

**WELCOME ADDRESS BY NUSS PRESIDENT MR JOHNNY TAN**

**AT NUSS APPRECIATION DINNER**

**11 APRIL 2012, WEDNESDAY**

**7PM AT DELLA & SENG GEE GUILD HALL**

Dr S R Nathan

His Excellency Dr Raghavan, High Commissioner of India to Singapore

Dr Cheong Siew Keong, NUS Pro-Chancellor

Mr Wong Ngit Liong, Chairman, NUS Board of Trustees, and Mrs Wong

Professor Tan Chorh Chuan, NUS President

Professor Lim Pin, NUSS Honorary Member, and Mrs Lim

Members of NUSS Advisory Panel, Mr Gerard Ee, Mr Wong Ah Long and Mrs Wong

Fellow NUSS Members

Friends, Ladies and Gentlemen

**WELCOME**

Good evening to all and welcome to the **NUSS Appreciation Dinner 2012**.

It is indeed our honour and privilege to have so many distinguished members and guests with us here and on behalf of the Management Committee, I would like to thank you for being a part of this joyous occasion.

We gather this evening to recognise and celebrate the exemplary accomplishments and contributions of some of our very distinguished members.

## **HONORARY MEMBERSHIP**

In particular, we are proud to have the opportunity to confer the Society's Honorary Membership on **Dr S R Nathan**, a longstanding member of our Society, in recognition of his many and distinguished contributions in public service, and to NUS and our Society.

We are extremely delighted that Dr Nathan has graciously consented to accept the NUSS Honorary Membership, which is the highest honour that NUSS can bestow upon such a distinguished person.

**Mr Chandra Mohan**, NUSS Past President, will deliver the citation for Dr Nathan in a short while.

## **Distinguished and Outstanding Member Awards**

We will also be presenting two special awards this evening - the NUSS Distinguished and Outstanding Member Awards to four of our members who have made significant and lasting contributions to NUSS and the wider community.

**This is the third year** that the Society is presenting these awards and it is our hope that the achievements of these members will help inspire more to step forward to serve our community.

**Mr Gerard Ee**, Chairman of the Judging Panel, will be sharing with you more about the awards and announce the recipients in the latter part of the programme.

## **Long Service Awards**

We will also be presenting the Long Service Awards to two Sub-Committee members who have served NUSS for five and 10 years respectively. On behalf of the Management Committee, I would like to convey our special thanks and appreciation to them for volunteering their time and expertise as well as their commitment to NUSS.

## **INCLUSIVITY IN NUSS**

Members are the force that keeps our Society moving forward.

Today, as we recognise and celebrate the achievements of our members, we are reminded of the remarkable progress and development of NUSS that was only made possible through the dedication and commitment of many good people in our community.

We share an abiding sense of togetherness and a common value of creating and maintaining an inclusive graduate society, regardless of social background or whether you are an Ordinary or an Associate member.

As we move into the future, I hope we will continue to uphold these values, and stay united. **And we must remain strong** ... strong not only in terms of our membership strength and physical amenities, but

- **strong in our hearts** to care for the well-being of our University and the graduates community,
- **strong in our desire** to want to contribute and help one another, including the less privileged, and
- **strong in our belief** that we can overcome our challenges and make progress.

This is the spirit we want ... this is the spirit **NUSS must uphold**.

## **CONCLUSION**

On this note, I just want you to know how privileged I feel to have served as President of NUSS for the past 4 years.

The journey has been an enriching and eventful one.

My job would have been much more difficult if it were not for the unwavering support and commitment of people like you, and I would like to take this opportunity to **pay my deepest gratitude** to each and everyone ... **for all that you have done for NUSS**, and on a personal level, for the encouragement and guidance you have given me during my term of office.

I know many of you love this Society, and I hope you will continue to give your support, in whatever way you can, and **help bring out the best of NUSS** and our graduate community.

**Mother Teresa** once said, "It is not how much we give ... **but how much love** ... we put into giving".

With that, I wish everyone an enjoyable evening.

Thank You!