



A Message

FROM THE PRESIDENT

23 September 2020

Dear Alumnus,

You would have read news reports about the University's preliminary consultations on a proposed College of Humanities and Sciences (CHS) with faculty members of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS) and the Faculty of Science (FOS).

The initiative comes as the University sharpens its focus on greater flexibility, interdisciplinarity, and preparing our students for a world that is increasingly volatile, uncertain, complex and ambiguous.

The CHS is a joint effort by FASS and FOS to make deep reforms to enhance the educational quality, market relevance and learning experience for our students. The two Faculties will not merge. Instead, faculty members will come together, leveraging on the combined strengths of both schools, to collaborate and design an integrated common curriculum which will be the anchor of the new proposed College.

Students admitted to the CHS will belong to both FASS and FOS, and will have access to faculty, facilities as well as majors and minors offered in both Faculties. In other words, students will get to enjoy a distinctive education featuring the best of FASS and FOS.

The CHS educational model will mark a major shift from NUS' traditional discipline-centric approach to university education, to a flexible, broad-based education. More information on this proposed college is available in this [NUS News article](#).

This initiative is a work in progress, and it will evolve. Senior Deputy President and Provost Professor Ho Teck Hua, FASS Dean Professor Robbie Goh, FOS Dean Professor Sun Yeneng and I will continue with our internal and external consultations over the next few months.

As I wrote in my [commentary](#) for *The Straits Times*, universities must strive to prepare students for a world of work and for a life outside the university. We need to also help our students make sense of all the confusing changes occurring in our midst, and in the paths ahead.

To do this, NUS must radically transform itself.

I look forward to your support as I work closely with Teck Hua, Robbie, Yeneng, Vice Deans and colleagues from FASS and FOS, to bring this proposal to fruition.

With best wishes,
Professor Tan Eng Chye (Science '85)
NUS President