

**SPEECH BY NUSS PRESIDENT MR EDDIE LEE
AT THE NUSS MINISTERIAL DIALOGUE 2017
18 April 2017, Tuesday
7pm at Kent Ridge Guild House**

1. Address the audience

Mr Ong Ye Kung
Minister for Education (Higher Education & Skills) and Second Minister
for Defence

Distinguished guests
Fellow NUSS members
Ladies and gentlemen

Good evening and a very warm welcome to NUSS, the National
University of Singapore Society.

Thank you, Minister Ong for consenting to be our speaker this evening.

The tag line for the Society is NUSS, the Graduate Society and the first
and foremost object of our Constitution is to promote the interests and
development of NUS.

It is little wonder that we have such a good response this evening, one of
the highest attendances for a ministerial dialogue. Education is a matter
close to our hearts.

2. About the NUSS Ministerial Dialogue

The NUSS Ministerial Dialogue Series, aims to provide a forum for our
distinguished leaders to share their insights and stimulate discussion on
topics that are of long term significance and relevance to Singapore. We

hope that through this Dialogue, we would be able to promote intellectual discourse among our members and encourage engaging conversations on political and social developments close to Singaporeans' hearts.

3. Introduce the session

The Dialogue this evening is on education, a vital component of our nation building. Amidst the uncertain economy, it becomes increasingly crucial for Singapore to educate and equip our people with the relevant new skills and expertise necessary for Singapore's continued growth.

The broadening of curriculum options at tertiary institutions and the ability to constantly adapt these options in line with global changes will significantly help to prepare a new generation of future-ready graduates for a fast changing disruptive and transformative digital economy.

This evening, we are honoured to have Minister Ong to share with us the key initiatives and changes to the higher education landscape in Singapore. I hope that at the end of this dialogue all of us will have a deeper understanding of the Government's plans for higher education in the coming years.

I shall now invite our moderator for this evening's dialogue, Mr Jeffrey Khoo, Chairperson of the Intellectual Pursuit Sub-Committee, to give his introductory remarks and lead the dialogue session.

Thank you.