

**MEDIA RELEASE**

For Immediate Release

**Fostering Positive Ageing through “A Festival of Learning” for ALL**

**Tuesday, 17 April 2018** – The National University of Singapore Society (NUSS) launched its inaugural Active-Ageing and Lifelong Learning (ALL) Day on Saturday, 14 April 2018. Aptly titled, “A Festival of Learning”, this significant event held at Kent Ridge Guild House was made possible through a grant from the LearnSG Seed Fund administered by the Lifelong Learning Council. Organised by NUSS, this festival underlines the Society’s commitment and resolve to support the positive ageing and active learning of its members and their friends and families, in alignment with the national active ageing and lifelong learning movement.

Supported by more than twelve community partners such as National Library Board (NLB), Singapore Association for Mental Health (SAMH) and Women’s Initiative for Ageing Gracefully (WINGS) among others, the event drew an attendance of over 600 Society members and guests of all ages.

In his opening address, NUSS President Mr Eddie Lee said that the ALL Day was a “meaningful and well thought-out event created to cater to the varied interests of individuals, in just one day through one venue.” This was largely evident at the event. Attendees enjoyed insightful panel dialogues conducted by experts such as Founding President of WINGS and Former Nominated Member of Parliament Dr Kanwaljit Soin, Assistant Director of Outreach Services at SAMH Ms Helen Yong and Mr Mike Thiruman, General Secretary of Singapore Teachers’ Union. The Dialogues focused on topics relevant to both the young and the old including living positively in one’s silver years and raising children in the face of global disruptions. In addition, a total of nine workshops which touched on issues ranging from active ageing to basic photography were conducted. Partner companies and organisations also featured booths offering interesting products and services.

One such booth featured the sale of *Golden Nuggets*, a compilation of short stories contributed by participants who attended the “Appreciating and Writing Short Stories” course organised by NUSS, in collaboration with National Silver Academy (NSA). The course was led by Mr Chua Joon Eng, a former Vice Dean of the Faculty of Business Administration at National University of Singapore (NUS) and co-editor of *Golden Nuggets*. Sales proceeds were channelled towards a meaningful cause and donated to Halogen Foundation, a youth organisation focused on developing young leaders and entrepreneurs from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Founder and Managing Director of Plan-B ICAG Pte Ltd and fellow co-editor of the *Golden Nuggets*, Mr Lim Soon Hock said that the book is a fine example of how people from all walks of lives could apply what they have learnt for a laudable cause. “Much of these stories

were from the values we cherished, our life experiences and observations. So apart from wanting to share these with future generations, we decided that we can also do good and give, by donating all proceeds from the sale of the book to a charity”, he added.

Mr Chua elaborated that the publication also seeks to communicate important values that ought to be cherished and passed down from generation to generation. “In *Golden Nuggets*, each contributing author implicitly expounded on values that were beneficial to the future generation. For a fast changing society like Singapore, it is important that we will not lose our values of compassion, filial piety, family, kindness, empathy for the less privileged and contentment,” he said.

Other activities that were available at the event included NLB’s mobile library, where participants could borrow books on the spot. The library was well-received and had a total of more than 800 book loans by the end of the day. In a “Good Careers” Human Library segment, participants also got to interact with and learn from professionals and practitioners from meaningful professions and industries such as biodiversity, nature conservation, and social services to learn more about these professions and sectors.

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## **ABOUT THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE SOCIETY**

NUSS is the foremost graduate club with over 16,000 graduate members from NUS and other universities. Officially established in 1954, NUSS has undergone several revisions in name – the University of Malaya Society (1954), the University of Singapore Society (1962) and finally The National University of Singapore Society (1981), as it is known today.

In promoting the interests of its members and NUS, NUSS continually fosters a lifelong relationship with NUS and the wider graduate community.

With an extensive network of graduates frequenting its two Guild Houses in Kent Ridge and Suntec City, NUSS endeavours to provide its members with a vast network of opportunities with fellow graduates and professionals, as well as premium social, recreational and dining facilities.

For more information on NUSS, please visit [www.nuss.org.sg](http://www.nuss.org.sg).

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