Citation for Dr Seek Ngee Huat

Outstanding Service Award

Dr Seek Ngee Huat, an illustrious NUS alumnus, is one of Singapore’s international real estate titans. His influence extends beyond the real estate sector; he has served the profession, academia and the wider community with distinction in many ways. He is also a generous philanthropist with a heart for the less fortunate.

Dr Seek graduated from the University of Singapore (Class of ‘73) with a B.Sc. in Estate Management. He later pursued a MSc in Business Administration from the University of British Columbia and a PhD in Urban Research from the Australian National University. After which, Dr Seek very swiftly established himself in his career, and his influence extended to the global stage. Dr Seek helmed international business corporations, assumed key appointments and served on advisory boards. Prior to joining the Government of Singapore Investment Corporation, or GIC, Dr Seek was a Senior Partner at Jones Lang Wootton in Sydney. He then spent 15 years at GIC and was appointed as President of GIC Real Estate Pte Ltd. After his retirement in 2011, Dr Seek continued to serve as Advisor to the GIC Group Executive Committee, Chairman of the Latin America Business Group and as a Board Director of GIC Real Estate.

Within his professional sphere, Dr Seek systematically raised the bar for industry practitioners within Singapore and internationally. Dr Seek was the founding Chairman
of the Property Council of Australia Property Index Committee and contributed in the capacity as either board director or advisor at various local and global organisations. These include the US Pension Real Estate Association, Banco BTG Pactual S.A. in Brazil, Fraser & Neave Limited and Pontiac Land Private Limited.

Dr Seek is widely sought after for his insights and expertise within the corporate and academic circles. Dr Seek served with distinction on the advisory boards of Guanghua School of Management at the Peking University; Fundacao Dom Cabral in Brazil; University of Cambridge and Harvard University. Presently, he continues to serve as Chairman of Global Logistic Properties Limited, a Board Director of Brookfield Asset Management Canada and a Senior Advisor to Frasers Centrepoint. He certainly has worldwide presence!

Dr Seek shares our university’s passion and commitment to education, research and service. It is Dr Seek’s single-minded conviction to the cause of excellence in research and education that saw the establishment of the NUS Institute of Real Estate Studies or IRES in 2007 where he actively supported the initiative. He continued to champion the mission of this institute as part of its inaugural Management Board, and subsequently assumed Chairmanship in 2009. Through the years, he reinforced the foundation of the institute and continued to raise its profile by setting the direction, building industry alliances and working fervently to fundraise. Today, IRES is a world-renowned real estate research institute.

Dr Seek is also an adjunct professor of real estate at the School of Design and Environment. Dr Seek has always taken an interest in trying to advance NUS’ curriculum with industry-relevant elements. He was instrumental in the establishment
of the MBA Real Estate programme. In addition, Dr Seek’s magnanimous gift to NUS has enabled the establishment of the NH Seek Fund for Real Estate Education and Research. Dr Seek also has a heart for the underprivileged as he has generously donated funds to provide scholarships for top performing needy students.

Dr Seek was conferred the Singapore Public Administration Gold Medal in 2007 and the NUS Distinguished Alumni Service Award in 2011. This evening, NUS is honoured to present Dr Seek Ngee Huat the 2015 Outstanding Service Award. Congratulations!