

**SPEECH BY NUSS PRESIDENT MR EDDIE LEE
AT THE NUSS PROFESSORSHIP LECTURE 2017
24th January 2017, Tuesday
7.15pm at Kent Ridge Guild House**

1. Address the audience

- Good evening Professor Stephen Hawkins, Management Committee members, fellow NUSS members, friends, ladies and gentlemen. Thank you for taking time to join us tonight for the NUSS Professorship Lecture 2017.

2. About the NUSS Professorship Lecture

- NUSS established the NUSS Professorship in 1996, with an endowment of \$1.5 million to fund talks by visiting professors at NUS, as part of NUSS' efforts to contribute to the development of meaningful partnerships with our alma mater through academic pursuits.
- Over the years, we have had eminent professors from various universities around the world who visited NUSS and shared invaluable insights with our members and guests. Some of the professors that we have had the honour to invite in the past include Professor Shih Choon Fong, Professor Li Chia Wei and Sir Andre Geim
- We usually have 2 to 3 talks per year and this is the only event that is open to members of the public, if this is your first visit, a very warm welcome and we will be more than happy to show you around, you can approach me or any of the staff after the talk.
- This evening, we are pleased to have Professor Stephen Hawkins, former dean of the Faculty of Natural and Environmental Sciences at the University of Southampton, to share with us his knowledge on the influence of climate change on the marine environment.
- I'm also grateful to Associate Professor Peter Todd from Department of Biological Science at the National University of Singapore, who has kindly agreed to moderate the Q&A session.

3. Introduce the session

- The human impact on marine environment has increased immensely over time and has affected life in the sea. These include pollution, the over-exploitation of fish stocks and even more. I believe it is crucial that we understand the impact of human actions and learn what can be done in order to sustain our seas.
- I trust that we will have a fruitful session this evening with Professor Hawkins and Associate Professor Todd, and hope that the NUSS Professorship will continue to create a platform for an enriching intellectual discourse among our members, the NUS community and the public at large.

4. Thank you.