Spreading happiness in the Land of Smiles

The NTU alumni community in Thailand kindles close bonds between themselves through a healthy mix of good fun and good deeds.

Since its founding in May 2008, NTU Alumni Association (AA) (Thailand) has served as a central resource for NTU alumni in Thailand, constantly expanding the alumni network and strengthening the ties within it.

NTUAA (Thailand) organises numerous activities such as movie screenings and dinner talks, to keep the NTU alumni community in Thailand engaged. The AA also organises community social responsibility (CSR) activities, which included a flood relief initiative as well as visits to schools and homes for orphaned children.

In 2020, NTUAA (Thailand) plans to launch a series of activities on a quarterly basis, including lunch sessions, more movie screenings and sports gatherings. The AA is also looking to hold its annual CSR activity in October.

NTUAA (Thailand) President Dr Nurot Panich (MSE/2007) leads the AA with great drive as he believes being part of the global NTU community and being able to contribute to NTU is a privilege and honour. “I wish to encourage our alumni to stay in touch with each other, such that our AA can make a positive impact on our community and continue to play a part in elevating NTU’s reputation and carrying out its mission,” he said.

Members double up as volunteers at times to bring various events to fruition. NTUAA (Thailand) warmly welcomes participation and involvement from all alumni residing in Thailand.

Paving the way forward for Traditional Chinese Medicine

The NTU Chinese Medicine Alumni Association (CMAA) provides a platform for graduates to connect with ease, creating an avenue to bolster the programme’s alumni network. Through this, and through its work with other organisations, it aims to champion the advancement of Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) in Singapore.

CMAA organises activities such as networking and get-together sessions, and medical-related talks. The AA also regularly looks to expand its team to be more robust and better able to cater to the needs of the general public with regards to health-related matters.

CMAA President Mr Gabriel Chan (SBS/2014) is inspired by the strong talent within the AA. He hopes to see like-minded TCM practitioners continue to come together to make positive contributions to the industry and shape the public’s perception of the field.

With this vision in mind, he sees qualities such as unity and collaboration as key to paving the way forward for the field. “The TCM industry in Singapore will never die. It will just become better and better,” said Mr Chan.

“However, in order to make it better, I can’t do it alone. I sincerely implore each and every one of you to bring forth your strengths and talents and together, we can make a difference. I can do it, and so can you!” the spirited alumnus urged.

NTU Alumni Association (AA) (Australia) looks to hold quarterly networking sessions in Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane, and introduce programmes that promote learning initiatives.

The AA is also looking to host a grand event in mid-2020 — keep a lookout for more information in the coming months.

Leading the AA is NTUAA (Australia) President Mr Abhimanyu Bhola (NBS/2005), who believes that all NTU alumni have a responsibility to keep the alumni network an active community.

“We are a relatively young university and young alumni, and our growth comes in ensuring that alumni help foster the NTU spirit through interaction and involvement,” he said. “It doesn’t matter how involved one is — the important part is that everyone believes this is ‘their alumni network’ and to keep those memories fresh,” he added.

Mr Somasundaram believes that TLSAA will act as the home ground upon which he and his fellow alumni can play a part in furthering the Tamil language and its community.

A feeling of home in the land Down Under

Across Australia, the NTU Alumni Association (Australia) fosters an active alumni community by keeping members connected to one another and to their alma mater.

TLSAA actively organises a diverse range of activities, often in collaboration with NTU TLS. These include community-building programmes, mentoring sessions, bonding sessions and overseas community involvement projects.

“TLSAA is a bridge to many experiences and opportunities,” said TLSAA President Mr Sembian Somasundaram (MAE/2017). “You can use the AA to stay connected, create contacts for your career development or as a space to reminisce about the beautiful memories forged during our four years as undergraduates. Those years will always stay with us and the AA is a great way to keep those memories fresh,” he added.

Mr Somasundaram believes that TLSAA will act as the home ground upon which he and his fellow alumni can play a part in furthering the Tamil language and its community.

Rich history, new beginnings

With a shared love for their historically-rich language, students and alumni collaborate to build a thriving community and bring the Tamil language to the next era of modern-day living.

The recently established NTU Tamil Literary Society Alumni Association (TLSAA) has grown rapidly to become a closely-knit network. TLSAA connects vibrant individuals who were previously key members of NTU Tamil Language Society (TLS) committees not only to one another, but also with the current NTU TLS student club — thus serving as a bridge between undergraduates and alumni.

The AA has a unique vision for the future of the Tamil language in that it seeks to keep the language moving with the times. TLSAA aims to fuse Tamil language ideologies with technology, thus making the language more easily consumable for young people of today.

The AA has even created a new portfolio titled “Tamil & Technology Director” to help drive this effort — exciting times indeed for the association.

NTLSAA (Australia) President Mr Abhimanyu Bhola (NBS/2005) (front row, centre) with fellow alumni at a networking session in Melbourne.

NTUAA (Australia) President Mr Abhimanyu Bhola (NBS/2005) (front row, centre) with fellow alumni at a networking session in Melbourne.