

ESM Goh conferred honorary NUS degree



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BY HETTY MUSFIRAH ABDUL KHAMID - JULY 6

SINGAPORE — Emeritus Senior Minister Goh Chok Tong was today (July 6) conferred the Honorary Doctor of Laws by the National University of Singapore (NUS).

The honorary degree is the University's highest form of recognition for outstanding individuals who have made a great impact on Singapore and the community.

NUS said that Mr Goh, who is an alumni of the university, has more than 50 years of "distinguished service" to the nation. "He had served in many capacities, including as Singapore's second Prime Minister, and had initiated many policies that improved Singapore's economy, military strength and quality of life for Singaporeans," it said.

Mr Goh received the honorary degree from President Tony Tan Keng Yam at the main commencement ceremony today.

Two other individuals also received honorary doctorates. Chairman of the International Advisory Board of A*STAR Biomedical Research Council, Sir Richard Brook Sykes received the Honorary Doctor of Science for his contributions to research and achievements in biomedical sciences.

Philanthropist Professor Saw Swee Hock was conferred the Honorary Doctor of Letters, for his contributions to the field of statistics and demography, and for his philanthropic efforts.

The ceremony also saw about 150 graduates from NUS business school receiving their degrees.

In his address, Mr Goh urged them to take Singapore to greater heights. He said Singapore will need brave and innovative leaders not just in fields such as politics, science and technology and social sciences, but leaders with integrity and the right values as well.

He said they should prepare for the terrain ahead and understand how factors such as the geopolitical environment, Singapore's demography and the global economic outlook will affect them. He urged them to play their part in influencing the country's and their own destiny.

More than 10,000 students will receive their bachelor and graduate degrees in a total of 23 ceremonies to be held till Jul 14. CHANNEL NEWSASIA