

**WELCOME SPEECH BY MR DAVID HO, NUSS PRESIDENT
AT THE NUSS 60TH ANNIVERSARY LECTURE BY PM LEE HSIEN LOONG, 3rd OCTOBER
2014, 7.30PM, UNIVERSITY CULTURAL CENTRE, NUS**

Prime Minister, Mrs Lee

Excellencies,

Distinguished Guests,

Fellow Members,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good evening and a warm welcome to NUSS 60th Anniversary Lecture.

A decade ago, Prime Minister, you delivered the 50th Anniversary lecture in this same auditorium. Ten years have gone past very quickly and we are privileged to have you this evening with us to share another milestone together with our NUSS community. Tonight we are joined by not only our members, but students from NUS, NTU, SMU ITE, Poly students, JCs as well as our fellow alumni from NUS, and our benefactors.

At our 50th anniversary lecture, PM spoke about the need of successful Singaporeans to share a collective desire to contribute to the nation. That theme is still very much part of our DNA today. As a graduate society, our members have been blessed with a privileged academic journey and so we want to pay-it-forward.

Today, NUSS has many community-driven programmes which owe its success to the strong support of our members. Our efforts have been ranging from reaching out to Singaporeans who are financially disadvantaged. We visit old folks homes on a regular basis. We support disadvantaged children and distribute groceries to needy households. At NUSS, we also have a mentoring programme between students and alumni members.

In August 2013, NUSS provided seed funding for the creation of NUS Alumni Bursary Fund to support lower-income undergraduates in NUS. Since inception, the fund has raised more than 2 million through the collective efforts of all alumni groups. NUSS played an active role in supporting this fund and has pledged annual contributions to grow this fund.

The NUSS Lecture Series has become a milestone event for us to discuss critical social, economic and political issues. As a graduate society we too face many challenges as we strive to stay relevant within the broader community. I am hopeful and confident that the next 60 years holds great promise for NUSS and Singapore.

With that let me conclude by thanking the Prime Minister for delivering this lecture, Prof Tommy Koh, Ambassador-At-Large and member of the NUSS Advisory Panel, for chairing this lecture and you, my audience, for spending this evening with us.

I wish all of you an inspiring and thought-provoking evening, thank you.