



# A Message

FROM THE PRESIDENT

16 August 2019

Dear alumnus,

I hope you had a very enjoyable long weekend, which capped an exciting week of National Day celebrations and our very own NUS Students' Union's (NUSSU) Rag and Flag, an annual tradition of the University since the 1950s.

As we begin the new semester, I would like to take this opportunity to share some important news with you.

## **NUSSU Rag and Flag 2019**

This year, our students ventured beyond the campus and brought Rag Day to the heart of the community. They did us proud by putting up a spectacular show at Bishan-Ang Mo Kio Park on 10 August, which was attended by the NUS community and members of the public. Among the audience were Singapore President and NUS Chancellor Halimah Yacob, who graced the event as Guest-of-Honour, and Minister for Education Ong Ye Kung. Themed "Reach Out!", our students entertained the audience with 13 energetic performances as well as intricately-decorated thematic props and mobile displays which were constructed from recycled materials. Rag and Flag 2019 raised about \$367,000 for 22 charity programmes supported by Community Chest through 19 Social Service Agencies.

You can read more about Rag and Flag 2019 at [NUS News](#).

## **National Day Awards**

Our heartiest congratulations to Mr J Y Pillay, Rector of College of Alice & Peter Tan; Dr Gerard Ee, 2017 Honorary Doctor of Letters recipient; Mr Teo Siong Seng, NUS Pro-Chancellor; Mr Kai Nargolwala, Chairman, Duke-NUS Medical School Governing Board; and members of the NUS community who were among the 4,985 recipients presented with the 2019 National Day Awards.

Mr Pillay, who is the longest serving chairman of the Council of Presidential Advisers, received the top honours of *Order of Temasek (with Distinction)*. Dr Ee, Chairman, Charities Council, was conferred the *Distinguished Service Order*. Both Mr Teo, who is Honorary President, Singapore Chinese Chamber of Commerce & Industry, and Mr Nargolwala were awarded the *Public Service Star*.

Other members of the NUS community recognised for their public service contributions include Professor Bernard Lanskey, Dean, Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music; Professor Simon Chesterman, Dean, Faculty of Law; Dr Peck Thian Guan, Director, Office of Safety, Health and Environment; and Ms Ovidia Lim-Rajaram, Chief Communications Officer, Office of University Communications, who received the *Public Administration Medal (Silver)*.

*The Public Administration Medal (Bronze)* was awarded to Professor Willie Tan, Department of Building; Dr Andre Wan, Research Director, Office of the Deputy President (Research & Technology); Associate Professor Chng Huang Hoon, Associate Provost (Undergraduate Education), Office of the Senior Deputy President and Provost and Director, Chua Tian Poh Community Leadership Centre; Professor Teo Kie Leong, Vice-Dean (Research & Technology), Faculty of Engineering; and Professor Koh Woon Puay from Duke-NUS Medical School and Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health.

Among the recipients of the *Long Service Medal* were Professor Bernard Tan, Senior Vice Provost (Undergraduate Education); Professor Susanna Leong, Vice Provost (Lifelong Education); Professor Robbie Goh, Dean, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences; Professor Lim Chwee Teck, Director of the Institute for Health Innovation & Technology; and Professor Teo Chung Piaw, Executive Director, Institute of Operations Research and Analytics.

The list of the 2019 National Day Awards recipients from the NUS community can be seen [here](#). You can also read the full story on [NUS News](#).

## **Upcoming events**

### **(1) NUSSU Student Life Fair**

The NUSSU Student Life Fair is currently taking place at University Town. With more than 160 student-run booths featuring various clubs, societies and interest groups, the fair will provide an excellent opportunity for students to pursue their interests in sporting, artistic or cultural activities on campus. More information on the fair is available [here](#).

### **(2) Kent Ridge Alumni Family Day**

I look forward to welcoming our alumni, students, fellow colleagues and their families back to Kent Ridge Campus for the Kent Ridge Alumni Family Day's Fiesta on the Green on Saturday, 17 August, at University Town. The day's festivities include many fun-packed family activities, workshops as well as stage performances by alumni and students. You can also enjoy an outdoor movie screening of popular animated film *Smallfoot* at the end of the day. Registration is still open at [alumnet.events/KR19](http://alumnet.events/KR19).

### **(3) NUS Day of Service**

We will also be having our NUS Day of Service on Saturday, 7 September – the fourth edition of this annual event since it began in 2016. The NUS Day of Service brings together the NUS family in a spirit of giving and caring for our community. Last year, some 2,050 NUS staff, students and alumni organised and participated in a total of 57 community service activities which reached out to 6,130 beneficiaries.

There is a wide range of activities available, so please register your interest at [NUS Day of Service](#).

#### **(4) RunNUS**

If you wish to run for a good cause, join us at our largest annual running event, RunNUS, on Sunday, 8 September at University Town. This student-led event is organised by the NUS Students' Sports Club in partnership with the NUS Disability Support Office and the Disabled People's Association. The race brings students, staff, alumni and members of the public together in a show of support for people with disabilities or special needs. There are three categories for RunNUS this year – "RunwithUS" (3km Challenge), 10km and 15km competitive runs. Race participants who opt for the 3km Challenge "RUNwithUS" can choose to either run alongside Persons with Disabilities or Special Needs or take part in simulation activities during the run. Visit [RunNUS 2019](#) for more details and to register for the event.

I hope that you will join us at these events.

With best wishes,

Professor Tan Eng Chye (Science '85)  
NUS President