10 January 2020

Dear alumnus,

My warm greetings to you and your loved ones in this first month of the New Year. As we begin 2020, I would like to take this opportunity to share with you some news about the University.

**Celebrating NUS’ 115th Anniversary**

2020 marks the 115th year of the founding of the University in 1905. Looking back at our rich history of contribution to nation and society, we take heart that our tradition of excellence and culture of innovation have been the motivation and driving force behind our endeavours and achievements thus far, and will continue to be for the decades ahead.

To mark this special milestone, there will be a series of signature events and initiatives taking place throughout the year – beginning with the launch of NUS115 at the NUS Bizad Charity Run tomorrow, 11 January 2020, with Singapore President and NUS Chancellor Madam Halimah Yacob as the Guest-of-Honour. It will be a particularly momentous occasion as the NUS Bizad Charity Run will be celebrating its 10th anniversary.

There is also the NUS115 Distinguished Speaker Series, a quarterly event which brings compelling speakers to NUS to share their unique perspectives on pressing issues of the future that affect our country, our region and the world. The series explores the overarching theme of “Shaping the Future”, which originates from the NUS Vision. The aim: to encourage thought-provoking ideas and conversations that inspire debate and discussion. The inaugural NUS115 Distinguished Speaker will be Singapore Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsien Loong, who will deliver his speech in February. The Office of University Communications will share more details in due course.

I am pleased to share that our Faculties, Schools and units have embraced this anniversary, and will be incorporating the NUS115 theme in their various events this year. More information on NUS115 is available at [nus115.sg](http://nus115.sg)

The Lunar New Year is about two weeks away and some of you may already be in the midst of your festive preparations. The rat is the first animal in the 12-year cycle of animals in the Chinese zodiac, so 2020 – the Year of the Rat – is considered by the Chinese as a year of new beginnings and renewal. In keeping with this spirit,
may I take this opportunity to wish our Chinese alumni a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous Lunar New Year, and all others an enjoyable time during the upcoming festive holiday break!

With best wishes,

Professor Tan Eng Chye (Science '85)
NUS President