

PRESS RELEASE

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PRIME MINISTER MR GOH CHOK TONG CONFERRED HONORARY MEMBERSHIP BY NUSS

Singapore, March 6, 2004 – The National University of Singapore Society (NUSS), the largest alumni body in Singapore today will confer an Honorary Membership on Prime Minister Mr Goh Chok Tong, in recognition of his outstanding contributions towards building the nation.

This will make PM Goh the first public figure to be honoured by NUSS for his dynamic leadership in the pursuit of excellence in developing Singapore's economy.

Honorary Membership is conferred by the NUSS Management Committee on exceptional individuals who have distinguished themselves in public life, or by service to the National University of Singapore (NUS), its predecessors or to the NUSS. The past Honorary Members of the Society are Professor Kiang Ai Kim, President of NUSS from 1965 – 1966, Professor Maurice Baker, President of NUSS from 1973 – 1975, Professor Lim Pin, former Vice Chancellor of NUS from 1981 to 2000 and Professor Shih Choon Fong, President of NUS.

Mr Lai Kim Seng, President of NUSS said, "We are extremely delighted that Mr Goh has accepted our invitation to be an Honorary Member of NUSS. We welcome him warmly into our midst as a very distinguished NUS alumnus who as Prime Minister, has demonstrated astute and exemplary political leadership and made significant and invaluable contributions to Singapore."

Opening of Suntec City Guild House

PM Goh will officiate the opening of NUSS Suntec City Guild House. Occupying an area of approximately 18,000 sq ft, the clubhouse is NUSS's first city location to offer swimming and tennis facilities.

Outfitted at a cost of \$5 million, the swanky Suntec City Guild House boasts a bistro serving Western and Asian cuisine, a bar, a roof-top terrace, karaoke facilities, jackpot room, reading and internet access rooms, children's playroom and three function rooms. In addition, the club also offers special corporate membership packages at Planet Fitness negotiated exclusively for NUSS members.

NUSS also manages two other guild houses. They are Kent Ridge Guild House, located within the NUS campus and Adam Park Guild House.

NUSS celebrates its 50th anniversary

In line with NUSS 50th anniversary, a year long series of celebratory events has been planned to raise funds for NUS as well as for charity.

Aptly themed 'True Passion,' as a tribute to the dedication demonstrated by the pioneer members of the Society, the list of activities include the Charity Golf Tournament that raised \$100 000 and the lecture by visiting Emeritus Professor John Habraken from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology organised earlier this year.

Other fund-raising plans in the pipeline include the Charity Opera Night featuring 'The Merry Widow', the 50th Anniversary Walkathon, NUSS Gala Dinner, the NUSS Lecture to be delivered by Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister Lee Hsien Loong, as well as the launch of an NUSS 50th Anniversary Commemorative Publication.

To date NUSS has contributed more than \$3 million to NUS for the scholarship and student loan fund, NUSS Professorship Endowment, University Cultural Centre and the start-up of the NUS Enterprise Centre in Silicon Valley.

NUSS launches Membership Drive Programme

To commemorate its 50th anniversary, NUSS also announced the launch of its membership drive.

Membership entrance fee which was reduced from \$5000 to \$3 000 in December 2003 can be paid through a 36-month interest-free payment scheme. A total of 4,000 vacancies are available for Ordinary membership (NUS graduates) and Associate membership (graduates from other local and foreign universities).

Monthly subscription remains unchanged at \$45 for members and \$10 for spouse members.

NUS Alumni Complex

NUSS prides itself in its distinct pursuit of lifelong learning and a vibrant intellectual graduate society.

In support of lifelong learning, NUSS has pledged \$20 million in a partnership with NUS to develop a new Alumni Complex. This move will bring together all 38 alumni bodies in NUS into one alumni body through the joint effort of NUS and NUSS.

When completed in two years' time, the complex will be a first-rate venue for fostering alumni spirit and bonding. It would also be the focal point for promoting lifelong learning courses for members.

Membership Programme

The NUSS has a membership of 12 000 persons with the majority being graduates from NUS, as well as graduates from other local and foreign universities.

The membership categories are; Honorary Member, Senior Member, Life Member, Ordinary Member, Associate Member, Term Member and Overseas Member.

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The National University of Singapore Society (NUSS) has, since its inception in 1954 become Singapore's largest Society for the alumni body of graduates from NUS. With a current membership of 12,000 persons, NUSS is the largest local organized alumni body. The Society seeks to promote a vibrant intellectual Society that engages itself with national and international issues affecting local interests through forums, debates, seminars and talks. The Society manages all club facilities at Suntec City Guild House, Kent Ridge Guild House and Adam Park Guild House. Please visit www.nuss.org.sg for more information.

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