

SPEECH BY NUSS PRESIDENT MR EDDIE LEE
APPRECIATION DINNER FOR NUS PRESIDENT, PROFESSOR TAN CHORH CHUAN
KENT RIDGE GUILD HOUSE
30 NOVEMBER 2017, THURSDAY

Mr Po'ad Mattar, NUS Pro-Chancellor and Mrs Po'ad Mattar
Dr Chan Sek Keong, NUS Pro-Chancellor and Mrs Chan Sek Keong
Professor Tan Chorh Chuan, NUS President and Mrs Tan
NUS Board of Trustees, NUS Senior Management,
NUSS Honorary Members,
Fellow NUSS Members, Friends, Ladies and Gentlemen

Good evening and a warm welcome to NUSS.

At the outset, I wish to say that this is not a farewell party for Professor Tan.

2 weeks ago, I was reminded by Professor Tan that he is not leaving us, he is on secondment to Ministry of Health.

Tonight's dinner is an appreciation to Professor Tan for the very close and warm relationship that Professor Tan has helped to build up for NUS and NUSS for the last 9 years.

I first met Professor Tan more than 20 years ago when he treated my late mother-in-law. My in-laws found him so caring, gentle and kind hearted and he could communicate effectively with my late mother-in-law in Hokkien. They are grateful to you.

When I first came on board the Management Committee of NUSS, 6 years ago, Professor Tan's sincerity and support for NUSS was ever so evident. He attended many of our key events, despite his busy schedule and the MC members and I were invited to the University events (key ones).

We have deepen our relationship with OAR in alumni matters in supporting each other in major events like Homecoming, Family Day, Day of Service and mentoring the students.

We have corroborated with NUS in the setting up of the NUSS Professionship and appointment of eminent Professor Lim Chwee Teck as the first NUSS Professor. His first talk 2 weeks ago was a resounding success, with one of the highest attendees for our talks.

At every new members' nights, I reminded our members that NUSS first objective is to promote the interests and development of NUS and reiterated that we are what today because of our education and learning at NUS and we should give back to our alma mater.

It is with much pride and joy each time when we hear of announcement of the accolades and achievements of NUS. Just for this year I sent 2 letters of congratulations to Professor Tan for NUS being the top university in Asia.

Professor Tan, on behalf of NUSS, thank you so much for your strong support, encouragement and confidence in us. This has spurred us to work even harder with DVO in our efforts to raise more funds for the needy students and the University.

Professor Tan, we will surely miss your presence as NUS President but we congratulate and wish you the very best in your appointment as Executive Director of the new MOH office for Healthcare Transformation and Chief Health Scientist and if I may quote from MOH press release -

"The office will play an important role in the transformation of healthcare in Singapore to bring about good health outcome for Singaporeans."

Remembering what you have done 20 years ago for patients like my late mother-in-law, I am sure the whole of Singapore will stand to benefit from the transformation.

We look forward to staying in touch with you and welcoming you at our Guild Houses.

I wish everyone an enjoyable evening.
Thank you