused on the economic role of universities as key partners of commerce and industry, and in particular, what universities can do in fuelling the future knowledge economy.

The Presidents of world-leading universities – including Sir Keith O’Nions, President and Rector of Imperial College London, Professor Tony Chan from Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Professor Edward Byrne of Monash University and Professor Oh Yeon Cheon from Seoul National University – as well as Dr Jean-Lou Chameau, former President of Caltech and now President of King Abdullah University of Science and Technology, also participated as speakers and panelists.

More than 200 outstanding global thought leaders from industry, government, higher education and research from over 25 countries attended the World Academic Summit to explore the fundamental role that world-class research universities play in pushing the boundaries of our collective understanding and fuelling the future knowledge economy.

The timely and important topics which were discussed at the Summit included: collaborating across national borders to tackle the world’s grand challenges and the role of the private sector in supporting and delivering world-class research, as well as nurturing top talent in the face of an uncertain future.

The official worldwide launch of the 2013-14 Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings was also held in conjunction with the Summit and a master class on ranking methodology and performance trends was conducted by THE Rankings editor and Mr Simon Pratt of Thomson Reuters.
INTERACTIVE DIGITAL MEDIA TO BLOOM AT NTU WITH THREE NEW RESEARCH CENTRES

LILY, ROSE and MAGIC will focus on designing digital solutions for elderly, pioneering next-generation visual and object search technologies, and developing the next generation in gaming.

Nanyang Technological University (NTU) is expanding its expertise in interactive digital media (IDM) in a big way with the launch of three new world-class research centres.

With a total investment of about S$90 million, NTU’s three new research centres in interactive digital media bring together the brightest minds from leading international universities and industry giants. NTU’s partners include University of British Columbia, Peking University, Tan Tock Seng Hospital, Pacific Parkinson’s Research Centre, and industry heavyweights such as HP, NVIDIA, the Lushang Group – one of China’s state-owned enterprises, and Tencent, China’s biggest internet service provider.

Set up with the support of the National Research Foundation (NRF) and Media Development Authority (MDA), the centres are a vital part of Singapore’s investment aimed at pushing the frontiers of new IDM technologies and early test-bedding of these new technologies.

The centres named LILY, ROSE and MAGIC were launched on 6 November by NRF Chief Executive Officer, Professor Low Teck Seng.

Since 2011, the NRF has supported, through the IDM Futures Funding Initiatives, a network of Innovation Platforms in an effort to bring about multi-disciplinary collaboration and reduce the time taken for companies to bring their products and services to market. Each Innovation Platform is a test-bed with the critical mass of test users and datasets. “LILY, MAGIC and ROSE represent the latest additions to these Innovation Platforms,” Prof Low said.

Speaking at the launch of the centres, NTU Provost, Professor Freddy Boey said: “The three centres NTU is launching today – LILY, ROSE and MAGIC – each have unique roles to play in advancing interdisciplinary, industry-relevant research in Interactive Digital Media.”

“These new centres have a dual role – to research new technologies and carry out early test bedding of these research outcomes with our industry partners. In this way the three research centres will enable businesses in Singapore and the region to benefit from the cutting-edge, next-generation technologies developed by the three centres.”

Prof Boey added that the new centres will add to the university’s existing cluster of three IDM International Research Centres – the BeingThere Centre, the Centre of Social Media Innovations for Communities (COSMIC) and the Fraunhofer IDM Centre@NTU. NTU will now have a formidable cluster of six ‘crown jewels’ focusing on Interactive Digital Media and New Media.

The new centres will also be an important training ground for the IDM scientists and experts Singapore needs for its future. Over the next five years, about 75 research staff and 74 Masters and PhD students from Singapore and around the world will participate in the research projects at these three new centres. They will be working with more than 20 scientists and engineers seconded from industry partners.

**LILY: Tech boost to improve seniors’ autonomy**

Many societies today are grappling with the twin challenges of a rapidly aging society and the rising mobility of young people that exacerbates the ‘empty nest’ phenomenon. The Active Living for the Elderly Research Centre (LILY) will develop cost-effective technologies to assist the elderly to lead a healthy, comfortable and independent life, while keeping in touch with their loved ones.

By combining the strengths of NTU and University of British Columbia in Canada, LILY will develop a new interdisciplinary research area that combines diverse fields and
technologies – namely ageless computing, design and services – to help the elderly enjoy an active and independent lifestyle, also known as ‘ageless aging’.

LILY is working closely with medical institutions such as Tan Tock Seng Hospital and the Pacific Parkinson’s Research Centre to optimise the impact of its research. The centre is also partnering with the Lushang Group – one of China’s leading state-owned enterprise with retail, pharmacy and real estate among its core businesses – to create age-friendly living environments and lifestyles.

Among the projects that the centre is working on are personal digital assistants for the elderly, games for the rehabilitation of stroke patients and prevention of Parkinson’s, and age-friendly ubiquitous commerce technologies and services that will not only offer new business opportunities in the silver market, but also bring multi-generational families closer together by bridging the digital divide.

MAGIC: Powering up the gaming world
NTU is set to make magic in the area of gaming and digital entertainment with the new Multi-pAtform Game Innovation Centre (MAGIC). MAGIC is poised to champion efforts in the R&D, education, and advancement of digital games in Singapore, while leveraging the rapid growth of the global game industry, which is expected to top $70 billion by 2017.

Working with industry partners like NVIDIA, HP, GARENA and Nanyang Polytechnic’s Games Solution Centre, and research collaborators like Singapore University of Technology and Design, MAGIC will translate the latest scientific ideas and made-in-NTU technologies into next-generation technological products and services. This spans a wide spectrum from Artificial Intelligence for entertainment, and cloud gaming, to 3D technologies for content creation and processing, game design and impact.

ROSE: Developing next-generation visual and object search technologies
With the growing trend of visual and object searches on the Internet and mobile devices, the Rapid-Rich Object Search (ROSE) Lab at NTU will play a key role in developing innovative search technologies, leveraging on cloud services. ROSE aims to have one of the largest structured object database of around 50 million domain objects in Asia for mobile image search in the next five years.

The scientists and researchers at NTU’s ROSE will work closely with their peers in Peking University, one of China’s top universities, together with major industry players, like Tencent, China’s biggest Internet service provider with the largest user base in the country, and the Inspur Group, a major server and cloud solution provider.

During the launch event today, NTU signed a research collaboration agreement with Tencent covering joint research in media processing, analytics, and cloud-based search. Under this collaboration, Tencent will have a team of their engineers in NTU to work with researchers in the ROSE Lab. Together, they will share manpower and resources to develop state-of-the-art visual search and media cloud technologies that can be applied in Tencent’s products and create added value for its users.

Sharing her enthusiasm about the partnership, Ms Juliet Wang, Deputy Managing Director, Technology Management Committee, Tencent said, “Tencent appreciates this opportunity to work with the ROSE Lab. Tencent hopes to leverage the ROSE Lab’s research capabilities, top talents, and global network to accelerate the internationalisation of our WeChat mobile text and voice messaging service. At the same time, we also hope to enable the ROSE Lab to convert research into productive use and benefit more Internet users by leveraging Tencent’s understanding in commercialisation, users, and their new demands.”

01. Fashionistas trying to identify the brand or model of a handbag will find it a breeze, with ROSE’s visual and object search database. A user may simply take a photo of the handbag and using a mobile phone and ROSE’s search engine will be able to retrieve information about the handbag and where to buy it. The user can also use the search engine to check if another brand sells a handbag with a similar design. | 02. The iPad-based game ‘Pumpkin Garden’ developed by the Active Living for the Elderly (LILY) research centre at NTU can facilitate the early detection of Parkinson’s disease among seniors.
Nanyang Technological University (NTU) has named the new education wing of the Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine (LKCMedicine) in honour of respected Singapore businessman and philanthropist, Mr Toh Kian Chui, a construction entrepreneur who rose from humble beginnings.

The three-storey building, located next to the School’s headquarters at NTU’s Novena campus at 11 Mandalay Road, was named the Toh Kian Chui Annex in recognition of a generous S$20 million gift from the Toh Kian Chui Foundation – an endowment that will amount to S$50 million with matching funds from the Singapore government. The gift will go towards an endowment to fund, in perpetuity, a Distinguished Professorship, a Gold Medal student award given to the top performing medical student from each cohort, up to 25 scholarships annually, as well as other research and education needs.

The family of the late Mr Toh expressed pride at having a building named after its patriarch. Ms Toh Keng Choo, the daughter of Mr Toh Kian Chui and Chairman of the Toh Kian Chui Foundation, said: “As someone who helped to build Singapore, my father would certainly be proud that his foundation is committed to the development of Singapore’s future doctors. He has always been a person who looked out for his fellow men. The Foundation’s gift to NTU’s Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine honours the wishes of Mr Toh, who would have studied medicine if he had been given the opportunity to do so.”

Mr Lim Chuan Poh, Chairman of the School’s Governing Board, said the official opening of the Toh Kian Chui Annex is a validation of efforts to set up a world-class medical school. “The impact of this gift at LKCMedicine will resonate for generations to come. We are thus honoured to name this Annex – the education wing of our Novena campus – after Mr Toh Kian Chui, one of Singapore’s post-independence construction pioneers whose humble manner and generous spirit greatly impacted the lives of those who knew him, and which has guided the Toh Kian Chui Foundation’s giving philosophy. The gift will go a long way in helping the School fulfil our vision to redefine medicine and transform healthcare.”

NTU President Professor Bertil Andersson said: “The Toh Kian Chui Annex is one of the many facilities that we have envisioned in our master plan for the medical school to complement the other world-class facilities for our faculty, students and researchers here at the Novena campus.”
NTU LAUNCHES CAREER DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

New $30 million centre by philanthropist Margaret Lien to develop NTU students’ X-factor for career success.

The new Margaret Lien Centre for Professional Success at NTU will offer a structured curriculum of essential career skills and values to give students a competitive edge in the job market and equip them to succeed in any workplace.

The centre is made possible by a $12 million gift from Singapore philanthropist Mrs Margaret Lien, wife of the late banker, hotelier and philanthropist Dr Lien Ying Chow. With 1.5 times government matching, the total endowed funding for the new centre amounts to $30 million.

Speaking at an appreciation luncheon held on 19 November in honour of Mrs Lien’s gift to the University, Professor Bertil Andersson, NTU President said: “We are deeply grateful to Mrs Margaret Lien for her generous $12 million gift to establish the Margaret Lien Centre for Professional Success at NTU. This precious gift demonstrates Mrs Lien’s strong commitment to improving the lives of the future generations of NTU students.”

“When fully operational by 2017, the Margaret Lien Centre for Professional Success will allow our NTU students the opportunity to be developed holistically and well prepared for a successful professional life,” added Prof Andersson.

Mrs Lien said: “I hope this programme will help students round off their strong NTU academic education with values-based ethics, a social conscience and compassion for those in need. I wish the Centre success in bringing out the X-factor in each graduate so they shine through in their career, community work, home life, and contribute as responsible citizens of society.”

Starting with freshmen at NTU’s College of Engineering in Academic Year 2014, students will undergo a new career preparation curriculum comprising ten modules. The curriculum will start with guidance on planning for their careers, resume-writing, as well as skills training in handling interviews and networking events. Final-year students will be guided on their professional conduct at the workplace, including how to apply human values, ethics and emotional resilience in their work life.

The new Centre builds on the existing broad-based career guidance and development programmes at NTU. Each year, NTU organises a variety of networking and recruitment talks to bring students closer to local and international employers, as well as on-campus recruitment. A major career fair and virtual career fair are held each year catering to graduating students for their job search, and for students from the other years to explore internships and learn about career opportunities.
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Jeremy Yee, EMBA Class of 2011
Group CEO Cordlife Group Ltd

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Family Comes First

Alumnus Mr Tan Meng Wei (NBS/1996) builds a successful childcare centre group after leaving a high-flying corporate career for more family time. He shares his experiences with NTULink.

If one were to read Mr Tan Meng Wei’s resume, one would be awed at the numerous successful corporate positions Mr Tan has held since graduating from NTU’s Nanyang Business School with a Bachelor in Accountancy in 1996.

However, after spending years climbing the corporate ladder and accomplishing all that he had aimed to do, Mr Tan decided to take a break from his corporate career to spend more time with his family, and focus on his Star Learners Childcare Centre group which now includes 11 centres and counting.

Impressive Corporate Career

“After graduating from NTU, just like other Accountancy graduates, I had a number of offers from companies such as KPMG, Coopers and Lybrand, and Ernst and Young. I made a decision to join Coopers and Lybrand and was very happy working there,” explains Mr Tan on the start of his career.

But as fate would have it, Mr Tan left Coopers and Lybrand after seven weeks, as he was successfully accepted into the prestigious Citibank Management Associate programme which he did not want to pass off. However, more career moves were in store for Mr Tan.

After spending about four years in Citibank as a regional product manager, Mr Tan moved on to Standard Chartered Bank. His stint there was short, as he was called for interviews at Boston Consulting Group (BCG), one of the top few management consulting groups. After going through numerous rounds of stringent interviews, Mr Tan was offered a job at BCG where he stayed for four years.

>>
“I loved my job at BCG and spent a lot of time travelling. I remember catching the first flight out on Mondays, and returning home on the last flight back on Fridays. I did a number of projects in financial institutions all over Southeast Asia,” he shares.

FOR FAMILY
However, more time spent travelling meant lesser time for family. And that got Mr Tan thinking. “I remember an incident then, when my elder son was slightly more than a year old. I was at home one evening, and my wife asked my son to ask me to have dinner. Automatically, my son picked up the phone to call me instead. It was because he had gotten used to speaking to me on the phone most of the time due to my frequent travels. It was quite heartbreaking,” recalls Mr Tan. He then decided to leave BCG and join Standard Chartered Bank’s central consulting team, which did not require him to be away on frequent travels.

In 2010, after spending six years in Standard Chartered, Mr Tan decided to leave the corporate world and focus on his Star Learners Childcare Group which he started in 2003 whilst in BCG. “By then, Star Learners had six childcare centres, which were being managed by a very efficient team. Basically, my role was to acquire childcare centres, and manage them.”

Although his close friends were quite surprised at him leaving a well-paying job, Mr Tan knew he had to do this for the sake of his family.

He explains his decision: “Money cannot be everything. I had good jobs, I earned good salaries and I did well. But money itself cannot be an end, it is just a means to an end. Sometimes I take it all in like a game to prove to myself, what I am capable of. I knew what I wanted, and I achieved whatever I set myself out to do. However, I had no ambition to become the next CEO of a big organisation. It did not thrill or excite me, so why would I want to continue pursuing such a career?

CHALLENGING TIMES
After saving up a good amount of money, Mr Tan decided to purchase a childcare centre from a friend. This signaled the birth of Star Learners Childcare Centre Group in 2003. However, troubles started brewing soon after.

“Everything that had to go wrong, went wrong! We bought over a centre which was in a poor state of financial health, and by buying it over, it meant that all these problems would now be mine to solve. I had to do a lot of work, spending close to two years correcting all the wrongs. The supervisor of the centre also decided to leave and before leaving, she told the parents the problems the centre was facing, causing a third of our business to drop. To add to it all, SARS happened in 2003. It was a triple whammy!” Mr Tan shares of his initial challenges. But all this did

Mr Tan enjoys spending more time with his family and playing games with his four children.
not stop Mr Tan and his partner from acquiring more centres. From then on, things started to get better as losses were reduced.

“We were acquiring centres quite slowly, one centre in about two years, because both my partner and I still had our full-time corporate jobs. But after I left Standard Chartered Bank, I decided to move faster, acquiring another three centres in prime areas,” shares Mr Tan further.

Mr Tan is very thankful that today, the Star Learners Childcare Centre Group has eleven centres in total, which are managed by a very efficient team. This allows him more time with his family, which was his main motivation in the first place.

FOR CHARITY
In November this year, Star Learners Childcare collaborated with ChildAid to organise the ‘Kids-for-Kids’ event, the biggest children entrepreneur fund raising event in Singapore by children of Star Learners Childcare.

During the event, the children became entrepreneurs for a day and manned booths or sold canvas art pieces which they had decorated themselves. More than a thousand people attended the event and the nett proceeds of $28,000 were donated to the School Pocket Money Fund (SPMF) and the Business Times Budding Artists Fund.

“We always aim to give back to society. Sometimes, we forget that there are many people in Singapore who are not as fortunate as us financially and are struggling to meet their daily needs.

“Through this event, not only did we manage to raise funds for the needy, we also instilled a spirit of giving and the meaning of charity in the minds of our young children. They are made aware that no matter how young they are, even a small gesture from them can make a big difference in the lives of less fortunate children,” Mr Tan says.

GOOD PARENTING TODAY
Mr Tan and his wife, Dawn, who is also an NTU alumnus, today have four children. Their sons, Matthian and Merrick are 12 and seven respectively; and their daughters, Danelle and Deborah are nine and four.

Both Mr and Mrs Tan believe in the importance of good parenting today, given the amount of pressures and stress children face in school today. Mr Tan is thankful for the support from his wife, and agrees that she deserves the credit in raising the children well.

“We spend a lot of time with our children now, and we know that this makes a huge difference. We know how they are faring in school and the kids know that they can always come to us for help as we are always around for them,” highlights Mr Tan.

Just like Mr Tan, who used to represent NTU in chess and waterpolo competitions whilst in NTU, his children excel in both their studies and sports, representing their schools in competitions such as chess and football. Mr Tan does not pressure his children in doing exceptionally well in their studies, as long as they work hard and try their best. He strongly believes that academic results only make up a small portion of success in life.

“Both my wife and I continue to encourage our children to pursue other interests, as this gives them a break from their studying. We do not force them into something they are not interested in, but we want them to be active in sports. I think this has indirectly helped them to become better students in school as they are able to build up their confidence,” Mr Tan says.

His wife further explains that they encourage their children to assume more responsibilities for themselves, instilling in them independence and confidence.

“Over time, as we started having more children, we knew we had to divide our time equally. Our children are aware that they need to be responsible for their school work and activities and that mummy and daddy are not going to be frequently checking on them or reminding them. They do, however, always come to us whenever they need help,” she adds.

“And that again, stems from the fact that we are fortunate to be able to spend a lot of time with them,” agrees Mr Tan wholeheartedly.

“Some people use the amount they earn, as a barometer to measure how well they are doing in life. For me, there are more important aspects of my life, such as my family.”
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Learning Differently, Leading Change
Ms Jacqueline Gan’s company, NanoMatriX International, undertook a project to ensure there were no counterfeit tickets at the 2013 Hong Kong Rugby Sevens event. She is seen here with her husband, Alfons, outside the Hong Kong stadium where the event is held annually.
But I was very thankful I did well! Often I would still reflect on these moments and be grateful to the strangers with kind intentions.

It was also indirectly through NTU that I met my life-partner, and future business partner, Alfons. He was not a student there, but many years after graduation, we met at an event which I heard about from a fellow classmate. In 1994, I took up NTU’s inaugural German language elective where I got acquainted with classmates from different disciplines. Learning German was interesting as I wanted to better understand the culture and history, how these affected its advancement in technology. Somehow, my decision to learn German and continue later at the Goethe Institute made a huge impact on my life as that was how I met my husband, Alfons, at a party at the US embassy in Singapore which I learnt about from a classmate.

I was surprised to find him having an interest in Asian culture and spoke Putonghua, Japanese and Korean. He too was amazed that I was well-versed in European history and, could speak German and French. It is amazing how my experience in NTU has somewhat come full circle and made such an influence in my life.

**DID YOU FACE ANY CHALLENGES IN YOUR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION?**

I faced an unfortunate situation when I had just started my career in SingTel. I was seriously injured in a hit-and-run accident a few days before Christmas 1998. Everything came to a halt at that time as I had to take my time to recover. There were injuries to my head, eyes, face, nose, mouth, some of this still affect my visual capabilities and movement today. During the A&E inspection, I remembered insisting on returning to work as I was not aware that the lacerations on my face were deep and critical.

I did nothing during the following weeks. It was a major physical and psychological challenge as I could not see nor walk properly. I had no idea what would happen next. All I did was pray, eat and play the violin without the notes. I walked around during the day the same way I had walked in the dark at home.

I decided to slowly start running on the treadmill as a form of physiotherapy. Soon, I tried to start running outdoors. This was very difficult as many a times I remembered the split second leading to my accident, and how I struggled to quickly isolate myself from traffic, before being driven to the hospital. Nevertheless, jogging was a very effective form of cardio exercise for me. Very soon, I started participating in half marathons which also allowed me to explore the various cities and countrysides during my travels.

**HOW DID YOU BEGIN YOUR LIFE IN HONG KONG?**

When I returned to work after recovering from the accident, my work responsibilities increased and I started travelling more. After I met Alfons, I was offered a job in a US MNC and we were considering relocating to San Francisco. However, after much consideration, we decided to relocate to Hong Kong in 2001 since there would be less of a cultural shock to face.

However, relocation proved to be a challenge as we led a different lifestyle compared to the locals. After about a year, I started to participate in activities organised by the Singapore Association (SA) and Singapore Chamber of Commerce (SCC) in Hong Kong.
In 2003, I began my EMBA course with IVEY School of Business (Western Ontario) to gain further insights on various operations and strategic analysis of businesses. It was an enjoyable experience to meet people of various age groups, from different industries.

**SHARE WITH US MORE ABOUT THE BIRTH OF NANOMATRIX INTERNATIONAL AND WHAT YOUR MAIN OBJECTIVES AND FUTURE PLANS ARE FOR YOUR COMPANY.**

In 2004, when our company was first established, we started with sales of specialty chemicals for nanotechnology research and security products. After working and travelling worldwide restlessly for two years, we found success in dealing with security and specialty products used to authenticate branded products and important documents.

It is obvious that an impeccable anti-counterfeiting strategy requires both - a security feature which cannot be copied by a counterfeiter and a high rate of inspections in order to ensure that counterfeits do not go unnoticed. Since counterfeitors have been constantly improving their skills to fake products and documents, the cost of counterfeit-proof security features has been constantly increasing, alongside the cost of verifying these features.

In 2010 we observed that many brand owners and government departments urgently required highly efficient security features but had difficulty deploying sufficiently large number of inspectors to verify the authenticity of products and documents.

We took our customers’ concern into consideration and developed a self-managed, web-based serialisation and verification system which allowed organisations to combine both traditional product security technologies utilising the high penetration of smart phones all around the world, and various concepts which evolve smartphone technology. We focused on serving the needs of government departments and note printing organisations which were concerned about forged documents and counterfeit banknotes.

We filed a patent application based on several unique characteristics and the convenience of use. Even at its most basic on-demand configuration, we can gather necessary data for government departments and corporations to trace any suspected fraudulence or counterfeiting.

For the 2013 Hong Kong Rugby Sevens project, this online authentication-verification system was used to analyse distribution and to roll-out further online verification methods in case any counterfeits were detected during the time leading up to the sports event.

We also decided to extend our business with corporations by assisting them to ‘pro-actively protect their intellectual property’ through secure track-and-trace services with mobile engagement features. For years, we have travelled widely and witnessed that companies had been exposed to tangible and intangible losses due to counterfeiting, parallel trading, production over-runs and product piracy. We are convinced that corporations will need to implement preventative measures as some of these problems will not be eliminated even when covered by patents, trademarks and lawsuits.
南大中国校友齐聚上海

配合2013中国毕业典礼举行的首届全中国南大校友会联谊会议、校友讲座暨校友联欢晚宴为来自中国各地的校友们架起了一座与母校交流的桥梁。

南大中国校友齐聚上海

首届全中国南洋理工大学校友会联谊会议暨校友联欢晚宴于9月21日在上海举行。

为了更好的联络南大在中国的校友，南大已经在中国成立了30个校友会。南大的第一个中国校友会是于2007年6月在上海成立的南大上海校友会。

会议当天，南大校长安博迪教授致词，说起了上海校友会，他感激上海校友会的委员会成员，他们全力付出努力主办这次全中国校友会会议；同时，他也感谢所有在中国的南大校友们，是他们的支持使得会议能够圆满召开。在大会介绍了在中国的30个南大校友会之后，安博迪教授向南大上海校友会许黎霞会长赠送了大会会旗。

南大校长安博迪教授首先做了以‘快速发展的南洋理工大学’为题的演讲，介绍了学校的最新发展和动态。南大校友事务处孙敏炎主任接着和大家分享有关‘南大校友会的可持续运作战略’。过后，南大校长许黎霞女士和南大发展处首席发展官曾祥辉副会长谈到了回馈母校的重要意义。

会议还包括全中国南大校友会的经验分享，由南大上海校友会许黎霞会长，南大北京校友会孙侠常务副会长，南大福建校友会曾祥辉会长，南大湖北校友会李盛光主任，南大香港校友会曾祥辉会长分别与大家分享发展与管理校友会的经验。

与会者在难得的交流机会中，踊跃加入与安博迪校长、余明华副校长（国际事务）、国立教育学院李盛光院长、南洋公共管理研究生院院长兼中国事务处主任吴伟副教授及校友事务处孙敏炎主任进行的对话交流并分享他们的意见。在当天的南大校友联欢晚宴上，安博迪教授致词时说：“校友们从中国各地千里迢迢赶来参加聚会令人印象深刻，尤其是南大校友会的召开是非常有意义的。”上海校友会许黎霞会长向大家致词时欢迎500位校方领导、贵宾及校友们的到来。当天的晚宴从主持到节目、策划，全部来自于上海校友们的精心准备。许会长在致词时对校方，新加坡驻上海总领馆以及兄弟校友会的支持；还有广大上海校友们在财力、物力、精力、心力上的支持和响应表示衷心的感谢。

当天聚会上除了南大上海校友会的校友舞蹈演出，上海的几所学校也派出学生表演团队及专业团体表演，堪比春晚的演出让大家赏心悦目。祝酒仪式也让大家记住难忘的一刻，为母校举杯，为校友们的团聚，干杯！
怀抱丰硕的果实走出校园

南大第8届中国毕业典礼在上海举行，140多位中国毕业生获得了他们的学位。

作为仅有的两所年轻大学之一，我们也是在全球前50所大学中发展最快的亚洲大学。我们将保持这个势头继续前进，充分地实现我们追求研究和教学的卓越，并致力于把南大推向新的高峰。作为我们的应届毕业生，我们的中国毕业生们可以自豪地把获得南大的学位作为自己宝贵的财富。

从1992年以来，南大已经培训了超过16,000名在不同领域里的中国高级官员，其中包括公共行政，经济管理，城市规划和高等院校。

张女士说：“硕士课程为我们提供了新加坡教育政策非常珍贵和有价值的观点，同时也使我深入看到了在不同政治结构下，新加坡学校和教育系统的公共政策和资源配置。”

当天下午，由南大文学院院长陈金梁教授主讲的“儒家思想与中国梦”，也让出席校友讲座的校友们受益匪浅。有将近180位校友和来宾出席了这次的讲座。
01. NTU's China-based alumni beaming with pride during their graduation ceremony at the University's 2013 China Convocation.

02. NTU President, Prof Bertil Andersson (centre) together with NTU senior management and alumni representatives toast to the success of NTU.

03. NTU senior management and alumni representatives from difference provinces in China attend the inaugural Conference of China Based NTU AAs.
GATHERING OF ALUMNI ASSOCIATIONS IN CHINA

NTU holds the inaugural Conference of China-based NTU Alumni Associations in conjunction with the 2013 NTU China Convocation.

The inaugural Conference of China-Based NTU Alumni Associations (AAs) and Alumni Get-together Dinner 2013 was held in conjunction with the University’s annual China Convocation on 21 September, in Shanghai.

To promote close fellowship amongst its China-based alumni and to strengthen their ties with the University, NTU has established 30 alumni associations in China, the first being in Shanghai in June 2007.

During the conference, which was attended by 160 alumni and guests, NTU President Professor Bertil Andersson thanked the NTU Alumni Association (Shanghai) committee members for hosting fellow alumni from various parts of China, and thanked everyone for their continuous support. “Today’s conference would not have been made possible without strong support from our alumni in China,” said Prof Andersson. After the introduction of all 30 China-based alumni associations, Prof Andersson presented the conference flag to Ms Xu Lixia, President of NTU AA (Shanghai).

The conference started with a presentation on NTU’s progress and development by Prof Andersson, titled ‘Fast-Rising NTU’. This was followed by a presentation by Mr Soon who shared various strategies for the development of alumni associations. Thereafter, NTU Board of Trustees Member Ms Lien Siaou-Sze and NTU’s Chief Development Officer Mr Terry Alan Farris spoke about the importance and significance of giving.

During the Alumni Get-together Dinner, Ms Xu Lixia welcomed the alumni and thanked them for their support for taking the time to join in the gathering. Prof Andersson also expressed his appreciation to the many alumni who had travelled far and wide to Shanghai, to attend the event. At the same time, he congratulated the new alumni and welcomed them to the NTU community.

Throughout the dinner, alumni and guests were entertained by musical and dance performances. They also made a toast to the success of their alma mater.

NTU CHINA CONVOCATION

NTU marked the achievements of the 2013 cohort of graduates from its seven China-related Master’s programmes and the Lien Fellows programme during NTU’s China Convocation held on 21 September. Held annually in different Chinese cities, this year’s ceremony was held in Shanghai, China’s economic, commercial and financial centre. More than 140 graduates from different parts of China received their degrees and certificates on stage at the Shanghai International Convention Centre Auditorium.

“September 2013 will be fondly remembered by the NTU community as the month we celebrated two joyous milestones – our continued rise in the 2013 Quacquarelli Symonds world university rankings and our China-based graduates completing our 2013 Masters’ programmes,” said NTU President Professor Bertil Andersson.

Since 1992, NTU has trained over 16,000 Chinese senior officials in diverse areas including public administration, economic management, urban planning and the management of higher education institutions.

Later in the afternoon, alumni and guests attended a talk on ‘The Confucianism and the Chinese Dream’ delivered by Professor Alan Chan, Dean of the College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences. A total number of 180 alumni and guests attended the talk.
ALUMNI CONNECT – Let’s Party!

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The University’s latest alumni association, the NTU School of Art, Design & Media Alumni Association (ADM AA), was launched on 22 November amidst much celebration. ADM AA will serve as a new networking platform for the School’s alumni to stay connected with each other and with their alma mater.

The event also featured many amazing works created by the ADM alumni from the School’s six specialisations.

At the launch event, Guest-of-Honour Professor Vibeke Sorensen, Chair of ADM, welcomed the alumni and guests and commended the AA’s committee members for their hard work and efforts in establishing the AA. She also encouraged all to stay in touch and engaged with the School and with NTU.

ADM AA President Mr Shawn Lim (Class of 2012) congratulated the alumni who participated enthusiastically in preparing creative works for the exhibition. He urged everyone to continue strengthening their relationship with the School.

“Through our organised events, we aim to maintain positive connections with the School and among our alumni. We hope to motivate our graduates to continue overcoming challenging issues in the field of arts, culture and media today.”

Alumni and guests also learnt more about the new ADM Network jointly developed by NTU Libraries, NTU ADM and ADM AA. This new network allows ADM alumni to create their own webpages to upload their work and connect with one another.

The launch event attended by more than 120 alumni and guests at Gillman Barracks was jointly organised by ADM AA and NTU Alumni Affairs Office.

STRENGTHENING ALUMNI TIES

Launch of the School of Art, Design and Media Alumni Association provides new networking channel for its alumni.
ALUMNI HAPPENINGS – Gathering Amongst Friends

GATHERING AMONGST FRIENDS

Alumni and guests in Sichuan, Hubei and Henan learn more about their Alumni Associations’ progress at the AAs annual gatherings.

SICHUAN

During the NTU Alumni Association (AA) (Sichuan)’s annual get-together on 2 November in the city of Chengdu which was attended by 60 alumni and guests, Ms Wu Xu, President of the AA, reported on the AA’s progress and also shared more on the AA’s future plans to organise activities in different cities in Sichuan.

Professor Er Meng Hwa, NTU’s Vice-President for International Affairs, proceeded to highlight NTU’s developments and progress. On the invitation of the AA, Mr Wang Fengjun, CPC Working Committee Member of Tian Fu New District, Chengdu City cum Director of Planning and Construction Bureau of Tian Fu New District, Chengdu City, spoke about Chengdu’s developments and the different opportunities resent in the city. His presentation titled ‘Develop new opportunity – come to Tianfu New District’, covered the future plans of the Tianfu New district.

The AA’s next annual gathering will be held in Mian Yang city. Ms Dong Hong, Director of Mian Yang City Development and Reform Commission, who received the AA’s flag, looks forward to welcoming the alumni next year.

HUbei

NTU Hubei Alumni Association (AA) welcomed more than 60 alumni and guests to the city of Wuhan on 3 November for the association’s 2013 annual gathering themed ‘Gather for friendship, achieve your dreams’.

At the event, Mr Xie Shaosheng, President of NTU AA (Hubei), provided updates on the AA’s progress and developments for the years 2012 and 2013, and spoke on the AA’s future plans. Prof Er provided a summary on NTU’s latest achievements.

Mr Chen Yihong, the AA’s Vice-President, delivered a speech on overseas Chinese students who return to China. An entrepreneur in China, Mr Chen highlighted suggestions on how government agencies could better tap the talents of returning scholars. Ms Jiang Daguo, the Vice Governor of Hubei, said: “For the past two years, NTU AA (Hubei) focused on friendship, unity, giving back, and developing the AA. The AA has done very well in organising numerous networking activities and academic discussions for the alumni. This has in turn assisted in promoting the development of Hubei province, and strengthening the communication between Singapore and Hubei.”

HENAN

To celebrate their third anniversary and the second term election of new committee members, NTU Alumni Association (Henan) organised an annual gathering in Zhengzhou on 1 December. The annual gathering was attended by more than 60 alumni and guests.

At the gathering, the Alumni Association (AA) welcomed new 2013 graduates into the AA who were updated on the AA’s aims and objectives. This was followed by a sports networking session.

During the election, current President of NTU AA (Henan), Mr Shi Xiangang, was re-elected as the AA’s President. In his speech, Mr Shi Xiangang highlighted the AA’s recent developments and future plans. At the dinner, Prof Er updated the alumni on NTU’s progress and alumni were entertained by performances by students from Zhongyuan University of Technology.
南大四川校友会年会于11月2日在成都举行，吴旭会长首先在致欢迎词时表示欢迎南大副校长(国际事务)余明华教授一行前来，同时也感谢嘉宾、兄弟校友会代表及校友们百忙之中参加这次的年会。

接着吴会长发表了四川校友会的发展和近况报告并计划今后在四川各校友会分站举办形式多样的校友活动，为校友们提供充分交流的平台。随后余明华副校长为本次年会致辞并介绍了近年来母校的发展近况，包括科研、文化发展和校园建设等，此外还特别带来了今年南大在QS评估机构全球大学排名中上升至41位的好消息。

南大四川校友会也邀请了天府新区成都党工委委员、规划建设局局长王锋君介绍了四川省成都市近期的发展及机遇，王局长的演讲主题为“发展新机遇—走近天府新区”，内容涵盖成都天府新区的规划与发展情况，同时播放了天府新区宣传片，使大家了解到成都地区的新发展方向。

在四川校友会会旗交接仪式上，四川校友会特别提出了新的校友年会模式，每年在四川校友会集中的各城市轮流举办校友年会，作为下届南大四川校友会年会的主办城市是四川绵阳市，绵阳市发展和改革委员会主任董泓接过了南大四川校友会会旗，并表示绵阳期待校友们参加下一次的年会活动！

南大四川校友会吴旭会长(前排，右五)，南大副校长(国际事务)余明华教授(前排，右六)，以及校友和来宾们相聚在成都。
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EVENTS CALENDAR
Upcoming attractions for Alumni!

18 January 2014
Launch of NTU Alumni Association (Malaysia)
南洋理工大学马来西亚校友会成立大会

18 February 2014
27th Distinguished Alumni Forum
– ‘Pursuing your entrepreneurial dreams’
第27期南大杰出校友论坛 – ‘追求您的创业之梦’

22 March 2014
NTU International Alumni Lunch
南大国际校友午餐聚会

6 April 2014
NTU Alumni Movie Screening
– Captain America: The Winter Soldier
南大校友电影欣赏 - 美国队长: 酷寒战士

11 April 2014
NTU Classes of 2006 – 2010 Reunion
南大2006-2010年毕业班校友大聚会

Information is correct as of press time. Events and dates may be subject to change.

To sign up for or enquire about any of the events, email alumniaffairs@ntu.edu.sg or call +65 6790 4875 / 4434
For a regular, monthly update of events, check out http://www.ntu.edu.sg/Alumni/Pages/Events.aspx
To subscribe to ClassACT e-zine for regular event updates and more, go to http://www.ntu.edu.sg/newsletter/managemysubscription.aspx
Whilst for many, the idea of vacationing in a foreign land means joining a group tour or backpacking. However, for alumnus Mr Koh Eng Beng (WKWSCI/2007) and his friends, Mr Jason Ng (EEE/2007), Mr Lie Zhijian (Maritime Studies/2009) and Mr Alvin Lee, decided to do something out of the ordinary.

The group members share their photographs with NTULink, showcasing some of the interesting experiences they had whilst touring along the coastline of Taiwan on their bicycles for two weeks in May this year.

They cycled from Taoyuan to Kenting before heading up north to Hualien. Along the way, they braved the scorching summer heat and undulating mountainous terrains. But it was well worth their effort when they saw the spectacular scenic views along the coastline by the Pacific Ocean.

Although the last leg of their trip was cut short by an earthquake, these guys are clearly hooked. They plan to return to Taiwan next year to complete their adventure and also explore bike tours in Japan and Australia.
03. Tough luck! Google maps does not show you which road is flooded. Sometimes things do not always go according to plan, but that adds to the adventure! | 04. The guys cannot resist doing a few celebratory jump shots against a clear blue sky as a beautiful natural backdrop. | 05. A picturesque view of the sun rising from the horizon of the Pacific Ocean. | 06. Eng Beng spots cows along the coastline of Taitung. Something unique not found back home. | 07. (From left to right) Eng Beng, Alvin, Zhijian and Jason get ready to set off on their expedition from Taoyuan. | 08. After some tough physical challenges whilst cycling, the group is rewarded with a magnificent coastline view. It makes it all worth it!
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我在新加坡的日子，不知不觉已跨进第五个年头。还记得初踏上到南大求学之路的我，心里充满着各种迷茫。各种酸酸甜甜的食物，不熟悉的街道和文字，几乎每天都有的滂沱大雨，这一切的一切都与家乡有着巨大的差异，让本来就是第一次出国的我多了一丝恐慌。

还记得那一天，第一次与朋友踏进南大的校园，就因为被南大的景色所吸引而上错了校车。在这里，犹如置身在一个巨大的花园里，树木郁郁葱葱，花儿竞相开放。南洋理工大学，一个坐落在新加坡最西部美丽现代化的校园，代表着我曾经逝去的十年。我在这里经历了预科、本科和博士的学习。可以说人生中最黄金的十年我都留在了南大。从刚满18岁进入NIE学习预科，到而立之年博士毕业离开机电与电子工程系。我和新加坡的故事其实也就是我和南大的故事。在这里我不仅仅是学习了专业知识，更重要的是掌握了能够受用一生的学习方法；结交了能够相伴一辈子的朋友，是他们让我在异国他乡感受到第二故乡的温暖；更要感谢一路下来给予我悉心指导的各位老师们，特别是我的博士导师，陈土培教授，是他们的帮助，让我在南大的生活变得丰富多彩而又受益无穷。

离开南大已经一年多，这期间我去过别的国家从事博士后的科研工作，也尝试过转行做一些极富挑战但是跟自己专业完全不相关的工作。不过我并不担心惧怕，在南大期间培养的自学能力和面对困难的自信，让我相信自己能够胜任现在的工作，并且也一定可以把工作做好。

有些朋友不理解我的转行决定，他们说我好不容易拿到了博士学位，也有一年的博士后经验，为什么在这个时候选择转行呢？人的一生会面临各种各样的选择，有的选择是必须的，有的选择是有趣的。但是我认为自己的选择都应该遵循一个最基本的原则：那就是听从你内心的声音。我记得乔布斯曾经在他的一次演讲中说过：“你们的

时间有限，所以不要把它们花费在重复其他人的生活上。不要被教条束缚，那意味着你和其他人思考的结果一起生活。不要被其他人喧嚣的观点掩盖你真正的内心的声音。还

有最重要的是，你要有勇气去听从你直觉和心灵的指示。它们在某种程度上知道你想要成为什么样的人，所有其他的事情都是次要的。”从我自己的经历来看，我想跟各位校友分享的是，南大给我们提供了很好的学习和生活条件，把握在南大的时光，好好充实自己。不管将来你会去哪里，会从事什么工作，都请做好准备，抓住机会，向着自己的理想，勇敢前行！
大的花园，那林荫小道尽头的亭子，那满山坡的欧式风格建筑，那郁郁葱葱的树林，让我们迷失在校园的景色里。接下来一年紧张的学习，让我们再没有时间停下来静静地欣赏学校的美丽，大部分的时间都在图书馆度过了。直到毕业的那一刻才恍然发现，我们还没来得及慢慢去品味这个地方的美丽，却马上就要离它远去了。

相信很多从其他国家来到南大的留学生都和我一样，离开了自己的家乡和父母踏上这片土地，接待我们的第一站就是南大。相信每个莘莘学子都在这里留下了一段抹不掉的回忆，不管它是苦涩的，还是甘甜的，这里就像是我们另一个家，占领了我们回忆里一个重要的位置。在这里我们结束了二十多年的学生生涯，结束了最后一个让我们可以肆无忌惮地幼稚下去的理由，而进入下一个人生阶段。我们在这里学会了独立和坚强，拥有了亲密无间的好友，让我们更有底气去挑战人生下一个目标。

Mr Lim Weibin (HSS/2012)

I am enjoying my days as a teacher, but being a writer also gives me a totally different experience. I can be carefree and relaxed, and sometimes emotional and sensitive. As a writer, I need to be observant and sensitive towards changes around me. As I specialise in classical literature, I look up to Libai, Li Shangyin and Sushi, who are prominent Chinese poetry writers. They are my inspiration and I hope to succeed as a Chinese writer one day. I feel honoured to have my work recognised, and to win awards. These awards continue to inspire me as I plan my next piece of work.

Whilst studying humanities at NTU, my perception about a lot of things changed, and I became more sentimental.

I also learnt how to better manage my time and handle stress. I am grateful for the freedom we were given in the programme. For example, when we were to prepare an assignment, we were allowed to choose our own topic and express our own views freely. As an NTU alumnus, I hope that one day we could have an alumni writers club that will provide us with an avenue to share our interest and network. This club could also collate and publish works of the alumni.

During my free time, I enjoy shopping, sightseeing, reading, playing sports and collecting thumb drives. I feel the need to experience new things to capture new inspiration. When I visited Taiwan, I was mesmerised by the artefacts used by the emperors during the Qing dynasty.

I would very much like to touch base with fellow alumni who share my similar interest in writings and literary works. I can be contacted at binspiration@gmail.com.
I am currently taking a break from studying and working and trying to enjoy life by travelling, reading and writing. I have always wanted to write a book of my own and I am glad to finally be able to do just that. With the gruelling final semester at NTU, I had deferred my writing ambitions for a while. But I am now working hard on my debut work of literature based on true life experiences of romance and tragedy.

Hobbies are a good way to relax and I have a ton of them. Some of which include astronomy, reading history, watching documentaries on wars and mysteries, and playing cricket.
Mr Eugene Soh Zhuo Sheng (ADM/2013)

I am currently not working as I have to serve my remaining National Service term. Whilst in NTU, staying in the hostel was a big part of my university life, with experiences that left me wiser as a person. The freedom, the parties, the friends, the drama, the freedom – I learnt a lot from doing things I had always wanted to do, the way I wanted to do them – and the four years of my hostel life gave me that avenue to explore. I threw parties and also met the love of my life, Kareen Chin.

My room in hall is what I valued the most in NTU! I remember moving into my single room after freshman year. It was smaller than my previous room but I had the whole room to myself. I never moved out thereafter, not even for term breaks. My room was completely decorated with African Masks and other mementos I had collected on my travels. I was a little emotional when I had to move out upon graduation.

I have met many people during my university life who have helped me get to where I am today. One of them is Aaron, the editor of Campus magazine, who helped me make my most famous art work, The Last Kopitiam. I met him through an exchange student I met at a party in my freshman year.

Mr Tang Shukong (EEE/2013)

It has been a fruitful period of four years with numerous happy recollections. I gradually learnt to be a person with meaningful linkages to the outside world throughout my journey. My experiences in International Undergraduate Committee, EEE Club and EEE Graduates’ Evening Committee gave me the opportunity to make many life-long friends and meet respected mentors.

After graduation I become a financial analyst in the banking industry, where people are often amazed at my shift in career path. This again manifests what EEE, and hence NTU, has been renowned for – one degree, many opportunities. NTU continues to champion and strive for greater diversity. It provides a huge platform where you can choose whichever subject modules appeal to you. That is why I had the chance to realise my passion in the field of finance and business.

During my leisure time, I enjoy jogging. I am also big fan of NBA. More recently, I have been fascinated in riding motorbikes and I am trying to secure a license next year.
### ALUMNI PARTICULARS UPDATE

更新校友个人资料

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