

60
YEARS
1954 - 2014
old wine, new spirits

The logo features a large, stylized number '60' in a dark red color. The '0' is composed of a circular brushstroke. Below the '60', the word 'YEARS' is written in a smaller, dark red, sans-serif font. Underneath 'YEARS', the years '1954 - 2014' are printed in a very small, dark red font. At the bottom of the logo, the tagline 'old wine, new spirits' is written in a dark red, lowercase, sans-serif font. The entire logo is centered on a background of overlapping, semi-transparent triangles in various shades of yellow and light brown.



HAPPY SWEET

60th



Our sixty years at NUS are probably best measured not in time but in the relationships cultivated, the challenges overcome and the communities enriched by us together. Imagine time as a vessel, capturing a passionate blend of experience and new promise. Such is the NUS journey, brimming with potential, towards an even better tomorrow.

Old Wine, New Spirits

The NUSS 60th Anniversary Commemorative Publication

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The National University of Singapore Society
Kent Ridge Guild House, 9 Kent Ridge Drive, Singapore 119241
Tel: 6779 1811 Fax: 6778 8095 Email: secretariat@nuss.org.sg
Website: www.nuss.org.sg

Writer

Edgar Liao

Old Wine, New Spirits Commemorative Publication Team

Lai Kim Seng, Lim Soo Hwee, Edgar Liao, Nadine Wu, Lai Choon How, Mephine Ong

Old Wine, New Spirits Editorial Panel

Yip Kum Fei, Lai Kim Seng, Chandra Mohan K Nair, Dr James Boss, Basskaran Nair,
Jeffrey Khoo, Dr Paul Wang, Edgar Liao

Photo Credits

National Archives of Singapore

Offices of the NUS President and the Vice-Provost (Student Life)

Harry Chan, Mervyn Sek, Ho Junyi, Stefan Choo, Wayn Chiua, Zou Kunyi,
Liu Guoyi, Hu Yang, Brandon Albert Lim, Tan Zi Tong, Ow Yau Loong, Marcus Royce Lee,
Pamela Tan, Dr James Boss, Agnes Ng, Lim Shoo Hoe

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Aerial view of the new Kent Ridge Guild House.

Patron's Foreword





NUSS has gone through many changes and phases of growth since it was formed in 1954. Over the years, NUSS continues to play an important function in providing platforms and activities to foster camaraderie and facilitate knowledge exchange amongst the alumni members.

The Society has enhanced its facilities and expanded its offerings of recreational, academic, political, social and cultural activities to promote interactions within the wider graduate community. Generations of graduates are connected with one another through NUSS as its membership increases and participation in its programmes grows. Many NUSS members have cultivated lasting friendships and benefited from the sharing of ideas through the alumni network.

NUSS has in recent years embraced a new focus to rally members to contribute and volunteer in community projects, providing members with a platform to take part in the building of a more caring and inclusive Singapore.

The significant progress the Society has made in promoting the interest of its members has measured up to the social mission that the founder members of NUSS envisioned for the Society 60 years ago.

I congratulate NUSS on its 60th Anniversary and wish NUSS many more years of success in furthering the interest of the NUS alma mater.

**President Tony Tan Keng Yam,
Patron, NUSS**

President's Message



Challenges are not to be feared but to be cherished and met head-on, because they herald the new heights that NUS will scale and overcome to sustain and extend its heritage of success.

Dear members, friends, and well-wishers,

The theme *Old Wine, New Spirits* beautifully captures the mood and tone with which we are celebrating and commemorating 60 years of NUS this year. It extols the mature vintage that NUS has become, and evokes the Society's never-say-die and always forward-looking ethos. It also highlights the fact that NUS is now a very diverse and dynamic society, able to leverage on the respective strengths and qualities of its members, young and senior.

In the past ten years since NUS celebrated its 50th anniversary, the Society has made tremendous achievements and accomplishments in all facets of its life and work. We re-opened the Bukit Timah Guild House and Adam Park Guild House, modernised and expanded the Kent Ridge Guild House, and jointly developed the Kent Ridge Alumni Complex together with NUS. We also turned the loss of the old Suntec City Guild House into

the opportunity to build a splendid new Guild House at Tower Five of Suntec City. Our physical growth is paralleled by our momentous growth in membership. In the past decade, the NUSS membership quickly surpassed the 12,000 and 14,000 marks to stand at more than 15,000 today, supported by over 200 dedicated staff.

In the domain of the NUSS mission to support and serve the alma mater, NUSS has also made a number of significant contributions. Relations between NUS and the Society has never been better. The Society supported, and will continue to support, NUS through various financial contributions and sustainable initiatives. Two landmark initiatives in particular that NUSS is proud to have championed are the NUS Alumni Bursary Fund and the NUSS-UTown Student Mentorship programme. Through our community projects, intellectual and cultural activities, the Society has also extended its visibility and impact within and beyond the wider graduate community.

Between 2013 and 2014, the Society has also started a number of heritage projects to ensure that visitors and members alike will be aware of the rich heritage and legacy of Singapore's largest alumni association. The Paint-the-Past Presidents project visually inscribes the enormous contributions of the Society's past leaders onto our walls and into our institutional memory. The Legacy Wall proudly proclaims the Society's physical expansion and membership growth, and its achievements in the service of Varsity, Community and Nation. We look forward to more commemorative volumes and heritage endeavours in the future as NUSS continues to grow, through the dedicated stewardship of the Society's leadership, the dauntless

service of its staff, the strong sense of purpose, identity and community among its membership, and the magnanimous support of the Society's many friends, partners and stakeholders in the wider community.

Even as we celebrate our achievements, we do not want to rest on our laurels. As our 60th anniversary theme suggests, we want to climb even higher – do more and do better together as One NUSS to overcome present and future challenges. Our core priorities will be to deepen our strategic partnership with the alma mater, and to stay relevant as a graduate society to our members as well as the wider graduate community and people of Singapore. Central to NUSS's ability to meet these challenges and maintain its steady progress is the recruitment of new and younger members, who share the same sense of purpose, to take the Society through the next 60 years. Challenges are not to be feared but to be cherished and met head-on, because they herald the new heights that NUSS will scale and overcome to sustain and extend its heritage of success.

For now, please join me, in a long toast to NUSS, 60 years now, and 60 more years to come.

Happy Birthday, NUSS!

David Ho
President, NUSS

Chat with NUS President, Professor Tan Chorh Chuan

A beautiful Chinese-style idyllic landscape painting stands at the back of the Kent Ridge Guild House lobby, greeting diners on their way to The Scholar Chinese restaurant. The painting was a gift to NUSS by NUS President Professor Tan Chorh Chuan at the opening of the new KRGH Sports and Recreation facilities in 2011.

Today, this painting stands in testament to both Professor Tan's talent as a scholar, educator, university administrator and a consummate artist, and the trust, camaraderie and friendship between NUSS and NUS. We begin this publication by seeking his candid thoughts on the relationship between NUSS and NUS during his tenure. As expected, he left us with a few salient key pointers that will surely be on the agenda of NUSS in the next lap – supporting NUS in developing “Future-Ready” graduates and entrepreneurship, and collaborating on high-impact signature projects.

1. On the relationship of NUSS and NUS during the last decade

NUSS has made a lot of tremendous and very visible achievements. What's really been impressive is the sense of purpose which NUSS has, in serving its members, in doing good and giving back. In addition, the stable and cohesive leadership that is dynamic and driven by common purpose must rank as one of the greatest achievements that NUSS has sustained over the years. The support that NUSS has given, and continues to give NUS is very impressive and NUS is very fortunate to have such a strong partner in NUSS.

2. On the softer side of the relationship

I really enjoy working with you. Chemistry is important and you guys are real fun also. You all are doing fantastic work in NUSS. It's commitment over above what you normally have to do and yet you bring a lot of energy and enthusiasm, a lot of humour and wit. It is serious yet light, collegial and cordial. That's a combination which is rare. so I enjoy meeting you guys, whether formally or when we bump together informally.

3. On the future of NUS

The NUS Vision, as you know, is a leading global university centred in Asia. By nearly all measures, we have made fantastic progress and achieved a great deal. In the years to come, NUS wants to put a real emphasis on influencing the future. The first aspect we need to focus on is how to make our graduates more “Future-Ready”. This will require our students to acquire a lot more breadth and a wider intellectual base to enable graduates to move from one job to another even though it might be in a different sector. Future-readiness also requires leadership and personal development.

The second way we can influence the future is to contribute to economic and social development through high-impact collaboration with industry and the community. The third piece is entrepreneurship, where we greatly develop the start-up ecosystem in NUS to make NUS one of the leading university-based entrepreneur systems in Asia. This will unlock a lot of the value in our research, contribute to Singapore's development as an entrepreneurial hub, and generate economic activity and jobs. In this regard I think NUSS can be a very important partner.

4. On how NUSS can be a partner

One of our greatest challenges is we have a large student body. As we scale these programmes, we have to make sure they remain high-quality, meaningful and personalised for the needs and experiential learning of the students. NUSS has helped us with this and can play an even bigger role as we scale up all these programmes. You need people who have the right experience, the right occupation, and the right motivation to work with the students to do that. NUSS represents a huge pool of talent and expertise in each field. This is an area we can work together.

5. On how NUSS can attract more young graduates

What is our value proposition? It doesn't have to be something that only benefits the graduates. Some people are looking for platforms by which they can do good. So the value proposition could be that NUSS provide platforms and avenues to do good. But of course the value proposition could be for the benefit of the alumni. For the young ones particularly, mentorship, connections and personal development would probably be the things that people focus on. It's an area where we can work together to see how we can provide more opportunities for the students and maintain a link with them even as they get busy with their early careers. And as they get older, the social life and activities become more and more important. Eventually people anchor themselves in some community, be it around halls or colleges. So I guess the question for NUSS is how do you get people to anchor their community around you?

6. Any wishlist for NUSS and NUS

I hope that in ten years' time when we talk again, we will be talking from the point of view of having grown and developed together in a high impact manner. We would have a number of signature programmes that we have done together, which we have achieved a large

impact. Hopefully we'll be able to join forces and harness our respective expertise to do something really meaningful and impactful for the community. So hopefully in ten years' time we can look back and see the relationship grow, and we have one or two signature projects that can inspire others, inspire other organisations, and inspire people to join you. I hope we will also still be receiving the very strong support from NUSS that we have received so far, which has really been so important for NUS's own progress, and that NUS itself would have moved a long distance in helping to influence the future.



Editorial Panel

INTRODUCTION TO OLD WINE, NEW SPIRITS



TOP Publication Team reviewing work-in-progress with design house representatives.

BOTTOM Members of the Editorial Panel.



Why This Commemorative Publication?

A country that does not remember its past will not know how far it has come, and how much further it can go. Similarly, a Society that does not cherish its heritage cannot fathom the scale and degree of its success in the present, and cannot chart its future against the milestones of yesteryears. This commemorative publication seeks to do just that – remember, cherish and chart the past, present and future of NUSS on the joyous occasion of its 60th anniversary. It extends the two preceding commemorative volumes – *The Heart is Where It Is* and *True Passion* – by celebrating our Society's accomplishments and activities in the last decade. NUSS has achieved new breakthroughs and come of age, not only in terms of physical developments

and membership growth, but of enhancing our relationships with, and contributions to our alma mater, and the wider community in Singapore.

The theme of Old Wine, New Spirits captures and conveys the new image of NUSS today – a mature and established Society that cherishes its vintage and remains forward-looking and dynamic. With a diverse group of members, young and senior, the Society now possesses the best of both worlds. It marries vintage poise and posture with unfettered zest and endeavour, and unabashed enterprise with measured sagacity.

This publication also coincides with the rise of the National University of Singapore as a global powerhouse, ranked 21st in the world in 2014, and the maturation of Singapore into a global, cosmopolitan society. Prosperity and modernity, coupled with the pleasures and pressures of globalisation, has also brought forth new sets of challenges, conundrums and dilemmas for Singapore. There comes the challenge and opportunity for NUSS to find new ways to support and advance the alma mater’s mission. In this volume therefore, our aim is to not only honour our past, celebrate our present but also reflect on our future.

Approach and Structure of Book

Just like how wine should be savoured in stages, this book is presented in several sections that deal with each tantalising facet of the Society’s past, present and future. It is certainly an unenviable challenge to articulate, explain or describe NUSS within 120 pages, but we are going to try. In our effort to present a lean, modern volume with visual punch, the production team had to make certain editorial choices in

terms of content and coverage; and in the process, certain remissions and omissions are inevitable.

We begin the publication by inviting three Presidents – the President of Singapore, Dr Tony Tan Keng Yam, the President of NUS, Professor Tan Chorh Chuan, and our very own NUSS President, David Ho, to share with us their well-wishes and thoughts for NUSS. The second section celebrates the Society’s accomplishments and developments within the past decade, organised and expressed as “Spirits” to capture the motivation and belief that underpin these actions and achievements. In the following section, we present an abridged version of NUSS’s history, to demonstrate that this present era of success and excellence is built on decades and traditions of resilience, true passion, and whole-hearted commitment. In section four, in testament to the diversity of the NUSS membership today, we bring in different groups of NUSS members to speak of their experiences in, reflections about, and hopes for NUSS. In the last section, we talk to Professor Tan Tai Yong, NUS Vice-Provost (Student Life), as well as seven past and present NUSS Presidents to seek their considered views on the Society’s challenges and future.

Expression of Thanks

Finally, we would like to extend our thanks to President Dr Tony Tan Keng Yam, Professor Tan Chorh Chuan, Professor Tan Tai Yong, our NUSS Management Committee for their patient support, as well as the many NUSS members who have contributed their time, viewpoints and memories to this project. We would especially like to thank the NUSS Secretariat staff – in particular Nadine Wu, Mephine Ong and Lai Choon How for their assiduous assistance, and last but not least, our design agency Green House for a professional and excellent job.

Towards another memorable and successful 60 years of NUSS!

C H A P T E R O N E
N U S S - T H E L A S T T E N Y E A R S

MANY
CONNECTIONS
ONE
STORY

60 years on, NUSS stands today the premier graduate club and largest alumni association in Singapore, with a reputation for distinction and compassion, and an indomitable sense of purpose in serving its members, its alma mater and nation. The past ten years have been marked by much achievement and accomplishment – the expansion and development of its Guild Houses, the dramatic growth of its membership, and all-rounded growth and maturation in the different dimensions of the Society's life and work. In this chapter, we showcase and celebrate the Society's many milestones in the past decade.





»» 2005

Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong delivers the 50th anniversary NUSS Lecture on 18 March.

NUSS confers Honorary Membership on Mr Lee Hsien Loong on 18 March.

President S.R. Nathan launches NUSS's 50th Anniversary Commemorative book, *True Passion: NUSS 50 years and On* in May.

NUSS establishes a \$200,000 NUSS Bursary fund for NUS High School.

»» 2006

NUS-NUSS Centennial Golf Challenge establishes a *Guinness World Record* for the most number of golfers teeing off simultaneously at a one-day event on 19 February.

Dr Tony Tan Keng Yam officiates the Groundbreaking Ceremony for the Alumni Complex (on 8 May).

NUSS completes its Strategic Planning Exercise.



»» 2008

NUSS opens its fourth Guild House at Bukit Timah Campus on 1 December.

NUSS completes Phase 1 of the renovation of Kent Ridge Guild House and holds a soft opening on 6 December.

NUSS Professorship Lecture by Professor Dr Chandran Kukathas on 11 September.

NUSS establishes the NUSS Advisory Panel.



»» 2009

Minister Mentor Lee Kuan Yew officially opens the Alumni Complex and delivers the NUSS Dialogue on 20 March.

President S.R. Nathan becomes NUSS Patron at the Official Opening of Bukit Timah Guild House on 24 July.

NUSS confers Honorary Membership on NUS President Professor Tan Chorh Chuan.

NUSS Professorship Lecture by Professor Sidney Nelson.

2014

Minister for Education Heng Swee Keat officiates the opening of Suntec City Guild House at Suntec City Tower 5 on 6 March.

NUSS conducts its largest ever community service event, *Groceries with Love on Wheels*, delivering grocery bags to 3,000 elderly needy across Singapore on 7 June.

NUSS Professorship Lecture by Professor Charles Briggs on 25 July.

Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong delivers the 60th Anniversary NUSS Lecture on 3 October.

NUSS stages the 60th Anniversary Fundraising Concert, *Old Wine, New Spirits*, and raises more than \$300,000 for the NUS Alumni Bursary Fund on 24 October.



«« 2013

NUSS pledges a sum of up to \$250,000 per annum to the NUS Alumni Bursary Fund to help needy NUS students in August.

NUSS Professorship Lectures by Professor Wolfgang Lutz in February and Professor Mathias Risse in October.

NUS Provost Tan Eng Chye officially opens the new Chill-Lab in Kent Ridge Guild Hall.

NUSS holds a soft opening of the new Suntec City Guild House @ Suntec City Tower 5 in December.

«« 2012

President Tony Tan Keng Yam becomes the Patron of NUSS.

NUSS confers Honorary Membership on Mr S.R. Nathan.

Suntec City Guild House closes on 18 November.

NUSS launches the NUSS-UTown Mentorship Programme.



«« 2011

NUSS renames Kent Ridge Guild Hall as Della & Seng Gee Guild Hall on 13 July.

NUSS confers Honorary Membership on Mr Lee Kuan Yew.

NUSS establishes a record in the Singapore Book of Records for having the largest grocery distribution social service.

NUSS establishes and raises more than \$1 million for the NUSS Endowment Fund for UTown Student Advancement.

NUSS Professorship Lectures by Emeritus Professor Donald Treiman in January, and Professor Andre Geim in July.



«« 2010

NUSS launches the NUSS Distinguished and Outstanding Member Awards in April.

NUS President Professor Tan Chorh Chuan officially opens the new Sports & Recreation facilities at KRGH on 26 June 2010.

NUSS confers Honorary Membership on Dr Tony Tan Keng Yam.

NUSS establishes a record in the Singapore Book of Records for having the largest convoy of vehicles delivering groceries to needy households simultaneously in July 2010.

NUSS launches the NUSS MEM Scholarship Award.

NUSS establishes the NUSS Medal for Outstanding Achievement for NUS graduands.

NUSS membership crosses 15,000.

JOURNEY OVER THE DECADE

COMING OF AGE

The Growth and Expansion of NUSS, 2005-2014

The best diamonds and the best wine are not made in a day. The purity and toughness of diamonds are nurtured from years of resilience against high pressure and temperatures, before they are assiduously polished and refined to acquire lustre and sparkle.



Mr S.R. Nathan, Singapore's 6th President and NUSS Patron, witnessing the presentation of a cheque from NUSS President Johnny Tan to NUS President Professor Tan Chorh Chuan at the Bukit Timah Guild House opening.

The vintage cabernet sauvignon slowly streaming from the bottle into your svelte wine glass and onto your anticipating lips began as humble grapes, carefully cultivated, harvested, fermented and allowed to mature into a complex, sophisticated, rich and nuanced brew.

Similarly, NUSS today, a paragon among alumni associations and social clubs in Singapore, was forged and fermented through 60 years of resilience, commitment and true passion. From its fateful birth in 1954 with 44 original founding members, NUSS has borne the weight of great expectations amidst a relatively resource-less and homeless childhood and youth, and emerged as a sophisticated, modern and forward-looking Society through years of social, cultural and intellectual cultivation. Today, like vintage red wine, NUSS couples the colour of captivating passion with the unforgettable taste of sophistication and distinction. Today, like a flawless diamond, it masks a resilient core within its cloak of alluring brilliance.

NUSS: The Next Lap

Building on the strong momentum spurred by the opening of the Kent Ridge Guild House in 1984 and the enthusiastic support from its members throughout the 1990s, the past decade has seen NUSS grown dramatically in terms of the physical rejuvenation of its Guild Houses and the growth of its membership. The seeds and fuel of this growth were planted by the timely Strategic Planning Exercise held in 2007 to consider NUSS's future. The multi-pronged strategic thrusts and agenda set for the Society – the growth of the membership, the extension of NUSS's reach beyond NUS and Singapore, and development of NUSS's physical infrastructure – were ambitious yet timely, giving the Society new heights to scale and targets to work towards. As part of this enterprise, the Management Committee restructured the Secretariat, and rebranded the Society to refresh and clarify its brand image and brand positioning. A new NUSS logo launched in

November 2007 proclaimed its position as Singapore's premium graduate club and underlined its brand attributes – modern and forward-looking.

A Body Stronger and Stronger: Physical Developments and Membership Growth

NUSS's ubiquitous Guild Houses are undoubtedly the diamonds in its crowns – the visible symbols of the Society's growth and accomplishments and the bustling centres of activity and sustenance for its expanding membership. The first significant milestones in that regard was NUSS's return to the Bukit Timah Campus in December 2008 with the opening of the Bukit Timah Guild House (BTGH) at 1F Cluny Road, and the re-opening of Adam Park Guild House in 2005.



LEFT The front facade of the Bukit Timah Guild House.

TOP BTGH was awarded the Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA) Architectural Heritage Awards (Category A) on 5 October 2009.



The relationship of deep trust and close partnership between NUSS and NUS culminated in 2009 with the physical union of Society and University in a grand edifice – the Alumni Complex. Jointly developed by NUSS and NUS to provide NUS alumni a “Home on Campus”, KRGH joined a new Alumni House, the Shaw Foundation Alumni House, in an alumni complex housing restaurants, cafes and lounge areas for students, faculty staff and graduates to meet socially and develop abiding ties and relationships with the alma mater. As a key partner and stakeholder, NUSS worked closely with NUS to bring about this physical transformation, by pledging \$20 million to this \$60 million project. At the same time, the Kent Ridge Guild House underwent renovation and redevelopment across three phases from 2008 to 2010. This was to modernise and renew its facilities even as it was integrated into the physical landscape and spatial fabric of NUS through the Alumni Complex project.



TOP The splendid facade of the Kent Ridge Alumni Complex.

BOTTOM The old Sports Bar in KRGH was re-developed into a trendy and snazzy Chill-Lab for young members in 2013.

The journey was not always smooth-sailing. In November 2012, the popular Suntec City Guild House at Tower Four had to be closed after nine years of operation due to major renovation works at Suntec City. However, as a Society with a tradition of turning housing crisis into opportunity, NUSS found a new location in Tower Five within the revamped Suntec City Mall. In March 2014, as part of the 60th anniversary celebrations, Minister for Education Heng Swee Keat officially opened the Guild House in a grand ceremony. The new Suntec City Guild House exemplifies and accentuates the NUSS branding right in the heart of Singapore's business district – forward-looking, modern, elegant and classy.

Growth in Membership: A Body 15,000 strong

Today, the NUSS membership stands at more than 15,000, a mark that was crossed in 2010. Beyond mere numbers, the membership has grown in diversity, with more members joining under different Membership categories. This was achieved through the deliberate initiatives and programmes the Society initiated and pursued since 2006. Lowered entrance fees for new graduates and postgraduates, membership transferability from Life and Senior members to close relatives, and very successful marketing campaigns have made NUSS membership more attractive. At the same time, to increase the value of the NUSS



After renovations completed in 2010, the new KRGH offered exciting Sports & Recreation facilities such as this elevated Olympic size swimming pool.



LEFT Minister for Education Heng Swee Keat witnessing the presentation of NUSS's pledge to the NUS Alumni Bursary Fund at the official opening of Suntec City Guild House in March 2014.

BOTTOM Class, Elegance, Splendour – The Bar Lounge at the new Suntec City Guild House.



membership, the Society greatly expanded its offerings of activities and facilities, and the perks and privileges of being an NUSS member. Younger members and fresh graduates remain a key target group as the Society prepares itself for the inevitable challenge of its ageing membership. Through the timely injection of fresh new blood, NUSS is able to draw synergy from its exciting cauldron of old wine and new spirits and stride confidently forward into the future – a lively mix of time-honed poise and wisdom, youthful vitality, zest, dynamism and unbounded energy.

NUSS's Commitment to Environmental Sustainability

In recent years, NUSS has taken great effort to fulfil its responsibility to the environment, as well as reduce its utilities bill, through energy and water conservation. Other than spreading awareness of the importance of saving water and energy to members, NUSS has since 2012 reconstituted the Facilities Panel into the Facilities Sub-committee to guide and advise the Secretariat on environmental and maintenance matters and shape how the Society can manage its properties and facilities in an environmentally sustainable way and implement other eco-friendly practices in its operations. As a mark of achievement, KRGH and BTGH attained the Public Utilities Board's (PUB) Water Efficient Building Certificate in November 2012.

NUSS: Membership Growth through the Years



Source: NUSS Annual Reports and publications



SPIRIT OF CAMARADARIE

Social, Recreational, Cultural and Sporting Life in NUSS

When a vintage bottle of wine is allowed to breathe, it releases its fullest aroma and flavour. When a mature Society like NUSS with a 60 year-old heritage breathes, it nourishes the heart, mind, body and soul of its members.



The fighting fit members of our Tennis section – forging friendships through friendly competition.

NUSS has always been more than just a bar or a watering hole, but a welcome sanctuary for members to enjoy the finer things in life. With each deep breath that NUSS members take in our Guild Houses, they fuel a stronger sense of belonging and ownership for the Society in their hearts.

In the last decade, the Society has kept pace with the evolving aspirations and lifestyle choices of its diversifying and growing membership. From October 2010, the “Zest for Life” lifelong learning programme was re-conceptualised to provide a more comprehensive and expanded range of courses and activities of interest to benefit a broader group of members, with five core pillars representing the exciting diversity of programmes that members can choose from to suit their interests – intellectual, cultural and community, wellness, lifestyle and kids. The Kids Club set up in 2005 provided entertaining, enriching educational activities within a safe environment, while the Senior Circle (Renamed S-Connect in May 2009) aimed to keep the Society’s indomitable seniors “Active and Engaged”.

Today, the Society’s Guild Houses are filled with non-stop activity: its dining places fully-packed from opening to closing; its karaoke lounges, sports and recreational facilities and activity rooms heavily utilised. From the evening onwards, members flock in after another hard day’s work to relax, recover and rejuvenate themselves over a refreshing beverage and a savoury meal, a good workout or simply the reinvigorating tingles of time spent in the good company of friends and companions. Beyond their individual pursuits and activity, members also look eagerly forward to Society-organised festivities, and occasional grand events that occur at different seasons of the year. There is indeed truly something for everyone.



TOP Forever Friends – NUSS S-Connect members – celebrating birthdays and a lifetime of close friendships.



LEFT There’s something for everyone in NUSS, including members’ kids!

A Cultured Society for the Senses and the Soul

Social and recreational life in NUSS extends beyond wine and dine, walk and talk. Cultural pursuits remain a vital part of NUSS's tapestry of the softer things in life for graduates who desire to live life to the fullest.

Beyond the larger-scale cultural activities organised by the Society, the NUSS cultural sections greatly enhance and enrich the Society's cultural fabric, each pursuing and offering a different genre of the performing and visual arts on a regular



TOP RIGHT Our Music section members at Band Showcase 2012.

BOTTOM Members and Guests at a Vietnamese Art Appreciation Talk in October 2011.



TOP Yet another energetic DramaWorks section production – It’s Sizzling 2012.

BOTTOM Mrs Goh Chok Tong (rightmost in picture), Patron of the NUSS Choir, singing along with the NUSS Choir for their fund-raising concert in October 2013.

basis, including the NUSS Movie and Book Club, the NUSS Choir (formed 1998), the Arts Circle (2009-2011, revived as the Arts Connections in 2013), the Karaoke section (2011-2013), the NUSS Band (later expanded into the Music section in 2009 to embrace all musical activity) and the Social Dance section (formed 2004, and became the Dancesport section in 2009), and the DramaWorks section (2011). Venture into Kent Ridge Guild House on any weekday and chances are that you will encounter at least one of NUSS’s five music and performing arts sections singing and crooning, jiving and jamming, swerving and swooning with unfettered energy and enthusiasm. Along the corridors of Kent Ridge Guild House, you will also encounter the enrapturing arts exhibitions curated by Arts Connections convener Juliana Lim.

Belying their origins as amateur interest groups formed by enthusiasts, the sections emphasise continual training and development through workshops and constant practice, taking their fun very seriously. The NUSS sections also actively contribute to the Society through performing at in-house Society events and functions, lending their talents to the Society’s community projects and events, and supporting the Society’s unending mission to support the alma mater, NUS. Some NUSS cultural sections like the DramaWorks section have held masterful outstanding performances outside of the Society’s walls, on the invitation of external parties. The NUSS Choir has been particularly active in this regard, proudly representing and extending the Society’s visibility locally and regionally through annual sell-out concerts and overseas tours.

Music. Song. Dance. Drama, Art. Culture Galore.

What more could a graduate ask for?

“Let the Games Begin!” – Sports & Recreation in NUSS

Where do you go to find the most energetic, most boisterous, most fun-loving members of NUSS? The Sports & Recreation (S & R) sections of course! Sports and games make up an important facet of recreational and social life in NUSS as members bond and grow closer through exercise and sporting endeavour. NUSS provides sports for all ages, be it through the renovated and regularly modernised facilities and amenities, fitness and sports workshops for kids, the regular S & R sections for members, and participation in tournaments within NUSS and outside of NUS.

Today, NUSS boasts of about 1,500 members, about 10% of the Society’s membership, actively involved in the Society’s 12 S & R sections – golf, tennis, badminton, bowling, squash,



TOP RIGHT Celebrating 25 years of the NUSS Golf section.

BOTTOM RIGHT NUSS MC members hosting Emeritus Senior Minister Goh Chok Tong at the annual National Day golf game.

BOTTOM LEFT Festivities at the opening of the newly renovated Sports and Recreation Facilities at Kent Ridge Guild House.





NUSS provides an enviable repertoire of sporting options and sports facilities for the fitness and recreational needs of members, their friends and their families.

bridge, billiards, soccer, balut, darts, running and table-tennis. The Golf section is the largest, with 804 members to-date, actively swinging their golf clubs in lush green golf courses at home and abroad. While some sports have been traditional favourites among the Society's membership, others like Floorball, Table Tennis and the Running Club were created in 2006 as these sports became popular. Other than their regular individual sport and games activity, members of the S & R sports sections look forward to their annual competitions with the sports groups of other institutions, alumni associations, country clubs and corporate companies.

Above and beyond the 1,500 members in the S & R sections, a very high number of NUSS members utilise the Society's enviable repertoire of sports facilities for their fitness and recreational needs. The Fitness Centre and swimming pool are in particular big draws for young graduate members and undergraduate junior members.

Indeed, home is not just where the heart is, but where the fun and games are, and for that, one can always find plenty of that within the walls of NUSS.



TOP Our modern and comfortable Fitness Centre at Kent Ridge Guild House.

BOTTOM Our NUSS Golf section ladies posing with ESM Goh.

SPIRIT OF GIVING BACK

The Deepening Relationship with NUS

Good food and good wine are destined to go together, bringing out and complementing the best of each other's flavour. The same could be said of a university and its alumni – after all, the latter are the living embodiments, witnesses and reflections of the university's work in educating men and women of great calibre and character.



Renewing relationships and building camaraderie at the yearly Chinese New Year Lo Hei dinner with NUS senior management and Board of Trustees.

Today, the relationship between NUSS and NUS has never been deeper. Since the late 1970s, the University has increasingly shown that they viewed the alumni as a vital part of the NUS family, key partners and allies in the pursuit of university advancement and development. The alumni community, of which NUSS is a part, has responded in kind. After all, who else other than a NUS graduate would be more concerned about the reputation, branding and esteem that an NUS degree carries?

Building Strong Bonds of Trust, Friendship and Camaraderie

Today, there is mutual trust, frequent communication and cordial conviviality between the Society's leadership and the senior management of NUS. The university and its largest alumni body work hand-in-hand to ensure that NUS continues its stellar record of contributing to national development and more. The university's senior leaders often honour the Society with their participation in Society events and demonstrate that NUSS is a key partner and stakeholder of the University. NUS regularly invites the NUSS Management Committee to annual university ceremonies and events, and consults NUSS on alumni affairs and developments that affect NUSS.

The most visible symbols of NUS's recognition of alumni as important partners are the Distinguished Alumni Service Award and Outstanding Alumni Service Award, inaugurated in 2005. Many prominent NUSS members have thus been recognised for their service to the alma mater; this is yet another testament to the symbiotic relationship between NUSS and NUS. In response, NUSS has also demonstrated its appreciation to key university leaders who have made distinguished contributions in public service, university leadership and support for the alumni and graduate community. In February 2009, NUS President Tan Chorh

Chuan was conferred the NUSS Honorary Membership, an honour that had been conferred on his predecessors, Professor Shih Choon Fong and Professor Lim Pin.



TOP NUS President Professor Tan Chorh Chuan presents a beautiful Chinese landscape painting to NUSS at the official opening of NUSS's new Sports & Recreational Facilities.

BOTTOM A golf game with NUS Board of Trustees Chairman Mr Wong Ngit Liong (second from the right).



From 2011, the NUS Choir started a series of fundraising concerts to set up the NUS Choir Research Fund for Dementia to support research on the prevention of dementia in NUS. In its very first concert alone, *September Reigns*, held at the Esplanade Concert Hall, the Choir raised close to \$300,000 for the Fund.



Partners Forever – NUSS President Chandra Mohan and NUS President Professor Shih Choon Fong at the Groundbreaking Ceremony of the jointly-developed Kent Ridge Alumni Complex.

Supporting the Alma Mater

Since 2005, the Society has endeavoured to assist NUS in numerous principal ways: fostering closer relationship with the alma mater through financial endowments and synergistic partnerships, supporting NUS student endeavours and initiatives, mobilising other NUS alumni to support NUS development and student advancement, and helping the alma mater foster closer relationships with the alumni. Most gratifyingly, all levels of the Society have supported these initiatives.

Symbiotic Partnership

The physical manifestation and emblem of the now close symbiotic relationship between Society and Varsity is the historic Alumni Complex project, begun officially in 2006, to build a home on campus to serve the interests of a growing, globally oriented alumni population and help NUS engage the alumni. Not only did NUSS play a role as a co-developer of this Complex comprising the new KRGH sited next to the Shaw Foundation Alumni House (SFAH), it pledged \$20 million to this collaboration, of which \$5 million represented the Society's contribution towards the building of the Shaw Foundation Alumni House.



Financial contributions were the most direct way NUSS supported NUS. As 2005 was the University's Centennial, the Society gamely joined in the commemorations. In May 2005, the Society contributed \$100,000 to the new NUS High School and with a matching grant from the Ministry of Education, helped set up a \$200,000 NUSS Bursary Fund for needy students.

Subsequently, in 2009, in collaboration with NUS, the NUSS Kent Ridge Fund was set up to support NUS-NUSS joint collaborative programmes. In 2011, with the support of the Society's members, NUSS pledged a sum of \$1 million to assist needy students studying at UTown, raised through a munificent gift of \$1 million from prominent philanthropists Drs Della Lee and Lee Seng Gee. In appreciation of their generosity the Guild Hall was renamed the Della & Seng Gee Guild Hall. The most recent contribution to NUS came in August 2013, when members unanimously endorsed a resolution to pledge up to \$250,000 per annum to lend support to the newly set-up NUS Alumni Bursary Fund (ABF) meant to provide financial support to NUS students from lower income families. Again, the NUSS Golf Section rose to the occasion, raising \$150,000 towards this ABF at their 27th NUSS Golf Annual. The ABF was not only a demonstration of the Society's earnestness in giving back to the alma mater, but also a timely platform for the Society to spur other alumni to support the alma mater.

Mentors and mentees in the NUSS-UTown Mentorship Programme, which was started in 2012 to allow NUS students staying in UTown residential colleges to be mentored by NUSS members with ample career and industry experience.



TOP The Alumni Float, "Forever Alumni" built for NUS Rag Day on 6 August 2010.

CENTRE NUSS organised the NUS-NUSS Centennial Golf Challenge and established Singapore's first-ever golf Guinness World Record for the most number of golf balls hit simultaneously in a single golf tournament.

BOTTOM MC member Yip Kum Fei emcee-ing an iConnect event to engage young alumni.



Leading and Mobilising the Alumni

As NUS's largest alumni association, the Society takes the lead to help NUS engender and cultivate a sense of belonging among graduates, often in partnership with the Office of Alumni Relations (OAR). For example, the Society hosts the annual NUSS New Alumni Dinners in conjunction with the University's commencement ceremonies, and strongly supports student activities whenever possible. Networking Nights provide a platform for members and their guests to develop stronger bonds within the graduate community over good wine, food and music and occasional talks and dialogues. Since the inauguration of the NUS Alumni Leaders Forum in 2011, the Society continues to play an active role at the yearly alumni gathering to foster a stronger alumni network within NUS. NUSS has also demonstrated its interest in promoting and nurturing a more creative and enterprising generation within the University and Alumni community by collaborating with NUS Enterprise to jointly launch the Innovation and Enterprise Awards.



Celebrating and Supporting Student Advancement

NUSS has also launched numerous initiatives to fund students' endeavour in academic achievement and in community service, so as to support NUS's work in producing all-round socially responsible graduates who are not only outstanding in academic performance but also changemakers supporting the community. One such initiative is the ongoing collaboration with the National Youth Council (NYC) of Singapore to administer and manage the NUSS-NYC ChangeMakers Grant (since 2011) to provide financial support for student-initiated short-term



TOP Senior alumni Donald Wyatt, Tan Suan Imm and Wong Peng Meng joining younger alumni on the Alumni Float.

BOTTOM Supporting student achievements through the NUSS Medal for Outstanding Achievement.



TOP Recipient of NUSS Medal for Outstanding Achievement 2013.

BOTTOM Winner of Innovation and Enterprise Award.

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NUSS supports students' achievement and development, and innovation and enterprise in NUS through numerous ways.

community projects. Since its inception, the Grant has approved an average of 18 to 20 projects each year. On the back of this platform, the Management Committee established the Alumni Student Support Fund to support other deserving projects that do not fall within the ambit of the ChangeMakers Grant. Since 2012, the Alumni Development and University Relations (ADUR) Sub-committee has pioneered new initiatives to promote student learning and development, including the NUSS-UTown Mentorship Programme and the NUSS Internship Programme and the Venture Net Programme in August 2014.

More recently, NUSS also championed the creation of the Alumni Student Advancement Committee, a committee of alumni volunteers supported by the Office of Alumni Relations and the Development Office to rally alumni of all generations to support NUS student advancement. NUS President Professor Tan Chorh Chuan appointed the inaugural committee in 2013, with NUSS Past President Johnny Tan as the inaugural chairperson. While NUSS provided the original impetus and inspiration for this new strategic initiative, its creation will encourage other NUS alumni groups and associations to step forward and support student advancement.

He was immediately joined by the excited cacophony of roaring Harleys and Ferraris and rousing cheers from the innumerable vehicles and volunteers crowding the Kent Ridge Guild House driveway. Organised in partnership with the People's Association, it was NUSS's largest ever community project yet, with more than 550 volunteers from all walks of life joining NUSS in delivering bags of groceries with love to elderly and needy beneficiaries in five different Group Representative Constituencies across the island.

When good wine is shared with others, the enjoyment and satisfaction derived is amplified multifold. GLOW 2014, as one of the 60th Anniversary celebration events, amply demonstrates how far NUSS has come as a society of caring graduate servant-leaders who lead through service to the community and nation.

Early Community Initiatives

From the late 1990s, after the Society achieved some degree of stability and prosperity, its leaders began to reflect on how NUSS could continue to fulfil its social mission. One early Society-led initiative was the Student Mentorship Programme (SMP) which began in 1998. The past decade saw the Society build on this early momentum by expanding its community service and volunteer outreach efforts to better encourage community service, charity, volunteerism and philanthropy among its members. The Community Services, Cultural & Social Sub-committee was subsequently established in 2005 "to create a culture of giving in NUSS and a spirit of volunteerism among its members".



LEFT The Student Mentorship Programme Appreciation Ceremony for partners, mentors and mentees.



RIGHT The Chinese New Year Lunch for the Elderly – an annual NUSS charity project.



NUS confers its Honorary Membership on former Minister Mentor Lee Kuan Yew, the founding father of modern Singapore, in recognition of his visionary leadership, and distinguished service to the nation.

One of NUSS's first overseas community initiatives was an International Outreach Programme (IOP) to Cambodia. After an inaugural 16-day expedition to Phnom Penh in March 2005, groups of NUSS volunteers visited Phnom Penh for the next four years to provide English language and basic computer skills to teachers of Indradevi High School and Samaki High School so they could in turn impart these skills to their students. By the end of 2007, NUSS had delivered 172 sets of computers and software to allow these schools to set up computer laboratories, named after NUSS in appreciation.

In Celebration of Service and Leadership

Other than organising community projects and charitable activities, NUSS also encourages its members to contribute to the nation and wider community. In October 2006, NUSS started a tradition of hosting an annual Appreciation Dinner or Celebratory Dinner to celebrate the contributions and accomplishments of our exemplary members who dedicated their time and talent in service of the nation, as well as members who had volunteered their services in the Society's Sub-committees for five or ten years consecutively.

Our members who have been recognised for their contributions to Singapore are too innumerable to be listed. The Society confers its own awards upon two classes of deserving individuals. The first is the Society's highest honour, the NUSS Honorary Membership, conferred on individuals who have made distinguished service to the nation and university. In 2011, the Society also began the practice of conferring Distinguished and Outstanding Member Awards upon NUSS members who have served the Society and the nation with distinction.

NUSS Nature Network (N3)

NUSS's first ever nature group, NUSS Nature Network (N3), was also formed in the mid-2000s to promote awareness and concern of our natural environment and to encourage members to be more environmentally conscious through talks and excursions. In the year 2006 alone, the group conducted five guided nature tours and experiential walks at Bukit Timah Nature Reserve, MacRitchie Reservoir and Pulau Ubin.



In 2011, NUSS began the practice of conferring Distinguished and Outstanding Member Awards to members who have distinguished themselves in service to the Society and Singapore. The first recipients were Ambassador Gopinath Pillai, Dr James Newton Boss and Mr Ernest Wong Thian Yow.

A Decade of Good Work

NUSS has the benefit of a very active Community Service Sub-committee (subsequently renamed the Community Care Sub-committee) to organise regular activities each year for the less privileged children and the elderly. These annual activities include a Chinese New Year festive gathering for senior citizens from various homes, Children's Parties and Children's Carnival for under-privileged children. From 2006, the Community Services also started the annual Adopt-A-Wish programme to mobilise Society members to bring Christmas cheer to children and the elderly alike by fulfilling

their wishes. Since the inception of the programme, it has fulfilled an average of a hundred wishes every year! Over the years, the Society has benefited and brought silvers of joy into the lives of beneficiaries from a diverse and deserving range of organisations, including numerous Homes, Family Services Centres and institutions for the disadvantaged.

The Sub-committee also prided itself on being self-sustaining financially, instead of having to tax the Society's reserves for its community work. In September 2008, CommCare organised a fundraising carpet auction, Weaving Hope, in collaboration with Lotto Carpets Gallery, and raised more than \$35,000 to fund the



Sub-committee's outreach and community programmes. Other external contributors and partners have been forthcoming with generous donations of time, energy and funds. What is both pleasing and indicative of the Society's success in encouraging members to give back to the community is that other activity sections and sub-groups have responded eagerly, either by supporting the Community Care Sub-committee's efforts or starting their own community projects. These acts demonstrate the worthiness of NUSS's causes and projects and its commitment to working with other partners and stakeholders for the benefit of the community.



TOP The Community Care Sub-committee brought children from the Salvation Army and the Little Arts Academy on a fun and educational DUCKTours ride around Singapore in 2012.

BOTTOM NUSS Vice-President Eddie Lee assisting an elderly resident during a visit to SWAMI Home in August 2014.



TOP The NUSS Silverstones – a regular feature in CommCare projects and Home Visits.

BOTTOM Past President Johnny Tan lends a helping hand.

Groceries on Wheels: A Signature NUSS Community Project

In 2010, the Society undertook a new project to support the community on a bigger scale, when the Sub-committee initiated the NUSS Groceries on Wheels project in collaboration with the South West Community Development Council. Buoyed by the success of this inaugural large-scale charity project, the Society continued to organise Groceries on Wheels every subsequent year, working with a different Community Development Council each year to benefit a different group of beneficiaries. The objective is to deliver basic necessities to the disadvantaged, low-income and housebound residents. In recent years, a rising number of volunteers, corporate sponsors and external groups have come forward to donate their time and energy to prepare the grocery bags or deliver the bags to the beneficiaries. Thanks to their invaluable support, NUSS has reached out to more than 11,500 beneficiaries over the past four years.

With the recent GLOW 2014 receiving wide press coverage and news attention, NUSS has clearly and most vividly impressed as a caring society of graduates conscious of their social responsibilities to the community. Certainly, more and more of the Society's 15,000 membership will come forward with greater enthusiasm to share their expertise and wisdom, time and resources for the betterment of the community and Singapore, and help NUSS fulfil its mission as a society of caring graduates.



TOP NUS volunteers with Ms Tin Pei Lin, MP for MacPherson at the start of GOW@MacPherson 2011.

BOTTOM LEFT Student volunteers delivering groceries with love to beneficiaries in GLOW 2014.

BOTTOM RIGHT Community Care Chairperson Archie Ong doing his thing – helping to make a difference.

SPIRIT OF LEARNING

Lifelong Learning and Intellectual Pursuits

Watering holes of all shades and persuasions can readily be found in Singapore. Only NUSS, however offers a simultaneous satisfaction of not only the olfactory and gustatory senses but also one's intellectual faculties and sense of curiosity. Vintage drinks paired with erudite conversations have been an enduring and endearing tradition in NUSS.



NUSS Zest for Life – There's Something For Everyone!



Political Dialogue @NUSS 2010.
From left to right:
Mr Chandra Mohan K Nair,
Mr Calvin Cheng (NMP),
Mr Christopher de Souza (PAP),
Mr David Ho,
Mr Kenneth Jeyaretnam (RP),
Dr Chee Soon Juan (SDP);
Mrs Lina Chiam (SPP),
Ms Sylvia Lim (WP)

The Society prides itself on being a vibrant community of graduates who engage national and international issues, and emphasise intellectual discourse, lifelong learning and continuing education for its members – a defining trait that differentiates NUSS from other social and recreational clubs.

The spirit of intellectual curiosity and lifelong learning has flourished in the past decade. Since the 2000s, the Society has significantly expanded and diversified its intellectual offerings which now fall under the purview of three different groups within NUSS – the NUSS Secretariat organises the ZEST programmes and activities meant for the lifelong learning and continuing education for all age groups of the Society’s membership; the Intellectual Pursuits (IP) Sub-committee organises and drives the formal intellectual activities; the Editorial Panel oversees and coordinates the publication of the Society’s landmark publications, *The Graduate* and *Commentary*.

Life-Long Learning and Continuing Education

NUSS now provides an impressively eclectic menu with something for everyone. Alongside the customary political dialogues and lecture series, members can have their pick of intellectual nourishment and educational pursuits from talks

and workshops related to science, medicine and technology, lifestyle and leisure, business, law and finance, and social, cultural and family issues. Kids are not left out either; suitable activities like Chess Tournaments and elementary workshops are organised for their early intellectual stimulation and development.

Intellectual Pursuits: Talks, Workshops, Lectures, Dialogues

The Society’s political dialogues and forums remain invaluable opportunities to debate and discuss local and international political issues. In particular, the two elections in Singapore in 2006 and 2011 drew heightened attention and interest amidst a more pluralistic and vociferous political landscape. Accordingly, the Society organised very successful non-partisan political dialogues and forums before and after each election with political commentators and representatives from Singapore’s political parties. Ministerial dialogues were also organised with long-time friends of the Society such as the Alumni International Singapore (AIS) so the wider graduate community could benefit from the insider’s perspectives and insights shared by government ministers on issues of great contemporary relevance and public interest. These Ministerial dialogues, alongside the yearly post-Budget dialogues, gave government leaders the platform to engage the Society’s membership and gather feedback for policies.

NUSS Lectures, Dialogues, Discussions and Forums (2005-2014)

Year	Month	Speaker	Topic
2005	March	Mr Lee Hsien Loong , Prime Minister of Singapore	NUSS 50 th Anniversary Lecture: <i>The Elite of Singapore</i>
	June	Mr Khaw Boon Wan , Minister for Health	<i>Is Falling Sick More Scary than Death?</i>
2006	April	Dr Catherine Lim , Mr Sin Kek Tong (Singapore People's Party), Dr Chee Soon Juan (Singapore Democratic Party), Ms Indranee Rajah (People's Action Party)	<i>The General Elections: Does Singapore Have a Choice?</i>
	May	Dr Catherine Lim , Assoc Professor Ho Khai Leong , Dr Chee Soon Juan (Singapore Democratic Party), Ms Denise Phua (People's Action Party), Mr Perry Tong (Worker's Party)	<i>The General Elections: Post-Mortem</i>
2007	May	Mr Tharman Shanmugaratnam , Minister for Education and Second Minister for Finance	AIS Ministerial Dialogue – <i>Making a Global City</i>
2008	March	Ms Grace Fu , Minister of State for National Development	<i>Singapore Budget 2008</i>
	August	Mr Khaw Boon Wan , Minister for Health	AIS Ministerial Dialogue – <i>Is Ethical Organ Trading an Oxymoron?</i>
	December	Mr Ng Kwan Meng , Mr Winston Chong , and Mr Francis Heng	<i>Insights to the Global Financial Crisis – Through the Eyes of Singapore</i>
2009	March	Mr Lee Kuan Yew , Minister Mentor	NUSS Dialogue with Mr Lee Kuan Yew – <i>Singapore and Singaporeans – Quarter Century From Now</i>
	April	Mr Lim Swee Say , Minister in the Prime Minister's Office	AIS Ministerial Dialogue – <i>Saving Jobs & Creating Growth in a Global Recession</i>
	September	Dato' Justin Leong and Dr Lee Boon Keng	New Singapore Economic Frontiers Dialogue – <i>Seizing Growth Opportunities and Building Corporate Resilience</i>
	October	Professor Tan Eng Chye , NUS Provost	Dialogue on evolving education in NUS – <i>Education at NUS – What You May Not Know!</i>
2010	January	Dr Ng Eng Hen , Minister for Education and Second Minister for Defence	Dialogue on education, Singapore's political landscape and the changing economy.
	March	Mr Lim Swee Say , Minister in the Prime Minister's Office	Post-budget Dialogue on Budget 2010 and increasing the productivity of Singaporeans
	October	Dr Yaacob Ibrahim , Minister for the Environment and Water Resources	Dialogue on Singapore's Approach to Environmental Sustainability
	November	Mr Calvin Cheng (NMP), Mr Christopher de Souza (PAP), Mr Kenneth Jeyaretnam (Reform Party), Dr Chee Soon Juan (SDP); Mrs Lina Chiam (SPP), Ms Sylvia Lim (SPP)	Political Dialogue – <i>Fresh Challenges & The New Political Playing Field</i>
2011	May	Mr Gerald Giam (WP), Ms Ho Soak Harn (RP), Mr Benjamin Pwee (SPP), Ms Nicole Seah (National Solidarity Party), Mr Harminder Pal Singh (Singapore Democratic Alliance), Dr Vincent Wijesingha (SDP) and Mr Alex Yam (PAP)	<i>Post-General Election Dialogue – GE2011: A Watershed Election</i>
	November	Mr Tan Chuan-Jin , Minister of State for National Development and Manpower	<i>A New Social Contract – Singapore 2011 and Beyond</i>



Year	Month	Speaker	Topic
2012	March	Mr Lawrence Wong , Minister of State for Defence and Education	<i>Post-Budget Dialogue on Budget 2012</i>
	April	Mr Heng Swee Keat , Minister for Education	<i>Modern Education and Developing a Singaporean Core</i>
	June	Mr Baey Yam Keng (PAP), Mr Low Thia Kiang (WP), Dr Derek da Cunha , and Dr Lam Peng Er	<i>Post Hougang By-Election Dialogue</i>
2013	February	Professor Lim Chwee Teck , Professor of Bioengineering and Mechanical Engineering, and Dr Darren Lim Wan-Teck , Medical Oncology Specialist and Senior Consultant at the National Cancer Centre Singapore	<i>Evolving Landscape of Cancer Diagnosis</i>
	April	Mrs Josephine Teo , Senior Minister of State for Finance and Transport	<i>Post-Budget Dialogue on the Singapore Budget 2013</i>
	May	Dr Lee Soo Ann , Dr Kirpal Singh , Associate Professor Vineeta Sinha , Professor Tay Kheng Soon and Associate Professor Victor Savage	<i>Commentary Appreciation and Dialogue</i>
	August	Dr Catherine Lim	<i>After a Watershed Election: Paradoxes, Perils & Promises</i>
	September	Professor Barry Halliwell , NUS Deputy President (Research & Technology)	<i>Can NUS Produce a Nobel Laureate?</i>
2014	April	Mr K. Shanmugam , Minister for Foreign Affairs and Law	<i>Reforms in Family Justice</i>
	October	Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong	NUSS 60 th Anniversary Lecture – <i>Singapore in Transition: The Next Phase</i>



The past decade saw the increasing prominence and frequency of the NUSS Professorship Lecture series, and the inauguration of two new exciting dialogues series. These activities demonstrate NUSS's gravitas and stature



NUSS participates in Our Singaporean Conversation 2013.

in being able to engage distinguished speakers, be they captains of industry or ambassadorial representatives of other sovereign nations. August 2009 marked the start of the Meet-the-Ambassador Series, which allowed NUSS members to meet ambassadors and foreign dignitaries and receive their insights on issues concerning foreign relations in an intimate closed-doors setting. The Series also aims to establish links with other countries and eventually forge closer ties between NUSS and foreign alumni groups. Building on the success and popularity of the Meet-the-Ambassador Series, the Society launched the Meet-the-CEO series in March 2011 to allow distinguished business leaders to share their passion, knowledge and expertise with members, and stimulate discussion on topical issues concerning the business world and the environment.

NUSS Professorship Lectures (started 1995), 2005-2014

Year	Month	Speaker	Topic
2008	September	Professor Chandran Kukathas (London School of Economics)	<i>Can Local Culture Survive Globalisation?</i>
2009	September	Professor Sidney Nelson (University of Washington)	<i>Poison or Remedy – Treading a Thin Line</i>
2011	January	Emeritus Professor Donald Treiman , (University of California, Los Angeles)	<i>Migration and the Quality of Life: Lessons from China</i>
	July	Professor Andre Geim (University of Manchester Centre for Mesoscience and Nanotechnology)	<i>The Graphene Revolution</i>
2013	February	Professor Wolfgang Lutz (Wittgenstein Centre for Demography and Global Human Capital)	<i>Singapore: Population and Human Capital</i>
	October	Professor Mathias Risse (Harvard University)	<i>From Third World to First – What’s Next (for Singapore)</i>
2014	July	Professor Charles Briggs (Alan Dundee Distinguished Professor of Folklore, University of California, Berkeley)	<i>Does the News Make the Science: A New Perspective on Media-Medical Linkages</i>



Nobel Laureate,
Professor Andre Geim
delivering the 2011 NUSS
Professorship Lecture.

NUSS Meet-the-Ambassador Series (started 2009)

Year	Month	Speaker	Topic
2009	August	His Excellency Paul Madden , British High Commissioner to Singapore	<i>Singapore-UK Historical, Cultural and Economic Relations</i>
	November	His Excellency Dato' Hussin Nayan , High Commissioner of Malaysia to Singapore	<i>Singapore-Malaysia Cross-Straits Relations</i>
2010	March	Her Excellency Amira Arnon , Ambassador of Israel to Singapore	<i>Israel's Economic Growth and Achievements in Science of Technology and Entrepreneurialism</i>
	July	His Excellency Ong Keng Yong , Singapore Ambassador-at-Large	<i>Singapore's Role in ASEAN</i>
	September	His Excellency Doug Chester , High Commissioner of Australia to Singapore	<i>Singapore-Australia Bilateral Relations</i>
	October	His Excellency David Seigny , High Commissioner of Canada to Singapore	<i>Canada's Commercial Interest in Asia and Singapore</i>
2011	August	His Excellency Dr T.C.A. Raghavan , High Commissioner of India to Singapore	<i>Singapore-India Relations and Economic Growth</i>
	October	His Excellency David Adelman , U.S. Ambassador to Singapore	<i>U.S. Economic Policy in Singapore and Southeast Asia</i>
2012	October	His Excellency Antony Phillipson , British High Commissioner to Singapore	<i>The UK in Southeast Asia: the View from Singapore</i>
2013	March	His Excellency Yoichi Suzuki , Japanese Ambassador to Singapore	<i>Japan and the New Geo-Political Realities</i>
	August	Her Excellency Amira Arnon , Israeli Ambassador to Singapore	<i>Developments in the Middle East and their Impacts Beyond the Region</i>

NUSS Meet-the-CEO Series (started 2011)

Year	Month	Speaker	Topic
2011	March	Mr Lee Tzu Yang , Chairman of Shell Companies in Singapore	<i>Challenges to Energy Sustainability</i>
2012	February	Mr Hsieh Fu Hua , Adviser and co-founder of Prime Partners Group; Reverend Dr Yap Kim Hao , Pastoral Adviser for the Free Community Church of Singapore; and Professor Bernard Yeung , Dean of NUS Business School and the Stephen Riady Distinguished Professor in Finance and Strategic Management	<i>Who's Afraid of Change?</i>
2013	July	Mr Liew Mun Leong , President and CEO of CapitaLand Group	<i>Experience from Public to Private Sector</i>
2014	November	Mr Desmond Kuek , the CEO of SMRT	<i>Getting Us On Board and On Track</i>





In 2013, Associate Professor Victor Savage (Director (NUS Office of Alumni Relations)) guest-edited a highly popular special issue of *Commentary* – Volume 22 – the Idea of Singapore, featuring a distinguished list of intellectuals and academics re-evaluating different aspects of Singapore’s past and future.

Conduits of Information and Intellectual Discourse: *The Graduate* and *Commentary*

The Graduate and the *Commentary* remain the primary conduits by which the Society disseminates information and intellectual commentary among its members. In the past decade, to keep up with a rapidly transforming and modernising Singapore, both publications have undergone successful redesign and rejuvenation to remain relevant to a now diverse membership with varied interests. More importantly, in line with the Society’s rising interest in leadership renewal and the engagement of younger members, *The Graduate* briefly became a platform for active younger members like Mervyn Sek and Tong Hsien-Hui to share their views and thoughts on the Society’s future.

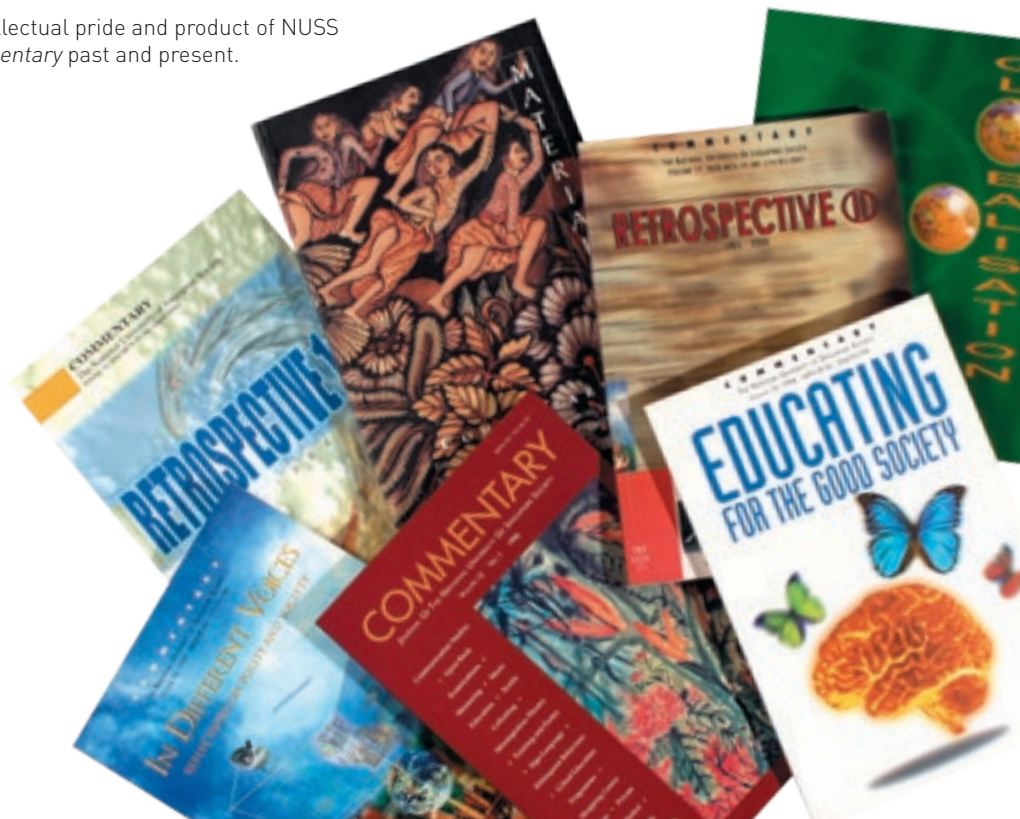
Commentary, Singapore’s oldest academic journal first published in 1968, is NUSS’s flagship publication meant to disseminate and diffuse informed opinion and reasoned debate on national issues. Through *Commentary*, the Society will continue to be an intellectually-engaged commentator and contributor to civil society and thought leadership in Singapore. In the past decade, *Commentary* has grown from strength to strength. NUSS has published several thought-provoking special issues, expertly put together by eminent guest editors, to much positive reception. They bear irrefutable salience and relevance to a Singapore in a state of transition and transformation – *The Corporatisation of Tertiary Education* (2007), *Reflections on Singapore by Overseas Singaporeans* (2011), *A Portrait of the Arts in Singapore* (2012), *the Idea of Singapore* (2013), and *Singapore Challenged: The Uneasy and Unchartered Road Ahead* (2014).

All in all, the Society remains a guild of graduates associated with the highest place of learning in Singapore. Although it boasts of the material comforts and amenities of a premier social club, it remains aware of its position as a responsive civil society group prepared to offer its well-thought views on public affairs and being a respected source of non-partisan intellectual and learned opinions. Hence, the spirit of intellectual leadership and lifelong learning will never extinguish, but instead, flame even brighter.



A/Prof Victor Savage making a point at the dialogue session on "The Idea of Singapore".

The intellectual pride and product of NUSS
– *Commentary* past and present.



NUSS Toastmasters Club

A NUSS section that exemplifies the marriage of lifelong learning and intellectual inquiry is the NUSS Toastmasters Club, launched in December 2004 with more than 30 members. The Club aims to develop public speaking and leadership skills through regular speechcraft practice. It has created a supportive and conducive environment for members to master the art of speaking, listening and thinking. Its members actively participate in area contests and organise in-house speechcraft and elocution workshops and humorous speech contests to hone their oratory skills, rhetorical might and even their funny bones. They have also become a valuable resource, providing articulate, eloquent and composed hosts, moderators and emcees for the Society's events.

SPIRIT OF FRIENDSHIP

External Relations with Organisations, Society and Community at Large

If there's a spirit that NUSS possesses in incomparable abundance, it is that of the spirit of Friendship. NUSS has always been an open, friendly Society, built on the strong sense and spirit of fraternity – brotherhood and sisterhood included – among graduates.



The yearly dosage of Fun, Feasting, Friendship at the NUSS-PAUM Games 2011.

Other than the informal bonds forged between individuals in social and recreational activities, be it in the swing of golf clubs or the hearty toasts over vintage wine, NUSS has actively sought to forge positive ties and strong relationships with other organisations in the community. This is an important aspect of its work that was steered with a new impetus after its Strategic Planning exercise in the early 2000s, where the Society's leadership resolved to project NUSS beyond the campus and increase its visibility throughout Singapore, the region and the world.

Friendships in Singapore and Across the Causeway

Since the early days, NUSS has been fostering strong relations with other graduate alumni associations in Singapore, largely through the Alumni International Singapore (AIS), founded in 1969 by eight alumni associations, including the University of Singapore Society. NUSS has continually supported the activities and growth of the AIS, being a host for meetings

and activities and providing Secretariat support. In the mid-2000s, NUSS Management Committee member Mohan Balagopal, who has been active in facilitating and championing the Society's alumni relations, served as President of the AIS, and continues today to be NUSS's representative to the much-expanded AIS that now includes 12 associations from East Asia, Europe, North America, Australia, New Zealand and of course Singapore.

By fostering good bilateral relations and collaborating with other local and overseas graduate societies and associations, NUSS not only amplified its reputation and visibility, but in the process also created new social, recreational, cultural opportunities and platforms for its members. Across the Causeway, NUSS has fostered an extremely close and mutually edifying brotherhood with the Persatuan Alumni Universiti Malaya (PAUM). Members of both groups look forward to the annual NUSS-PAUM Games, inaugurated in 1984, each year for a good bout of sporting camaraderie forged through good-natured contest and competition and the customary celebratory feasting thereafter.



Exchanging Goodwill and Camaraderie – NUSS (in blue) and PAUM (in red) at the 28th NUSS-PAUM Games.

NUSS also maintained cordial relationships with other social and recreational clubs and alumni associations in Singapore including Keppel Club, the Singapore Polytechnic Graduates' Guild, Cricket Club and the Singapore Recreation Club. Social relations take place at both the Society and the section level – numerous sports sections in NUSS would participate in yearly inter-club tournaments and games. The TANS games (Tanglin Club, American Club, NUSS and Singapore Swimming Club) is an annual feature which begun in 2012 and remains highly-anticipated by all.

Going Global

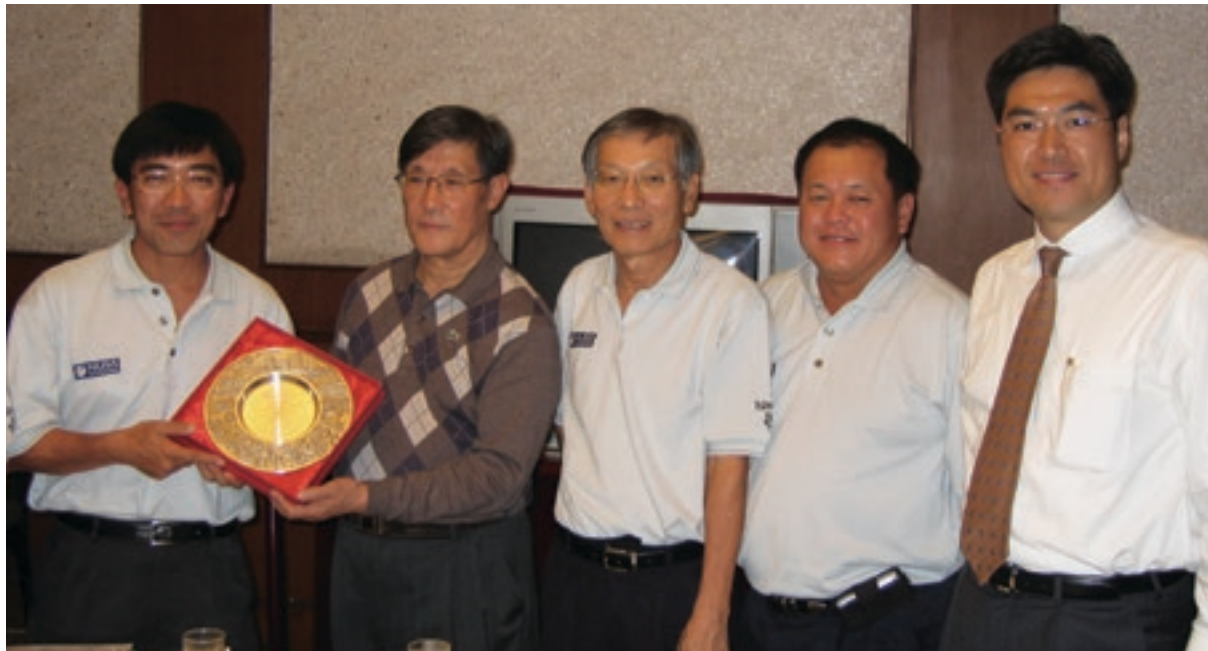
Since the 2000s, the work of establishing bilateral friendships with other graduate associations was driven by an External Alumni Relations Networking (EARN) Sub-committee which was subsequently renamed the Alumni Relations Sub-committee in 2007, and expanded into the Alumni Development and University Relations (ADUR) Sub-committee in 2009. The Sub-committee became more heavily attuned to building further partnerships with other local and overseas alumni bodies and establishing more reciprocal arrangements and MOUs for exchange programmes with other overseas graduate bodies.

More significantly, NUSS entered into reciprocal arrangements with alumni associations around the world to allow their members use of each other's facilities and expand the opportunities for networking, cross-cultural exchange and collaboration. By 2006, NUSS had entered into reciprocal arrangements with six established graduates associations in the Western countries. Today, this has increased to ten – five in the United States, one in Canada, one in the UK, three in Australia, with representation in Asia in the form of the Hong Kong University Alumni Association. This rapid growth in international friendship and reciprocity not only reflects the success NUSS has achieved in projecting itself abroad over



TOP NUSS and PAUM players greeting each other before the start of the annual soccer match.

BOTTOM NUSS hosts Round 3 of the 29th Inter-Club Balut.



Then NUSS Vice-President Johnny Tan leads a NUSS delegation to visit Peking University in Beijing in October 2005.

the past decade, but also the great increase in the value of the NUSS membership, as members enjoy privileges and services and networking opportunities in these other parts of the world. NUSS continues to explore more tie-ups in new areas of interests like China.

Beyond interactions based on fraternity and common interests, NUSS's multi-faceted connections to other external organisations and stakeholders speak volumes of NUSS's depth and complexity as a Society. Within Kent Ridge, the Society works closely with other stakeholders and partners in the NUS community to fulfil its mission of supporting the University. Through its community projects for instance, NUSS provides a conduit and platform for corporate companies to practise corporate social responsibility. The Society also readily partners government agencies and supports efforts to contribute to national development.

The appointment of Society representatives to the People's Association and REACH to facilitate communication and collaboration remains a long-standing practice.

Hence, let it never be said that when NUSS drinks, it drinks alone – it is always ready to offer the toast of friendship, fraternity and camaraderie. NUSS stands today plugged into an extensive global network of alumni associations, while maintaining the friendships and close camaraderie it has forged throughout the years with other social clubs and alumni associations in Singapore and across the Causeway. Beyond the domain of alumni relations, it has etched itself into public consciousness in Singapore due to its extensive work with external partners. By building positive relationships, NUSS lends a diplomatic dimension to its mission to support NUS as a worthy ambassador of the alma mater. NUSS shall continue to remain a good friend, friendly neighbour and welcoming host.

C H A P T E R T W O
T H E N U S S S T O R Y - 1 9 3 0 s - 2 0 0 4

DEEP
ROOTS
HIGH
HOPES

NUSS's history is inextricably interwoven with that of NUS, now a leading global university, centred in Asia, and the modern island-nation of Singapore. Society, University and Nation share similar success stories – all three were labours of love amidst trying and uncharted circumstances. In its own history, NUSS had to strive and struggle against numerous challenges but overcame them through the passion, resilience and commitment of its members. This is the story of NUSS.





1900-1910s

1905
Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States Government Medical School opens.

1910
The first seven students graduate with the Licentiate in Medicine and Surgery.

1912
The name of the medical school changes to King Edward VII Medical School.



1920s

1921
The King Edward VII Medical School expands and becomes King Edward VII College of Medicine.

1928
Raffles College opens.

2000s

2000
Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong delivers the Millennium Lecture on 4 November. Upgrading of Kent Ridge Guild House basement level.

2001
Inaugural NUSS Professorship Lecture by Professor Arthur Ekert on 16 April. NUSS completes second Strategic Planning Exercise.

2003
Closure of Orchard Guild House on 10 December. Soft launch of Suntec City Guild House on 15 December.

2004
NUSS celebrates its 50th anniversary. Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong officiates the opening of Suntec City Guild House. NUSS pledges \$20 million to the building of the Alumni Complex in Kent Ridge, and raises \$75,000 for the President's Challenge through a concert organised with the Singapore Lyric Theatre.

2005
Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong delivers the 50th anniversary NUSS Lecture.



1990s

1991
NUSS holds first Strategic Planning exercise. Launches the annual NUSS Lecture. BG (Res) George Yeo, Acting Minister for Information and the Arts and Senior Minister of State for Foreign Affairs delivers the inaugural annual NUSS Lecture on 21 June. Promotes establishment of Singapore's first Western opera company, Lyric Theatre (Singapore) Limited.

1992
Mr Ali Alatas, Indonesia's Minister for Foreign Affairs delivers the NUSS Lecture on 28 October.

1994
Expansion and upgrading of Kent Ridge Guild House. Publishes *The Heart Is Where It Is – The NUSS Story* to commemorate NUSS 40th anniversary.

1995
NUSS pledges \$1.5 million to the NUS Endowment Fund to establish the NUSS Professorship to NUS.

1997
Opening of Orchard Guild House at Level 8, Cineleisure Orchard in December. Closure of City Guild House at Amara Hotel.

1998
Official opening of Orchard Guild House in November by Professor Lim Pin, Vice-Chancellor, NUS.



1980s

1980
Evans Road Guild House burns down. University of Singapore and Nanyang University merge to form the National University of Singapore (NUS).

1981
USS becomes the National University of Singapore Society (NUSS).

1984
Kent Ridge Guild House opens, built on land provided by NUS.

1985
The Drama Sub-committee becomes the Cultural Sub-committee.

1987
Adam Park Guild House opens in March, followed by City Guild House in October.

1989
NUSS pledges \$1.6 million to the NUS Student Loan Fund by donating \$200,000 a year. Alumni Affairs Office is set up to strengthen ties with graduates.

JOURNEY AC

THE

>>> 1930s

1931
The first 28 Raffles College students graduate with Arts Diploma or Science Diploma. Eleven of them get together in Singapore and decide to meet regularly.

1935
Raffles College graduates in Singapore appointed as conveners.

1936
Inaugural meeting of the Stamford Club, Singapore, is held at Victoria School with 30 members. Stamford Clubs form in Malaya at about the same time.

>>> 1940s

1942-45
Raffles College and King Edward VII College of Medicine close during the Japanese Occupation.

1946
Raffles College and King Edward VII College of Medicine re-open.

1947
The Carr-Saunders Commission on tertiary education comes to Singapore and Malaya. Stamford Clubs debate for full university status.

1948
Raffles College Ordinance is amended to allow two representatives of graduates on the College Council. The Carr-Saunders Commission recommends the amalgamation of Raffles College and the King Edward VII College of Medicine to establish the University of Malaya.

1949
University of Malaya opens and continues the practice of having representatives of graduates on the Council. The representatives are elected by the Guild of Graduates.



>>> 1950s

1950
University of Malaya awards its first degrees.

1954
Inaugural meeting of the University of Malaya Society (UMS) is held at Oei Tiong Ham Hall, Bukit Timah Campus on 1 July. Present: 44 members.

1956
Nanyang University opens.

1958
UMS operates from a room in the Cultural Centre at Canning Rise. University of Malaya operates campuses in Singapore and Kuala Lumpur.

CROSS THE CENTURY

<<< 1970s

1971
USS moves to its second Guild House at 15 Evans Road.

1978
Joint Campus is set up at Bukit Timah to promote closer ties between the University of Singapore and Nanyang University.



<<< 1960s

1960
UMS operates from the ground floor of a house on 7 Cluny Road, provided by the University. Drama Group starts.

1961
UMS stages its first play, John Arden's *Serjeant Musgrave's Dance*.

1962
University of Malaya splits. The University of Malaya in Singapore becomes the University of Singapore. Singapore gains independence in 1963 through joining Malaya, Sabah and Sarawak to form Malaysia. UMS becomes the University of Singapore Society (USS) and publishes *The Graduate*. Current Affairs Study Group starts.



1964
USS moves into 5 Dalvey Estate which marks the first Guild House.

1967
USS launches the Student Loan Fund.

1968
USS launches *Commentary* to 'serve as a forum for interesting views on contemporary issues' and to make up for a 'lack of suitable media'.

1969
University of Singapore secures site at Kent Ridge for its new campus.

A DIAMOND IS BORN

Local Aspirations, Great Expectations

The NUSS story began amidst a climate of rising local aspirations and an atmosphere of great expectations. The sun was setting on the British Empire, its position in Malaya and Singapore irretrievably undermined by the fall of Singapore in February 1942 and the subsequent Japanese Occupation (1942-1945).



The VIP Table at the University of Malaya Society's Reunion Dinner at the Alumni Association in College Road in 1960. Third from the left is Dr Chee Phui Hung, President of the University of Malaya Society.

Source: © Singapore Press Holdings Limited. Reproduced with permission.



Aerial View of the Bukit Timah
Campus of the University of Malaya.

Accepting the inevitability of granting Malaya and Singapore independence, the British authorities attempted to prepare them for it. Malaya and Singapore would need their own statesmen, leaders, and intelligentsia. This paved the way for the establishment of the University of Malaya in 1948 through the merger of the Raffles College (founded 1919) and the King Edward VII Medical College (founded 1905).



Bukit Timah campus with the new Science Block.

Before NUSS, there were the Stamford Clubs, the first-generation graduate societies, established for the social and recreational pursuits of the few graduates then. The first Stamford Club in Singapore was inaugurated with 30 members on 8 February 1936 at Victoria School; shortly after, other Stamford Clubs sprang up in Malaya. They were also an organised vehicle for the expression of their members' heightened feelings and aspirations for independence and freedom in the 1940s and 1950s. Under the colonial administration, local graduates were treated as subordinates and second-tier employees which gave rise to the fight for equality of remuneration, treatment and employment opportunities vis-à-vis the foreign expatriate staff in both the colonial Civil Service and the private sector.

Witnessing the iconoclastic ignominy of their erstwhile colonial rulers' capitulation only strengthened their resolve to fight for their political and economic rights. Soon, it was felt that a new platform was required to organise and direct the graduate intelligentsia of a fledging nation towards the service of alma mater and nation. On 1 July 1954, the University of Malaya Society (UMS) was inaugurated. It was no coincidence that many members of the first UMS Executive Committee were individuals who later became prominent public servants, politicians and statesmen. They, of all, felt that graduates had to become a positive influence on their society and nation. Sixty years on, the National University of Singapore and its alumni continue their commitment to this weighty vision.

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE	
1954	
<i>President</i>	<i>Vice-President</i>
K. M. BYRNE	TAY TECK ENG
<i>Secretary</i>	
TOH CHIN CHYE	
<i>Treasurer</i>	
*GOH KENG SWEE	
V. THAMMILLAI	
<i>Ordinary Members of the Committee</i>	
MISS HEDWIG ARDOZOO	J. J. PUTHUCHERRY
KIANG AI KIM	T. VISVANATHAN
MRS. MINNIE KNIGHT	YONG NYUK LIN
PHILIP LIAU	
<i>Programmes:</i>	TOH CHIN CHYE
<i>Social:</i>	MISS HEDWIG ARDOZOO
<i>Editor of "Chichak":</i>	MRS. MINNIE KNIGHT
<i>Sports:</i>	LEM TENG LAW
<i>Hon. Auditors:</i>	TEO LOH SWEE
	TEO KAH LEONG
*Resigned on August 31, 1954 on departure to England	
(ii)	

TOP The Inaugural Executive Committee of the University of Malaya Society, including many who would become the builders of the modern Singapore nation.

TOP RIGHT Notable personalities among the 44 original founder members.



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Soon, it was felt that a new platform was required to organise and direct the graduate intelligentsia of a fledging nation towards the service of alma mater and nation.

FINDING A HOME

The Development and Growth of NUSS

In spite of its much-heralded birth, the UMS's growing up years were challenging and fraught with uncertainty, mainly over its search and pursuit of a permanent home amidst the lack of financial resources. Like the Stamford Club, which did not have premises of its own, the UMS held its meetings and socials in the homes of its members over the next four years.



President Wee Kim Wee in conversation with NUS Vice-Chancellor, Professor Lim Pin (third from left), NUSS President Dr Reginald Lee (fourth from left) and guests during the NUSS Annual Dinner and Dance held at Stamford Ballroom in 1986.

Source: Istana Collection, Courtesy of National Archives of Singapore

It had no money and minimal subscriptions from a very small membership base. Later, it met in a room in the then Cultural Centre at Canning Rise, since demolished.

In 1960, the Society found its first home on the ground floor of 7 Cluny Road, a two-storey bungalow, after Paul Abisheganaden, Professor Maurice Baker and Professor Kiang Ai Kim (three future Society Presidents), asked Dr B. R. Sreenivasan, then Principal of the Singapore Division of the University of Malaya for a home on campus. During the brief time at the Cluny Road premises, political developments and political differences eventually led to the split of the University of Malaya into two divisions, the University of Malaya in Singapore and the University of Malaya in Kuala Lumpur. Two years later, the split became formalised and the University of Singapore was formed in 1962, independent of the University of Malaya. Accordingly, the University of Malaya Society (UMS) was re-registered as the University of Singapore Society (USS).

Shortly after, in 1964, the Society found its first Guild House at 5 Dalvey Estate, acquired after Ranu Bhattacharya and Donald Wyatt approached Dr Reginald Quahe (then Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University of Singapore). The two-storey black and white colonial-style house with black beams and a distinctive cone on the roof quickly became a bustling cauldron of socials, talks and forums and all kinds of fun activities. Having its own home allowed the Society to start growing from a foundation of permanence and stability.

This foundation however was not to last. In March 1971, during the tenure of Vice-Chancellor Dr Toh Chin Chye, the Society was told to move out so that the building could be converted into a Chinese Library housing valuable collections for the University. This was a shock and a crisis for the Society. Even though the University eventually provided alternative accommodation at 15 Evans Road, also on campus nearby, the Society's existence was precarious and uncertain. The ever-pragmatic Dr Toh needed to be

convinced of the usefulness of having the graduate society remain on campus. Through the efforts of influential graduates, in particular Professor Maurice Baker who enjoyed the confidence of Dr Toh, the Society was permitted to remain in the Evans Road Guild House. This second Guild House was small, with less than ten staff members and not more than five jackpot machines on site. It became however, as Lai Kim Seng (NUSS President, 2001-2005) remembers, "a favourite haunt for graduates to chill out".

Then tragedy struck, and made the Society homeless again.



News report in the New Nation announcing the eviction of the Society from the Dalvey Road Guild House.



Calamity strikes the Society – photo shows the blaze engulfing the Evans Road Guild House in 1980.

Arson was suspected to be the cause of the fire that engulfed and razed the Evans Road Guild House in the night before the morning of 10 March 1980. The total damage was estimated at more than \$415,000 – more ominously, it robbed the now-homeless Society of its precious historical and office records. While the Guild House was being repaired, the Society had to squat in a university house next door. Around the same time, the University of Singapore Society had become the National University of Singapore Society (NUSS) after University of Singapore and Nanyang University merged to form the National University of Singapore in 1980.

The fire turned out to be a blessing in disguise. NUS Vice-Chancellor Professor Lim Pin announced shortly after the blaze of 1980 that the University would grant a piece of

land in the Kent Ridge campus for the Society to build their Guild House. This exciting development fired up the Society members and NUSS never looked back. To raise funds for this KRGH project, the entrance fee was raised from \$15 to \$1,000, and subsequently \$2,000 over a short period of time. Fund raising records were broken as the ambitious project grew to \$5.5 million from an initial budget of \$800,000, and the Society amassed 1,800 new members in a matter of months. Four years after the devastating blaze at Evans Road, NUSS opened its Kent Ridge Guild House in an opening graced by then Singapore President Devan Nair, Professor Lim Pin, the heads of NUS faculties and senior members of the Civil Service. It boasted of more than 4,000 members and a membership rate growing at 40 a month.

With KRGH as a permanent stable base, NUSS steadily expanded and modernised. From a Society ran largely by member-volunteers with only a few dedicated staff members to help, NUSS grew into a modern Society with professionalised administrative and management systems and tools. Accordingly, Sub-committees of volunteers emerged to handle the increasingly diverse facets of the management and administration of the Society, offering their experience and expertise to the Society. Today, the Society boasts of up to date financial systems capable of handling million dollar budgets, a stark contrast to the rudimentary financial book-keeping practices of yesteryear.

The rapid growth and progress of NUSS took root when it initiated a Strategic Planning Sub-committee in the late 1980s to look into the next lap for NUSS – to renew and re-invigorate its sense of purpose, and to meet the changing needs and expectations of its now younger membership. In 1992, the Strategic Planning Sub-committee headed by then Honorary Secretary Chandra Mohan K Nair declared NUSS's intention and commitment to enriching the lives of its members, assisting in university and national development and "to work towards a better world".



Bustling activity at the Kent Ridge Guild House swimming pool terrace.

The years from 1994 to 2003 were years of great change as the Society pursued new ideas with renewed vigour, alacrity and courage, while anchored in its unchanging mission and vision. The exponential growth in membership from the 1980s was matched by the physical growth of the Society. From Kent Ridge Guild House, the Society subsequently opened the Adam Park Guild House (APGH) and the first city Guild House at Amara Hotel in 1987, and 1998, the Orchard Guildhouse on the eighth floor of Orchard Cineleisure. By end-2003, the Orchard Guild House made way for bigger premises at Suntec City Mall.

There was a brief moment in time when the Society did encounter one setback – the loss of the opportunity to own a home of its own. After the six-year lease of the Orchard Guild House expired, there was a search for a more cost-effective, centrally-located premises; and the possibility of purchasing a permanent site came up when the former

Pinetree Country Club at 30 Stevens Road became available. The Management Committee quickly organised an Extra-ordinary General Meeting, hoping to get the mandate to put in a bid for the site. An unprecedented one thousand members turned up to debate the issue, but in the end, the resolution to tender for the property was defeated by a narrow margin of three votes, a sore disappointment for many senior members of the Society even up to today.

Nonetheless, NUSS could look back with pride and comfort at how much it has achieved. By 2003, it could proudly proclaim itself the largest organised alumni body in Singapore, with a reinvigorated membership of almost 12,000. As in the past, NUSS continues the proud tradition of offering members the finer things in life on a regular basis. Even the original founding members of the University of Malaya Society could not have anticipated the transformation and growth.

Or perhaps they did.

NUSS Guild Houses – A Pictorial Journey



1954

Inaugural meeting at the Oei Tiong Ham Hall, Bukit Timah Campus on 1 July



1960

University of Malaya Society at ground floor of 7 Cluny Road*

1971

University of Singapore Society moves into its second Guild House at 15 Evans Road

1954-1958

UMS operates out of a room in the Cultural Centre at Canning Rise
Reunion of the members of the first Management Committee



1964

University of Singapore Society moves into its first Guild House at 5 Dalvey Estate



1984

National University of Singapore Society opens its third Guild House – the **Kent Ridge Guild House**



*Photo of building unavailable



1987

NUSS opens its first City Guild House in Amara Hotel in October



1998

NUSS **Orchard Guild House** at Cineleisure level 8, officially opens



2009

NUSS **Bukit Timah Guild House** officially opens

1987

NUSS opens its **Adam Park Guild House** in March



2004

NUSS **Suntec City Guild House** officially opens



2014

New NUSS **Suntec City Guild House** in Suntec City Tower 5 officially opens



BUILDING A HOME

Body, Heart and Soul

The physical development of the Society's Guild Houses and expansion of its membership from the 1980s symbolised its strengthening body. Its heart and soul on the other hand was progressively enriched and energised by its offerings of activities and programmes to serve both its membership and alma mater, the wider community and nation.



Then Chairperson of the Cultural Sub-committee Mr Leow Siak Fah (right) initiated western opera production in Singapore through NUSS: from 1985-1990 Die Fledermaus, La Traviata, the Land of Smiles and Carmen were staged.

A Bubbly Cauldron of Intellectual and Cultural Activity

The mark of distinction NUSS has acquired today resides not solely in its modern Guild Houses but also in its members' determination and commitment to remain relevant and valuable to the community and wider society. NUSS's cultural and intellectual activities were the yeast and oxygen that aided the fermentation and maturation of NUSS, and differentiated it from other social clubs and alumni associations in Singapore. Today, these activities continue to give NUSS its place as a culturally vibrant, intellectually active, politically-engaged and socially-conscious society of graduates. Less known to the general public is the significant role NUSS played in the creation and formation of two established players in Singapore's civil society and cultural landscape – the Association of Women for Action and

Research (AWARE), presently the leading and most prominent civil society organisation in the field of gender equality and women's rights in Singapore, in 1984 and the Singapore Lyric Opera, Singapore's first Western opera company in 1994.

Cultural Activities

The Stamford Club, the early incarnation of the Society, held many cultural activities including phonograph recitals, outdoor concerts, promenade and regular talks. As past President Harry Chan (1963-1964) revealed: "We were into promoting the arts long before the Government thought of doing it." It was from the 1960s however that the Society's cultural activity and activism bloomed. The late Past President Paul Abisheganaden led the Society into a culturally-active phase starting in the late 1960s, organising music activities which made plenty of profits for the Society to set up a fund for future cultural activities.



Stamford Club and the Raffles College Music Society's Concert in 1949 – Alumni and Students performing together.



Members of the Society's Drama Group rehearsing their lines.

Undeniably, the initiative of the Society's thespians and theatre enthusiasts left an imprint on Singapore's English-language theatre history. Within Singapore's theatre history, the UMS Drama group was one of the first to experiment with new, avant-garde theatre and the works of new playwrights like Robert Yeo. The Society's dramatic activities grew in pace and sophistication, producing at least one play a year with modest budgets but strong support from university staff, students and alumni. By the 1980s, the Society's Drama Group had become such an important part of the Society's activities that it had changed its name to the Drama Sub-committee. In 1985, it expanded its scope and became the Cultural Sub-committee. Members like Leow Siak Fah, Toh Weng Cheong, Winnie Cheah and Suresh Menon led the Society into the production of Western operas, staging numerous operatic productions in the 1980s and 1990s. These sowed the seeds for Singapore's first Western opera company and the Lyric Theatre (Singapore) Limited was formed in May 1991.

”

“Lyric Theatre was born out of the desire of some NUS members to put NUS's contribution to opera in Singapore on a permanent and institutionalised footing.”

- Toh Weng Cheong (1992), currently Chairman of Singapore Lyric Opera

Since then the NUS has remained a faithful supporter of Singapore Lyric Opera. In recognition of its work with the Lyric Theatre and its support for the SLO's production of Carmen in 2002, the Society was bestowed the NAC's Arts Supporter Award in 2003. Arts and Culture continues to be a key dimension of social life and activity in NUS.



In the 1970s and 1980s, the Society's Drama Group produced at least one play a year, including many avant-grade works and plays by pioneering local playwrights like Robert Yeo (bottom right).

Intellectual Pursuits

Since its genesis, there was the unremitting desire and intent for NUSS to contribute to political and intellectual discourse in Singapore. This was in accordance with the roles and responsibilities accorded the graduates of the University of Malaya – to apply their learning and knowledge to discuss and solve national problems. Casual intellectual and political discussion over drinks gradually grew into formal, organised events spearheaded by the Current Affairs Study Group formed in 1962. Subsequently, the Society's Publications Sub-committee and Study Group of varying forms (today, known as the Editorial Panel and the Intellectual Pursuits Sub-committee respectively) have provided the avenues for intellectual activity for as long as the Society has been in existence.



BG George Yeo, then Acting Minister for Information and the Arts and Senior Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, delivered the inaugural NUSS Lecture, aptly titled "Civic Society", in June 1991.

Source: Ministry of Information, Communications, and the Arts Collection, Courtesy of National Archives of Singapore



The Graduate – Keeping NUSS members and the wider graduate community informed of NUSS events and developments since 1962.

In the mid-60s politicians, local and foreign journalists and academics took the rostrum at regular luncheon meetings or dinner talks and shared their points of view with the Society's membership. By the late-60s, and early-70s, the talks had dropped in frequency amidst a troubled period in Society's history when administrative support, money and space was lacking. The move to Kent Ridge Guild House, with its vantage site, facilities and growing membership and income, and the rapprochement with the University Administration led to new intellectual confidence and impetus. The Society's Study Group began to organise talks, forums and debates at both the Society and national level.

It was within this period of intellectual renaissance in NUSS that AWARE was born from an NUSS forum on *Women's Choices, Women's Lives* that NUSS House and Bar Sub-committee member Zaibun Siraj organised together with journalist Margaret Thomas, anthropologist Vivienne Wee, librarian Hedwig Anwar, orthopaedic surgeon (and later NMP)

Kanwaljit Soin. After AWARE's inauguration, NUSS supported the organisation through various means. In 1985, as a demonstration of NUSS's commitment to inclusiveness and gender equality, Zaibun Siraj and Chandra Mohan Nair initiated the removal of all existing gender bias from the NUSS Constitution.

In 1991, the tradition of inviting VIPs to address the Society's annual dinners became institutionalised as the NUSS Lecture, which grew into a prestigious annual series. The NUSS Lecture was conceived, in then-NUSS President Anwarul Haque's words "as the Society's contribution to national-level intellectual discussion and the active dissemination of informed opinion on major issues affecting Singapore and region." The inaugural NUSS Lecture was very symbolically delivered by BG George Yeo, then Acting Minister for Information and the Arts and Senior Minister of State for Foreign Affairs. Since then, the NUSS Lecture has been delivered by erudite and learned political figures.

A key platform for the Society's intellectual activism is its landmark publications – *The Graduate* and *Commentary*. They are intended to be printed matter that matters. Launched in 1962, *The Grad* provided an outlet for informed opinion and creative expressions in addition to the usual club journal miscellany. From 1985, it became known as *The Graduate*. Following a change in editorship, *The Graduate* underwent a revamp in 1993, surfacing as a modern magazine. *Commentary*, first published in 1968, is the longest surviving intellectual journal in Singapore, reflecting the Society members' desire to provide non-partisan constructive commentary and intellectual exchange on problems and issues in Singapore. Even though the intellectual and civil society landscape in Singapore became more pluralistic and diverse, *Commentary* remains a proud contribution of the Society. Like *The Grad*, *Commentary* also underwent changes and upgrading to re-vitalise and re-invigorate itself, with passionate, erudite editorial teams leaving their indelible mark.

GIVING BACK

In Service of Varsity and Community

In 1994, on the occasion of NUSS's 40th birthday, past NUSS President Anwarul Haque made an impassioned plea for the Society's membership to fulfil their obligations and responsibilities to the alma mater and community, especially when the Society was then in a comfortable and stable footing.



NUSS President Lim Soo Hwee having a cordial chat with NUS President Shih Choon Fong at a Society function.

He and the other stewards of the Society would be pleased at how far NUSS have come in this regard over the past 20 years since. As a society of caring and compassionate graduates, NUSS has never forgotten its social responsibilities and civic obligations to the wider community. Since the Community Service Sub-committee (later Community Care Sub-committee) was formed in 1995, the Society has been active in assisting the underprivileged through regular annual activities and projects such as a Chinese New Year festive gathering for senior citizens and Christmas parties for children from low-income or disadvantaged backgrounds. In line with its outward-looking orientation, NUSS often collaborates with external organisations in bigger community projects. Ultimately, these community efforts are aimed at instilling and showcasing the spirits of charity, volunteerism and philanthropy among the Society's graduates and mobilising them to assist the needy and disadvantaged.

To/From the Alma Mater, With Love

In the field of alumni-alma mater relations, NUSS has distinguished itself, and lived up to the expectations of it as the largest and most influential alumni body of NUS. When the University of Malaya Society was formed, one of its objectives was to help its alma mater fulfil its promise and potential as the leading institution of education and research in the country. This began as informal invitations to students for drinks and networking with the Society members to provide them career and life advice, and initiate them as future graduates. These enjoyable and enriching experiences fostered lasting bonds of friendship between graduates and soon-to-be graduates, and a deep-rooted sense of identification with the Society and the University.

Other than the natural obligation of loyalty between an alumni body and its alma mater, NUSS has since the 1970s maintained a symbiotic relation with NUS, becoming partners, allies and stakeholders in each other's development and

progress. In the Society's early years, its spirit to give back was willing but the pockets were empty. With increased membership, the Society acquired the financial means to support the University's academic programmes and research activities and readily did so. Some examples:

- In 1967, it started the Student Loan fund to provide financial assistance for less advantaged students
- In 1974 it started a \$3,000 fund to award a gold medal each year to the top English student
- In 1989, it pledged \$1.6 million to the Student Loan Endowment Fund
- In 1995, it pledged \$1.5 million to endow a NUSS Professorship



NUS Enterprise Centre at Silicon Valley – NUSS donated US\$100,000 to fund its start-up costs.



TOP NUS President Lai Kim Seng and NUS President Professor Shih Choon Fong toast new graduates at Commencement Party 2004.



LEFT Class of 2004 in high spirits at the Commencement Party.



LEFT Professor Lim Pin addressing NUSS Management Committee and NUS Faculty and Administration staff.

MIDDLE NUSS President Tan Siang Chik presenting cheque to Professor Lim Pin as part of the Society's \$1.5 million pledge to endow an NUSS Professorship.

RIGHT NUSS President Anwarul Haque welcomes Professor Lim Pin to Kent Ridge Guild House.

Beyond financial contributions, NUSS has constantly supported NUS in other ways. After Professor Shih Choon Fong (who succeeded Professor Lim Pin as Vice-Chancellor in 2000) introduced the concept of a commencement ceremony in place of the traditional convocation ceremonies, the Society began hosting annual commencement night dinners at the KRGH for graduating students. This was also a start for the Society to become more active in welcoming the new alumni into NUSS.

From the late 1970s, the University too has continually shown that graduates are wanted and needed on campus, in particular with the grant of the land for the Kent Ridge Guild House. Since then, the Society's relationship with NUS has only gotten warmer with each passing year. Vice-Chancellor Professor Lim Pin started the tradition of meeting the NUSS President, Management Committee and the General Manager formally in his office once a year. NUSS reciprocated by inviting the Vice-Chancellor and his key Faculty and Administration staff to a formal dinner at KRGH every year, a tradition which continues today. In 1992, another vital gesture of partnership came from the University when NUSS President Anwarul Haque was invited to sit on the University Council, a re-initiation of the previous tradition of graduate-alumni representation on the

University's highest decision-making body. Correspondingly, in recognition of the strong relationship between the Society and the University's leadership, the Society has conferred honorary memberships on a series of University leaders who have been unwavering in their support of NUSS and fostering alumni relations – Professors Lim Pin, Shih Choon Fong and Tan Chorh Chuan.

Conclusion

True Passion, in commemoration of NUSS 50th birthday, ends off by highlighting the grand celebrations organised in 2004. These celebrations were apt symbols of NUSS multi-faceted growth and maturity; they spoke volumes of the Society's social, intellectual, cultural contributions to the lives of its members and the development of Singapore. These were made possible with the unrelenting resourcefulness and resilience of the Society's dedicated stewards, the unfaltering unity of the Society's now myriad membership, and the magnanimous support of the Society's many benefactors. With these qualities and strengths in abundance, and a heritage of fearlessly overcoming the odds, NUSS will just keep getting better.

C H A P T E R T H R E E
MEMBERS CELEBRATE, REFLECT AND ASPIRE

DIVERSE
VOICES
SINGLE
HEARTBEAT

Today, the NUSS membership stands at over 15,000, with many categories of members that inject diversity and pluralism into what NUSS does and what NUSS can offer. Ordinary members, Life members, Associate members, Senior members, Junior members, Ordinary members, Spouse members, Corporate members form the kaleidoscopic social fabric in our Guild Houses. In this section, we speak to some of them to hear their thoughts, aspirations and hopes for NUSS.





Interview with Tong Hsien-Hui

Few members have had the advantage and privilege of serving the Society as a volunteer, a Management Committee member, and Chief Executive Officer (2009–2014). In all three roles Hsien-Hui has had a distinguished record of service.

From 2001-2004, he served in the Membership Sub-committee, the Young Chapter, the Branding Taskforce, the Resource Panel, the House and F & B Sub-committee, and the first Suntec City development taskforce before joining the Management Committee between 2004 and 2006. One of his most significant and visible contributions is the successful re-branding of NUSS into a modern, forward-looking premium graduate club. As someone who has been so intimately involved in the work of propelling NUSS forward, Hsien-Hui was an ideal choice for an interview on the Society's future. In this interview, Hsien-Hui offers his candid views of the challenges and opportunities for NUSS going forward.

Why did you join NUSS?

The first time I found out about NUSS was when I attended an interview by Mobil, held at the old Kent Ridge Guild House... it was intimidating and yet impressive to see that there was such a place on campus... Subsequently when I joined Mobil I found out the general manager was a staunch supporter of NUSS and held many events there. So that's the reason why a few months after graduation I joined the NUSS.

Why did you decide to start serving NUSS as a volunteer?

The altruistic reason was because you want to be part of something bigger than yourself, and not in a nutshell, very insular, always looking inwards, with very minor personal cares and worries. There was also the desire to network and so I thought that NUSS was a good place to start that networking through joining a Sub-committee.

Is the engagement of younger members partly the reason behind the decision to embark on the Branding Exercise?

Yes I felt that ultimately there's something that we could do to at least project a more youthful image of NUSS... we strived to really change the service offering, the product mix... Has it been successful? I think without this we probably would have seen a much lower take up rate in the last 10 years... I think that also gave people the comfort level that when they joined NUSS they were joining an organisation that was not stuck in the past, but is always looking into the future. The past is important, but the future is more so.

What do you think are the positives or the potential challenges of having such a big membership base?

The positives are that we have got a very wide diversity of youths, you can draw on a very active pool of people. Obviously there's a lot more financial strength in a big pool of members. In terms of its influence on certain government policies it's a lot stronger than if you have a very small group that is unable to represent our views in broader society. We now represent the opinions and thoughts of 15,000 members. On the flip side a bigger society means that you have too many views... So the challenge becomes how do you keep all these views aligned and focused on the common good of the society... As well as the fact that it requires more facilities and structure to enable them to meet on a regular basis.

After five years of being the CEO, what are the financial challenges that the Society will face in the next ten years and what needs to be done to deal with these challenges?

The financial challenges are there for every committee, it's not only the CEO that worries about these on a daily basis. Financially, one of the biggest expenses is the staff costs... and staff costs is intimately linked to the services, activities and events that we provide... so ultimately NUSS, if we are

going to keep subscription fees the same, we either have to increase our revenue stream from alternative channels or we have got to increase the membership base or we have got to make a compromise in terms of the service levels that are being provided... But realistically it probably has to be a compromise between the three... Ultimately we've got to figure out the magic bullet that would allow us to get more members.

Is there a challenge of leadership renewal in NUSS?

Leadership renewal is a problem for everyone, not just NUSS... I think the problem is more that there are no real young ones with the qualities that everyone is looking for, myself included, that can really take over senior leadership positions in NUSS. You need to not only be a fine, outstanding individual, but also have a certain reputation and stature within society to be able to communicate at the highest levels with NUS's senior management, political figures and corporate leaders, and with a different thought process.

How do you think we can try to resolve or address this?

If I look at NUSS, more members are inclined to contribute to NUSS when they hit about 50 years of age... Therefore maybe we've got to look at that as the benchmark and try to target members who are in their 50s, who are near the top of their career paths and are looking to contribute a little more to society... At the same time, if there are young members that are willing to grow and continue with the Management Committee, then this should be encouraged as well.

If there was one wish that you have for NUSS, what would that be?

The one thing that I would like NUSS to have is a home of our own, without any need to worry about rentals and land lease. I think that if NUSS is able to own its own guildhouse, then it would be a much stronger organisation, and we would be able to do a lot more things than we are today.

Our Associate Members Speak

In testament to NUSS's ability to stay relevant to not only NUS alumni, but also graduates of other universities, it has attracted Associate Members to join the big NUSS family. Today, Associate Members make up about 28% of the NUSS membership, forming another, now indispensable layer of the dynamic, multi-textured social fabric in NUSS. Some have become very familiar faces in Society events and activities, and very committed champions of, and contributors to, numerous functions, initiatives and increasing programmes vital to the life and work of NUSS. To recognise the importance and contributions of our Associate Members, we interview five familiar faces, representing different sectors of NUSS life, for their memories and impressions of NUSS.

Professor Ann Wee

An Associate Member since the early 1980s, "when Margaret Chan was the General Manager", as she recollects, Professor Ann Wee is regarded as the "founding mother of social work" in Singapore. For her contributions to social work education and practice, and social policy in Singapore, she was conferred the Public Service Star in 1972, the Public Service Star (Bar) in 2004, and the Meritorious Service Medal in 2010. NUSS also recognised her contributions to both society and nation with the Distinguished Member Award in 2012. She remains active in S-Connect and Intellectual Pursuits activities.

Why and how you became a NUSS member?

On the Bukit Timah campus, Orchard Road and the hotels were so near that it didn't matter. But over here (at the Kent Ridge Guild House), I was concerned about having a place to take visitors for lunch and for entertainment. Initially, NUSS didn't have any facilities for people to buy coupons, you had to be a member, and I just automatically joined. I mainly used it for the entertainment and I have always been a great admirer of the standards of the F & B. They have all along always kept the F & B very good.



What are your impressions of the Society's transformation?

It has gone from strength to strength. At the opening of the new Suntec City, I was so touched when the Minister for Education Heng Swee Keat said, it's so nice to see past presidents working together and helping each other and not suing each other. I think the atmosphere here is superior to many clubs. People don't appear to have agendas and appear to really care about the club. I am very proud of NUSS for the good atmosphere that they have. I also think our political talks and intellectual dialogues are getting better again, after a brief period in the past when it got embarrassing because nobody came. I would come, whenever there's an interesting talk, and I always attend the AGM.

Any wishlist or hopes for NUSS in the future?

My first recollection was when we were involved in an issue, when we were offered the Pinetree Club and I still shed tears when I think of them letting it go. The Committee was committed and I assumed the members would be thrilled. We would have attracted a lot more membership. The facilities at Pinetree were beautiful. I still *sayang* a little bit, that we lost that opportunity. I had no vote because I am an Associate, but that's fine.

Two other things I am sorry about. One is we have not managed to get more Muslim graduates in. The other thing is, we failed to attract women en masse to become committee members and take on responsibilities. There's one or two, Rosemary Khoo, Zaibun Siraj, but they are the exception. The more NUSS gets institutionalised as a boys' club the more difficult it gets (to attract other members).



Dr James Newton Boss

A well-known materials scientist and humanitarian, "the Boss" is another one of our Associate Members that really need no introduction in NUSS. He joined NUSS in 1983 and since the 1990s, he has been active in the Society's House, Membership, and Constitution, and Community Service Sub-committees, and subsequently, the Editorial Panel and Intellectual Pursuits (IP) Sub-committees. He is the first Singaporean to have won the Gusi Peace Prize, for his invention of a new material for hip replacement implants. In recognition of his contributions to the Society and society-at-large, NUSS presented him with the NUSS outstanding member award in 2011.

What are your impressions of NUSS's growth in the past decade?

In the past decade, NUSS has grown into a well nurtured society, as each wave of new graduate members bring along an aspiration which has been pursued over the 60 years, evolving from a small joint in Bukit Timah into a mammoth caring graduate club nestled in Kent Ridge.

What is your wish for NUSS?

I would love to see younger members be more participative in the Society, the University and the community at large.

Shawn Lourdusamy

Shawn joined NUSS in 2005 as an Associate Member. Other than enjoying the food and drinks and warm friendships in NUSS, he has been an extremely committed and reliable member of the Community Care Sub-committee, helping to organise and run many of the Society's charitable projects and programmes.

How and why did you join NUSS?

I joined NUSS after meeting up with some friends who are members. The deal back then was too good to decline. The Guild Houses were located in all the right places, and they offered me plenty of networking opportunities, new friendships and easily-accessible facilities to entertain clients.

What do you think the future holds for NUSS in terms of community activities?

We organise several meaningful activities every year, including monthly visits to old folks' homes, kids' parties and outings and many more. These outreach programmes are very fulfilling and my wish is to see more NUSS members join us and see what we do at least once. I believe we can convert them to be more active in our activities. With more support from NUSS members, I believe we can reach out to more people and make a difference to their lives.

What are your wishes, aspirations and hopes for NUSS in the future?

NUSS has been an amazing club to meet new friends. I do hope we can spread out more globally to foster ties with other such clubs so when NUSS members travel, they will have good reciprocal clubs to visit and make new friends. I also believe the people who are staying in the eastern part of the island would like to see a NUSS Guild House there soon.



Lim Shoo Hoe

Shoo Hoe joined the Society in 2008. He is a hugely popular figure and can be usually seen in Kent Ridge Guild House, pursuing his love for bowling, dance, music and other sporting and cultural activities with passion, verve and energy – the epitome of a cultured gentleman. He has been an active member of the Bowling, Dancesport, Karaoke and DramaWorks sections, and served in numerous leadership roles in them, including the key role of Convenor for Bowling and Dancesport. He has helped organised numerous events and courses in these sections, most recently the Inaugural Line Dance Jam in May 2014, and the "Pretty in Pink" Charity Dance in support of the National Cancer Society.

When and why did you join NUSS?

I joined NUSS through recommendation of a friend who was active with the bowling section's monthly tournament. Since I was an avid social bowler, I decided to join to take advantage of the benefits extended to members as well as in anticipation of the new development of clubhouse and facilities at that time. I have been actively involved in NUSS activities since the day I joined as an Associate member and happiness is being able to enjoy my favourite past times and meeting and making new friends.

What do you think the future holds for NUSS with regards to Cultural Activities?

The cultural sections face the challenge of the lack of space and funds and the need to recruit more section members, in particular, younger members. More financial and non-financial support from the Society will be important to help the sections improve their standards and offerings so as to attract younger members and dispel the notion that NUSS is a retiree club where activities, dominated by small groups, lack vibrancy and excitement. More efforts and publicity should also be made to reach out to many of the inactive members.

What are your wishes, aspirations and hopes for NUSS?

That it continues to be a forward looking graduate club where members are able to enjoy activities and interactions on an equal status. And that NUSS will be an exciting club that every graduate wants to join.



Agnes Ng

Agnes joined NUSS in 2004 and thoroughly enjoys karaoke and dance in NUSS. She has been the spiritual leader and feisty driving force of the NUSS DramaWorks Section (formed three years ago), and often takes it upon herself to organise and write the scripts for the section's successful and well-attended musical productions.

Why did you join NUSS?

My husband was from NUS and his friends brought us to the old NUSS Suntec Club. I love the ambience of the Karaoke Room (The K Room) and the Terrace and thought the price was reasonable for four clubs. So we became members overnight.

What do you think the future holds for NUSS with regards to Cultural Activities?

Sustainability and expansion of membership are key concerns, especially for a fledging group like NUSS DramaWorks. There should be more vibrant events with an emphasis on cultural activities to engage NUS undergraduates to attract them to NUSS, especially to participate in DramaWorks or the other cultural sections. At the same time, more funds and support from Management would be needed to develop the cultural groups and transform NUSS into a centre for the arts.

What are your wishes, aspirations and hopes for NUSS?

NUSS DramaWorks wishes NUSS all the best and more good times to come!

In Celebration of our Dedicated Staff

In commemoration of our 60th anniversary, we pay tribute to the tireless hands and legs that ensure the effective smooth running of the Society's everyday operations. As NUSS navigates through uncertain waters to new uncharted territories, our NUSS staff crew will certainly continue to play their part.

The rapid increase in our staff capabilities in the past decade demonstrates the Society's dramatic physical growth, as well as the increasing complexity and scale of the Club's operations and activities. In 2006, after the Society's Strategic Review, the Secretariat was restructured to prepare the Society to meet future challenges and pursue new strategic thrusts. From only two staff in the early 1960s, staff numbers reached 170 in 2007 and rose dramatically to 244 in 2008 due to the addition of two new Guild Houses. Today, we have a staff strength of 229, which includes a Chief Executive Officer and a team of managerial, executive and operations staff, to provide excellent all-rounded service. The Society has also been blessed with a number of faithful, long-serving employees, including our KRGH Café Supervisor Jacqueline Goh (31 years), storekeeper Johan Bin Saad (26 years), and Patrick Fluery, our Senior Duty Manager who will have served the Society for 27 years this year.

To provide a safe, edifying and empowering workplace environment for our staff, the Society also created a comprehensive set of human resource management policies. These include regular training, progressive welfare benefits, workplace safety and wellness, a Performance-Linked Incentive Bonus scheme introduced in 2005 to provide a fair and competitive performance-based remuneration, and staff feedback and grievance handling mechanisms to create better rapport and greater understanding of staff concerns.



TOP The Society presents Long Service and Best Employee Awards to recognise and reward staff for their loyalty and outstanding service.

BOTTOM For staff bonding and morale, the Society organises the annual Staff Night and other internal staff welfare events so that staff can let their hair down and reveal their playful, mischievous, gorgeous selves!

Now that NUSS has built a sophisticated, modern Secretariat staff structure, it aspires to remain an enlightened and empowering employer. Through the continuous review of its human resource policies to meet changing circumstances and challenges, NUSS will continue to strengthen the capabilities, sense of belonging and pride among our employees, so that they can continue to serve NUSS with greater passion and professionalism.



SPECIAL FEATURE

An Interview with NUSS's longest-serving employee - JACQUELINE GOH

Jackie, as she is more familiarly and affectionately known in NUSS, is the Society's longest-serving employee, having joined the Society on 19 July 1983. She began as a part-time bar-tender in the Evans Road Guild House. Not long after, she became a full-time employee on the invitation of Reginald Lee and Chandra Mohan, both subsequent NUSS Presidents. She quickly became a familiar face at the Guild House Bar, although she had stints in the other Guild Houses after their opening in versatile roles such as receptionist, cashier, and different F & B roles until her present position as Café Supervisor in KRGH. The Society remained her second home even as she started her own family, which saw her temporarily moved from her bar-tending role to positions with more suitable shift timings.

Jackie spoke of her time in NUSS with much pride, nostalgia and fondness. She has always felt well-treated by our friendly and jovial members. The Society provided a happy and positive working atmosphere, and also gave her several opportunities to develop herself.

Jackie clearly possess a strong affection for NUSS and was visibly overcome with emotion on receiving her 30-years Long Service Award in 2013. Similarly, our interview with Jackie ended on a solemn emotional note that spoke volumes. She broke down as she recounted how touched she was at being remembered by an ailing, debilitated senior member of the Society whom she had known in happier times during her early days with NUSS. On a rare occasion when this member was brought to the Café, in her own words, punctuated by tears, "he didn't remember anybody, but he remembered me, he remembered my name."

Memories are made of these heartfelt moments, which give NUSS its history, its traditions and its legacies. We thank Jackie and the other long-serving staff of NUSS for their invaluable service and contributions. Without them, NUSS could not have come this far.

New Spirits – Our Young Ones Speak

Our young members are an increasingly vital and important addition to NUSS, new spirits to old wine. Upon them will fall the mantle of leading the Society into its next 60 years and more, as the Society's old wise hands begin the process of ensuring timely leadership renewal and membership re-vitalisation. **Mervyn, Junyi, Stefan and Wayn** are young members who have been actively volunteering with the Sub-committees, contributing their valuable time in service of the Society even as they pursue the activities and causes they are passionate about. They share with us their candid thoughts on their experiences and their aspirations for the Society's future.



Mervyn Sek

Mervyn Sek, 35, a consummate educator and community leader, began serving the Society immediately after he joined in 2003, and was recently recognised for his contributions with the 10-year Long Service Award. Over the past decade, he has volunteered his time in innumerable Sub-committees, such as The Young Chapter, Intellectual Pursuits, Continuing Education, Membership, Alumni Development and University Relations, and Community Care.

Why did you feel the need to step up as a volunteer?

Volunteerism is not just my hobby; it is my lifestyle. I have never believed in being a passive passenger; I rather be an active co-driver to help steer the organisation to greater heights... I wanted to contribute my experience, networks and resources to create a better society in NUSS for members and in Singapore for the less privileged.

What would you consider to be NUSS's significant achievements in the past ten years?

Having written the concept paper and served as the organising chairperson of the inaugural NUSS 'Groceries on Wheels' event in 2010, I am glad that this charity project has become an annual signature mainstay, and grown in scale and prominence. More importantly, I am pleased that it continues to remain true to its original intent of providing aid in the form of groceries to underprivileged housebound and elderly residents.

How do you think NUSS could better engage younger members?

In 2003, the formation of the NUSS Young Chapter was part of efforts to offer a common platform for younger members to socialise, network and pool their resources. However, four years later, it was subsumed into the Membership Sub-committee. To better meet younger members' needs, concerns and interests, I hope that NUSS will re-launch the Young Chapter Sub-committee.

What more do you hope NUSS can do or achieve in the next ten years?

It is my dream since my first year of studies at NUS to organise a walkathon based on the yellow-ceiling walkway that links the whole of NUS, to introduce freshmen and undergraduates to the various memorable sites around the campus and to raise funds for an adopted charity. Given the illustrious history and prominence of NUSS, I hope that NUSS can organise this yellow-ceiling walkathon to bridge ties across generations while benefitting the underprivileged.

Ho Junyi

Ho Junyi, 29, a Senior Police Officer with the Singapore Police Force, became an NUSS member upon receiving the NUSS Medal for outstanding achievement from the Faculty of Law in 2011. After the end of his complimentary membership that came with the NUSS Medal, he continued as a full member and served in the NUSS-National Youth Council Young Changemakers panel as a panelist and mentor for student-initiated community projects.



What made you decide to remain a member?

I felt a growing sense of attachment with the Society. Moreover, I saw membership with NUSS as an effective channel for me to remain closely connected to NUS, an institution I benefited much from. My job also requires me to keep reasonably fit and I love exercising within the campus. I also use the cafe and restaurants a lot as apt gathering venues for my university schoolmates and foreign friends. Between 2011 and 2013, I also sat on the NUSS-NYC Young Changemakers Panel. I thoroughly enjoyed the panel meetings I attended. It was great to be part of a student-run activity all over again, this time as a 'mentoring' alumni.

How do you think NUSS could better engage younger members?

It is great that NUSS recognises the importance of younger members, since they form the basis of renewal. It would be good if NUSS can also organise some youth-specific events to bring younger members of the Society together. That said, the focus of a graduate society obviously should not be confined to its younger members. The society's strength lies in its ability to bring all members – young and not-so-young – together under one common identity.

What are your hopes for NUSS in the next ten years?

More club houses around the island so there are more options to meet up with fellow alumni. More collaboration between NUSS and the University so members can have opportunities to play more integral roles in the campus eco-system. This is how NUSS can retain its unique character.

Stefan Choo and Wayn Chiua

In their mid-20s, Stefan joined NUSS as an Ordinary Member in 2010, while Wayn joined as an Associate Member in 2009. Both are interested in the excellent fitness and recreation facilities, and the interesting range of social and cultural activities NUSS has to offer. Very active members of the DramaWorks section and NUSS Runners, they are frequently seen around the Kent Ridge Guild House. Stefan has also been a long-time member of the ADUR Sub-committee.



How do you think we can better engage undergraduates to become part of NUSS?

Stefan: The Society allocates a lot of resources to traditional modes of publicity which may not be as cost effective. The club should think about leveraging on the talents of members to reach out to different segments of NUS students and graduands through cultural or intellectual, lifelong learning activities.

Wayn: One way is for the Society's various interest groups to organise different club activities and open these activities to groups of potential members within the campus and invite them to participate in the activities. These days word of mouth is a very powerful tool where people will just spread the word on how good the facilities are so it's better if we could mix around with people from NUS itself.

Why do you think it's important to recruit more younger members?

Stefan: It's not the quantity that counts, but the quality of the engagement. We need revenue generation on the one hand, but we also need more members who can help to brand NUSS as a place that people want to hang out in because it's cool. NUSS can be a platform for younger members to participate in common activities that they like, to further develop their skills and talents beyond graduation, and to reach out to the community.

Wayn: If you can get new members, it will spice up the NUSS ... it will be more fun to have new people in the organisation, so that the friends that I network with are of similar age, because we can relate and connect better.

What are your views on the Society's activities?

Stefan: Certain initiatives like the alumni mentorship scheme by ADUR are good, as mentors could provide undergraduates perspectives of what working life is like. Grocery on Wheels is also a very good initiative that reaches out to needy households on a yearly basis, though it could be expanded further to make the impact more sustainable over a period of time.

Wayn: It's good to give back to the university or society because at the end of the day this is an alumni society so we have to do things in accordance with our mission and to fulfil our corporate social responsibility.

What challenges for NUSS do you foresee?

Stefan: Funding and Resource allocation. There needs to be a critical evaluation of how resources are being channelled and allocated.

Wayn: If the club doesn't get more Gen Y, we will have problems in the future of getting more members. Right now the trend is towards an older ageing generation, I see this club as a family-based, not an executive club, so in the near future in 10 years if NUSS doesn't do something to attract more of these members it will be very difficult to get new members and to sustain this club.

Any wishlist for NUSS?

Stefan: Engagement, especially of the Gen Y, more collaborative ventures with the NUS community and a greater diversity of activities catered to the young. In addition, I would say the opportunity for lifelong learning.

Wayn: More community events, new Gen Y activities, and Gen Y courses.

Hopes and Expectations of our Young Members

Marcus, Brandon, Yau Loong, Zi Tong, Guo Yi, Hu Yang, Kunyi and **Pamela** are regular users of the Society's fitness facilities and F & B establishments – they share with us why they joined NUSS and their thoughts on the Society's challenges and future.



We joined NUSS mainly for the exercise facilities to keep fit. My friends encouraged us to join and we thought it would also be good to be part of a community other than our own department! We hope NUSS will have more activities specifically aimed at junior members!

- Zou Kunyi and Hu Yang, 20s, NUSS postgraduates students, Junior Members (2014)



I joined NUSS due to its proximity to my place and the awesome fitness facilities. Plus, the food at the Cafe On The Ridge is pretty good. My family also frequents The Scholar for family dinners. My hope for NUSS is that they widen their range of fitness facilities and social activities. Lastly, a big thank you to all the staff at NUSS, for always going beyond their call of duty to make us feel welcome, making it a pleasure to visit every week.

- Pamela Tan, early 30s, Chief Digital Editor for a fashion retail company, Ordinary Member (2011)



I go back to the campus quite frequently so it's nice to have a place to relax. I love the local food served at the KRGH Cafe and an afternoon swim in a near-empty pool in KRGH is always welcome! Happy 60th birthday, NUSS! You've indeed come far, but I think the best years are yet to come!

- Brandon Albert Lim, 30, Teacher, Ordinary Member (2009)



My elder brother, who was also a junior member at that time, influenced me to join. I use the gym pretty frequently and also enjoy chilling out with friends and family members at the lounge or the restaurants. I hope to see more common-age group or cohort gatherings in the future. NUS could also leverage on its networks to help all NUS graduates attain success in life whether they are NUS members or not!

*- Ow Yau Loong, 24,
recent Economics graduate, Ordinary Member(2014)*

I really enjoy the environment at NUS' various Guild Houses. I think facilities-wise, NUS already has a lot to offer younger members, but it could offer more programmes tailored to their interests. NUS should also try to foster a greater sense of belonging among its existing members and NUS is well placed to engage the NUS community.

*- Tan Zi Tong, 24,
civil servant, Junior Member (2014)*



Happy 60th birthday NUS! NUS should perhaps organise more activities that target younger members and grow its social outreach efforts. As a community of graduates, I believe it is important for us to give back to society in whatever ways, big and small. And NUS is just the right platform to do this effectively.

*- Liu Guo Yi, 32,
Teacher, Ordinary Member (2007)*



NUS was the perfect hideaway and place to meet other graduate students and continue our discussions and research. I also use the gym, pool, and dining facilities as often as I can. One concern that I have however is that we need to balance the Club's identity and branding as a graduate club with the increasing presence of undergraduates, who will hopefully become members after graduation. The Club should focus more on expanding its offerings and developing a strong unique brand identity.

*- Marcus Royce Lee, 32,
Management Consultant, Ordinary Member (2007)*

Leaders Today, Members Tomorrow - Our Junior Members Speak

Since the beginning of the last decade, the engagement of NUS undergraduates has been an important focus of NUSS's Youth Chapter, and later, the Membership and the Alumni Development and University Relations Sub-committees. As alumni to be, undergraduates constitute the Society's primary membership market.

The junior membership programme is a principal strategy to initiate undergraduates into Society life early and draw them to become full-fledged members upon their graduation so as to rejuvenate the Society's membership.

We spoke to five such Junior members, who were given a complimentary Junior membership in recognition of their contributions to student life as student leaders: **Soh Yida** (YD), the immediate past NUSSU President who graduated with a Bachelor of Social Science (Honours) in Political Science, **Liu Zi Ming** (ZM), recently graduated with his degree in Chemical Engineering and Economics, **Willie Wee** (WW), a 3rd year Business and University Scholars' Programme student, **Kellie Chong** (KC), a 3rd year Project and Facilities Management major, and **Ong Soo Chin** (SC), a 3rd year Occupational Biology major. Yida and Zi Ming have already converted into Ordinary members right after their graduation; they represent two successful examples of the junior membership scheme. All five are active users of the Society's fitness facilities and F & B establishments at Kent Ridge Guild House.

What are your impressions of NUSS?

WW: NUSS has a very modern and clean look. Facilities are top-of-the-class and the service staff are very friendly.

KC: The facilities in NUSS are well maintained, and that the cleanliness of the club is kept at a high and satisfactory standard.

YD: A premier club that serves the multi-faceted needs of members with its comprehensive lifestyle facilities as well as its suite of social and intellectual activities.

SC: NUSS offers good event services (I have personally had a great experience working with the Banquet Services team), comprehensive sports and recreational facilities as well as a plethora of exciting events and activities.

Will you become a full member after you graduate?

WW: I am looking into converting to a full ordinary membership even while I am still in school. It really is a great deal to be an NUSS member with its many workshops, events and awesome facilities.

SC: Yes, as I feel that NUSS provides a good platform for me to socialise, build networks, and meet like-minded people through the multitude of events and activities that NUSS has to offer, even after graduation.

KC: My decision is dependent on how often I engage in club activities and/or how often I use its facilities.

YD: I have converted to full membership upon graduation and am grateful to NUSS for the complimentary membership. I hope to give back and contribute to the growth of the Society.



Jeremy Ee, Chairperson of Alumni Development of University Relations Sub-committee, (fourth from left) with Junior members.

What do you think will help NUSS attract more young graduates to join it?

WW: Some of my friends still think that the \$2,000 fee is too high. Perhaps a smaller quantum or interest free loan?

ZM: Offer more activities targeted at the younger generation, for example, networking sessions, drinking sessions, extreme sports, cafe-hopping.

KC: Organise more activities that are free of charge (once in a while) that will attract graduates of the particular age group that the club is targeting at. Also, the publicity of such club activities can be more prominent.

SC: Increase the exposure of NUSS through various publicity channels, for instance through online social media or even reach out to the respective alumni relations wing of each Faculty Clubs, to keep the graduates informed about the benefits of taking up a NUSS membership. Many have an impression that NUSS is an exclusive club that only caters to a small number of alumni.

YD: (1) Offer better and more preferential rates for members to use function rooms (2) More tie-ups with established lifestyle brands. More perks and lifestyle benefits to be associated with an NUSS membership (3) Cultivate more potential members by exposing them to the fabulous facilities and wonderful opportunities during their undergraduate days.

Any well-wishes for NUSS?

WW: I hope that NUSS is able to continue its stellar record of maintaining and expanding NUSS's facilities and membership.

SC: I would like to wish all the best to NUSS and that NUSS will continually grow from strength to strength.

KC: NUSS has done a good job in catering to club members and their needs. As an NUS student, I am proud to have a graduate club such as NUSS. Collaborating and working with NUSSU also brings in greater ties between the two and I hope that this will continue in years to come.

YD: I wish NUSS and all members a Happy 60th Anniversary! May the Society continue to grow in strength and play a leading role in shaping a better Singapore!

C H A P T E R F O U R
T O W A R D S T H E F U T U R E -
C H A L L E N G E S A N D A S P I R A T I O N S

BOLD
STEPS
FINE
TOUCHES

The modern Singapore nation was not built by being complacent and easily contented with present success, and neither is NUS. NUS has to stay relevant, progressive and cautious, or risk losing the stability and strengths that the Society had painstakingly built up over decades. Hence, this book concludes through the careful and candid consideration of what lies ahead for NUS, particularly in light of the changing needs of the Society, the alma mater, NUS, and our homeland, Singapore. To aid us in this meditation, we spoke to a university leader and public intellectual, as well as the stewards and leaders of the Society, past and present, for their considered views.





Interview with Professor Tan Tai Yong

Professor Tan Tai Yong has been at various times, and often at the same time, a historian, public intellectual, educator, student developer, institution director and board member, university leader and administrator.

More importantly, he is a fellow NUS alumni and NUSS member who can be frequently seen hosting guests in the Café at Kent Ridge Guild House or squeezing in an hour of hard gym work in our Fitness Centre amidst his busy schedule. He has worked with NUSS on numerous collaborations to support student learning and education during his recent term as Vice-Provost (Student Life) overseeing student affairs, University Town and the Residential College, a post he recently relinquished to take up a next challenge as Executive Vice-President (Academic Affairs) in Yale-NUS College and a Nominated Member of Parliament. He is therefore an ideal person to consult for his views on how NUSS can continue to support NUS. And where else more apt to sit down for a cosy lunch chat with him than our very own Scholar restaurant in KRGH?

Looking back on the collaborations between NUSS and NUS in the past few years, what are your reflections and recommendations for us?

Since I got involved in student life, NUSS has very actively sought to support the university's endeavour to create identity amongst our current batch of students with a longer term view of making them more committed alumni of the future. Because you guys are all alumni, you lead by example. The second area which is a more recent phenomenon is the act of generating resource to help our students. When Utown came about we worked quite closely through mentorship programmes, financial aid, fundraising, golf games, and now a more concerted effort to raise money for bursaries. And what we need to do is to make our students

conscious that this money did not fall from the sky... hopefully we will create a virtuous cycle, where these people, when they come of age, should start to do the same. The third area is, because of your clientele and composition, and your good connections with policy makers and people from different parts of society, you can actually become a place where our students can get exposure beyond the academic world.

In these three areas my sense is the engagement is becoming stronger and I think it can only progress because that's the intention of the management tier. Your members will probably come to support the engagement, once people know that this is how you can contribute to the university.

Is there anything further that NUSS can do to effectively use our resources to promote alumni identification with, and support of, the interests of NUS?

One of the challenges of NUS is the scale, because it's a very big university. Our approach should be gradualist and incremental. You also need a succession of champions who can lead the way. And then we have to work with different units. NUS is too big, but when you talk about halls, colleges, you have more focus. You need to develop special programmes like mentorship. Archie Ong was one of the first mentors, and he keeps going back. You need people like that to connect on a long term basis with faculties. One thing which I've always thought about which NUSS is very well-equipped to do is, for want of a better term, career planning. Our young kids in the university need to know what the real world is like outside. These are things NUSS can draw on its natural strength to deal with students. I always believe that when you do it at a scale which can enable you to achieve success, success will breed more success.

How can NUSS foster closer relations with the undergrads right from the beginning?

The residences could be a good platform. I just did a study, and I discovered to my pleasant surprise that 40-50% of every

graduating cohort would have spent one year in a residence. That's a very big base to catch. If you can engage the halls and the colleges, that may be more sustainable, and these are the people who will be the better alumni because their hall experience makes them more attached to the university.

What do you think of a twinning concept where NUSS organises joint programmes with a residential college?

What you suggested is a very interesting concept. That's quite innovative because it's not teaching. So for the student it is both a social event and an educational programme. And with a message: this is how we introduce to you NUSS, you learn something because we also get a good speaker to speak to you. That will also enrich the experience.

How can NUSS continue to support NUS?

My question is whether you grow basically on the areas where you have connections, or you want to achieve one big bang. What is the big bang programme that you can do that somehow everybody starts thinking about NUSS? That might be a bit difficult. If you strengthen the ties which you have started to build in the last ten years, to me is a success. So it can be quantitative, just a doubling of the number of programmes, or it could just be a deepening, the programmes you already have are taking root and sustaining it. This has to be organic, and then it'll be very strong.

NUS is just too big, too amorphous. One solution is to do a targeted kind of relationship-building, e.g. with colleges, and halls, or maybe functional groups, like social work or new media. We have a lot of students who do community engagement. If we work with this group, sustain their interest, get them engaged, these could be people who will eventually want to join you, because they want to further this sort of interest, and not just want to come and use your facilities. And this is something that Chorh Chuan wants to build in the university. So maybe we should look at some of these groups and build these links now, hopefully once they have a project that works, they will want to continue on after their graduation, and work in partnership with NUSS.

TOWARDS HEART, BODY, MIND AND SOUL

A Chat with NUSS Past Presidents

The NUSS President is a much-cherished institution and tradition in the Society. NUSS has been blessed with a succession of dedicated individuals who, *primus inter pares*, have enjoyed the unwavering trust and confidence of the Society's membership, 15,000 strong, and borne the ultimate responsibility, together with their Management Committee colleagues, of being the Society's custodians, champions and captains.



A Chat with Seven NUSS Presidents – (from left to right) Clarence Lim Soo Hwee, Johnny Tan, Tan Siang Chik, Anwarul Haque, Lai Kim Seng, Edgar Liao (writer), David Ho, Chandra Mohan

We had the rare opportunity to sit down with not one, but seven NUSS Presidents who have steered the Society to its present heights. They have been the closest witnesses and mappers of the Society's transformation in the past two decades. Anwarul Haque, Tan Siang Chik and Lim Soo Hwee drove the building up of the Society's financial reserves and the Society's nascent development following the opening of Kent Ridge Guild House. Building on the strong foundations they laid, Lai Kim Seng, Chandra Mohan, Johnny Tan and incumbent President David Ho oversaw the timely modernisation and expansion of the Society's aging infrastructure, and the dramatic expansion of the Society's cultural activities, intellectual discourse, community work, and relationship with the alma mater.

We ask these steadfast stewards for their views on the Society's past, present and future. Some common themes emerge and recur – now that the Society has successfully developed its physical infrastructure and achieved excellent relationships with Varsity and the wider community, how can it remain relevant to its membership, draw the large NUS alumni body out there into its fold, pursue the renewal of its aging membership, and achieve greater heights not in only in terms of Body, but also Heart, Mind and Soul?

Giving Back to the Alma Mater and Alumni Leadership

When asked to reflect on significant achievements in the past ten years, the Presidents resoundingly applauded the deepening relationship with the alma mater, and the Society's stellar record in leading the NUS alumni in giving back to the alma mater.

"I think during our time the only institutionalised event was the yearly meeting with the then Vice-Chancellor, and that's all... But in the last ten years we have

extended our interactions with not only the NUS President, NUS senior management, and the Pro-Chancellors but also the Chairman and members of the Board of Trustees at our annual Lunar New Year Lohei gathering."

- Lim Soo Hwee

"A clear testament to the close relationship between us and NUS right now is that most of our major events are attended by the President of NUS, and the President of NUSS is now invited to join the main table."

- Lai Kim Seng

"In the past we have done a lot in terms of financial contribution. But we thought instead of just giving money, we should assume a greater role in leading the alumni community in cultivating a sense of giving back to the alma mater and go beyond just giving money. We still give money, but we should do more and assume a leadership role."

- Johnny Tan

"When Anwarul was the President, and then Siang Chik and Soo Hwee, we were a humbler organisation. We were building up our infrastructure, in terms of facilities and all... But over the years we've done so much more with the Alumni Bursary Fund being the latest achievement. It's a remarkable progress made by the largest NUS alumni body in Singapore."

- Chandra Mohan

"Now we are moving towards a stage where we want to be a very strategic partner to the university, because if you look at the things we are doing now, we create a fund, we give life, we give perpetual donations to the university. At the end of the day we should have a say in what we've done together with the university and the university recognises that this is a major alumni initiative, and that we're punching way above our weight."

- David Ho

Relationship with the Wider Community

In the past decade, the Society has also reached another high in terms of our relationship with the wider community, exemplified in the regular attendance of political leaders in landmark Society events as well as Ministerial dialogues and talks. The Society has clearly gained public prominence and it continues to play its part in the community.

“I would say that this is one of our major achievements. If you look at the past ten years or so, the people whom we have conferred Honorary Memberships for exceptional service to our nation included Minister Mentor Lee Kuan Yew, Dr Tony Tan (before he became Singapore President), 6th President of Singapore Mr S.R. Nathan and NUS President, Tan Chorh Chuan.”

- Johnny Tan



Tan Siang Chik makes his points.

The Future – Challenges and Visions

Rest on our laurels, our Presidents certainly will not. From discussing and celebrating the Society’s achievements and accomplishments with pride and admiration, our Presidents very quickly turned to sharing their concerns about what more needs to be done and what the upcoming tasks and challenges of the Society in the next ten years are in order for the Society to stay relevant and remain stable.

“We’re no longer looking at the physical aspects of the Society, but the soft side of it, the humane side. So the heart and soul is a strategic vision that we want to focus on moving forward.”

- David Ho

For David Ho, the immediate tasks and challenges to the Society are very clear. A key concern that the Presidents share is the renewal of the Society’s aging membership and the challenge of reaching out to more alumni and graduates – Anwarul Haque half-jokingly puts it, reach 100,000 one day. David Ho is also concerned about the maintenance of the Society’s financial reserves amidst escalating costs, and the improvement of the “heart and soul” of the Society through providing more in terms of intellectual discourse, artistic activities, and an attractive environment for families and youth. At the same time, the Presidents feel strongly that it has become important to unite and galvanise the membership behind the Society’s vision and mission, beyond the number that have already stepped up to support the Society in the past decade.

Certainly, more remains to be done to foster member participation and involvement in the cultural programmes, intellectual activity and community work of the Society, so that these aspirations became goals shared by the entire Society membership, not only by its leadership. This is not an easy task, as the Presidents reflect, and will need patient cultivation and more pervasive, personal communication in order to change the mindsets of members.

“Unfortunately, we’re not carrying the ground... There must be a pull factor from somewhere to get our members to be well behind the leadership... It should not only be the Management Committee members who strive for excellence. We need to make sure the general membership also move in concert.”

- Tan Siang Chik

“We need to have the membership coming forward and say what can I do for this Society, for my alma mater, and the society and nation as a whole. Another challenge is for our members to be saying: it’s my club, I need to do something for my club, and for our alma mater.”

- Chandra Mohan

“Get the entire membership to take an interest, take a stake in this club.. Everyone has a stake, so come and participate... you also have the right, this is your club, this is your Society...”

- Anwarul Haque

There was one vision and hope for NUSS that the Presidents were animatedly unanimous on – to own its home and be its own landlord.

“The only disappointment that we had then was because we were not able to get hold of that piece of land that we wanted (Pinetree Club in 2002). NUSS should own a piece of land so we don’t have to go through the process of finding new premises and negotiating leases every ten to twelve years. We should try to find something permanent ourselves and going forward, this is something we have to look into.”

- Lai Kim Seng



Eight Past Presidents of NUSS and the 6th President of Singapore at the book launch of Professor Maurice Baker’s (seated, centre) memoirs – *The Accidental Diplomat* in August 2014.

The Presidents’ wishlists for NUSS also include: (1) more passionate high-quality volunteers working collectively and congenially with a professional, self-driven Secretariat (2) active aging and increased intellectual and cultural participation among NUSS members (3) NUSS to be a think tank that the political leadership consults in its policy-making.

Many wishes and aspirations, one single heartbeat – to ensure NUSS remains the Graduate Club of Choice. Our Super Seven agree that NUSS has come a long way and has reached unprecedented heights. Yet, they remain cognizant of the challenges and tasks ahead for the Society. One has no doubt that they, together with the other concerned and active members of the Society, will be putting their own hearts, souls, bodies and minds to help propel the Society forward.

ANOTHER BEGINNING

Old Wine, New Spirits

As you lift your glass and toast to NUSS, remember that this diamond was 60 years in the making. Sixty years on since its founding, NUSS has matured like the best whiskies and wine, full of cultivation, calibre and class, and an unassailable pedigree as the leading graduate society in Singapore. Day in, day out, all 12 months of the calendar, NUSS offers its 15,000 members a resolute complex body and richly nuanced flavour that delights the senses, warms the heart and stirs the soul.



A new generation to bring the Society forward into the future.

Today, the NUSS membership is an exciting mix of older graduates who lived through the tumultuous early years of Singapore's nation-building, and younger alumni looking to forge new legacies of their own. Even as the Society accompanies Nation and Varsity into uncharted and unchartered territory, Singapore's largest and finest graduate society is determined and well-placed to remain the master and maker of its own destiny. This will be possible only with the same steadfastness, sacrifice, support, and service that the Society's members and staff have contributed these 60 years.

After such growth and expansion in the past decade, what does the future hold for NUSS? It is not in the character or heritage of Singapore's largest graduate society to rest on its laurels. Even as NUSS celebrates its vintage, it springs forth boldly forward with fresh spirits and renewed vigour towards new beginnings, new mountains, and new legacies.

Membership renewal, continued relevance to membership, varsity, community and nation, financial sustainability amidst climbing operating costs and inflationary pressures from rising food and utilities prices, and regulatory changes affecting manpower availability and costs in the hospitality and recreation industry, will be key areas of concern and attention for the Society. The challenge of financial sustainability is further complicated by the need to cater to the interests, needs and expectations of a now large and variegated membership, as well as the large pool of graduates and potential members in the wider graduate community. Fostering and maintaining a spirit of inclusiveness and unity will also be an important task in the next lap of the Society's long journey. From challenge also comes opportunity – one clear area of opportunity is the harnessing of technology for greater productivity and effectiveness in the Society's operations and the Society will be sure to explore relevant ideas and innovations in that regard.

At the same time, NUSS will aim to preserve and build on the strong foundation and traditions of strong leadership and success that generations of steadfast stewards and loyal leaders have painstakingly cultivated and brewed. Through the past 20 years, NUSS has gone beyond meeting the social and recreational needs and interests of its members to serving the university, community and nation in multifarious ways. How to improve on these heights will be a much-welcomed challenge for successive generations of NUSS leaders.

In the most intimate realm of alumni-alma mater relations, our university leaders have challenged NUSS to build upon its unprecedented heights of inspiring and championing the Alumni Bursary Fund and explore additional ways of helping NUS make our undergraduates "Future-Ready". Success would now require the transformation of higher education to provide more broad-based, holistic education and lifelong learning. This will be required to equip NUS graduates with not only skills and knowledge but the dexterity and flexibility of thought and wider repertoire of competencies and experiences to strive and thrive in a fast-paced, volatile, unpredictable world. On this regard, NUSS is best-placed to make a contribution by developing new collaborations with the alma mater that avail NUS undergraduates and alumni the wealth of experience, expertise and networks that its membership have accumulated throughout their careers. At the same time, NUSS will place greater focus on pursuing and providing opportunities and platforms for lifelong learning for the NUSS membership and the wider graduate community. We leave it to the next commemorative volume to proclaim NUSS's achievements on this quest.

One thing remains certain. Even as NUSS invents and invests in more ways of fulfilling its mission, it will remain a Home away from home for its members, offering an enviable gamut of the finer things in life.

And some things in life,
one can never get enough of.

NUSS 60 years.

From the pioneering 44 members to more than
15,000 members today.

From wandering from the homes of individual members
to remarkable guild houses, each with its own unique
character and offerings.

From being in dire needs of funds to being a foremost
alumni leader, leading alumni fundraising efforts in
supporting the alma mater.

From being an “icon of prestige” and privilege to being
a society of caring graduates who constantly aim to fulfil
its responsibilities to the community, alma mater and nation.

From being on the periphery of the University of Malaya
to being a key partner, stakeholder, and supporter of the
National University of Singapore.

This is the story of NUSS, a graduate club like no other in Singapore.

60 years of NUSS.

It just leaves you wanting more.





*NUSS...
The Story Continues...*

Appendix

NUSS Patrons, Honorary Members, and Advisory Panel

Patron

2009 - 2011 Mr S.R. Nathan
2012 - Dr Tony Tan Keng Yam

Honorary Members

Professor Maurice Baker
Mr Goh Chok Tong
Emeritus Professor Kiang Ai Kim
Mr Lee Hsien Loong
Mr Lee Kuan Yew
Professor Lim Pin
Mr S.R. Nathan
Professor Shih Choon Fong
Professor Tan Chorh Chuan
Dr Tony Tan Keng Yam

Advisory Panel

Mr S Dhanabalan
Mr Gerard Ee
Professor Tommy Koh
Professor Arthur Lim
Mr Wong Ah Long

Appendix

Presidents of NUSS

1954 - 1955

K M Byrne

1955 - 1956

Dr C Subramaniam

1956 - 1957

Lim Kim San

1957 - 1958

Dr V Thambipillai

1958 - 1959

Hon Yung Sen

1959 - 1960

Dr Chee Phui Hung

1960 - 1961

Dr P Oorjitham

1961 - 1962

Lim Ho Hup

1962 - 1963

P Abisheganaden

1963 - 1964

Harry Chan Keng Howe

1964 - 1965

Dr S Kumarapathy

1965 - 1966

Emeritus Professor Kiang Ai Kim

1966 - 1967

Stephen Sim

1967 - 1970

G Abisheganaden

1970 - 1971

S Rajendran

1971 - 1973

Ernest Wong Thian Yow

1973 - 1975

Professor Maurice Baker

1975 - 1977

Dr Philip Chen

1977 - 1980

Gopinath Pillai

1980 - 1982

Kumar Lal

1982 - 1985

Ernest Wong Thian Yow

1985 - 1988

Dr Reginald H K Lee

1988 - 1994

Anwarul Haque

1994 - 1998

Tan Siang Chik

1998 - 2001

Lim Soo Hwee

2001 - 2005

Lai Kim Seng

2005 - 2008

Chandra Mohan K Nair

2008 - 2012

Johnny Tan Khoon Hui

2012 -

David Ho Peng Cheong

Appendix

Management Committees 2004-present (including co-opted members)

2004 - 2005

Lai Kim Seng
Cheah Kim Fee (Dr)
Chandra Mohan K Nair
Wong Peng Meng
Johnny Tan Khoon Hui
Siva S Retnam
Vincent Rasa Benedict
Monica Chung Poh Yoke
David Ho Peng Cheong
Wilfred Kwok Chin Chye
Terrence Lin Yu Xuan
Neo Chia Reei
Ong Pin Sam
Tan Siang Chik
Edward S Tay
Yip Kum Fei

2005 - 2006

Chandra Mohan K Nair
Johnny Tan Khoon Hui
Lai Kim Seng
Wong Peng Meng
Tan Siang Chik
Siva S Retnam
Vincent Rasa Benedict
Monica Chung Poh Yoke
Wilfred Kwok Chin Chye

Neo Chia Reei
Ong Pin Sam
Oon Tik Lee
Edward S Tay
Tong Hsien-Hui
Yip Kum Fei

2006 - 2007

Chandra Mohan K Nair
Johnny Tan Khoon Hui
Lai Kim Seng
Yee Woon Yim
Wong Peng Meng
Siva S Retnam
Mohan Balagopal
Vincent Rasa Benedict
Ong Pin Sam
Oon Tik Lee
Francis Pavri (Dr)
Tan Siang Chik
Edward S Tay Wek Kok
Teo Chin Tuan
Tong Hsien-Hui
Yip Kum Fei

2007 - 2008

Chandra Mohan K Nair
Johnny Tan Khoon Hui

Lai Kim Seng
Yee Woon Yim
Siva S Retnam
Edward S Tay
Mohan Balagopal
Vincent Rasa Benedict
Fong Poh Him (Dr)
Ong Pin Sam
Francis Pavri (Dr)
Teo Chin Tuan
Toh Yong Soon
Toi Yong Wah, John
Donald Wyatt
Yip Kum Fei

2008 - 2009

Johnny Tan Khoon Hui
Chong Hoong Sang
Lai Kim Seng
Siva S Retnam
Mohan Balagopal
Edward S Tay Wek Kok
Chandra Mohan K Nair
Vincent Rasa Benedict
Fong Poh Him (Dr)
Joshua VM Kuma (Dr)
Lau Kwong Chung
Keith Alan Liew (Dr)

Ong Pin Sam
 Toh Yong Soon
 Toi Yong Wah, John
 Donald Wyatt
 Yip Kum Fei

2009 - 2010

Johnny Tan Khoon Hui
 Chong Hoong Sang
 Lai Kim Seng
 Siva S Retnam
 Edward S Tay Wek Kok
 Wong Peng Meng
 Chandra Mohan K Nair
 Fong Poh Him (Dr)
 Joshua VM Kuma (Dr)
 Keith Alan Liew (Dr)
 Mohan Balagopal
 Ong Pin Sam
 Rosemary Khoo Ghim Choo (Dr)
 Toh Yong Soon
 Vincent Rasa Benedict
 Yip Kum Fei
 Lau Kwong Chung

2010 - 2011

Johnny Tan Khoon Hui
 David Ho Peng Cheong
 Lai Kim Seng
 Wong Peng Meng
 Yip Kum Fei
 Darryl Chong Yi Wey
 Chandra Mohan K Nair

Chong Hoong Sang
 Archie Ong Liang Gay
 Fong Poh Him (Dr)
 Francis Pavri (Dr)
 Joshua VM Kuma (Dr)
 Mohan Balagopal
 Siva S Retnam
 Rosemary Khoo Ghim Choo (Dr)
 Toh Yong Soon

2011 - 2012

Johnny Tan Khoon Hui
 David Ho Peng Cheong
 Yip Kum Fei
 Wong Peng Meng
 Wang Syan Paul (Dr)
 Darryl Chong Yi Wey
 Lai Kim Seng
 Chandra Mohan K Nair
 Chong Hoong Sang
 Archie Ong Liang Gay
 Fong Poh Him (Dr)
 Francis Pavri (Dr)
 Joshua VM Kuma (Dr)
 Mohan Balagopal
 Jeffrey Khoo Poh Tiong
 Toh Yong Soon

2012 - 2013

David Ho Peng Cheong
 Archie Ong Liang Gay
 Yip Kum Fei
 Edward Lee Jim Teck

Wang Syan Paul
 Lau Geok Theng (Assoc Prof)
 Johnny Tan Khoon Hui
 Chandra Mohan K Nair
 Lai Kim Seng
 Mohan Balagopal
 Fong Poh Him (Dr)
 Francis Pavri (Dr)
 Jeffrey Khoo Poh Tiong
 Lim Wei Ming (Dr)
 Toh Yong Soon
 Lee Hay Keong
 Wong Peng Meng

2013 - 2014

David Ho Peng Cheong
 Archie Ong Liang Gay
 Yip Kum Fei
 Wang Syan Paul (Dr)
 Lau Geok Theng (Assoc Prof)
 Lim Wei Ming (Dr)
 Johnny Tan Khoon Hui
 Chandra Mohan K Nair
 Lai Kim Seng
 Mohan Balagopal
 Jeffrey Khoo Poh Tiong
 Francis Pavri (Dr)
 Eddie Lee Choy Peng
 Jeremy Ee Jian Wen
 Edgar Liao Bolun
 Edward S Tay
 Edward Lee Jim Teck

Appendix

Sub-committee Members 2004-present Thank You for Your Selfless Service to NUSS!

Alagiry Alagirisamy	Chong Hoong Sang	Joseph Hassan	Lam Kwong-Foo Danny (Dr)
Ang Ah Hock Tony	Chong Wan Seong	Hii King Ching	Lam Tiam Weng Mark
Ang Eng Tat	Daniel Chong Woon Chieh	Ho Junyi	Lau Geok Theng (Assoc Prof)
Tommy Ang Kok Kay	Chong Yi Wey Darryl	Ho Kiang Choong Allan	Lau Kwong Chung
Ang Lay Hing	Choo Jun Quan Stefan	Ho Liang Hon Alan	Law Cher Guan
Catherine Ang Wai Hoong (Dr)	Choo Kelven	David Ho Peng Cheong	Eddie Lee Choy Peng
Bala Jonathan Avinash	Choo Linus	Ho Tat Hong	Lee Hay Keong
Mohan Balagopal	Charles Chow (Dr)	Herman Hochstadt	Edward Lee Jim Teck
Balasupramaniam Krishna	Chow Mun Fai	Huang Chen Mei Juliet	Eddie Lee Hock Seng
Bay Yew Chuan	Chua Hock Huat	Joanne Kam Huey Jiuian	Lee Liat Yeang
Vincent Rasa Benedict	Chua Joon Eng	Kang Choon Seng	Lee Junxian
Boey Yuet Mei Maria	Chua Ke Bin Kelvin (Dr)	Khoa Weilong Geoffrey	Lee Kwee Lian Jessie
James Boss (Dr)	Chua Chin Leng	Khong Kwok Wai	Edward Lee Kok Cheng
Michel Pierre Boudville	Chua Pek Chin	Rosemary Khoo Ghim Choo (Dr)	Lee Poh Joo Henry
Fanny Chan	Jeremy Ee Jian Wen	Khoo Poh Tiong Jeffery	Lee Soo Ann (Dr)
Harry Chan Keng Howe	Murugasu Euan (Dr)	Khoo Teng Lan	Lee Song Lin
Alex Chan Kok Keong	Albert Fan Chee Keong	Koh Han Wei	Lee Wan Kuin Chloe
Chan Kok Kiang Lawrence	Fang Yeh-Sang @ Fang Amy	Nicholas Kong Ming Leong	Lee Wenlin William
Chan Lisar	Michael Fernandez	Dorai Raja s/o Krishnan	Lee Ying Jian Justin
Chan Soo Lin	Fong Poh Him (Dr)	Kuek Cheow Kiong	Leng Yew Chee Philip
Chan Whye Mun	Fua Cheng Kin	Joshua V M Kuma (Dr)	Leo Tong Seng Andrew
Chan Yoke Kai (Prof)	S K Ganesan	Gandhi Parveen Kumar	Dennis Leong Kok Mun (Dr)
Chen Chin Heng, Stanley	Goh Ek Boon	Jenny Kwa-Gan Siew Eng	Leong See Yuen
Robert Chen	Goh Kim Seng	Kwan Wai Keng Edmund	Leow Jin Ghee James
Vincent Cheng Kwek Choon	Goh Mianzhen Emery	Kwek Chok Ming	Raymond Lew Chee Hoong
Jeffery Cheong	Japhire Gopi	Kwok Chin Chye Wilfred	Li Hsiao Yuan
Steven Cheong Yue Thong	Gn Hiang Chiang	Kwok Kum Sung James	Liao Bolun Edgar
Chiang Hai Ding (Dr)	Han Bin	Kwok Wei Woon Joseph	Keith Alan Liew (Dr)
Chin Wai Khuen Mark	Han Chi Kwang Patrick Daniel	Lai Kim Seng	Liew Kok Keong Henry
Chong Aixin Cheryl	Anwarul Haque	Lai Siu Yin	Lim Bee Lum

Kemmy Lim Boon Hong	Ng Moi Boon Joseph	Zaibun Siraj	Teo Zhu En Joel
Lim Boon Kwong	Roy Ng	Siva Shanmugam	Teoh Eng San
Lim Hui Zhen	Benji Ng Ser Kwei (Dr)	Sivananthan S.	Tey Len Huat Leslie
Lim Jeu Kin Lawrence	Ng Teck Wee	Elodie Sng Qian Jin	Ting Yong Ming Vincent
Lim Juliana Patricia	Ng Wai Hong	Andy Soh Eng Hui	Peter Tjio
Lim Shuen Ming Bryan	Nicole Ng Wee Teng	Jenny Soh	Toh Ching Wooi Jimmy
Lim Shoo Hoe	Charles Oh Chin Hin	Soon Fee Mooi	Toh Weng Cheong
Lim Soo Hwee	Ong Chon Tui Daniel	Joseph Soon Kwo Pin	Toh Yong Soon
Lim Tiong Joo Edmund	Archie Ong Liang-Gay	Rasanathan s/o Sothynathan	Toh Yude Raymond
Lim Wee Chee	Ong Pin Sam	G Srinivasan	Toi Yong Wah John
Lim Wie Ming (Dr)	Ooi Yan Tong Tony	Sukhjeet Sekhon	Tong Hsien-Hui
Vincent Lim Xijie	Oon Tik Lee	Sulistyo Jacob Winarko	Tsakok F.H Maurine
Lim Ye-Lin	Francis Pavri (Dr)	Nathan Subhas	Wang Syan Paul (Dr)
Dennis Lin Wai Man	Vijai Dharamdas Parwani	Sun Wai Hoong	Wee May Li Stella (Dr)
Dennis Ng Kek Koon	Peh Guat Eng Cheryl	Muthu Tamilselvan	Wong Hoe Sang
Liow Wang Wu Joseph	Brenda Pek Su Lin	Eric Tan Cheng Hai	Wong Hsien Xiong
Liu Guoyi	Alvin Phua Chun Yen	Tan Chor Kerng	Wong Kai Kim
Loh Hong Sai (Prof)	Johnny Quah Seng Huat	Tan Chung Lee	Terence Wong Kong Sing
Loh Ngee Sing	Evelyn Quek Mui Gek	Tan Eng Yao	Lily Wong (Dr)
Loke Sai Yin	Karen Ralls-Tan Hui Yang	Josef Tan Hua Hui	Oriana Wong
Low Chin-Parn Eric	Haridas Ramadas	Tan Kek Ann	Emily Wang Yuanyuan
Bob Low Siew Sie	S. Rajendran (Judge, retired)	Johnny Tan Khoon Hui	Esther Wong Fai Seok
Shawn Lourdusamy	B. Rengarajoo	Tan Kian Wen Dexter	Wong Peng Meng
Mak Kam Lock	G.S Rengarajoo	Tan Kin Mee	Wong Kuo Yheu Keith
Robin Mak	Siva S Retnam	Tan Kok Vui	Ernest Wong Thian Yow
Martin Vincent Marini	Sanjey Chandran Chandroo	Edmund Tan Peng Yew	Wong Wee Meng
Desmond Moey	Seah Jeng Wee	Tan Siak Leong Bernard	Willy Wong Weng Kong
Mok Weng Yeong	Jeremy Seah Meng Hwee	Tan Siang Chik	Wu Jun Tian
Basskaran Nair (Prof)	See Sing Kok	Allan Tan Sir Shiun	Donald Wyatt
Mohan Anthony Nair	Sek Kok Chuan Mervyn	Eric Tan Suan Woi	Yang Jiamin
Chandra Mohan K Nair	Seng Jeng Wee	Tan Swee Yong	Jimmy Yap
Nakoorsha Bin Abdul Kadir	Seow Jing Yi	William Tan Teng Hoo	Yap Ning Jee
Harveen Narulla	Seow Kang Seng	Tan Tzann Chang	Yee Woon Yim
Neo Ling Ling Linda	Siak Chong Leng (Dr)	Tan Yee Huang	Harry Yeo
Maurice Neo Choon Aik	Shium Soon Loon	Tan Zhi Zhong Eugene	Henry Yeo Khay Hwee
Ng Agnes	Sim Koon Boh Charles	Nicholas Tay Chwee Seng	Yeo Kar Jun
Ng Bee Hwa	Angela Sim Seu Hoon	Tay Soot Ling Florence	Yeo Khay Hwee
Ng Cheong Lian Steven	Thomas Sim WC (Dr)	Edward Stanley Tay	Yeow Eng Chuan Victor
Mary Ng Geok Eng (Mary Soon)	Dinesh Singh	Benny Teo	Yip Kum Fei
Ng Geok Khim Vincent (Dr)	Harphal Singh	Teo Chin Tuan	Yong Kah Teck
Ng Kek Koon Dennis	Pal Singh	Teo Choo Soo (Assoc Prof)	Yu Yan Chung Philip

60
YEARS
1954 - 2014
old wine, new spirits

The logo features a large, stylized number '60' in a dark red color. The '0' is composed of a circular brushstroke. Below the '60', the word 'YEARS' is written in a smaller, dark red, sans-serif font. Underneath 'YEARS', the years '1954 - 2014' are printed in a very small, dark red font. At the bottom of the logo, the tagline 'old wine, new spirits' is written in a dark red, lowercase, sans-serif font. The entire logo is centered on a background of overlapping, semi-transparent triangles in various shades of yellow and light grey.

