

22 January 2019

Dear Colleagues, Alumni and Friends,

I would like to extend my warmest greetings to you and your loved ones in this first month of the New Year. As we begin 2019, I would like to share with you some recent as well as upcoming developments at the University.

Faculty Announcement

Professor Chua Kee Chaing, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering (FoE), will be taking a leave of absence from NUS to take on the role of Deputy President (Academic) and Provost of the Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT), with effect from 1 September 2019.

Kee Chaing, or "KC" as he is known to us, joined NUS in 1990 and twice served as FoE's Vice Dean for Research (2003-2006; 2008-2009). He was appointed Head of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, before becoming Dean of Engineering in 2014.

During his tenure as Dean, the Global State of The Art in Engineering Education report, commissioned by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 2018, named NUS Engineering as among the top 10 Engineering Education Leaders globally. KC also established two new corporate research laboratories with Sembcorp Industries and Applied Materials Inc, and developed two strategic research programmes: Engineering in Medicine and Hybrid Flexible Electronics.

On behalf of the University, I would like to place on record our deep appreciation to KC for his many contributions to NUS, and his strong leadership of NUS Engineering. We are pleased that he will continue to be a member of the NUS community even as we wish him the very best in his new leadership role at SIT.

The University will shortly begin a global search for the next Dean of Engineering.

Teh Tarik Talks

To help raise awareness of the University's new Vision, Mission and Values launched late last year, my senior colleagues and I will be embarking on a series of Teh Tarik Talk sessions over the next few months. These sessions will help us learn more from you on how we can internalise and weave our NUS Values of Innovation, Resilience, Excellence, Respect and Integrity into the DNA of our faculty, staff, students and

alumni. These sessions will also showcase NUS projects which I hope will inspire us to be more innovative in the way we carry out our mission to educate, inspire and transform.

The inaugural session was held last week with the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Asia Research Institute, NUS Libraries and Centre for the Development of Teaching and Learning. I was heartened to see the enthusiastic turnout of faculty and staff at the event. My senior colleagues and I will be hosting many more Teh Tarik Talk sessions with the different NUS units across our campuses in the coming months. We look forward to chatting with you over some teh tarik ("pulled" hot milk tea) and kuih (bite-sized snacks).

In closing, as the Lunar New Year draws near, may I wish our Chinese colleagues a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous Lunar New Year, and all others an enjoyable festive holiday break!

With best wishes,

Professor Tan Eng Chye (Science '85) NUS President