University Awards 2011

Recognising Excellence in Education, Research and Service

Friday, 29 April 2011
University Cultural Centre
Excellence is the hallmark of NUS. Today, NUS thrives as a dynamic university characterised by a strong sense of self-belief and forward movement. We strive to create the conditions that bring out the best from each member of our community and constantly endeavour to push the boundaries of achievement.

The annual University Awards recognise and honour members of our community who have distinguished themselves – and our University – in education, research and service. Unfettered by the limitations of mindsets, and through exceptional performance and resolute commitment, they have further enhanced the standing and reputation of NUS and have helped us further accelerate our trajectory of development as a leading global university.

On behalf of the NUS community, I would like to express our heartiest congratulations to our University Award recipients for 2011. We celebrate their accomplishments, salute their dedication, and applaud their outstanding contributions to NUS and to country and society.

As we celebrate the achievements of our award winners, may the excellence we strive for as a community inspire and energise us to scale even higher peaks of distinction. Together, we can make NUS a transformative place where our people reach beyond themselves – to explore and discover, to create real impact and contribute to the advancement of society.

TAN Chorh Chuan
NUS President
OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR AWARD
Acknowledges faculty members who have excelled in engaging and inspiring students in their quest for knowledge

OUTSTANDING RESEARCHER AWARD
Recognises researchers whose works have impacted and advanced the frontiers of knowledge, and positioned NUS at the forefront of their areas of expertise

YOUNG RESEARCHER AWARD
Commends researchers whose works show promise in extending the frontiers of knowledge in their respective fields

OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD
Honours individuals who have distinguished themselves by their sustained contributions in serving the University and society
OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR AWARD
Mr CHEAH Kok Ming
Prof KOH Khee Meng
Assoc Prof LEE Tye Beng, Joel
Assoc Prof Bruce M. LOCKHART

OUTSTANDING RESEARCHER AWARD
Prof Jagadese J. VITTAL

YOUNG RESEARCHER AWARD
Assoc Prof CHNG Wee Joo
Assoc Prof GONG Jiangbin
Dr LIU Xiaogang
Assoc Prof YU Haifeng

OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD
Mr Tony CHEW Leong-Chee
Prof Choon Fong SHIH
"Teaching is a reflective and cyclic process. I design learning experiences in which the learner’s process and outcome will in turn provoke and transform the teacher into a learner."

OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR AWARD

Mr CHEAH Kok Ming
Registered Architect (Board of Architects Singapore); B Arch (Hons), BA (Arch. Studies) (NUS)
Department of Architecture

CURRENT TEACHING PORTFOLIO
• Architectural design
• Architectural construction
• Integrated design and sustainability

TEACHING ACHIEVEMENTS
• Led the successful re-making of the Department of Architecture’s Design, Technology and Sustainability programme, transforming its curriculum to draw top students and quadruple the enrolment in four years
• Incorporated the area of sustainability in the review of three technical modules for the architectural undergraduate programme
• Integrated hands-on exercises for problem-based learning in architectural construction to develop metacognitive abilities vital to learning independently and effectively
• Inculcated the mindset in students to better understand the interrelatedness of their actions and the environment, enabling them to provide holistic and integrated design solutions
• Mentored students to win five accolades from international design competitions

TEACHING STRENGTHS
• Connects design thinking with technical thinking as a skill set for students to develop design ideas that are intellectually challenging and technically imaginative
• Creates an engaging problem-based learning journey that yields the construction of knowledge and concepts through an iterative process of reflecting on problem-solving experiences
• Translates pertinent issues of sustainability into the focus of design exploration, facilitating students to invent appropriate architectural prototypes
• Devises learning themes in study trips for students to frame issues and direct enquiries for seeking insights and new perspectives
• Maximises the different learning strengths of students to bring out the best in them

PUBLICATION CREDITS
• Published 10 articles in academic and professional journals such as Journal of South East Asian Architecture, Singapore Architect and FutuArc
• Architectural works were reviewed in 13 publications, with one – the Institute of South East Asian Building – being widely examined and discussed in architectural journals and books
• Contributed articles on teaching in university publications

PROFESSIONAL STANDING
• Examiner for Professional Practice Examinations, Board of Architects Singapore
• Chairperson, Board of Examiners for Diploma in Design, Building and Construction Authority Academy
• Member, Green Practice Committee, Singapore Institute of Architects
• Member, Building Technology Educators’ Society, USA
• Member, Society of Building Science Educators, USA

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES
• Annual Teaching Excellence Award, NUS (2007/2008)
• Faculty Teaching Excellence Award, School of Design and Environment (2009/2010, 2007/2008)
• Best Teaching Media Award, Singapore Polytechnic (2005)
• Excellence in Teaching Award, Singapore Polytechnic (2004)
• Architectural Heritage Award for Asian Civilisations Museum, Urban Redevelopment Authority (2003)

TEACHING ASPIRATION
“Climate change demands a paradigm shift in design education. I am committed to constructing and enhancing pedagogical frameworks that leverage on inter-disciplinary enquiry and holistic thinking, underpinned by environmental literacy. This will empower students with the appropriate values and capabilities in making a difference to our collective future.”
“Teaching is not my occupation but my calling. Mathematical results are not inexplicable products but crystallisations of the collective wisdom of mankind. As a mathematics educator, I relish the challenge of transforming the abstract into something concrete, the dull into something interesting, and the impractical into something relevant. It is a satisfying and meaningful task that I value and constantly seek to achieve in my teaching.”

CURRENT TEACHING PORTFOLIO
- Graph theory
- Combinatorial analysis
- Engineering mathematics

TEACHING ACHIEVEMENTS
- Chaired the Department Teaching Excellence Committee for more than 10 years and served on the Faculty Teaching Excellence Committee for six, contributing significantly to the evaluation, development and quality of teaching
- Won 20 teaching awards over 18 years, with consistently high ratings and numerous compliments from students
- Leads and engages in outreach programmes as Deputy Chair of the Department Outreach Committee to promote the learning of mathematics to schools of different levels
- Sought-after by schools to deliver enrichment talks to students and teachers to foster excitement and interest in mathematics
- Actively involved in training and preparing participants of various International Mathematical Olympiads

TEACHING STRENGTHS
- Outstanding ability to explain and present complex and abstract concepts clearly, simply and effectively, making them easy to understand and grasp
- Knack for delivering lively and interesting lectures that keep students engaged and capture their attention
- Infectious passion and enthusiasm motivates and spurs students to attend lectures and sustain their interest in mathematics

PUBLICATION CREDITS
- Published over 120 research and conference papers in leading international journals such as Journal of Graph Theory, Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (SIAM) Journal on Discrete Mathematics and Discrete Mathematics

OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR AWARD
Prof KOH Khee Meng
PhD, MSc (University of Manitoba); BSc (Nanyang University)
Department of Mathematics

CURRENT TEACHING PORTFOLIO
- Graph theory
- Combinatorial analysis
- Engineering mathematics

TEACHING ACHIEVEMENTS
- Co-author of eight books comprising six textbooks and two solution manuals, several of which have received positive reviews and are widely used in schools and universities in Singapore and overseas

INTERNATIONAL STANDING
- Council Member, Institute of Combinatorics and its Applications (1995 – 1997)
- Chairman, Singapore International Mathematical Olympiad Committee (1991 – 1993)
- Editor, Graphs and Combinatorics (since 1984)

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES
- Distinguished Teaching Award, Faculty of Science (2000)
- Outstanding Teaching Award, Faculty of Science (1994)

TEACHING ASPIRATION
“To offer my students professional guidance in their academic pursuit and research in mathematics, and to share passionately with school teachers and my colleagues my experience and pedagogical beliefs in the teaching of mathematics.”
It is not enough for one to just teach. A teacher must guide, inspire and touch lives. It is the ultimate form of “paying it forward”; never knowing if your efforts will make a difference but keeping the faith that it will.”

OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR AWARD

Assoc Prof LEE Tye Beng, Joel

LLM (Harvard University); LLB (Hons) (Victoria University of Wellington)

Faculty of Law

CURRENT TEACHING PORTFOLIO

• Negotiation
• Mediation
• Conflict of laws

TEACHING ACHIEVEMENTS

• Pioneered the teaching of mediation and negotiation at NUS, with a workshop on negotiation conceived being the first of its kind to be offered at a law school in Asia
• Widely sought-after expert by Singapore and overseas tertiary institutions as well as industry for expertise on legal education and insights on mediation and negotiation
• Contributed significantly to shaping and raising the University’s quality of education by serving on faculty-level committees on curriculum review and teaching methodology
• Co-author of a quintessential textbook for law students learning to interpret statutes and analyse cases
• Co-editor and co-author of an influential book "An Asian Perspective on Mediation"

TEACHING STRENGTHS

• Designs simulations and role-play scenarios to promote experiential learning widely acknowledged by students to be effective and engaging
• Encourages students to be lifelong learners by focusing on teaching them how to learn, how to teach as well as reflect critically on their classes and performance
• Facilitates learning by building on simple concepts to simplify and extend into abstract ones
• Outstanding ability to teach students of diverse backgrounds, from freshmen, graduate students to practitioners and professionals

PUBLICATION CREDITS

• Co-author of two books, 10 book chapters, 20 journal articles and over 25 representative conference papers presented around the world

INTERNATIONAL STANDING

• Training Director and Principal Mediator, Singapore Mediation Centre (2011)
• Associate Editor, Asian Journal on Mediation (since 2005)
• Member, Resource Panel, Alternative Dispute Resolution Division, Ministry of Law (2000 – 2004)
• Member, Alternative Dispute Resolution Advisory Council, Subordinate Courts of Singapore (since 2009)
• Member, International Advisory Panel, The Law Teacher: The International Journal of Legal Education (since 1998)
• Adjudicator, Financial Industry Disputes Resolution Centre Ltd (since 2009)
• Member, Pro-Tem Council of Private Education, Ministry of Education (2008 – 2009)
• Representative for Asia to Executive Committee, International Negotiation Competition (since 2007)
• Joint-Editor-in-Chief, Singapore Year Book of International Law (2007 – 2008)
• Member, Independent Standards Commission, International Mediation Institute (since 2008)
• Member, Intercultural Taskforce, International Mediation Institute (since 2010)

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

• Faculty Annual Teaching Excellence Award, Faculty of Law (2010, 2009)

TEACHING ASPIRATION

“I consider myself a fellow traveller on the same journey as my students. I simply started earlier and can assist them in overcoming their obstacles along the way. It is my hope that as they travel on their way, they will act as guides for others.”
“My approach to teaching is holistic; the student’s emotional and psychological needs are as important as his or her intellectual and academic aspirations.”

Outstanding Educator Award

Assoc Prof Bruce M. Lockhart
PhD (Cornell University); MA (Yale University); BA (Cornell University)
Department of History

Current Teaching Portfolio
- History of mainland Southeast Asia, with particular focus on cultural and ethnic issues
- History of Christianity

Teaching Achievements
- Played a leading role in re-making a foundation module in History, and created or re-introduced six modules on Southeast Asia, as well as developed a module on the history of Christianity as a contribution to the Religious Studies minor programme
- Regularly invited by schools and the Ministry of Education to share with students and teachers his insights and expertise on Southeast Asian history and teaching it
- Plans and delivers training lectures for docents at the Asian Civilisations Museum
- Served on the Faculty Teaching Excellence Committee

Teaching Strengths
- Presents meticulously crafted and thought-provoking assignments and questions to compel students to reflect, analyse and critique
- Exposes students to a diverse mix of reading materials, enabling them to appreciate and discern different writing genres, presentation styles as well as historically- and culturally-specific works
- Strong ability to teach a variety of modules within and beyond his areas of expertise, whether in seminars for 40 Honours year students or lectures for 400 freshmen

Publication Credits
- Published a monograph entitled The End of the Vietnamese Monarchy, co-edited a volume on The Cham of Vietnam, and is part of a team from the Department of History authoring New History of Southeast Asia
- Authored several journal articles and book chapters focusing on issues in the historiography of Vietnam and Laos

Awards and Accolades

Teaching Aspiration
“To develop students’ understanding of, and interest in, Southeast Asia as a region, particularly the mainland countries which are my specialty. Achieving this objective involves a combination of lecture material, tutorial readings (including my own translations of primary sources), thought-provoking discussion questions, and anecdotes from my own experiences in the region.”
Research is nothing but a formalised curiosity and gives the opportunity to discover something new. The joy of doing research is a great source of happiness in life and is a strong driver of success.”

“Outstanding Researcher Award

Prof Jagadese J. Vittal
PhD (Indian Institute of Science); MSc (Madurai University); BSc (University of Madras)
Department of Chemistry

Research Interests
- Crystal engineering and coordination polymeric materials
- Solid-state reactivity and supramolecular structural transformations
- Single-molecular precursors for materials synthesis
- Shape- and size-controlled synthesis of battery materials and other nanomaterials

Research Achievements
- Advanced the frontiers of crystal engineering and opened up possibilities for the development of new materials
- Pioneered structural transformations in coordination polymers and contributed to the fundamental understanding of reactivity in the solid state
- Succeeded in transforming the inherent properties of coordination polymers to be similar to that of processable materials, such as gels and fibres, for potential applications as advanced materials
- Developed single-molecular precursor routes for creating soluble nanocrystals, paving the way for unravelling their unusual optical properties

Research Strengths
- Strong teamwork with very dedicated and motivated students and several researchers in Singapore and abroad
- Adept at leveraging on novel research ideas
- Successful in making the best of available resources
- Ability to apply crystallographic knowledge to materials chemistry

Publication Credits
- Published over 400 papers in internationally refereed journals, reviews, book chapters, and received more than 8,000 citations
- Current Hirsch index of 41, signifying quality of research and impact
- Edited several special issues for leading journals

Awards and Accolades
- Several outstanding papers have been highlighted on journal covers and rank among the top 10 most accessed electronically

International Standing
- Serves on the editorial boards of several international journals
- Invited as external reviewers by funding agencies, professional bodies, research institutes and universities around the world
- Reviewer of about 120 manuscripts yearly for about 30 different chemistry journals
- Presented plenary, keynote and invited talks at several international and prestigious conferences such as American Chemical Society National Meeting, International Coordination Chemistry Conference, Asian Conference on Coordination Chemistry and PacifiChem
- Fellow, Singapore National Institute of Chemistry (since 2003)
- Member, Materials Research Society of Singapore (since 2003)
- Member, American Chemical Society (since 1997)

Research Aspiration
“Research is nothing but a formalised curiosity and gives the opportunity to discover something new. The joy of doing research is a great source of happiness in life and is a strong driver of success.”
RESEARCH INTERESTS
• Biology, detection and treatment of multiple myeloma
• Liquid tumour biology and therapeutics

RESEARCH ACHIEVEMENTS
• Led groundbreaking research to conceive novel tools and approaches to understand, diagnose and treat multiple myeloma, a common and incurable cancer of the bone marrow
• Discoveries and inventions have been cited by the World Health Organisation’s new classification of lymphoid cancers
• Findings have been incorporated as part of the Total Myeloma Care Programme for treating myeloma patients at the National University Cancer Institute, Singapore
• Consistently secured generous competitive research funding from governments, industry and universities

RESEARCH STRENGTHS
• Strong ability to combine clinical knowledge for identifying areas of unmet clinical needs and the scientific know-how for devising studies to tackle these clinical problems
• Possesses unique expertise for delivering high productivity and cutting-edge genomic technologies
• Highly collaborative and adept at organising large-scale research

PUBLICATION CREDITS
• Published over 60 papers, with over 40 in super tier and top tier journals, and almost 900 citations received

INTERNATIONAL STANDING
• Peer review evaluator for leading international journals such as Blood (since 2008), Cancer Research (since 2009) and Leukaemia (since 2008)
• Serves on the advisory boards of leading healthcare companies such as Janssen Cilag (since 2008), Merck (since 2010) and Synofi-Aventis (since 2009)
• External reviewer of grant proposals for South Africa’s Medical Research Council (since 2008) and Singapore’s National Medical Research Council (since 2009)

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES
• The Outstanding Young Persons Award, Junior Chamber International (2009)
• Investigator Clinician Scheme Award, National Healthcare Group (2008)
• Clinician Scientist Award, National Medical Research Council (2008)
• Celgene Future Leaders in Haematology Award (2007)
• Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation Fellowship (2006 – 2007)
• Best Reviewer Award 2006, Singapore Medical Journal (2007)
• Best Oral Presentation, Arizona Academic Excellence Day (2005)
• Best Oral Presentation, Singapore Society of Haematology Annual Scientific Meeting (2004)
• Best Oral Presentation, Singapore Society of Haematology Annual Scientific Meeting (2002)

RESEARCH ASPIRATION
“To develop novel drug combinations that obviate the need for chemotherapy in the treatment of haematologic malignancies and to be able to select and optimise treatment on an individual patient basis.”
Assoc Prof GONG Jiangbin
PhD (University of Toronto); BSc (Nanjing University)
Department of Physics

RESEARCH INTERESTS
• Control of quantum dynamics in atomic and molecular systems
• Complex quantum dynamics in classically chaotic systems
• Aspects of open quantum systems and quantum classical correspondence

RESEARCH ACHIEVEMENTS
• Constructed and analysed a number of original models for understanding, exploring and manipulating quantum evolution, such as models of quantum ratchet accelerator and many-body coherent destruction of tunnelling
• Discovered a remarkable connection between two important paradigms of quantum chaos and proposed a technique for synthesising fractal quasi-energy spectrum in periodically driven quantum systems
• Proposed powerful strategies to protect bipartite quantum entanglement against decoherence effects, which have motivated one successful experimental demonstration of entanglement protection with control fields

RESEARCH STRENGTHS
• Focuses on research originality and fundamental understanding
• Keen to explore by crossing boundaries between different research areas

PUBLICATION CREDITS
• Published over 70 papers, with over 500 citations
• Current Hirsch index of 13

INTERNATIONAL STANDING
• Reviewer for over 10 international physics journals
• Reviewer, Austria Science Fund (2008, 2010)
• Editorial Board Member, Interdisciplinary Sciences: Computational Life Sciences (since 2009)
• Guest editor for a special section "Chaos and Transport at the Nanoscale", Journal of Computational and Theoretical Nanoscience (2011)

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES
• Annual Teaching Excellence Award, NUS (2008/2009)
• Faculty Teaching Excellence Award, Faculty of Science (2009)
• Young Scientist Award, Faculty of Science (2008)
• Young Investigator Award, NUS (2006)
• Postdoctoral Research Associate Fellowship, University of Chicago (2003 – 2005)
• Henry Croft Postdoctoral Fellowship, University of Toronto (2001 – 2003)

RESEARCH ASPIRATION
“To make fundamental contributions to our understanding of complex quantum systems and their control.”

“I am humbly absorbed in fundamental research because it gives us full freedom and challenges our creativity.”
RESEARCH INTERESTS
• Supramolecular chemistry and catalysis
• Nanostructured materials synthesis and patterning
• Luminescent materials and bioimaging

RESEARCH ACHIEVEMENTS
• Succeeded in creating complex and customisable nanocrystals capable of diverse functions, from enhancing studies of biological systems to treating cancer, a breakthrough that appeared in Nature and other leading international journals, received extensive press coverage globally as well as attracted significant interest from industry and governments
• Contributed to the development of a novel super-absorbing and paper-like material that promises to minimise the devastating effects of oil leaks and toxic spills
• Devised an innovative nanoparticle-based biomarker that has shown great potential for diagnostic and therapeutic applications
• Discovered novel synthetic pathways for the synthesis of biologically important aryl sulfides and their derivatives

RESEARCH STRENGTHS
• Strong ability to identify key problem areas of developing fields and to stimulate collaborative research

INTERNATIONAL STANDING
• Reviewer for more than 35 top tier international journals such as Nature Nanotechnology and Nature Communications
• Reviewer, National Science Foundation, USA (since 2008)
• Reviewer, American Chemical Society Petroleum Research Fund (since 2009)
• Reviewer, Natural Science and Engineering Research Council of Canada (since 2010)
• Reviewer, National Institute of Scientific Research, Canada (since 2010)

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES
• BASF-Singapore National Institute of Chemistry Award in Materials Chemistry (2011)
• Young Chemist Award, Department of Chemistry (2009)
• Finalist, Young Scientist Award, Agency for Science, Technology and Research (2009)
• Nominee, TR35, Technology Review, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (2008)
• Young Scientist Award, Faculty of Science (2008)
• Young Investigator Award, NUS (2006)

RESEARCH ASPIRATION
“To further expand the work on nanostructured materials with emphasis on environmental and biological applications.”

“The most rewarding aspect of being a chemist is the ability to find new knowledge and new discoveries that can improve and transform the quality of life.”
“There are many professions that allow one to make more money than being a researcher – but only being a researcher can give one the continuous joy and excitement of new discovery.”

**Assoc Prof YU Haifeng**
PhD, MSc (Duke University); BEng (Shanghai Jiao Tong University)
Department of Computer Science

**RESEARCH INTERESTS**
- Distributed systems security
- Distributed algorithms and applied algorithms in networking
- Distributed systems availability

**RESEARCH ACHIEVEMENTS**
- Devised solutions for the longstanding and challenging problem of sybil attacks (attacks by a single user adopting multiple fake identities) on distributed systems (systems with many interconnected computers) by inventing innovative and highly effective randomised defence mechanisms
- Generated important findings on inter-object correlation in replication systems, in which data is replicated on multiple computers to improve data availability, enabling replication systems to reduce information unavailability by multiple orders of magnitude without requiring additional resources
- Conceived an aggregation algorithm able to tolerate adversarial interference in sensor networks, a significant development that can considerably enhance security

**RESEARCH STRENGTHS**
- Out-of-the-box thinking that is not confined within existing frameworks

**PUBLICATION CREDITS**
- Authored more than 30 papers receiving some 1,300 citations, with several winning Best Paper awards and selected as top papers at established conferences
- Publications have been incorporated into graduate-level course materials in over 20 leading universities worldwide as well as included as an entire section in a popular graduate-level textbook

**INTERNATIONAL STANDING**
- Programme Committee member for 16 prestigious international conferences and 5 international workshops, including top ones such as SIGCOMM (Special Interest Group on Data Communication), SIGMETRICS and Security and Privacy
- Programme Committee Co-Chair, Distributed Computing Track, 12th International Conference on Distributed Computing and Networking (2011)
- External Reviewer for a dozen leading international journals such as Distributed Computing, Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) Transactions on the Web and Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Transactions on Dependable and Secure Computing

**AWARDS AND ACCOLADES**
- Best Paper Award, ACM SIGCOMM Conference (2010), a prestigious award given to researchers from Singapore for the first time
- Young Scientist Award, Singapore National Academy of Science (2009)
- Best Paper Award, ACM/IEEE International Conference on Information Processing in Sensor Networks (2009)
- Young Investigator Award, NUS (2007)

**RESEARCH ASPIRATION**
“To initiate, open up, and lead a new research area.”
“I ventured into business in Asia at a time of political instability and economic crisis. I was fortunate to survive and prosper. If I can be of service to others and contribute to society, I am happy to do so.”

OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD

Mr Tony CHEW Leong-Chee
Serdang Agricultural College, Malaysia, 1966
Chairman, Asia Resource Corporation
Chairman, Singapore Business Federation
Chairman, Duke-NUS Graduate Medical School Singapore

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENTS
- Co-founded a small trading company that has since grown and expanded to become Asia Resource Corporation today managing diverse businesses across Asia
- Played a pioneering role over 37 years to take well-known brands into uncharted territory as well as launch and grow ventures, with examples being Pepsi-Cola Vietnam, KFC Vietnam and Jetstar Asia Airways
- Acquired and breathed new life into many mature and established corporations, such as Del Monte Pacific, Pepsi-Cola Philippines, Sterling Tobacco, Myanmar Airways International and Hua Feng Paper Mill

SERVICE TO NATION AND INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY
- Actively promoted Singapore and regional businesses through leadership roles at the Singapore Trade Development Board (now International Enterprise Singapore), Regional Business Forum and the ASEAN Business Advisory Council, among others
- Contributed expertise and experience to the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia Governing Board, Korea-Singapore Business Roundtable, SPRING Singapore’s Enterprise Development Advisory Council and the Singapore Institute of International Affairs, among others
- Served on the boards of several government-linked companies, including Keppel Corporation, Keppel-Tat Lee Bank, Capitaland Commercial and Trade Development Board Holdings
- Chairman, Singapore Business Federation (since 2008)
- Chairman, Duke-NUS Graduate Medical School Singapore (since 2005)
- Chairman, Network Indonesia (2003 – 2009)
- Member, Economic Review Committee for Entrepreneurship and Internationalisation (2001 – 2002)
- Member, Economic Strategies Committee (2009 – 2010)

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES
- Public Service Star (2008)
- Public Service Medal (2001)

FUTURE ASPIRATION
“To share my experience of business in Asia with others in Singapore.”
"Returning to Singapore after 30 years in North America was a major turning point in my life. I had pursued my passion as an academic in North America. My stint as NUS President gave me the opportunity to enable others to pursue their passions and advance the University together. Being able to help others reach for their best has been particularly rewarding."

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENTS

- Provided leadership for NUS as President for almost a decade, leading its transformation as a highly regarded research university embracing an entrepreneurial dimension and promoting the University’s global profile and reach while building research and educational partnerships with leading institutions around the world.
- Served on national committees and boards in Singapore such as the Economic Review Committee tasked to craft wide-ranging strategies for re-making Singapore, the Economic Development Board, the National Research Foundation, the Singapore International Foundation, as well as the Materials Research Society of Singapore.
- Enjoys worldwide recognition for his pioneering contributions in nonlinear fracture mechanics, the study of how materials break so that they can be made stronger. With about 150 publications in leading scientific journals, he is listed by the Institute for Scientific Information as among the world’s most highly cited engineering researchers.
- Played a key role in the formation of the International Alliance of Research Universities (IARU), comprising 10 of the world’s leading research universities spanning four continents, and served as Chairman and Chairman Emeritus of the Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU), comprising 42 leading research universities modelled after the premier Association of American Universities. He also chaired the Governing Board of the APRU World Institute, an institute of advanced studies seeking to address scientific, social, and economic issues of global importance.

SERVICE TO NATION AND INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

- Vice-Chancellor and President, NUS (2000 – 2008)
- Deputy Vice-Chancellor, NUS (1997 – 2000)
- Director, Institute of Materials Research and Engineering (1996 – 1999)
- Member, Board Executive Committee, Universitas 21 and U21 Global (2002 – 2007)
- Member, MIT Visiting Committee for Materials Science and Engineering (2001 – 2006)
- Board Member, National Research Foundation (2006 – 2008)
- Board Member, Agency for Science, Technology and Research (2002 – 2007)

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

- Ted Belytschko Applied Mechanics Award, American Society for Mechanical Engineers (2008)
- Chief Executive Leadership Inaugural Award for Asia Pacific, Council for Advancement and Support for Education (2007)
- Foreign Honorary Member, American Academy of Arts and Sciences (2006)
- Honorary Doctor of Science degrees conferred by
  - Brown University in the United States (2008)
  - Waseda University in Japan (2007)
  - Loughborough University in the United Kingdom (2005)

FUTURE ASPIRATION

“I view life as a never-ending and ever-changing journey of learning and discovery. Being true to your passions, values and beliefs makes the journey all the more meaningful and fulfilling – and fun.”
The NUS Teaching Academy was established in April 2009 to serve the following aims and purposes:

- To foster a culture of teaching excellence, and underscore the University’s commitment to offering quality education.
- To provide a platform to engage our outstanding teachers, enabling them to share their expertise and develop new pedagogies.
- To confer recognition and enhance visibility of members of the NUS community who have maintained a high level of teaching excellence and helped raise the quality of NUS education.
- To enhance quality assurance and serve as a benchmark for excellence in teaching.

The Teaching Academy comprises winners of the University’s Outstanding Educator Award as well as elected faculty who have contributed significantly to education in NUS. Known as Fellows, they will spearhead efforts in promoting excellence in teaching and learning at NUS, and provide leadership in educational initiatives such as teaching and learning master classes and mentorship schemes. Other roles these Fellows will play include engaging actively in research in pedagogy, serving in university-level committees, helping to review existing processes, advising university management on education matters, as well as acting as ambassadors and connectors for the University and the Centre for Development of Teaching and Learning (CDTL) within and beyond NUS.

Envisaged to be a “think-tank” in education matters, the NUS Teaching Academy will drive various projects including developing new educational thinking and initiatives aligned with the University’s vision and mission. It will also contribute to key educational processes within the University and help provide a unique and stimulating educational experience for our students.
Mr CHEAH Kok Ming  
Department of Architecture  
School of Design & Environment

Assoc Prof Alice CHRISTUDASON  
Department of Real Estate  
School of Design & Environment

Assoc Prof Teofilo C DAQUILA  
Department of Southeast Asian Studies  
Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences

Prof KOH Khee Meng  
Department of Mathematics  
Faculty of Science

Assoc Prof LEE Tye Beng, Joel  
Faculty of Law

Assoc Prof YAP Von Bing  
Department of Statistics & Applied Probability  
Faculty of Science

Prof ZHOU Weibiao  
Department of Chemistry  
Faculty of Science