Contents

03  Nanyang Education Award
13  Research Excellence
17  Innovation & Entrepreneurship
19  Service
21  Teamwork
23  Humanitarian Work
This is the 10th anniversary of the Nanyang Awards. Looking back, we can see that NTU has made remarkable progress in many areas throughout this past decade.

Today, we can be proud that NTU is ranked 39th in the world by Quacquarelli Symonds (QS), and has topped QS’ list of the world’s most dynamic young universities. Such successes are possible only because of the hard work and dedication of our faculty, staff and students. The Nanyang Awards are a timely celebration of the University’s most outstanding faculty, staff and student teams.

This year we have a bumper crop of nominations and award recipients, with a total of 46 recipients. The Awards organisers and I were impressed by the high quality of this year’s nominations, and the winners chosen are people whose passion and commitment to NTU had made wide and deep impact.

For the first time, NTU will be honouring the crème de la crème of our teaching talents by giving out five University-level education awards. The new University Education Award represents an important part of the University’s commitment to learning and teaching excellence. The winner of the highest accolade will be designated Educator of the Year.

This year we also celebrate no less than five outstanding professors who are advancing research excellence in fields ranging from neuropsychology to fuel cells, electrode materials and next generation solar technology. Let us take inspiration from these shining examples and build on NTU’s continued success.

Please join me in congratulating our award-winning colleagues and students on their achievements and contributions to NTU. You have done our University proud!

Professor Bertil Andersson
President
Nanyang Technological University
Nanyang Awards

The Nanyang Awards are given in recognition and celebration of the outstanding achievements and contributions of faculty, staff and students. The prestigious Awards were launched in 2005.

The design of the Trophy is inspired by the outspread wings of an eagle in flight. The majesty, grace and power of the soaring eagle represent our desire to fulfill our mission in a borderless domain.

The Awards symbolize a deep sense of passion and a single-minded resolve to overcome obstacles and achieve excellence.

Nanyang Education Award

The Nanyang Education Award is the highest honour conferred by the University to faculty members for teaching. The Award recognizes the dedication and achievements of faculty members who demonstrate outstanding and innovative teaching and enrich the learning experiences of NTU undergraduates and NIE trainee teachers. These award recipients inspire students through their deep passion to teach well and their genuine concern for their students’ learning.

The Award extends recognition to different levels of teaching excellence - School, College and University - through (i) Nanyang Education Award (School), (ii) Nanyang Education Award (College), and (iii) Nanyang Education Award (University – Gold / Silver / Bronze). The recipient(s) of the highest class of award for the Nanyang Education Award (University) in the particular year shall be designated ‘Educator of the Year’.

For the award year of 2014, joining the 20 recipients of the School Award and 10 recipients of the College Award, are the inaugural 5 University Award recipients - 2 Gold, 1 Silver and 2 Bronze.

Teaching Excellence Academy

College and University Award recipients of the Nanyang Education Award are inducted as lifelong Fellows of the Teaching Excellence Academy. The lifelong fellowship is one of the highest accolades for faculty, as it recognizes the ability not only to teach well, but to inspire and motivate students.

The Academy aims to drive a strong culture of teaching and learning excellence at NTU by promoting best teaching practice demonstrated by award winning faculty. With its Fellows serving as inspirational examples and role models, best teaching practice can be better disseminated among professors and lecturers and raise teaching standards to advance student learning. By fostering professionalism in teaching across NTU and advising senior management on issues related to teaching, the Academy will help to shape the development of NTU education in the longer term. The Academy will also strengthen the link between research and teaching and support research projects that develop innovative teaching and pedagogies.
To give the highest recognition to individual faculty who have exhibited excellent teaching practice and enriched the learning experiences of their students through their enthusiasm, care and close rapport.
“Teaching is not a profession but a calling” is the underlying belief which drives Professor Vijay Sethi. He believes that good teachers play a vital role in influencing students by not just giving them content or shaping their thinking but by inspiring them. Inspiration comes when teachers themselves “walk the walk”. Having taken part and won at the international level in teaching, Professor Sethi sets an example to his students that they too can win on the world stage. The university’s highest award for teaching is a great privilege and Professor Sethi accepts it with honor and humility.
Professor Jenny Higham is currently Senior Vice-Dean, Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine. She has led the collaboration between Imperial College and NTU for our newest medical school in Singapore from the very first day of negotiation in 2009. She is concurrently Vice-Dean and Director of Education, Faculty of Medicine, Imperial College London. She is also clinically active as a surgical gynaecologist. Teaching in many arenas remains one of her passions.

She was awarded the President & Rector’s Medal for Outstanding Contribution to Teaching Excellence in Imperial College in 2013 and the prestigious Imperial College Medal in 2014 in recognition of her outstanding contribution towards the successful creation and operation of LKCMedicine.
Roderick Wayland Bates  
Associate Professor  
School of Physical and Mathematical Sciences  

Associate Professor Roderick Wayland Bates has been involved in promoting teaching excellence at NTU since he joined this University almost ten years ago. Working extensively with CITS, he has been using technology to enhance learning for much of that time. He has pioneered the use of videos to enhance students’ laboratory experience, building the videos into a carefully structured online learning framework. Recently, he incorporated QR codes, linking to the videos, an innovation described by one student as “cool”. He also developed the popular forensic science GER course, which has now been upgraded to a very well received Massive Open Online Course offered through Coursera. He has also promoted active learning, notably by turning CBC tutorials into truly interactive problem solving sessions, making the most of the TR+ facilities.

Wong Yeang Lam, Ruth  
Associate Professor  
National Institute of Education  

Associate Professor Ruth Wong Yeang Lam specializes in methodology courses on teaching English at the primary level. Her research interests revolve around literacy issues, especially in the areas of learning how to read and write. She has written and co-edited books, chapters and papers on language education and language policies. She is the consultant for various educational institutions in the region. She believes in the power of reading, and indulges in the collection of children’s books as a hobby.

Jung Younbo  
Associate Professor  
Wee Kim Wee School of Communication and Information  

Associate Professor Jung Younbo believes that education is a process that consists of interplay between the teacher and students. He encourages students to actively engage in the process of learning and facilitates such interactivity by eagerly applying pedagogical innovations to teaching, such as blended learning, flipped classroom, or technology-enabled learning. Genuine interests in students’ learning with a variety of pedagogical innovations underscore how he sees his role as a mentor.
Teaching is my passion and I believe that every person has the right to education.

Harianto Rahardjo
Professor
School of Civil and Environmental Engineering

Active in supervising and mentoring undergraduate and graduate students as well as supporting external students’ activities.

Chong Han Joo, Peter
Associate Professor
School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering

Emphasize on critical thinking, creativity, collaboration and communication skills in addition to problem-solving skills.

Wong Chee How
Associate Professor
School of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

Develop new pedagogy methods for the technology-enhanced classroom.

Gan Chee Lip
Associate Professor
School of Materials Science and Engineering

Every student should be challenged according to their abilities to maximise their potential.

Ho Shen Yong
Senior Lecturer
School of Physical and Mathematical Sciences
To instill in students a strong sense of responsibility and accountability, so that they will hold themselves to the highest professional and ethical standards

Lim Kui Suen, Lewis
Associate Professor
College of Business
(Nanyang Business School)

Teach logical methodology rather than techniques, to encourage higher thinking

Ng Woon Lam
Assistant Professor
School of Art, Design and Media

Believes teaching involves both science and spirit

Mark Cenite
Senior Lecturer
Wee Kim Wee School of Communication and Information

Teaching is the human enterprise of paying it forward

Ng Pak Tee
Associate Professor
National Institute of Education

Believes in modelling good teaching practices and communicates his passion and enthusiasm in every teaching opportunity

Mohammed Azhar Bin Yusof
Senior Lecturer
National Institute of Education
Helps students gain an in-depth understanding of the relevant fundamental concepts and real-world implications of the subjects

Cheung Sai Hung
Assistant Professor
School of Civil and Environmental Engineering

Teaching philosophy is to be patient and sincere as well as to illustrate difficult concepts using simple and practical examples

Teh Kah Chan
Associate Professor
School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering

Teaching and research are mutually beneficial; effective teaching refreshes fundamental concepts

Jitamitra Desai
Assistant Professor
School of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

Teaching is not only to convey the knowledge to the students but also to try my best to let the students make use of it in their future

Yan Qingyu, Alex
Associate Professor
School of Materials Science and Engineering

To nurture students who are able to think beyond the textbooks

Chong Seow Khoon, Mark
Lecturer
School of Chemical and Biomedical Engineering
He Bingsheng
Assistant Professor
School of Computer Engineering

To enable students to learn further and achieve more with systems thinking and self-learning capabilities

Mark Featherstone
Professor
School of Biological Sciences

Philosophy of teaching can be encapsulated in the maxim: never bore your students

Chan Song Heng
Assistant Professor
School of Physical and Mathematical Sciences

To ensure that students not only gain a good grasp of the concepts taught, but that they also do so easily and have fun in the process

Pinaki Sengupta
Assistant Professor
School of Physical and Mathematical Sciences

To infuse in my students the same enthusiasm that I feel for the subject

Tan Joo Seng
Associate Professor
College of Business (Nanyang Business School)

My teaching philosophy is captured in the C.R.E.A.T.E. acronym: Challenges · Reflections · Engaging Hearts & Minds · Active Learning · Technology-Enabled · Energy for Lifelong Learning
To prepare our students for this brave new world by giving them the skills to continuously learn

Choo Teck Min  
Associate Professor  
College of Business  
(Nanyang Business School)

The best sign for good art teaching is when the process of creating is as exciting as the outcome achieved

Ina Conradi  
Associate Professor  
School of Art, Design and Media

Like to remind his students that nothing great is easy

Lee Chu Keong  
Senior Lecturer  
Wee Kim Wee School of Communication and Information

A Cool Mind × A Warm Heart = Inspire Every Student to Learn and to Develop

Wu Guiying, Laura  
Assistant Professor  
School of Humanities and Social Sciences

Ensures that his lectures and seminars are as interactive as possible – accommodating different voices and perspectives, facilitating dialogue, and emphasizing the polysemic nature of language and literature

Bede Tregear Scott  
Associate Professor  
School of Humanities and Social Sciences
A much sought after teacher and lecturer, having won numerous awards for her teaching and supervision of medical students, junior doctors, nurses and paramedics

Tham Kum Ying
Associate Professor
Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine

Hope our doctors will have the opportunity to grow into clinician scientists, and also to be the attentive and competent doctors their patients wish for

Michael Alan Ferenczi
Professor
Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine

Driven by his passion… and motivated by his dedication to teacher education, he explored, designed and developed various strategies for teaching mathematical modeling

Ang Keng Cheng
Associate Professor
National Institute of Education

An exemplary teacher is one who is always a student at heart and governed by an attitude of humility

Govindasamy Balasekaran
Associate Professor
National Institute of Education

As an educator of future teachers, I believe it is crucial to inspire my students to enjoy learning and embrace it as a lifelong process

Tang Siu Mei, Ramona
Associate Professor
National Institute of Education
Research Excellence

To give the highest recognition to individuals or teams who have made outstanding contributions in scientific knowledge on a global scale through novel research breakthroughs.
Professor Chan Siew Hwa’s research is focused on Applied Thermo-science and Electrochemical Conversion, in particular the fuel cells and electrolyzers. Notable research outcome includes micro modelling of electrodes which govern the complex relationship among the microstructure, transport phenomena and electrochemical reactions, and the establishment of the relationship between polarization and entropy generation. His group has also successfully developed robust and highly active cobalt-based catalyst for the hydrolysis of chemical hydride at 0°C to produce hydrogen; highly active and dense platinum catalyst with average particle size of less than 2 nm by microwave-assisted continuous flow reduction method; and high temperature electrolysis of seawater using solid oxide electrolyser cell. He is the recipient of a number of awards such as the Teacher-of-the-Year (NTU, 2000), George-Stephenson Award (IMechE, UK, 2000), Outstanding Scientific Achievement in the field of Hydrogen Treatment of Materials and the Great Activities in the World Hydrogen Movement (IAHE, USA, 2007) and the recent “The most influential scientific minds 2014” by Thomson Reuters. He was the only reviewer, outside UK, invited by UK Energy Research Centre to comment on “UK’s Fuel Cell Roadmap”. He plays a pivotal role in leading industrial collaboration such as Rolls Royce Fuel Cell Systems (2006-2009) on Solid Oxide Fuel Cell and Intelligent Energy (since 2014) on Proton Exchange Membrane Fuel Cell.

His works, which were published in peer reviewed international high impact journal publications, are well cited (more than 6,000 to date) and his H-index is 42. He has garnered more than S$7.5 million of external competitive research grants in the recent years, including EIRP grant and NRF POC fund. He is also the Principal Investigator (PI) of PKU CREATE and PI of EU FP7 project comprising 7 research institutions from 6 countries.

Chan Siew Hwa
Professor
School of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

Associate Professor Annabel Chen is a clinical neuropsychologist with a diverse clinical and research background. She has worked with both adult and child populations, and conducted animal drug studies, human clinical and experimental neuropsychological research, including cognitive rehabilitation. Her research focus is in applying functional neuroimaging to better understand neural systems involved in cognitive processes in healthy and clinical populations. She has used Positron Emission Tomography (PET) to study patients with post-concussion sequelae from mild traumatic brain injury, and has been involved in functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging (fMRI) research examining cognitive processes in healthy and clinical populations including stroke, neurodegenerative disorders, Parkinson’s disease, alcoholism, schizophrenia, obsessive compulsive disorder, dyslexia, and autism spectrum disorder.

Her current research interests are in applying neuroimaging techniques such as fMRI, diffusion MRI and Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS) to investigate neural substrates involved with higher cognition in the cerebellum, as well as healthy aging. Her research on higher cognition in the cerebellum is funded by a MOE Tier 2 grant, first and the highest quantum to be awarded in HSS, NTU. Most recently, she has also started applying Event-Related Potential (ERP) to further understand age-related changes in cognition which may have implications on how to enhance learning in the aging brain. She is currently helping to develop the Centre for Research and Development in Learning at NTU as a Deputy Director. She contributes to scholarly services as the Editor-in-Chief for Neuroscience and Neuroeconomics and serves as an Associate Editor for Australian Journal of Psychology.

Chen Shen-Hsing, Annabel
Associate Professor
School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Associate Professor Madhavi Srinivasan is the pioneer in the research of electrode materials for two new disruptive technologies (lithium ion capacitors and fluoride ion batteries) in the field of advanced energy storage devices that are vital part of clean energy value chain with applications including electric vehicles and stationary energy storage. Notable results of her research includes (i) materials for a new class of energy storage device called “lithium ion capacitors” that can provide up to three times the energy density of that of super-capacitors; (ii) new innovation in terms of materials, architecture for printable flexible batteries and (iii) proof of concept of a new kind of batteries based on fluoride ions. Her research is published in several high impact journals including Chemical Reviews, Angewandte Chemie, Nanoenergy, Energy and Environmental Science, Journal of the American Chemical Society. According to the Institute for Scientific Information Web of Science, her work has been cited over 4,500 times with a Hirsch index of 37. She also has 14 patents. She has won several awards in the past for her research work, including Loreal-Unesco for Women in Science National Fellowship for outstanding contribution in materials science in Singapore (2010); one of the three “Great Women of Our Time 2011” in the Science and Technology Category by Singapore Women’s Weekly magazine (2011), and one of the 10 worldwide Young Scientists (Future Leader 2011) at the Science and Technology Forum, 2011, Kyoto, Japan. She is also the recipient of Nanyang Excellence in Teaching Award (2012).

Madhavi Srinivasan
Associate Professor
School of Materials Science and Engineering

Solar panels will not only be more efficient but also a lot cheaper, thanks to a breakthrough in solar technology by Associate Professor Sum Tze Chien/Assistant Professor Nripan Mathews research team. They have developed a next generation solar cell, made from organic-inorganic hybrid perovskite materials, that is about five times cheaper than current thin-film solar cells. The team was the first to provide fundamental insights into why organic-inorganic halide perovskite materials work well as high efficiency solution processed photovoltaics (Science 342, 2013). The team was the first in the world to demonstrate lasing from this unique class of materials CH3NH3PbX3 (Nature Materials 13, 2014). The team was also the first in the world to provide new direct insights into the photophysics and charge dynamics of plasmonic organic solar cells. This work will resolve an existing controversy and provide clear guidelines for device design and fabrication (Nature Communication 4; 2013).

Assoc Prof Sum won the 2014 IPS World Scientific Medal and Prize for Outstanding Physics Research. His works have led to more than 107 SCI journals publications and cited more than 2000 times. His H-index is 25. He has secured close to $5 million research funding in the recent years.

Asst Prof Mathews won the TR35@Singapore Award 2014. He holds a joint position at the School of Materials Science and Engineering as well as at the Energy Research Institute@ NTU, and has secured close to $6 million research funding in the recent years. His works has led to 83 SCI journals publications and cited more than 1,400 times. His H-index is 20.

Nripan Mathews
Assistant Professor
School of Materials Science and Engineering

Sum Tze Chien
Associate Professor
School of Physical and Mathematical Sciences
To give the highest recognition to individuals or teams who have made significant contributions to the creation of a vibrant entrepreneurial ecosystem at NTU and contributed to Singapore's economic and national development through the creation of entrepreneurial leaders and new business ventures.
Professor Ooi Kim Tiow, who is in the Thermal and Fluids Division of the School of Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering, has a good track record of generating cutting-edge, innovative solutions to real world problems. His inventions have also attracted interest from companies both locally and abroad (United States, Europe, Japan and Taiwan).

Prof Ooi’s inventions are aimed at simplifying the design of compressors and making them more energy-efficient. Working in close collaboration with NTUitive, the technology transfer company of NTU, most of his inventions have been assessed to be patentable and are at various stages of patent applications. Two key patents, including an invention on a novel Revolving Vane Compressor, were licensed to a Japanese company called Sanden International (S) Pte Ltd in 2012. Sanden, the world’s largest independent producer of automotive air-conditioning compressors, enjoys 25 percent of global market shares for automotive air conditioning compressors. The automotive air-conditioning compressor industry is a multi-billion dollar industry and Sanden has a manufacturing base in Singapore. His PhD student has been hired by Sanden to develop the invention for mass production in 2016. He had previously won research grants carrying a total value of more than S$2 million.

Prof Ooi has demonstrated a strong track record of innovation in the course of his research and development work. His innovations have now been successfully commercialized, resulting in both local and worldwide impact.

Ooi Kim Tiow
Professor
School of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering
Service

To give the highest recognition to individuals and teams whose outstanding contributions exemplify the high standards of quality service expected by the University.
After 14 years of distinguished service as Director of IDSS and Dean of RSIS, Ambassador Barry Desker stepped down in November 2014. He led the School to become one of Asia’s leading policy think tanks and professional graduate schools of international affairs. RSIS is now globally acknowledged as a leader in the study of Asia Pacific security, counter terrorism, homeland defence and non-traditional security.

RSIS has forged links with renowned overseas educational institutions and RSIS’ international presence continues to grow year by year, with students who hail from a wide range of countries. He was instrumental in laying a firm foundation for RSIS as he worked tirelessly with the fundraising committee to establish the RSIS endowment fund of $40 million in 2008, which now stands at $87 million. Under his leadership, RSIS grew rapidly. It engaged in new areas of research, successfully competed for local and international grant funding and developed new fields of graduate education in international affairs. Even as the staff strength of RSIS increased significantly, he continued to keep a personal watch over the well-being and professional development of his colleagues, and he often made personal contributions to staff funds.

In recognition of his contributions to public life in Singapore and East Asia, and for his leadership and scholarship in the field of international relations, he was conferred honorary doctorates by the University of Warwick in 2012 and the University of Exeter in 2013.

Barry Desker
Distinguished Fellow
S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies

Associate Professor Christine Lee has provided exemplary service to NIE/NTU tirelessly and selflessly for 30 years, often going beyond the call of duty. She has played many roles in NIE but it is as Vice-Dean of the School of Arts and past and present Head of two Academic Groups that she made a significant impact on students, colleagues and the NIE community within Singapore and beyond. She achieved a rare distinction in setting up a new academic group, Curriculum, Teaching and Learning (CTL) in NIE in 2007. In the short span of time since, this has come to be recognized as one of the best C&T departments internationally. She was also instrumental in developing a joint programme - an MA in Leadership and Educational Change with Teachers College (TC), Columbia University. It is a singular honour for NIE because TC routinely rejects such joint programmes with others. The MEd (Curriculum & Teaching) programme that Christine developed and oversees has attracted students not only from MOE schools but also from the madrasahs, polytechnics, Institute of Technical Education, private education agencies and the nursing sector as well as foreign students from India, Philippines, Korea and China. It has grown from 16 in 2006 to about 100 students each year. The professional development of her colleagues is a deep concern for Christine. Christine is unstinting in mentoring them in teaching, graduate supervision, research and administration. Several of her colleagues completed their PhDs part-time under her encouragement, support and mentorship. Her service contributions extend beyond NIE. Christine is the elected President of the World Association for Lesson Studies from 2011 to 2016 and leads 800 members from 29 countries. Her extraordinary achievements have been recognized by her alma mater, Teachers College, Columbia University, New York and Christine will be awarded TC Distinguished Alumni Award in April 2015.

Lee Kim-Eng, Christine
Associate Professor
National Institute of Education
Teamwork

To give the highest recognition to teams whose outstanding teamwork in a major University project or event brought success and honour to the University.
The NTU Fest 2014 Organising Committee comprised of students ranging from Year 1 to Year 4, who came together for the common goal of delivering an activity that can unite the student population. Although most of the students did not have prior experience with running events, the students did not falter during the long and arduous preparation process for the event. Eventually, they pulled off a mega-event, comprising a carnival of games and food, a 4.8km cityscape run, and a high-octane concert that showcased not only campus talents, but high-profile national and international artistes. The event drew more than 8000 people, and more than 2600 participants for the run.

It was the first time that NTU had executed such a large-scale event outside NTU, which not only successfully attracted members of the NTU community, but also members of the public. The event could not have been realized without the ideals and tight teamwork of the students involved, from the beginning of the event conception to the execution of the event.

The team also demonstrated a strong sense of commitment to the project, despite having other academic and work challenges, as well as personal difficulties. For example, members took leave from work, and stayed together on countless nights to meet after school and work, in order to plan and prepare for the event, as well as meet other stakeholders such as NTU staff, management and sponsors.

Students who are offered a place at NTU in 2014 received their university admission digitally certified offer letters electronically instead of in paper form – a first for a Singapore university with authentication feature for e-offer. Unlike previous admissions exercises, where NTU sent out about 15,000 offer letters in paper form, it is entirely paperless this year. The digital certification system was customised entirely in-house. Having the electronic admission offer letters digitally certified will also prevent forgery of our admission offers by unscrupulous student recruitment agents.

NTU walks the talk when it comes to sustainability. This new process is not only eco-friendly, but more importantly, allows our applicants to be informed of their admission outcome in a timely way. It also gives them the flexibility to respond almost immediately to our offer of admission. NTU is also able to closely track the retrieval and send reminders to students who have yet to view their offer letters. More importantly, the system enables NTU to maintain the information integrity of our electronic documents. With this new system at NTU, the entire process – from application to acceptance of the university’s offer of admission – becomes completely paperless.

The adoption of new technology is driven by innovative people who seek continuous improvements to their output. About 15,000 admission offer letters were sent out in the previous exercise, incurring over $54,800 in the provision (production and postage) of hardcopy admission outcomes to applicants. Following the successful implementation of the electronic admission offers, the office extended the initiative to provide all correspondences electronically and generated a total saving of $67,000 for the AY2014/15 admission exercise. Such recurring costs will be saved in future exercises as well.
Humanitarian Work

To give the highest recognition to individuals and teams who displayed outstanding personal qualities of compassion and sacrifice in helping to advance the welfare of others within the University community and beyond.
Andrew Yin Ji Jian, a student of NBS, took a year off from his studies to do humanitarian work in India in 2014. During his internship at World Toilet Organisation, a non-profit organisation, he had learned that 312 million women in India do not actually have access to a hygienic and effective means of handling their menstrual needs. He was most affected by the fact that 3 out of 10 girls have to drop out of school once they reach puberty, for the very same reason, menstruation; a natural biological process which happens to all women. Andrew felt that he needed to do something, and that was when he took a leap of faith to venture into India to help these women. His idea was simple: make a sanitary pad which was cheap and effective enough for these women to afford, but he wanted to go a step further by making use of an aquatic weed indigenous to rural India, water hyacinth. Eventually, Andrew took a year off from school to further his idea because he believed that he could make a meaningful difference to the lives of these women.

After months of preparation and raising funds for his trip, he finally got his golden opportunity to collaborate with an organization in India to set his idea in motion in March 2014. Through their unique idea, women are now employed to make and sell these sanitary pads to their own community, which served as an additional source of income for their families, especially during the dry season when, as farmers, they could not cultivate any crops. Now, there are about 100 women being employed, who can potentially reach out to 300,000 other women. A school has joined in, and their girls are now using sanitary pads so they could continue attending classes even during their menstrual periods. Through his work there, he even got to lead the team to clinch the Top 10 social enterprises at the prestigious 5 Minutes To Change The World competition organized by United Nations Women. Prezi Inc., a popular presentation software company based in Silicon Valley, has selected his work to represent NTU to compete in their inaugural competition, where he was eventually crowned the winner, beating out teams from other prestigious universities, including UCLA. He will be flying over in May to Silicon Valley to pitch in front of a crowd to raise funds for his cause.

Yin Ji Jian, Andrew
Accountancy and Business Student
College of Business (Nanyang Business School)

In recognition of Uni-Y NTU’s contributions to advancing the welfare of others within the NTU community and beyond in 2014, Uni-Y NTU is awarded the Nanyang Award for Humanitarian Work. Uni-Y NTU is a student-run university service club of the YMCA of Singapore that aims to develop and empower youth to be servant leaders who will impact our local and international communities. Uni-Y NTU was established in 2009 and members are holistically enriched through participation in YMCA and Uni-Y community service, personal development and leadership programmes. Community service programmes include Y Arts Challenge, Y Dance, Uni-Y Step Up, International Service Programmes, and LOVE DARE. Personal development and leadership programmes include The YMCA Conversation Series, Uni-Y Internship Programme, Leadership and Management Programme (LAMP), and IMPACT training.

For its exceptional humanitarian efforts and outstanding contribution in cultivating a spirit of volunteerism and leadership amongst the youth of Singapore, Uni-Y Singapore, which comprises Uni-Y NUS, Uni-Y NTU and Uni-Y SMU, was conferred the Singapore Youth Award 2014, the nation’s highest accolade to honour exceptional young people who enrich the hearts and souls of the community and bring distinction to the nation. Uni-Y Singapore was also conferred the Ten Accomplished Youth Organisations (TAYO) ASEAN Award in 2014.