SOARING HIGH, SHINING BRIGHT

Thirty-six honoured at the Nanyang Alumni Awards 2016
SOLVING GLOBAL CHALLENGES, THE INTERDISCIPLINARY WAY

INTERDISCIPLINARY GRADUATE SCHOOL
GRADUATE RESEARCH PROGRAMMES

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MESSAGE FROM
THE PRESIDENT

Dear Alumni,

I must admit that every year, I feel like a student receiving his report card when the international university rankings are released. This year, it brings me great pleasure to share with you that NTU has retained its top position as the world’s best young university for the third year running. We have also maintained the 13th position in the world on the Quacquarelli Symonds World University Rankings for the second year running, and are No. 2 in Asia. This feat is possible because our exceptional faculty are raising the university’s global profile through their high-impact research and international collaborations.

As an educator at heart, I am always proud to send off a graduating class, but this year is extra special—the Class of 2016 marks the 25th year since NTU was inaugurated as a university in 1991.

In this silver jubilee year, let us shine a spotlight on the many generous alumni who are helping our students realise their aspirations. One such alumnus is Mr Von Lee Yong Miang, who recently provided a S$1 million gift to support engineering undergraduates at NTU. The gift has been matched by the Singapore Government, bringing the total endowment to S$2.5 million.

At this year’s annual homecoming, we honour 36 esteemed alumni with the Nanyang Alumni Awards in recognition of their stellar achievements and contributions. This is a reflection of the important role that NTU plays in society.

From awards to collaborations, NTU has been a whirlwind of activity in this quarter. The Ratu River Expedition, a documentary produced by NTU researchers from the Earth Observatory of Singapore on research relating to the devastating 7.8 magnitude earthquake in Nepal, has bagged several top international film awards, including the Remi Award at the 2016 WorldFest Houston International Film Festival.

Always staying ahead of the curve, NTU recently launched the S$40 million Waste-To-Energy Research Facility with the National Environment Agency; the Centre of Excellence for Testing & Research of AVs–NTU (CETRAN) with the Land Transport Authority and JTC Corporation; and the S$45 million Delta–NTU Corporate Laboratory for Cyber-Physical System with Delta Electronics.

On a more thoughtful note, I send my condolences on behalf of NTU to the family and friends of former Singapore President Mr S. R. Nathan, who passed away on 22 August 2016 at the age of 92. He was the Chancellor of NTU for 12 good years and is best remembered as the Founding Director of the Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies, which later evolved into the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS), one of the best think tanks in the world today that focuses on strategic and security studies.

To conclude, I once again thank you for your continued support. Let us stay in touch, and where better to do so than at our three alumni houses. The first of them, the Alumni House at Marina Square, will be ready in November 2016; it will be a perfect location for you and your former classmates to catch up over some food and drinks.

Yours Sincerely,
Professor Bertil Andersson
President,
Nanyang Technological University

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HATS OFF TO THE CLASS OF 2016

It is a rather special year for the Class of 2016 as NTU is also celebrating its silver jubilee anniversary, said NTU President Professor Bertil Andersson at the kick-off ceremony of the 2016 Convocation on 25 July 2016.

"From a teaching university in 1991, NTU has rapidly progressed to become a globally recognised research-intensive university today, ranking 13th internationally and first among the world’s young universities," he added.

Gracing the ceremony were Dr Wee Cho Yaw, Pro-Chancellor of NTU and Chairman Emeritus of UOB; and Mr Ong Ye Kung, Acting Minister for Education (Higher Education and Skills).

Over 9,000 graduands received their bachelor’s and higher degrees, adding to NTU’s 200,000-strong alumni network. A survey carried out by NTU showed that almost 7 in 10 have already secured jobs before graduation.

This year sees the pioneer batch of graduands from three programmes—the Renaissance Engineering Programme (REP), the University Scholars Programme (USP), and the History programme.

NTU also conferred honorary doctorate degrees on optoelectronics expert Professor Sir David Payne and master potter Mr Iskandar Jalil.

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TOWARDS A
SAFE AND SECURE
ASIA PACIFIC

A leading research and graduate teaching institution in strategic and international affairs in the Asia Pacific, the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS) celebrated its 20th anniversary on 29 July 2016 to great celebration and cheer.

In his welcome speech on the roof deck of The Hive, Ambassador Ong Keng Yong, Executive Deputy Chairman of RSIS, credited the international stature of RSIS to both the former and current deans, Ambassador Barry Desker and Professor Joseph Liow.

“The strength of RSIS has been its ability to produce research and provide an education that is both scholarly and yet relevant to pressing real-world problems such as climate change, homeland security, terrorism, food security and cyber security,” Amb Ong said.

“Going forward, this dual-track approach will continue, but what will evolve are the modalities for getting our research out, by exploring for instance more cutting-edge technological platforms to ensure that our research meets just-in-time policy needs.”

Amb Ong proposed a toast to many more good years ahead and invited all to enjoy the sumptuous buffet spread of international, local and Indian cuisines.

Each of the 200 staff and students who attended the event was presented with a special edition of the Singlish Notebook as a souvenir.

Above: RSIS 20th anniversary celebration
From left: Ambassador Ong Keng Yong, Ambassador Barry Desker and Professor Joseph Liow.

A DISTINGUISHED LEGACY
RSIS was officially inaugurated on 1 January 2007, but its predecessor, the Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies (IDSS), was established much earlier on 30 July 1996 by Dr Tony Tan Keng Yam, then Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Defence and now President of the Republic of Singapore.

The Founding Director of IDSS, former Singapore President Mr S. R. Nathan, established the Institute with start-up funds contributed by the Government and the Singapore Totalisator Board.

Succeeding Mr Nathan in 1999 was Professor Khong Yam Fong; Prof Khong was succeeded in 2000 by Amb Desker.

In 2014, Amb Desker handed over the leadership of RSIS to Amb Ong, Singapore’s former High Commissioner to Malaysia. As Executive Deputy Chairman of RSIS, Amb Ong provides overall leadership and strategic directions in professional, academic and administrative matters.

Looking towards the future, Amb Ong noted, “Two things in the post-SG50 era are the future thrust of Singapore’s economy and the strengthening of Singapore’s multi-ethnic and multi-religious society.

RSIS must coordinate well and network extensively and strategically to make itself a critical node of intellectual pursuit, scientific and technological excellence, and policy application.”

RESEARCH INTO PRESSING POLICY ISSUES
Research at RSIS today focuses on issues relating to the security and stability of the Asia Pacific region and their implications for Singapore and other countries in the region.

The five RSIS research centres are the Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies (IDSS), the International Centre for Multilateralism Studies (CMS), the Centre of Excellence for National Security (CENS), the Centre for Non-Traditional Security Studies (NTS Centre), and the Centre for Multilateralism Studies (CMS). Besides these, research is also carried out at the School’s Studies in Inter-Religious Relations in Plural Societies Programme (SRP Program) and the National Security Studies Programme (NSSP).

In August 2016, as part of its 20th anniversary celebrations, RSIS published The APPSMO Advantage: Strategic Opportunities, a book that commemorates 18 years of the Asia Pacific Programme for Senior Military Officers (APPSMO).
The challenge will always be attracting, retaining and motivating the right type of researchers and teachers at all levels that can function optimally in the dual academic-policy role that RSIS is well known for.”

Ambassador Ong Keng Yong
Executive Deputy Chairman
S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies

Taking its outreach to national television, RSIS partnered with Channel NewsAsia for a six-episode discussion panel series Think Tank that began airing in August 2016. The series covered topics ranging from the evolving threat of terrorism to food security issues and emerging cyber security threats.

A DUAL TRACK OF ACADEMICS AND POLICY

An autonomous graduate school in NTU, RSIS provides postgraduate programmes in Strategic Studies, International Relations, International Political Economy and Asian Studies. It also provides executive education to officers from the Singapore Armed Forces (SAF), under the SAF-NTU Academy.

To date, a total of 1,563 students have passed through the hallowed halls of RSIS. In the 2016-2017 academic year, a total of 245 students were enrolled in its MSc and doctoral programmes. RSIS Dean Paul Lim, who graduated in 1999 with an MSc in Strategic Studies, was among the pioneering batch of eight students.

Reflecting on his time as a Masters student at RSIS, Mr Bartholomew John Bucknill (RSIS/2016) said that RSIS greatly increased his understanding of the global political economy and provided him with different perspectives.

Mr Tan Feng Qian (RSIS/2016) shared Mr Bucknill’s sentiment, adding that RSIS allowed him “to meet and learn with promising young minds from our region of Southeast Asia and beyond”.

Not one to rest on his laurels, Amb Ong shared his hopes and vision for the school. “RSIS is today one of the top graduate schools of international relations and studies in the Asia Pacific. Our goal is to be the number one school. This means we must have the best researchers, students and teachers from not only Singapore but from the region and globally,” he said.

The challenge will always be attracting, retaining and motivating the right type of researchers and teachers at all levels that can function optimally in the dual academic-policy role that RSIS is well known for.”

O YEA! FIVE TEACHERS RECEIVE NATIONAL AWARD FOR YOUNG EDUCATORS

In recognition of their inspiring teaching and unwavering dedication to their students, five young teachers have received the Outstanding Youth in Education Award (OYEA) at the National Institute of Education Teachers’ Investiture Ceremony on 4 July 2016.

They are Ms Nurul Munirah Bte Abdul Samad from CHIJ St. Nicholas Girls’ School (Primary), Mr Joel Prathiev Vinson from First Toa Payoh Primary School, Ms Toh Xin Yi Shreena from Seng Kang Primary School, Mr Cai Zhiwen from Jurong Secondary School, and Mr Low Wei Chuan from Nan Hua High School.

Selected from 12 shortlisted finalists, the five winners strongly believe that education is about nurturing the child holistically, through character, moral and citizenship development.

Besides receiving a trophy and citation certificate, all five OYEA winners will be fully sponsored to attend an overseas professional development programme.

This year’s Outstanding Youth in Education Award recipients with Mr Ng Chee Meng, Acting Minister for Education (Schools) (4th from left).

From left: Mr Cai Zhiwen, Mr Low Wei Chuan, Ms Toh Xin Yi Shreena, Ms Nurul Munirah Bte Abdul Samad and Mr Joel Prathiev Vinson.

Credit: National Institute of Education, Singapore.
BENDY CONCRETE

NTU researchers have invented a new type of concrete called ConFlexPave that is not only bendable, but also stronger and longer lasting than regular concrete.

Developed at the NTU-JTC Industrial Infrastructure Innovation Centre (I³C), the invention allows the creation of slim precast pavement slabs for quick installation, which could halve the time needed for road works and new pavements. The key breakthrough was understanding how the components of the materials interact with one another on a microscopic level, said Assistant Professor Yang En-Hua from NTU’s School of Civil and Environmental Engineering who led the research.

“The hard materials give a non-slip surface texture while the microfibers—which are thinner than the width of a human hair—distribute the load across the whole slab, resulting in a concrete that is tough as metal and at least twice as strong as conventional concrete under bending,” Asst Prof Yang said.

In partnership with JTC, ConFlexPave will be scaled up for further testing over the next three years at JTC’s industrial estates.

NANOFILTER

USES LESS ENERGY TO PURIFY WASTEWATER

Scientists at NTU have invented a new type of nanofilter that could reduce the energy needed to treat wastewater by up to five times. Typically, reverse osmosis requires high water pressure of 10 bars and above, meaning that the water pumps need a lot of energy to function.

NTU’s new nanofiltration hollow fiber membrane does away with both ultrafiltration and reverse osmosis, the last two steps of the water purification process. Yet, it produces water that is almost as pure as with current technology.

This breakthrough technology is now being commercialized by NTU spin-off company De.Mem.

MUSCLES FEELING SORE? EMMA WILL EASE THE ACHES

If you see a physiotherapist or a Chinese physician for a sprained back, do not be surprised if your therapist turns out to be a robot.

Meet Emma, a physiotherapy robot invented by NTU graduate Albert Zhang at AiTreat, a start-up incubated by NTU.

He is not surprised if your therapist turns out to be a robot.

Albert Lin’s Chinese name is Yu-Min, which roughly translates to ‘citizen of the universe’. This is a fitting description for the young, bold explorer that set out to unravel one of archaeology’s most confounding mysteries: the location of the tomb of famous Mongolian conqueror Genghis Khan.

In a National Geographic Live! session organised in partnership with NTU on 30 August 2016, Dr Lin shared the findings of his past-meeets-present journey.

Using non-invasive technology, he has now uncovered what could very well be Genghis Khan’s long-lost burial site on a remote, sacred mountain. Its true location has been a fiercely guarded secret for hundreds of years, with folklore even saying that a river was diverted over it to make it impossible to find.

Dr Lin’s work into unraveling the mystery behind it all—going through satellite images of great swathes of Mongolia, which was made possible by the crowdsourced might of 28,000 individuals—is nothing short of remarkable.

In fact, a similar approach to performing crowdsourced data analytics on satellite imagery was adopted for the search for the missing Malaysia Airlines plane MH370 that disappeared in 2014.

“What I’m trying to do is to find ways in which I can use technology to take on these big challenges but at the same time, inspire people and kids to pursue science,” Dr Lin shared during an exclusive pre-event cocktail reception as he mingled with NTU alumni and other attendees.

According to Ms Karen Leong (NBS/1998), who attended the presentation, “Dr Lin’s sharing is an inspiring reminder of how we are all born curious—a trait that is key to creating solutions that can change the world.”

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Fellow attendee Mr Adrian Mok (NBS/1999) also appreciated the relevance of this interpid explorer’s tale to those working towards a personal or professional goal. “Dr Albert Lin is certainly engaging as a passionate storyteller, and his level of headstrong persistence is what I hope many entrepreneurs, researchers or simply anyone can learn and apply in their lives.”

Mr Albert Zhang, an NTU graduate and the inventor of Emma, starting a massage treatment for Ms Lim Jia Min, Captain of the Singapore National Women’s Basketball team.

A massage treatment for Mrs Lim Jia Min, Captain of the Singapore National Women’s Basketball team.

The nanofiltration hollow fibre membrane.

An Illustration of Mongol warrior Genghis Khan.

EmmA will ease the aches.
Thirty-six esteemed alumni are presented this year’s Nanyang Alumni Awards at the NTU Alumni Homecoming 2016 in recognition of their stellar achievements and contributions.

A high-flying entrepreneur best describes Mr Wu Hsioh Kwang (Commerce/1974), one of a total of thirty-six alumni who were honoured at the Nanyang Alumni Awards on 15 October 2016 for their glittering achievements, leadership and contributions to the University and society.

Mr Wu, together with Y.B. Datuk Seri Ir. Dr Wee Ka Siong (CSE/1996) and Dr Liang Wern Fook (NIE/2000), received the Nanyang Distinguished Alumni Award, the highest honour bestowed upon NTU alumni.

In tandem with the Nanyang Alumni Awards, this year’s Homecoming 2016 was filled with activities ranging from investment and health forums to an Oktoberfest-themed evening with games, food and music.

Mr Wu Hsioh Kwang

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FLYING THE FLAG FOR THE CHINESE COMMUNITY

How apt it is that in 2014, Mr Wu, as Executive Chairman and CEO of Straco Corporation Limited, would lead his company to acquire the iconic 165-metre-high Singapore Flyer, which offers a bird’s eye view of the entire Singapore skyline.

Indeed, the Singapore Exchange-listed Straco Corporation, which counts the Shanghai Ocean Aquarium as one of its prized projects, is one of the few foreign companies to have established themselves in China’s competitive tourism industry.

“As a long-time alumnus from Nanyang University, I feel extremely honoured to have received this award from NTU. I am also flattered as there are many other alumni who have made major contributions to the University and society as well,” said Mr Wu.

A respected senior in the Chinese community, Mr Wu serves on the Board of Governors of NTU’s Chinese Heritage Centre and Confucius Institute. This year, Mr Wu was conferred the Public Service Medal at the National Day Awards 2016.

“I have always been dedicated to promoting quality education and the importance of Chinese culture in Singapore. This award spurs me to put in even more time and effort towards serving the community,” Mr Wu said.
A HEART FOR PUBLIC SERVICE

Dr Wee Ka Siong, Member of Parliament (MP) representing Ayer Itam, Johor, and Minister of the Prime Minister's Department, Malaysia, remembers his time as a Masters student at NTU's School of Civil and Structural Engineering: “I still recall the days of crossing the Causeway every day from Johor Bahru on my motorcycle to attend classes. I am glad to be part of NTU’s tremendous leaps of transformation over the years into the premier university it is today,” Dr Wee said.

The long-time public servant still refers to the engineering principles he learned at NTU in guiding his work today. “As engineers, we have learnt how to apply pragmatism and logical reasoning to our daily life and work,” he said.

“The one constant we share is our ability to be problem solvers to improve the circumstances of others or even alleviate their burden. This principle is also one that I have consistently employed throughout my work as a government official and public servant from even before our first elected as MP for Ayer Itam in 2004.”

Dr Wee, a 2012 recipient of the Nanyang Alumni Achievement Award, has always made time to give back to NTU. In 2014, he helped to launch the NTU Alumni Association (Malaysia) and remains its patron.

“I am acutely aware of my own obligation to give back to society. Being conferred this honour reaffirms my belief in making the most of our given lot in life and giving back in public service, using the knowledge and experience that we have acquired to better the lives of our communities,” he said.

LYRICS THAT MAKE THE HEART SOAR

Can any one person start a musical movement that unites people from all walks of life and inspires their national pride? That would be Dr Liang Wern Fook, a pioneer of the Xinyao (Singapore songs) music movement with over 200 musical compositions and songs under his belt.

Staying humble about his contributions, Dr Liang made a point to acknowledge the goodwill of support from friends and the media. “The Xinyao music movement can never be built single-handedly. I drew strength from the support of the public, my friends and the media,” he explained.

“Back then, community centres were willing to provide spaces for Xinyao activities. The media was less commercialised—radio stations would allocate 30-minute time slots for musicians to record their music in the studio. When completed, they would broadcast it with a short introduction about the composer and the song.”

Citing “Sparrow with a Bamboo Twig” (麻雀衔竹枝) as his favourite composition, Dr Liang is also a prolific writer whose essays and poetry have earned him accolades such as the Singapore Book Prize in 1996.

Yet another hat Dr Liang wears is that of an educator. The 2008 recipient of the Nanyang Alumni Achievement Award is also an Adjunct Associate Professor with NTU’s Division of Chinese, and he offers NTU students the perfect example of how never to rest on one’s laurels.

“I am always enthusiastic about taking on new challenges,” Dr Liang said. “I will continue taking on new projects such as composing songs for drama series and movies. I am debuting a new album in mid-October which has 15 new and recent compositions.”

NTU’S BRIGHTEST STARS

This year, a total of 11 alumni received the Nanyang Alumni Achievement Award, which recognises alumni for their significant contributions to the University.

Our shining alumna is Ms Sim Ann (HSS/2006), Senior Minister of State at the Ministry of Trade and Industry, and the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth. “I was in the first batch of students pursuing the Graduate Diploma in Translation and Interpretation (GDTI) offered by NTU in 2005. Most of my classmates, like me, were working adults. It was no easy task balancing studies with work, but I enjoyed the course immensely,” she recalled.

Inspired by her experience at NTU, Ms Sim chaired the inaugural term of the National Translation Committee, advocating for effective communications in all four official languages through quality translation. “I am glad that I was given the opportunity later to do my part for the translation community in Singapore,” she said. “I thank NTU and my lecturers for the opportunity to take part in the GDTI.”

Three days from small businesses to youth, Ms Sim has her plate full. As a member of the Committee on Future Economy, she is helping to support small and medium enterprises; and as Co-Chairman of the National Committee on Youth Guidance and Rehabilitation and Council Member of the National Youth Council, she is doing her part to nurture Singaporean youth.

SHINING EXAMPLES OF FORTITUDE AND SERVICE

Eight NTU alumni have received this year’s Nanyang Outstanding Young Alumni Award for their exemplary achievements.

A former information technology student Dr Mohammad Nazir Bin Anuar (NIE/2003), 2014, an engineer who felt compelled to make a career switch after a relief teaching stint at Greenview Secondary, where he worked with Normal Technical students. Now a Lead Teacher (Physics) at Greenview Secondary, Dr Nazir came up with the Relevant, Appealing and Personal (RAP) pedagogical approach to make lessons relevant to the real world and personal experiences of his students. For his pursuit of new frontiers in education, he received the President’s Award for Teachers in 2014.

Two years after graduating with a PhD degree from NTU, Dr Nazir remained close to the faculty as NIE, collaborating with them on research publications and participating in hands-on workshops. This year, he is a recipient of the Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching Programme, which will allow him to take courses and complete a project at an university in the United States.

When asked, Dr Nazir said that his passion for teaching stems from a simple motivation—his students and colleagues. “I had an enriching learning journey going through the doctoral programme in NIE. As a pedagogical leader, I always on the lookout for ideas to inspire and excite my students and fellow teachers, and this keeps my passion alive.”

Fourteen individuals who have chosen to dedicate their time and energy in service to their alma mater have been rewarded with the Nanyang Alumni Service Award. One such individual is Mr Heng Tong Chuan (SCE/2006), a Senior IT Manager at the Singapore Island Country Club, who is unwavering in his support for NTU’s School of Computer Science and Engineering.

Mr Heng was Vice President of the School of Computer Science and Engineering Alumni Association (CSSEA) from 2013 to 2015, and President from 2011 to 2013. His years of service began as an undergraduate, where he was President of the Computer Engineering Club, as well as a member of the NTU Students’ Union.

“I feel greatly honoured to receive this award as it is a recognition of the contributions I have made to the Alumni Association,” said Mr Heng. “NTU’s education system was instrumental in shaping me to be an independent and highly adaptive individual.”
NANYANG DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

This is the highest honour bestowed upon the alumni of the University, recognising the truly remarkable accomplishments of alumni who have gained national, regional or international distinction as outstanding exponents of their chosen fields or professions, and whose endeavours reflect admirably on, or bring honour to, the University.

VISIONARY OF CHINA’S TOURISM INDUSTRY

Mr Wu Hsioh Kwang
Commerce
B.Com. / Class of 1974

Mr Wu is the founder, Executive Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the publicly-listed Straco Corporation Limited (SCL), which specialises in high quality tourism-related projects that incorporate entertainment, education and culture. Today, SCL is one of the few foreign companies that have managed to establish themselves in China’s competitive tourism industry. Its flagship project in China is the 20,000-square-metre Shanghai Ocean Aquarium, which is one of Shanghai’s most popular attractions with over two million visitors each year. In 2014, SCL acquired the iconic 165-metre high Singapore Flyer through its subsidiary Straco Leisure Pte Ltd. Despite his hectic schedule, Mr Wu finds time to serve on several boards including as Vice-Chairman of the Singapore Chinese Chamber of Commerce Foundation’s Committee of Management, First Vice-Chairman of the Singapore Business Federation’s China Business Group, and as a Council Member of the National Arts Council. He is also a member of the Board of Governors of both NTU’s Chinese Heritage Centre and Confucius Institute, as well as a Board Member of the Hwa School of Business. In August, Mr Wu was conferred the Public Service Medal at the National Day Awards 2016.

PASSIONATE POLITICIAN, STALWART PUBLIC SERVANT

Y.B. Datuk Seri Ir. Dr Wee Ka Siong
School of Civil and Structural Engineering
M.Eng. / Class of 1996

For more than a decade, Dr Wee has faithfully served his constituents in Ayer Hitam, Johor as their Member of Parliament. He is also currently a Minister in the Prime Minister’s Department, a position he has held since July 2014. Dr Wee’s political career began in 1992 when he joined the Johor Bahru Malaysian Chinese Association (MCA), which is part of Malaysia’s governing Barisan National coalition. He has held various roles along the way, most recently being elected in 2013 as the Deputy President of MCA, where he has placed much focus on Chinese education in Malaysia. A recipient of the Nanyang Alumni Achievement Award in 2012, Dr Wee helped launch the NTU Alumni Association (Malaysia) in January 2014 and has since continued to lend his support to it. In 2015, Dr Wee was conferred the Datin Gemilang Seri Melaka which carries the title Datin Seri by the HE Governor of Malacca State. Dr Wee, a civil engineer by training, is a member of the Board of Engineering Malaysia and a registered engineer with the likes of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Engineer and the International Associate of Engineers.

A ONE-MAN “BRIDGE LINKING LITERATURE AND MUSIC” IN SINGAPORE

Dr Liang Wern Fook
National Institute of Education
Ph.D. (Chinese Literature) / Class of 2000

An acclaimed singer-songwriter with six albums and over 200 musical compositions and songs under his belt, Dr Liang is considered a pioneer of the Xinyao (Singapore songs) music movement. His significant works include Eve of History Exam, The Spartan Song, Friendship Forever, One Step at a Time, and Singapore Pie. His compositions have been sung by Mandopop superstars including Andy Lau, Jacky Cheung, and fellow Singaporeans Kit Chan and Stefanie Sun. Musical talent aside, Dr Liang is also a published poet and essayist who has earned critical acclaim with his essay collection The Last Years of Kreta Ayer, poetry collection In Fact I am in Love with Time, and short-story collection The 21 Dreams of Liang Wern Fook. Dr Liang has received numerous prestigious awards, including the Cultural Medallion for Music from the National Arts Council in 2010, the National Arts Council’s Young Artist Award (Literary Arts) in 1992 and the Singapore Book Prize in 1996. He is currently an Adjunct Associate Professor with NTU’s Division of Chinese, and in 2008 received the Nanyang Alumni Achievement Award.

Leaders do not learn from success. If I want to learn how to be successful, I would focus on the reasons that led to the failure of others and avoid repeating their mistakes. Success cannot be replicated but those who do not learn from history are doomed to repeat it. Only when confronted with failure can we examine what went wrong and find ways to improve.”

No matter what your qualifications or expertise are, you can serve the public well in terms of nation building as a government official by continually bringing new, modern thinking to transform the government’s processes towards better transparency and professionalism.”

To all budding song writers, cast aside the technicalities surrounding music composition. Focus instead on the story you would like to tell through your song. Most importantly, be willing to try out new things in life, as diverse experiences offer different perspectives which could help you in your compositions.”

Mr. Wu Hsioh Kwang, Executive Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Straco Corporation Limited, has been a visionary in the tourism industry, particularly in China. With a portfolio that includes the renowned Shanghai Ocean Aquarium, he has managed to establish himself in a competitive market, attracting over two million visitors each year. His commitment to excellence is evident in his ability to not only learn from success but also from failure, emphasizing the importance of understanding others’ mistakes to avoid repeating them. This approach to leadership is testament to his dedication to the University and his aim to bring honour to it through his accomplishments.

Dr. Liang Wern Fook, a distinguished figure in Chinese literature and music, exemplifies the blend of art and academia. His contributions to Singapore’s music landscape, through several albums and hundreds of compositions, have been celebrated. His writings have received critical acclaim, further cementing his status as a pioneer in the Xinyao music movement. Dr. Liang’s dedication to his craft is not limited to his compositions; his poetic and essayistic works have also gained recognition. His receipt of the Nanyang Alumni Achievement Award and the Nanyang Alumni Achievement Award in Music highlights his notable contributions to Chinese literature and music in Singapore.

Dr. Wee Ka Siong, a passionate politician and stalwart public servant, has dedicated his career to serving his constituents in Ayer Hitam, Johor as a Member of Parliament. His role as a Minister in the Prime Minister’s Department underscores his commitment to governance and public service. His political journey began in 1992 when he joined the Johor Bahru Malaysian Chinese Association (MCA) and has seen him hold various significant positions, including Deputy President of MCA. Dr. Wee’s dedication to his role is reflected in his receipt of the Nanyang Alumni Achievement Award in 2012, which recognizes his contributions to the nation.

These figures represent the pinnacle of achievement in their respective fields, embodying the spirit of excellence and dedication that the National Day Awards acknowledges. Their stories serve as inspirations, highlighting the importance of learning from both success and failure, and the impact of diverse experiences in achieving success.
**SPOTLIGHT**

**NANYANG ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

The Nanyang Alumni Achievement Award recognises alumni who have gained national standing due to the significant contributions made to their chosen fields or professions that are worthy of recognition and have brought honour to the University, and/or demonstrated extraordinary service, commitment and dedication for the advancement of the University.

**PROLIFIC, AWARD-WINNING WRITER WHO HAS MADE WAVES IN CHINA**

Mdm Tham Yew Chin  
*Arts*  
BA / Class of 1972  
BA (Hons) / Class of 1973

Better known by her pen name You Jin, Mdm Tham began her career as a features reporter at the now-defunct Singapore newspaper Nanyang Siang Pau, before teaching for nearly three decades, first at Hua Yi Secondary School, then at Pioneer Junior College.

To date, You Jin has published 180 books in countries such as Singapore, China, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Malaysia.

She broke into the China market in 1989, and a decade later, Chongqing City’s Chongqing University set up the You Jin Research Centre for university students to study her works and those of other Southeast Asian writers.

You Jin’s accolades include the inaugural Singapore Chinese Literary Award from the Singapore Literature Society in 1991, the Cultural Medallion—Singapore’s highest arts accolade—in 2009, and the Singapore Literature Prize (Merit award, Chinese Non-Fiction) in 2014.

**A LEADER IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**

Ms Low Peck Kem  
*School of Electrical & Electronic Engineering*  
B.Eng. / Class of 1986

Ms Low is the Chief HR Officer & Senior Director (Business Partnerships) of the Public Service Division, Prime Minister’s Office, where she is responsible for professionalising HR in 16 government ministries and 65 statutory boards.

She previously served in various roles in industry, before making the switch to the public sector in 2007 when she joined the Ministry of Manpower (MOM) as a Divisional Director with its National HR Division.

Ms Low is currently a Board Member of the Tripartite Alliance for Fair and Progressive Employment Practices and an Advisory Council Member of the Singapore Training & Development Association. She won the 2004 Best HR Leader Award and the 2008 Outstanding Contributions to HR Award by HRM Awards, and the 2010 Leading HR Leader Award at the Singapore HR Awards.

**A DRIVER OF GROWTH AT A HOME-GROWN ENGINEERING GIANT**

Mr Teo Cher Koon  
*School of Mechanical & Production Engineering*  
B.Eng. / Class of 1987

Mr Teo Cher Koon is the Managing Director, President and Controlling Shareholder of ISDN Holdings Ltd, an integrated engineering solution provider principally focusing on motion control, industrial computing and other specialised engineering solutions.

Mr Teo has been instrumental in the company’s rapid growth.

The Singapore Exchange Mainboard-listed ISDN group currently comprises 67 subsidiaries, with 64 sales offices and approximately 830 employees serving over 5,000 customers across the world. Its group revenue grew from approximately S$55 million in 2005 to S$236 million in 2015.

ISDN has been a member of Singapore 1000 since 2009, a prestigious ranking by DP Information Group. Singapore 1000 analyses over 70,000 audited financials each year to arrive at the top 1,000 corporations.

**FOUNDER OF ONE OF SINGAPORE’S TEN LARGEST ACCOUNTING FIRMS**

Mr Tan Song Kok, Henry  
*Nanyang Business School*  
B.Acc. / Class of 1988

Mr Henry Tan is the Managing Director of Nexia TS, one of the ten largest accounting firms in Singapore. In 1997, Nexia TS expanded into China, where it now has an accounting network with more than 1,500 partners and professionals located in 23 cities. Mr Tan is the Chairman of Nexia China.

To help other entrepreneurs in Singapore, Mr Tan previously served as President of Spirit of Enterprise and Entrepreneur Organisation, and as a member of the Nanyang Business School Alumni Advisory Board. Nexia TS has also provided scholarships and bursaries to financially needy students.

Mr Tan has received numerous awards for his outstanding work as a leader and entrepreneur, including the Spirit of Enterprise Award (2004 Honour Recipient), Midas Touch Asia Enterprise Awards 2013 (Platinum Award) and SME One Asia Awards 2013 (Distinguished Award).

**VISIONARY IN THE INFORMATION COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY SPACE**

Mr Lee Zee Sye, Simon  
*School of Civil and Structural Engineering*  
B.Eng. / Class of 1987

Mr Lee is Chief Executive Officer of Itlata International, which counts Avita Asia, Panasonic, SingTel and Prudential amongst its clients.

He is currently chair of the Business and Community Partners’ (BCP) programme for the University’s Development Office, which is aiming to raise S$1.2 million this year with S$3 million in matching government funds for the University’s endowment fund. Mr Lee and his wife Michelle Ang, an alumna of NTU, set up their own fund in 2015 to offer two bursaries—in perpetuity—to undergraduates. In addition, he is a founding member of the NTU Alumni Council.

The accolades Mr Lee has received include the Nanyang Alumni Service Award in 2004, the Total Defence Award in 2012 and 2013, and the Singapore SME 1000 Net Profit Growth Excellence Award (Infocomm and Technology) in 2014, and most recently, the Promising Award, as well as, the Grand Award at the inaugural Tochew Entrepreneur Award.
Mr Lee Yong Miang, Von
Nanyang Business School
B.Eng. / Class of 1995

Mr Lee is the Chairman and founder of the Expand Group of Companies, which has built landmark projects such as the Superstores and Energy Centre for the Gardens by the Bay, the Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum, and the Marina Bay Promenade.

Today, Expand has received accolades such as the SME 500 award, Singapore 1000 award, the Enterprise 50 award, and the prestigious Green Mark Platinum Award. On a personal front, Mr Lee received the Entrepreneur of the Year Award in 2008 from the Association of Small & Medium Enterprises and the Rotary Club of Singapore.

Mr Lee recently gifted NTU with $51 million to start a new endowment for financially needy students. The Von Lee Yong Miang Bursary Fund has received matching funds from the Singapore Government, bringing the total endowment to $82.5 million.

AN INSPIRING POLITICIAN AND CIVIL SERVANT

Mr Yang Rui
Nanyang Business School
M.Sc. / Class of 2001

Since he was selected to work at Jiuchapu Commune, Ba County, Hebei Province in 1982, Mr Yang has served in various roles including Executive Deputy Director-General of the Publicity Department of Hebei Provincial Committee of CPC, Secretary of CPC Chengde Municipal Committee of Hebei Province, and Vice Governor of Hebei Province.

As Vice-Governor of Hebei Province, Mr Yang helped to implement major strategies of the Coordinated Development for the Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei Region, New Type of Urbanization, and the planning and construction of Beijing New Airport and the Airport Economic Zone.

He is currently the Standing Committee Member and the Director-General of the Organization Department of Heilongjiang Provincial Committee of CPC, President of the Party School of Heilongjiang Provincial Committee of CPC, and President of Heilongjiang Provincial Academy of Governance.

PHILANTHROPIC BUSINESSMAN PAYING IT FORWARD

Mr Wang Hairong
Nanyang Business School
EMBA / Class of 2007

Mr Wang is the Chairman of Hunan Baili Engineering Sci & Tech Co., Ltd (BLEST), a Shanghai Stock Exchange-listed company which provides engineering, construction, procurement and project management services.

Prior to BLEST, Mr Wang was the Chairman of RH Energy Ltd, which he founded in 1998 and led to its listing on the mainboard of the Singapore Exchange in 2007. Mr Wang expanded the business with acquisitions such as Zamida Energy Ltd, Hunan Baili and Wuhuan Petrochemical. He has also previously worked at the China National Petroleum Corporation.

In 2007, he donated to his alma mater to set up a lifelong scholarship. In 2014, he set up the Hairong Scholarship, which is open to all undergraduate students at NTU.

A CHAMPION OF INDONESIA’S WAR ON TERROR

Police General Dr Muhammad Tito Karnavian
S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies
Ph.D / Class of 2013

Police General Karnavian is currently the Chief of Indonesian National Police. Prior to that, he was the head of Indonesia’s National Counter-terrorism Agency (BNPT) and led the country’s war on terror. He has also led Indonesia’s elite Densus 88 counter-terrorism squad as well as the Jakarta police force.

A firm believer in the importance of international and regional cooperation in today’s environment of international terrorist networks, Police General Karnavian is often invited to lend his expertise at related conferences, meetings or forums.

Police General Karnavian has received numerous accolades for his work, including the Distinguished Policeman Medal, Military Medal for Loyalty to Motherland, Military Medal for Good Service to Motherland, and the Military Medal for Good Service to the World.

SINGAPORE POLITICIAN

Ms Sim Ann
School of Humanities and Social Sciences
G.Dip.Translation / Class of 2006

Ms Sim Ann is the Senior Minister of State at the Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI) and the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth. She also holds the appointment of Deputy Government Whip.

She sits on the Committee on Future Economy (CFE), and will be co-chairing the Lifestyle Cluster under the Council for Skills, Innovation and Productivity (CSIP). She is also the Co-Chairman of the National Committee on Youth Guidance and Rehabilitation and a Council Member of the National Youth Council.

Ms Sim first stepped into the political arena in the 2011 General Elections when she contested in the Holland-Bukit Timah Group Representation Constituency (GRC) as one of the four-member People’s Action Party team led by current Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr Vivian Balakrishnan. In 2015, she contested and retained the right to represent Holland-Bukit Timah GRC as a Member of Parliament.
The Nanyang Outstanding Young Alumni Award recognises alumni under the age of 40 whose endeavours in their chosen fields or professions are worthy of recognition and have brought honour to the University.

2. Dr Nripan Mathews (MSE/2003)
3. Dr Majid Ebrahimi Warkiani (MAE/2013)
4. Mr Alphonsus Chern Xianjun (WKWSCI/2008)
5. Dr Muhammad Nazir Bin Amir (NIE/2003, 2014)
6. Ms Cheryl Chan Wei Ling (MSE/1999)
7. Mr Ted Chen Chiu Hao (EEE/2012; TIP/2015)
8. Ms Sarah Choo Jing (ADM/2013; NIE/2016)

The Nanyang Alumni Service Award recognises alumni whose dedication and volunteer commitments through alumni clubs and associations or to the University’s programmes and activities have significantly enriched the University, so as to encourage continual commitments in the future.

1. Mr Wong Choon Bong (NBS/2011)
2. Dr Liang Jing (EEE/2009)
3. Mr Christopher Sia Jiun Kae (SCE/2005; NBS/2010)
4. Dr Vinay Kalia (NBS/2003)
5. Mdm Tan Soh Wah (Arts/1972)
7. Mr Lu Jiasheng (NBS/2008)
8. Ms Zhao Xiaorong (NBS/2007)
9. Mr Kelvin Chen Jia Jia (MAE/2008)
10. Mr Gabriel Lee Hong Bin (NBS/2012)
11. Mr Cheng Tong Chuan (SCE/2006)
12. Mr Cen Hongyang (HSS/2003)
13. Mr Zhou Junlin (NTC/2007)
14. Mr Andy Seo Jia Hui (SPMS/2010)
The ever-evolving Singapore skyline has seen a surge in iconic landmarks in the past decade, from the twelve giant Supertrees at the Gardens by the Bay to the Marina Bay Waterfront Promenade, which boasts an uninterrupted 3.5-kilometre boardwalk that gives a panoramic view of the central business district.

A majestic sight to behold, the Supertrees are also considered a construction feat. Some of the Supertrees have canopies that are nary an arm’s length from one another, while the biggest Supertree is as tall as a 16-storey building with a canopy that stretches the length of an Olympic swimming pool.

These iconic buildings and architectural landmarks are the brainchild of Mr Von Lee Yong Miang (CEE/1995), Founder and Executive Chairman of home-grown building construction company Expand Group. The company just celebrated its 16th anniversary this year, along with the milestone of achieving an aggregate revenue of S$1 billion and current outstanding orders of S$500 million.

PAYING IT FORWARD

The award-winning developer now wants to build something less tangible than a Supertree, yet possibly even more rewarding. He is looking to grow human talent—specifically ambitious, young engineers—to help fertilise the field that has led to his success today.

By bestowing onto his alma mater a S$1 million gift to start the Von Lee Yong Miang Bursary Fund, Mr Lee has made it possible for NTU to fund up to ten students per academic year in any engineering field of study, providing each student with a stipend of S$10,000.

In a nod to his generous giving, the endowment will be matched by the Singapore Government, bringing the total endowment to S$2.5 million.

"I recalled how in my earlier years I had also benefited from the university and the many helping hands which helped me during my financially constrained years," Mr Lee shared.

"This motivated me to establish this bursary to help a lot more undergraduates access the quintessential tertiary education so that they will be able to focus in their academic achievement. Eventually, the recipients can likewise contribute to and serve society."
Mr Lee presented the cheque to Professor Lee Sing Kong, NTU’s Vice President (Alumni and Advancement), during Expand Group’s 16th anniversary celebration held at the Conrad Centennial Hotel on 7 July 2016. Also present at the ceremony was Mr Victor Tay, NTU’s Chief Development Officer, and Mr Inderjit Singh, member of the NTU Board of Trustees and CEO of Solstar International Pte Ltd.

STARTING HUMBLY

Beginning as a modest two-man team in 2000, Expand Group today has 600 employees and is diversifying into property development and the equity market.

Accolades have come aplenty for the company. For building the S$130 million Supertrees and Energy Centre at Gardens by the Bay, it won several awards, including the Building Construction Authority’s Construction Excellence (Merit) Award 2014.

Besides skyscrapers and mega-structures, Mr Lee’s Expand Group has also built factories, offices and homes. The company is currently constructing several public housing projects in Punggol, Sembawang and Hougang, which represent a total value of almost S$700 million for about 5,000 flats.

Mr Lee’s company was also the main contractor behind the Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum, a project with immense historical and academic significance. The building resembles a moss-covered rock and features a lush green wall landscaped entirely with native plants. It is home to three 150-million-year-old diplodocid sauropod dinosaur fossils, as well as the region’s largest collection of Southeast Asian zoological specimens dating back to 1849.

In recognition of his business achievements, Mr Lee was conferred the Top Entrepreneur of the Year Award in 2008 by the Rotary and the Association of Small and Medium Enterprises (ASME).

REMEMBERING ONE’S ROOTS

There is a Chinese saying, yin shui si yuan, which means it is important to remember the source of one’s success. Mr Lee, who is a recipient of the prestigious Pingat Bakti Masyarakat (Public Service Medal) for his contributions to public service in Singapore, certainly understands that phrase very well.

In an interview with the Business Times in July 2015, Mr Lee said that Expand Group counts as part of its mission to provide housing for the population and “to beautify and shape the nation’s landscape”.

During the cheque presentation ceremony, Prof Lee expressed his gratitude to Mr Lee for creating this bursary fund, which will provide a lifeline to many disadvantaged students at NTU.

“NTU is very grateful to our esteemed alumnus, Mr Lee, for his generosity. We are very proud that whilst he has become so successful in his career, he has made such a tremendous effort to help others because he remembers the assistance he received many years ago as an NTU undergraduate,” Prof Lee said.

“Mr Lee’s gift will not only benefit students with financial difficulties, but also be an inspiration to other successful alumni to give back to society, promoting a culture of giving.”

I NVESTING I N THE FUTURE

Having been the recipient of an NTU scholarship herself, alumna Ms Fenny Maynard (EEE/2002) believes in the transformational power of education.

In the fickle ebb and flow of the markets, two investments never go out of style: property and education. This is a maxim that Ms Fenny Maynard saw lived out in the life of her mother, and one she hopes to pass on to her own daughters.

A manager of a 55-man team at real-estate investment group Walton International, Ms Maynard made a S$100,000 donation in 2012 to start the Fenny Maynard Bursary Fund.

“As a general practitioner, my mother saw patients from all walks of life. She observed that those who were successful all had property investments in their portfolio,” Ms Maynard said. “I also saw that she sacrificed a lot for our education, putting aside money for us even though her finances were tight as a single parent.”

Though she did not originally intend to study overseas, the 1998 racial riots in Indonesia propelled Ms Maynard to seek out opportunities in Singapore.

After securing a scholarship which gave her “a new lease of life”, she arrived at NTU and embarked on a course on electrical and electronic engineering.
**FINDING HER FOOTING**

However, studying in Singapore was not all smooth sailing for Ms Maynard. “When I came to NTU, my eyes were really opened,” she mused. “This is real life: having to compete with so many incredibly hardworking and smart people, while budgeting your own expenses and looking for opportunities to earn points [to stay in the hostel] at the same time.”

In fact, Ms Maynard received a warning letter in her first semester over her academic performance. Her examination results subsequently improved and she has fond memories of her time at NTU, particularly of the times shared with her hostel mates.

“To save as much money as possible, we would gather to share our food rather than eat off campus. Some of the food would be close to the expiry date, having been brought along from when we first arrived in Singapore. It was great fun coming up with creative ways to cook at these ‘expired food parties’, and thankfully, none of us fell sick!” she shared with a laugh.

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**A LEAP OF FAITH**

It was a bold move for Ms Maynard to switch from a salaried engineering job to a fully commission-based career in property sales. However, her training in engineering still came in handy, giving her a rigorously quantitative perspective when it came to scrutinising each investment.

Looking back at her time at NTU, Ms Maynard recalls that she constantly sought out opportunities to better herself, attending courses and seminars on different aspects of personal growth. “NTU has many avenues for you to pursue your interests outside of your studies. I would encourage students to participate in as many activities as they can during their time at school; they are a great platform for networking and building your contacts.”

“But the number one way to improve yourself is to find a good mentor, and for that you need to be open to feedback and willing to change,” she added. “This is crucial for your personal growth, and success only happens when you have significant personal growth.”

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**THE GIFT OF EDUCATION**

Ms Maynard’s drive for success is also motivated by a desire to pay it forward. While applying for jobs in 2002, she came across an article in NTU’s alumni magazine that featured a Nanyang University alumnus who had donated S$50,000 to the University.

“The donor, who happened to be of Indonesian descent like me, really inspired me. I had experienced firsthand how that amount of money can make an impact on a person’s future,” Ms Maynard revealed. “But you need to do really well in life to be able to give that much, so it motivated me to do well in my career and make the gift of education that I received worthwhile by paying it forward.”

Describing how education is a “launchpad for a better future, a better career and an even better family life”, Ms Maynard said she felt compelled to help disadvantaged students get a head start in life. “Imagine if your own child was in that situation, wouldn’t you wish for somebody to come and sponsor the child?” she asked.

“For me, if I am able to touch just one life, be part of someone’s success or inspire someone to give back to society, this gives me a deep sense of fulfillment,” Ms Maynard concluded. “I would like to encourage all fellow alumni to do their part, to give back to our alma mater no matter what the amount is.”

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“For me, if I am able to touch just one life, be part of someone’s success or inspire someone to give back to society, this gives me a deep sense of fulfillment.”
TWO OTHER ALUMNI HOUSES

ALUMNI HOUSE AT NTU CAMPUS
Located at NTU’s North Spine Plaza, it will boast a top-end Western restaurant managed by the 1-Group (formerly known as 1-Rochester Group), a leading F&B operator in Singapore.

ALUMNI HOUSE AT ONE-NORTH
The third Alumni House at one-north is slated to open next year following the upgrading of the function hall, wellness and recreation facilities and a new gym extension. There will also be a new restaurant and bar.

A PLACE TO CALL HOME IN THE HEART OF THE CITY
The first to open in November 2016 will be a 10,000-square-foot alumni house in Marina Square. Located right in the city centre and with easy access via MRT, the clubhouse will have contemporary facilities for alumni and serve as a meeting place to network and host business associates.

Conceptualised based on extensive feedback from alumni, it can serve as a venue for business meetings during the week, and recreational activities with family and friends over the weekend.

The modern clubhouse boasts a restaurant, bar, function and meeting rooms, and alumni support services. It will be open to all alumni, faculty and staff—one will have to pay a membership fee.

GASTRONOMIC DELIGHTS FROM FRENCH F&B GROUP
The F&B operations will be managed by Sodexo, a French gourmet powerhouse behind the iconic Michelin-starred restaurants Le Pré Catalan and Le Jules Verne in Paris.

Serving an international and local delights menu, the restaurant will host top chefs from Sodexo’s global network of chefs in 80 countries. Diners can expect a gastronomic adventure, sampling diverse cuisines from around the world.

To complement the restaurant’s cosmopolitan cuisine, an adjacent bar will feature artisanal cocktails concocted by expert mixologists. The restaurant and bar will also host thematic nights and feature sports telecasts and live band performance in the evenings.

Together, the restaurant and bar can seat more than 200 guests, and will provide an ideal venue for business meetings, parties and family events.

1. The outdoor facade of the Marina Square shopping mall.
   Photo credit: Marina Centre Holdings Pte Ltd
2. An artist’s impression of the restaurant.
3. The restaurant will feature an international menu by French gourmet powerhouse Sodexo.
4. An artist’s impression of the bar.
More than 200 alumni and former and current faculty from NTU’s School of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering (MAE) came together on 3 September 2016 for the MAE Alumni Homecoming. The event, organised by MAE and the MAE Alumni Association, also celebrated the School’s 35th anniversary.

The afternoon session started off with a talk by Associate Professor Leong Kah Fai on 3D printing, followed by a guided tour around NTU. The attendees visited MAE labs such as the Innovation Lab, Robotics Research Centre and the Air Traffic Management Research Institute (ATMRI) Simulation Tower and Radar Lab, as well as iconic buildings such as The Hive and the School of Art, Design and Media. They also visited the Chinese Heritage Centre and drove past the Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine’s Experimental Medicine Building and Yunnan Gardens. There was also an exhibition showcasing some of MAE’s interesting engineering projects such as a solar car and a robot named EDGAR.

The Hive was the favourite of alumna Ms Saw Hui Min (MAE/2012). “The Hive is visually attractive and houses many multipurpose spaces. Students now have more campus space to connect and network with one another,” she said. “The ‘smart’ classrooms with multiple LCD screens and flexible clustered seating encourage more interaction during lessons as well.”

Ms Jean Chan (MAE/2014) called the lab tour an “eye-opener”. “As a student, we did not have the opportunity to enter the labs. Knowing what the researchers are doing now at the labs makes me feel that NTU is striving to be at the forefront of technological research,” she said.

At the end of the tour, Mr Jesson Lim (MAE/1999) said he was pleased to see his former lecturers again. “Despite the changing environment, it is still heart-warming to be back at MAE as I have many fond memories of the place. The professor who taught me is still around and I’m glad he still recognises me.”

At the evening’s Homecoming celebration, the crowd packed the sky deck overlooking the entrance of MAE. Professor Louis Phee, Chair of MAE and Founder of medical robotics start-up EndoMaster, delivered a welcome speech congratulating MAE graduates on their diverse contributions to society. “We could start off as engineers, but we quickly pick up new skills and transform ourselves for exciting new roles as we create wealth and value for our organisations and country. This is our strength and we should capitalise on that,” Prof Phee said.

Guest-of-honour NTU President Professor Bertil Andersson took a walk down history lane, tracing MAE’s roots to the School of Mechanical and Production Engineering at Nanyang Technological Institute, NTU’s predecessor. He also commended MAE researchers for forging impactful collaborations with major industry players such as Rolls Royce. The attendees then witnessed the opening ceremony of the newly renovated entrance of MAE, which was unveiled by Prof Andersson and Prof Phee with the help of a humanoid robot nicknamed NAO.

The celebrations concluded with a prize presentation, which saw attendees from the Class of 2012 winning the Best Class Award for having the biggest turnout among all the cohorts.

During dinner, the alumni and professors networked as the NTU String Orchestra entertained the crowd. Midway through dinner, Prof Phee invited the alumni on stage to share their stories. One of them was Professor Chua Chee Kai, former Chair of MAE and current Executive Director of SC3DP. A graduate of the pioneering MAE Class of 1985, Prof Chua described the close-knit ties that he and his former schoolmates continue to share.

Calling herself a true-blue engineer, alumna Ms Azizah Binte Sapari (MAE/1988) said her NTU lecturers helped to shape her passion for engineering, and described her gratitude to MAE for the skills and opportunities it provided her.

The celebrations concluded with a prize presentation, which saw attendees from the Class of 2012 winning the Best Class Award for having the biggest turnout among all the cohorts.
HOW SOCIALLY SAVVY ARE YOU?

F rom dealing with the ever-changing algorithms of Facebook and Twitter newfeeds to creating visual content for Instagram and Pinterest, staying afloat in a sea of social media isn’t that straightforward these days. Jobseekers and professionals are even using these online platforms to gain a competitive advantage in their careers, say three industry experts who candidly shared in-the-trenches tactics and best practices to improve engagement on socially shared content.

Held on 3 August 2016 at NTU’s Novena campus, the speakers for the 39th Distinguished Alumni Forum on Effective Social Media Strategies were Mr Adrian Chye, General Manager of MediaFreaks; Mr Atul Harkisanka, Regional Sales Manager at LinkedIn; and Mr Lokman Yusof, Regional Account Manager at LinkedIn.

Having successfully managed the social media marketing of high-profile clients such as Kraft, Energizer and Pfizer, Mr Chye spoke about the various dos and don’ts of social media marketing. As regional managers from LinkedIn, Mr Harkisanka and Mr Yusof shared useful tips on how to best use LinkedIn as a tool for cultivating a professional network, and for job searching.

The attendees of the event felt that they left the session much more well-informed than before. Ms Patricia Pang (NBS/2009) shared one of her main takeaways, “I learnt that we need to build a network before we actually need one, because by the time we’re actively looking for a job it’ll often be too late.”

Mr Inez Tan (WKWSCI/2004) said social media was very relevant to her line of work, which requires her to reach out to younger people. “One of the night’s speakers, Mr Harkisanka, shared with NTULink how he appreciated the opportunity to give back to the NTU community.”

“I feel very humbled and privileged. I did not have such opportunities when I was graduating from NTU and so I feel that it’s my duty to come back to share as much as I possibly can,” she said.

Beyond sharing social media tips, the alumni forum also brought people together. Mr Mohammed Indera (NIE/2004) summed it up best. “This alumni event is like a networking platform done in a very professional way. It’s my first time coming to any alumni event, but I have already made friends, even with alumni from totally different generations.”

“I learnt that we need to build a network before we actually need one, because by the time we’re actively looking for a job it’ll often be too late.”

Ms Patricia Pang
NBS/2009

7 TIPS TO EXCEL WITH SOCIAL MEDIA FOR INDIVIDUALS AND BUSINESSES, ACCORDING TO INDUSTRY EXPERTS

1 LinkedIn for jobseekers
85% of Singaporean professionals and students are already on LinkedIn, so don’t get left behind. LinkedIn opens up new opportunities for networking, learning, and maybe even finding your dream job.

2 Alternatives to Facebook
Based on 2015 statistics of social media penetration in Singapore, Facebook is still going strong, but start paying attention to Instagram and LinkedIn as they are up and coming.

3 Know thy audience
As a general rule of thumb, use Facebook primarily to engage people aged 30 and up, Instagram for those in their twenties, and Snapchat for those under 18.

4 Four zones of social media
Social media can be divided into four zones: social community (e.g. Facebook, Instagram), social commerce (e.g. blogs), social entertainment (e.g. Groupon), and social publishing (e.g. blogs).

5 Play the long game
For businesses, social media marketing is about the long game of cultivating both current and future customers. Don’t expect immediate results from day one, especially if you are a new brand.

6 Psychology at play
Use psychological factors to really make your social media campaigns stick. For example, featuring ambassadors similar to your target audience can provide social proofing in powerful ways, while communicating authority through statistics can inspire confidence.

7 Is anything really free online?
You never have to give anything away for ‘free’. Use social media competitions and giveaways as opportunities to collect invaluable information about your audience’s preferences and concerns, and then act on them.
South Hills Garden was packed with over 300 alumni from the Class of 1976 to 1980 who were eager to get together with schoolmates from their alma mater.

After the opening ceremony, they had the opportunity to learn about nutrition at a health seminar conducted by Dr. Chia Teck Fatt, Director of life sciences company Otemchi Biotechnologies, and Mr. Fong Cheng Ek, a traditional Chinese medicine physician and acupuncturist, who provided tips from a Western and an Eastern perspective, respectively.

The attendees then enjoyed an afternoon feast at the Nanyang Auditorium. Over dance and music at the luncheon, the participants rekindled friendships forged from over 40 years ago. NTU Vice President (Alumni and Advancement) Professor Lee Sing Kong, who spoke at the event, took the opportunity to share with the audience some of the latest developments at NTU.

For Ms Eunice Seow (HSS/2016), her fondest memories of NTU would be that of her time spent with friends from Hall 12. “University is where you get the opportunity to socialise and take part in many activities outside of the academic curriculum.”

But the end could also be a good time for new beginnings, according to Ms Chua Xing Juan (SPMS/2016). “As fresh graduates, it is natural for us to feel nervous for the future,” she said. “Even then, we should continue to reach for our goals with a positive mind-set.”

Above: (Standing, from left) NTU President Emeritus Prof Su Guaning, Reunion Organising Committee Vice-Chairman Mr Pow Kim Meng (Science/1976), NTU Vice President (Alumni & Advancement) Prof Lee Sing Kong, Reunion Organising Committee Chairman Mr Tan Yew Bong (Commerce/1980). (Seated, from left) NTU Chief Alumni Affairs Officer Mr Guo Sam Nan, Prof (Emeritus) Goh Suat Hong (Science/1964), Dr Yap Kim Yue (Science/1962), Mrs Tan-Ow Fong Yin (Commerce/1963), Mrs Chia-Tan Lay Heng (Science/1962), and NTU Trustee Emeritus and President of Association of Nanyang University Graduates Mr Chia Ban Seng (Science/1960).
NEW BEGINNINGS IN AN ANCIENT CITY

To stay connected with its 23,000-strong alumni who live and work in China, NTU held its annual China Convocation in Xi’an, Shaanxi province, on 17 September 2016.

Graduating that day were 245 Chinese government officials and industry professionals from six NTU Masters programmes and the prestigious Lien Fellows programme, which supports leaders in promoting ties between Singapore and China.

Professor Freddy Boey, NTU Deputy President and Provost, congratulated the Class of 2016 on their achievements.

"NTU is a global university where the East meets the West. In today’s world, a global education is essential and the experience and knowledge you have gained at NTU will be invaluable as you forge ahead in your careers," he said.

Following the morning’s convocation ceremony, the NTU Alumni Association (Shaanxi) played host to alumni and guests at the 4th NTU All China-based Alumni Association Conference, Alumni Talk and Alumni Get-Together Dinner. This was the first year that the conference was extended to all of NTU’s Alumni Associations worldwide.

Ms Qiang Linmei (NBS/2005), President of NTU AA (Shaanxi), delivered the opening address, followed by a keynote speech by Prof Boey on NTU’s latest developments.


During the Alumni Talk, alumnus Associate Professor (Adjunct) Le Li-Chun (EMBA/2012) presented on the topic, ‘China’s One-Belt, One-Road and High-speed Rail Strategies for an Era of New Global Land Rights Across Europe, Asia and Africa in 2049’.

Mr Shangguan Jiqing, Deputy Secretary of CPC Xi’an City Committee and Mayor of Xi’an attended the dinner. Ms Qiang provided a brief history of Xi’an and encouraged the alumni to stay in touch with their alma mater. The alumni were treated to performances and a taste of the unique ‘Nanyang One’ liquor.

The day after, alumni and guests visited sites such as the Museum of Terra-cotta Warriors and Horses, Hua Qing Palace and the Big Wild Goose Pagoda, Shaanxi History Museum.

Above Left: NTU Provost Prof Freddy Boey addressing the audience.

Right: Participants of the 4th NTU All China-based Alumni Association Conference.

Below: A group photo of the graduates.
ON YOUR MARK... GET SET... GO!

Boding over their love for sports, more than 200 NTU alumni woke up bright and early on a Saturday morning to attend the NTU Alumni Sports Fiesta, an annual event organised by the NTU Alumni Affairs Office.

Now in its tenth year, this year's fiesta was held on 20 August 2016 at the NTU Sports and Recreation Centre, with participants ranging from recent graduates to those 80 years of age.

Apart from serving as a platform for alumni to meet old and new friends, NTU Chief Alumni Affairs Officer Mr Guo Sam Nan described in his opening address the goal of the fiesta, which was to cultivate sportsmanship and a friendly competitiveness.

"In conjunction with the recent Olympic victory by Joseph Schooling, it is clear that sports can unite a nation. We should possess the spirit of not only aiming to win, but most importantly to take part and enjoy the process," Mr Guo said.

His sentiments were shared by alumna Ms Wu Xiao Qi (CEE/2008), who said, "It's all about the experience and passion for sports, not so much about the winning." Teammates and friends since their undergraduate days at the School of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, Mr Yap Wee Teck (MAE/1997) and Mr Kam Ching Young (MAE/1999) attended the event together. Both of them represented NTU in the Inter-Varsity-Polytechnic Games and frequently organised badminton sessions for their peers.

"It is also good to see more people participating in the sports fiesta every year. Through sports, we develop new friendships and strengthen existing relations," Mr Yap said.

The opportunity to get together with former classmates is why Ms Geh Wan Xiu (NIE/2014) participates in the event every year. "This is my third year of participation. It is a wonderful opportunity for me to relive sporting moments with my teammates in NTU. Also, I feel great that I can spend time playing table tennis, an activity that my classmate in NTU. It is a wonderful opportunity for me to relive sporting moments with my teammates in NTU. Also, I feel great that I can spend time playing table tennis, an activity that my classmate and I enjoy," she said.

Participants competing in a 4x100m relay run during the Sports Fiesta, which also included table tennis, badminton, basketball and tennis competitions.

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WHAT DOES A FAMILY-RUN HOTEL IN A SMALL INDONESIAN TOWN HAVE IN COMMON WITH AN ANXIUS SINGAPOREAN PARENT?

Both are turning to technology to solve their problems, such as revenue generation for the family business, and finding suitable school holiday enrichment programmes for the parent.

Here’s help from Budi Santoso (EEE/2010), Co-founder of online hotel management start-up Caption, and Tan Chia-Zhi (WKWSCI/2004), Founder of online school management system GoForClass, who are passionate advocates of using technology as a tool to achieve social good.

Budi, who describes himself as a hybrid of “a digital technology professional and a communications”, Chia-Zhi believes it is this combination of traits that has helped him greatly in his start-up journey. Being a solo entrepreneur, Chia-Zhi enjoys meeting up with like-minded people in the start-up community.

Using CRONO, an online hotel management platform that is targeted at independent, small, low-cost Southeast Asian hotels, Caption provides hoteliers with the means to improve their operating standards. As a direct distribution channel, it cuts out third party online travel booking sites and agents, thus providing hotel owners with the prospects of greater revenues.

Online marketplace GoForClass, on the other hand, was started because Chia-Zhi found it frustrating and time consuming to search for and book suitable enrichment programmes for his own children online. GoForClass not only makes this process a breeze, but also features a school management system that helps centres to better manage their resources, be it manpower or capacity.

As one who enjoys challenges, Budi made it to the EEE Dean’s List and served as President of the NTU Indonesian Students Association during his time at NTU. Budi and Larry have equally big dreams for Caption: the founders aim to expand Caption into five Indonesian cities by mid-2017, followed by Myanmar, Thailand and the Philippines.

To find out more, visit www.goforclass.com and www.captionhospitality.com for more information on the two start-ups. NTU Live, as the innovation and enterprise company of NTU, helps start-ups in various ways, whether it is funding applications, mentoring, exposure at start-up events or linking up with potential investors, if you have a great idea, make an appointment with us to see how we can bring your ideas to fruition. Visit www.ntulive.sg for more information.

Above
Mr Tan Chia-Zhi, Founder of GoForClass
Below
Mr Budi Santoso (right) and Mr Larry Chua (left), Co-founders of Caption
What are the differences between a mare, a stallion, and a gelding? This question was posed to participants during a tour of the Gallop Stables, where 100 NTU alumni and their families turned up for this year’s NTU Alumni Family Day. Organised by the NTU Alumni Affairs Office, the annual NTU Alumni Family Day 2016 was held on 28 May to coincide with the June school holidays. With over 100 horses and ponies under its care, Gallop Stables at Horsecity, Bukit Timah, is one of Singapore’s largest public riding centres. The stables also serve another special mission—saving retired race horses from being put down and giving them a new lease of life. Besides being tested on their equestrian knowledge, the participants also watched a demonstration by in house farrier Mr Joe of how to fit a shoe onto a gelding. The eventful day concluded with horse rides and pony feeding, which was a smash hit among the younger participants. According to Ms Lee Wee Chin, Grace (NIE/2008), her youngest daughter is a huge fan of horses and was eager to ride a horse. “I promised my daughter to bring her out for some fun after her exams, and I came across this alumni activity,” said Ms Lee. Another parent, Mr Lim Hwee Seng (NBS/2000), seized the opportunity to let his son experience something new. “It’s good to let him be in contact with animals and nature. Nowadays, too many children stay indoors with their iPads!” he said. Over one weekend in July, some 120 alumni and their families headed to Malaysia for a chance to savour the King of Fruits. The 2D1N trip to Johor Bahru, which took place from 30–31 July 2016, was organised by the NTU Alumni Affairs Office. The first stop was Aw Pottery, located near Ayer Hitam, a town in Johor known for its ceramic and porcelain crafts. Built in the 1950’s, its 48-metre-long brick kiln is one of the last remaining few in Southeast Asia and produces around 2,000 pieces of pottery at each firing. Next up was lunch at a durian plantation, which of course featured a sumptuous buffet of juicy durians. The participants had worked up an appetite at this point, and attacked the spiky fruit with a gusto. Following lunch, the group headed to UK Farm, which at 130 acres is Malaysia’s largest goat and sheep farm. The animals proved to be a hit among the younger crowd, who made a beeline to feed the goats, while others learnt how to bake their own milk muffin. At the fruit farm, the participants had a go at making their own passion fruit juice. The second day began bright and early with a visit to the Pasir Gudang Kite Museum, which features everything about traditional kites, also known as kites or layang-layang in Malay. The participants had the chance to design their own kites and fly them in the open. The next stop was the Jabir Jaya Batik Centre, where the alumni found out more about batik, a traditional textile originating from the Indonesian island of Java. They designed their own batik, which they took home as souvenirs. To wrap up the eventful trip, the group stopped off at a local snacks factory, where the participants learnt how to make all-time favourite snacks such as pineapple tarts and curry puffs.
The NTU School of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Alumni Association (MAEAA) held their 20th Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 27 August 2016 across three yachts docked at One15 Marina, Sentosa Cove, with the help of synchronised live feed.

Honorary Assistant Secretary Yi You reviewed the 19th AGM, followed by President Hendri Zhang who presented the President’s report. Assoc Prof Ng Beng Koon was invited to present certificates and tokens of appreciation to the 18 exco members of the 19th and 20th MAEAA Executive Committee.

After the AGM, the group set off towards Lazarus Island on four yachts, enjoying a sunset barbecue along the way. Some of the participants ventured out to explore the island where they caught rare Pokémon.

Committee and leadership. The new committee will be led by MAE alumnus Mr Jason Chan (Class of 2014). MAEAA Alumni Advisor Prof Lee Yong Tsiu and NTU Alumni Affairs Officer (AAO) Deputy Director Ms Christine Chua were also present at the event.

After lunch, the alumni took part in a game that required them to use hints and clues to escape from their allocated rooms. The event ended off with a photo session with all attendees and their guests.

**CHINESE MEDICINE IN SINGAPORE**

On 31 July 2016, the NTU Chinese Medicine Alumni Association (CMAA) celebrated their 5th anniversary at Goffinhill, Clarke Quay Central.

Graduates from the Biomedical Sciences (BMS) Classes of 2010 to 2015 were joined by their classmates from the BMS Class of 2016, who had recently returned from their two-year study cum internship in Beijing.

In her address, Ms Lee Hui Min, President of CMAA, reaffirmed the commitment of CMAA to work with the Social Enterprises, Outreach & Philanthropy Network (SOPN) to enable MSE alumni to contribute back to the society both locally and overseas.

SOPN was officially launched on 27 August 2016 at Willing Hearts, a soup kitchen that operates 365 days a year with the capacity to prepare meals for up to 5,000 beneficiaries. Together with fellow volunteers, the MSE alumni cooked and prepared meals that were then packed and given to needy and elderly recipients.

**GOOD DEEDS, KIND HEARTS**

The Social Enterprises, Outreach & Philanthropy Network (SOPN) is the second interest-based group formed by the NTU Materials Science and Engineering Alumni Association (MSEAA) to enable MSE alumni to contribute back to the society both locally and overseas.

On 3 July 2016, the NTU Alumni Club (Hanoi) held their election meeting and dinner gathering at Sum Villa. The event was attended by 25 alumni, as well as NTU Chief Alumni Affairs Officer Mr Guo Soon Min.

He also added that the University has accomplished its strategic plans of becoming a renowned research university and excelling in various rankings which has attracted the best professors and students. Now, the University is into its third strategic plan of building a vibrant alumni community.

Some 45 alumni from the School of Humanities & Social Sciences (HSS) gathered for a lunch buffet at the Edge Restaurant, Pan Pacific Hotel, organised by the HSS Alumni Association (HSSAA) on 29 July at Don’t Tell Villa. The event was attended by 25 alumni, as well as NTU Chief Alumni Affairs Officer Mr Guo Soon Min and Director of International Alumni Network Mr Soon Min Yam.

On 4 July 2016, members of the NTU Alumni Association (Ho Chi Minh City) gathered at Lotte Legend Hotel for their election meeting and dinner. Mr Guo and Ms Soon also attended the meeting. At both events, Mr Guo provided updates on the University’s achievements and its alumni engagement plans.

**CHAMPION OF SMEs**

The NTU Alumni Club organised a talk, ‘An evening with Inderjit Singh’ on 17 August, where alumni and NTU Board of Trustees member Mr Inderjit Singh (EEE/1985) shared his thoughts on how the University can be seen as a champion of small and medium sized enterprises.

Mr Inderjit spoke on how the NTU Board of Trustees, and his wife, Prof Zehnder, have put in place a plan to strengthen ties with alumnus, as well as NTU Chief Alumni Affairs Officer Mr Guo Soon Min and Director of International Alumni Network Mr Soon Min Yam.

Elections in Vietnam

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**A HEARTY GATHERING IN LONDON**

On 28 June 2016, 29 alumni travelled from all over the UK to the Goodenough Club in London to catch up on old times. As part of its efforts to strengthen ties with alumni, NTUAAO often organises reunions when NTU professors travel abroad for business trips or academic conferences.

This time around, Prof Alan Chan, Dean of the NTU College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences, was visiting London for a humanities conference. He shared with the alumni about NTU’s growing reputation and links with industry. Also present was Mr Inderjit Singh (EEE/1985), a member of the NTU Board of Trustees.

**AN IDYLIC EUROPEAN SUMMER**

This July, NTU alumni residing in Europe came together to participate in the biggest weekend-long party in Europe. Described as the ‘festival of festivals’, Zurich Festival happens once every three years and takes place around the Lake of Zurich.

On 1 July 2016, the weekend rendezvous began with a cocktail dinner hosted by Prof Alexander Zehnder, Visiting Professor and member of the NTU Board of Trustees, and his wife. Prof Zehnder provided updates from NTU over drinks. After dinner, the guests watched fireworks late into the evening.

**GATHERING OVER FOOD & DRINKS**

Some 45 alumni from the School of Humanities & Social Sciences (HSS) gathered for a lunch buffet at the Edge restaurant, Pan Pacific Hotel, organised by the HSS Alumni Association (HSSAA) on 2 July. A happy hour was also organised by the HSSAA on 29 July at Don’t Tell Villa. The event was attended by 25 alumni, as well as NTU Chief Alumni Affairs Officer Mr Guo Soon Min and Director of International Alumni Network Mr Soon Min Yam.

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**A LAUNCHPAD FOR LIFE**

Five alumni share how work and play at NTU helped shape who they are today.

**TANG KUAN YEE**

ADM/2013

My days back in NTU were full of fun and challenging moments. I joined the NTU Jazz and Blues band, and I was also involved in my school’s freshmen orientation camp for three years. I found people management to be the most challenging part of being an ADM student, but working on projects with various types of people made me a more confident person. ☝️ I always feel proud to be associated with my alma mater; as a full-time staff at the NTU Alumni Club, I am now serving the community that helped to shape who I am today.

**TIO LI AN ALICIA**

NBS/2013

Disciplined independence, which I learned at NTU, was key to navigating through university life. Without the luxury of having teachers to monitor my progress closely, I had to make many decisions for myself. Growing up as an athlete taught me how important the values of teamwork and perseverance are. In my final year, I joined the roller hockey club, where I had the opportunity to use these qualities and strengthen them. Now that I am working in the human resources industry, these qualities have helped me face tough situations in my professional working life.

**LE THI THANH NGUYEN**

English Executive Programme/2006

I had the opportunity to spend six months in Singapore in 2006 as an exchange student on the English Executive Programme. Ten years later, my cohort returned to Singapore for a three-day trip in March. Although it was only a short visit, it was also an emotional one because all wonderful memories of my time at NTU flooded back in. We visited the beautiful green campus of NTU, and met up with our professors Mr Sean, Ms Janet and Ms Mia Huan. In particular, NTU holds a special place in my heart because it is here that I feel at home in Singapore.

**NGO CHEE YONG**

SCE/2005

Computer engineering was a very demanding course; I wasn’t the brightest student and I failed my very first programming module. Many times along the way, I wondered if I should quit and study something else instead, but I persevered.

As part of the judo team, I represented NTU in various inter-varsity tournaments. I still practice judo regularly. The values it teaches me are applicable to both work and life—to always act not just for our own interests, but for the group, the community and fellow humans. ☮️ From my experiences as an entrepreneur and drawing from my time in NTU, I’ve learned that to fail in school isn’t the end of the road; what matters is how fast you pick yourself up.

**WENG HONG OOI**

NBS/2014

Despite it being a tougher course, I majored in actuarial science instead of the more popular courses of banking and finance, as I wanted to understand the technical aspects of the finance industry.

I currently hold a regional treasury position in a cybersecurity distributor company. I am also working towards CFA Level 1 certification while establishing my own small business at the same time.

I enjoy sports, especially badminton and street soccer. During the weekends, my friends and I sometimes head over to NTU for a game of futsal with our juniors.
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La Vida – The Art of Brow Specialist
Save precious time by waking up to picture-perfect brows and lashes. Get impeccably-framed eyes with La Vida’s semi-permanent eyebrow embroidery, which is artfully executed with certified-safe colours and new blades for each session.

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Nailz Haus is today’s new edge lifestyle nail spa, offering high quality treatment services and products. Nailz Haus takes the concept of a simple manicure and pedicure and transforms it into an escape from today’s ever-hectic lifestyle.

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The woman of the modern generation understands that taking time out to treat her face and body is no longer a luxury but a necessity of modern day living. We have combined the use of High-Tech equipment and the unmatchable skill and High Touch expertise of our therapists’ hands to provide clients with programmes that enhance Skin Health and Well-Being, manage stress as well as prevent health problems.

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Offer
1 • Each alumni is entitled to 15% off on wine events
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Offer
1 • 15% off on wine events
2 • 20% off on wine events

For all the offers from the La Vida group for NTU Alumni Card holders, please refer to www.ntu.edu.sg/Alumni/AlumniCard/Pages/ BeautyWellness.aspx
### ALUMNI PARTICULARS UPDATE

We deeply treasure the relationship we have with our alumni. Do provide the NTU Alumni Affairs Office with your latest contact details so that we can continue to stay connected.

To help us serve you better, kindly update your particulars, and send the form to us via fax, email or mail:

Fax: +65 6792 5048
Email: alumniaffairs@ntu.edu.sg

**Information Management**
Alumni Affairs Office
Nanyang Technological University
76 Nanyang Drive, N2-1B3-02
Singapore 637331

If you receive duplicate copies of NTULink, or know of fellow alumni who are not receiving the magazine, please call us at +65 6513 8073 or email us at alumniaffairs@ntu.edu.sg.

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AAO is committed to keeping all alumni's personal information private, safe and secure. To view AAO’s personal data protection policy, please visit www.ntu.edu.sg/Pages/Privacy.aspx.

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   - To maintain a lifelong relationship with its alumni;
   - To create awareness and promote alumni relations;
   - To understand and study the profile of its alumni community for NTU’s policy making and planning;
   - To involve alumni in NTU’s continual development and progress through the engagement of voluntary services and giving back to their alma mater;
   - To assist ministries and government agencies in the development of national policies and guidelines through the sharing of necessary data.

b. send me such alumni-related marketing, advertising and promotional information through the following modes of communication:
   1. postal mail and/or electronic transmission to my email address; and
   2. to my following telephone number(s) : ____________________ by way of:
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      2. SMS/MMS (text messages)
      3. Fax

Please indicate that you agree to NTU and its employees, agents and third party service providers using that mode of communication by inserting a √ in the box.

I hereby represent and warrant that I am the user and/or subscriber of the telephone number(s) provided by me above, and that I have read and understood the above provisions.

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**EVENTS CALENDAR**

### November & December 2016

Information is correct as of press time. Events and dates may be subject to change. For an updated list of upcoming events, please visit www.ntu.edu.sg/alumni/alumnievents. If you wish to enquire about any of the events, please write to us at alumniaffairs@ntu.edu.sg.

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<td>23 November</td>
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<td>NTU Alumni Movie Screening of &quot;Rogue One: A Star Wars Story&quot;*</td>
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*Subject to change
Not only do these three pairs of twins share identical genes, they were also able to share textbooks by taking the same degree programme as their sibling. Along with 9,000 other freshly minted same degree programme as their sibling, they were also able to share textbooks by taking the same degree programme as their sibling. Not only do these three pairs of twins share identical genes, they were also able to share textbooks by taking the same degree programme as their sibling.
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