SCIENCE MERIT SCHOLARSHIP



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A S P I R E SCHOLARSHIP

For the past 88 years, thousands of students have enjoyed a premier science education at the NUS Faculty of Science. Many of these graduates have gone on to carve outstanding careers in education, research and industry, playing key roles during the critical period of nation building. Today, having more science graduates at the workplace is crucial to ensuring that Singapore maintains its competitive edge in a world of revolutionary scientific and technological advancements, uncertainty and disruption. Science graduates are Singapore's hope to advance the frontiers of science, translate cutting-edge research for industry, and drive the economy in order to power Singapore's next phase of development.

Each year, many talented young students

enter the NUS Faculty of Science holding high aspirations that their education will enable them to do good for themselves and for others. Some of them start their learning journey already clear about what they want to achieve. Others take their time to discover individual areas of interest and grow in them. The NUS Faculty of Science is committed to come alongside our students, guiding them from exploration to discovery and finally, to see the fulfilment of their dreams.

Within these pages, you will get a glimpse of the diversity and richness of our students' learning experiences. Our students have taken varied pathways to develop themselves academically and beyond. Their immense potential in diverse fields will help make Singapore's future better for all. The Faculty of Science, with our long tradition of excellence, will continue to draw talented and capable students to study science. In partnership with our supporters, we will provide them with an excellent educational environment in which they may strive and excel. Your gift helps more students to achieve their dreams and is an enduring legacy for a prosperous and secure Singapore. Help us, and be a part of this dream.

Prof **SHEN Zuowei** Dean Faculty of Science

Co-Chair, Science Merit Scholarship Committee

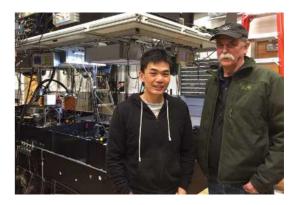
Prof Leo TAN Director Special Projects Faculty of Science Co-Chair, Science Merit Scholarship Committee

NUS SCIENCE MERIT SCHOLARSHIP



IGNITING YOUNG MINDS

Our Transformative Science Education provides students truly life-changing experiences. Our students benefit greatly from our unique diversity of learning opportunities that enable them to spread their wings and expand their horizons.



⁶⁶ It was a great honour for me to learn and conduct research under the guidance of the best scientific minds. This experience fulfills my dream as an experimental atomic physicist.⁹⁹ ~ TAN Ting Rei, Physics

Ting Rei worked with Prof David J WINELAND, a Nobel Laureate physicist (2012), at the National Institute of Standards and Technology. His research project on quantum entanglement was selected by the Institute of Physics, a leading scientific society in the United Kingdom and Ireland, as one of the top ten physics breakthroughs of 2016.



Low Wen Yi, fourth from left

I gained varied perspectives and engaged in interdisciplinary and collaborative work to bring ideas from the whiteboard to the real world.

LOW Wen Yi, Chemistry

Wen Yi participated in the prestigious Yale Visiting International Student Programme, where she challenged herself to stretch her limits through Yale's liberal arts curriculum.



I was inspired by the dedication and collaboration between researchers in related fields.
 Rachel OH, Life Sciences
 Ngee Ann Kongsi Scholarship

Rachel undertook a summer Undergraduate Research Opportunities Programme in Science project at Ocean Park, Hong Kong, where she studied dolphin cognition with researchers overseas.







I gained enriching life experiences by meeting people from different backgrounds, that cannot be obtained through textbooks.
 Bernice LEOW, Pharmacy ASEAN Undergraduate Scholarship

Bernice learnt about global health, social justice and different healthcare systems during a Summer Programme at King's College London.



 I love studying languages. Polish is a very difficult language, but I found joy learning it.
 Samantha TAN, Statistics



Samantha went on a Student Exchange Programme to Cracow University of Technology, Poland.



Michelle Gan, third from right

Samoa opened my eyes to the importance of the community as key stewards in biodiversity conservation in developing countries.⁹⁹~

Michelle GAN, Environmental Studies



 I ventured out of my comfort zone, and stepped out into the unknown.
 Desmond HO, Applied Mathematics

Michelle took up a summer internship with Conservation International in Samoa in 2016, where she supported the organisation's work in protecting nature.

Desmond went to Megiddo, Israel on an archaeological dig in 2016. He learnt to see the big picture from the perspective of archaeologists, who relate excavated squares to one another in depth and breadth. He also gained deeper appreciation of the Bronze and Iron Ages.







Our students and alumni achieve excellence academically and beyond the classroom, in areas ranging from sports to community service.



⁶⁶ Mountaineering demands and hones a certain mindset - the ability to dream and the courage to overcome.⁹⁹~ Jeremy PONG, Life Sciences Ngee Ann Kongsi University Town Scholarship

Jeremy is an expedition leader for many successful mountaineering trips, including treks to Everest Base Camp, Mount Kerinci and Mount Kinabalu.



I am inspired by the boldness of young passionate scientists which is translated into action to solve real-world issues.
 We dared to try new ways as we believe our work is important.⁹⁹~
 NGUYEN Hoang Diem Phuong, Life Sciences

The Special Programme in Science team clinched the Gold award at the International Genetically Engineered Machine Competition in October 2016 in the United States. The team used synthetic biology to develop engineered bacteria for detecting cancer cells without medical equipment.



 I want to encourage women by promoting body positivity and sharing fitness tips through social media channels. It is never too late for anyone to start on their fitness journey.
 Victoria PANG, Chemistry NUS Merit Scholarship

Victoria is the winner of the inaugural SHAPE Fit Girl Contest 2017, the first of its kind in Singapore to inspire female fitness enthusiasts.





Lucas Teo, foreground

^{CC} The drive to win is the key to my passion in canoeing. I also hope to impart the values of determination and conviction needed to be a sportsman.⁹⁹~ Lucas TEO, Life Sciences

Lucas achieved a new personal best record of 3 minutes 43.036 seconds to win the men's canoe gold in June 2015, a first for Singapore in the history of the Southeast Asian Games.



I hope to inspire others to appreciate the wonders of science and the importance of research for practical and intellectual purposes.
 Ernest TAN, Physics
 NUS Global Merit Scholarship

Ernest was an active Young Educators in Science programme member, where he demonstrated scientific concepts in interesting ways to youths. He constructed an exhibit to reveal the spectra of everyday light sources using simple spectroscopes, which clinched the first prize at the Amazing Science-X Challenge (2012).



Adam Jasni, second row, second from left

Volunteering is not a duty but a privilege and it comes from the heart.
Adam JASNI, Chemistry



Huang Shiqi, centre row, sixth from left

 Through this programme, we served with love and also received love and appreciation.
 HUANG Shiqi, Food Science and Technology

Adam participated in Project Angel, an annual Overseas Service Learning Project by NUS Students' Science Club which seeks to improve the quality of life of underprivileged communities in the world.

Shiqi participated in the inaugural NUS Day of Service on 3 September 2016. The Faculty organised activities, including Science demonstrations for Science Centre Singapore visitors, a visit to the Peacehaven Nursing Home and Bin Right!, a community awareness programme on the proper disposal of waste in recycling bins.







We believe in investing in talented students, to shape their abilities and develop them as well-rounded individuals. This empowers them as future leaders who can effect positive change in our society and beyond.



⁵⁵ The scholarship is more than a source of financial aid. It is a gateway to opportunities, opening many doors. I can enjoy a fulfilling undergraduate experience with confidence in spite of the uncertain times ahead.⁹⁹~ Benjamin GOH, Physics NUS Global Merit Scholarship

Benjamin had the opportunity to intern at a pharmaceutical company, go on an overseas exchange programme and work with a social startup. The scholarship also enabled his parents to plan their retirement. He is currently teaching at the Faculty.



⁶⁶ I had the freedom to pursue my passion in Chemistry and other interests without trepidation. My time at NUS has been an eventful and memorable one. I will treasure these memories always.⁹⁹ ~ Victoria PANG, Chemistry NUS Merit Scholarship

Victoria took full advantage of her learning experiences, participating in the NUS Dance Ensemble, Science Bash and an exchange programme at Pittsburgh University. The scholarship helped when her family was hit with financial hardship midway into her candidature.



⁶⁶ The scholarship set me on my path as a researcher. I took lessons to become a certified diver, which opened my eyes to an exciting new world. This led me to carry out an Undergraduate Research Opportunities Programme in Science project on rearing corals.⁹⁹~ Samantha LAI, Life Sciences NUS Faculty Scholarship

Samantha was a Research Assistant at the Reef Ecology Laboratory. After a few years, she commenced her Ph.D. studies on seagrasses, aspiring to contribute to the conservation of these critical and beautiful habitats in Singapore.







 I furthered my interest in Mathematics while pursuing my interests, like bridge and other extracurricular activities. I also gained new perspectives by venturing abroad.
 Edmund CHAY, Mathematics Kent Ridge Undergraduate Scholarship

The scholarship enabled **Edmund's** parents to save for retirement and to pay for his sister's university education. A student exchange programme to Canada exposed him to different teaching methods and cultures.



⁶⁶ The scholarship aids me financially and gives me an edge when seeking employment locally or overseas. NUS' curriculum often challenges and stretches me to achieve greater heights.⁹⁹~ Janice ANG, Statistics Kent Ridge Undergraduate Scholarship

Janice participated in the NUS Overseas Colleges programme and studied in Sweden for a year. She is keen to explore diverse job opportunities and to venture into different sectors before deciding on her career pathway.



As a debt-free graduate, I have the flexibility to explore my interests before choosing my ideal career. The NUS Pharmacy degree opens doors to diverse careers.
 Christina KANG, Pharmacy
 Alice and Peter Tan Scholarship and Kent Ridge Undergraduate Scholarship

The scholarship allowed **Christina** to participate in NUS Pharmaceutical Society activities, a summer exchange programme at the University of Toronto and study trips to Vienna and Budapest. She aspires to a career in formulation science in the pharmaceutical industry.



 The scholarship was an investment in my future that gave me excellent educational opportunities and which made my postgraduate studies possible.
 CHUA Xin Rong, Applied Mathematics NUS Undergraduate Scholarship

Xin Rong participated in a research project which sparked her interest in the climate impacts of pollutants. She is currently a Ph.D. student in the Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences Programme, Princeton University. She aspires to advance worldclass tropical climate research in Singapore.







I am grateful for the support given to me.
 I have learnt a lot and broadened my knowledge of science. I also sought out diverse experiences, which made my student life a fulfilling and rewarding one.
 WONG Zi Heng, Physics
 Alice and Peter Tan Scholarship and Ministry of Education Teaching Scholarship

Zi Heng suffered a life-threatening diving accident in Year 1 that left him paralysed. With perseverance to overcome the odds, he returned to school after a year's absence, where he took on the role of Science Bash Director. At the College of Alice and Peter Tan, he engaged different communities like migrant workers, gaining understanding of the daily challenges they face. He also went on an immersion trip to Germany. Zi Heng aspires to be a teacher.



Our alumni are found in every sector of the marketplace. They make outstanding contributions to science, the economy and society. Indeed, an NUS Science degree opens the door to infinite possibilities.



A full life can mean using my talents and overcoming challenges. By helping others, I have learnt to appreciate the help I received and continue to receive.
 Dr YEO Sze Ling, Research Scientist, A*STAR Institute

for Infocomm Research

B.Sc. (Hons) in Mathematics (2001), Ph.D. in Mathematics (2006) NUS Undergraduate Scholarship

Sze Ling lost her sight to glaucoma but was determined to pursue her dream in Mathematics. She is the first blind person to pursue Mathematics up to Ph.D. level at NUS. She received the Singapore Youth Award in 2012, the highest national accolade for youth who have excelled in their fields, given back to society and inspire others.





Dr Poh Weijie, left

We wanted to advance a discovery that saves human lives, while reducing the stigma and economic burden from human papillomavirus (HPV)-related cancers.⁹⁹~ Dr POH Weijie, CEO and Co-Founder, PathoVax LLC (USA), PathoVax Pte Ltd (Singapore) B.Sc. (Hons) in Life Sciences (2010) Ph.D. in Pathobiology (2015), Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine

Weijie co-founded PathoVax, that has exclusively licensed RGVax, the world's first vaccine preventing all HPV-related diseases. The vaccine will begin clinical trials in 2018.



⁶⁶ My guiding principle is to make the mistakes as quickly as possible and ensure that we experiment and build new technologies that align with business objectives.⁹⁹ ~ Dr Bernard LEONG, Head of Post Office Network and Digital Services, Singapore Post Ltd B.Sc. in Physics and Materials Science (1998) Ph.D. in Physics (2003), University of Cambridge

Bernard led the digital transformation of Singapore Post with the new SAM kiosks, web and mobile platforms, mobility applications and the secure authenticated drone delivery flight in Singapore.



We took a leap of faith to set up the first private forensic science entity, with more than 10 forensic science disciplines. I believe in seeking the truth through science, and doing my part for the justice system.

LIM Chin Chin, Co-Founder and Senior Consultant Forensic Scientist, The Forensic Experts Group B.Sc. (Hons) in Chemistry (1991) M.Sc. in Chemistry (1994) M.B.A. (2003), University of Leicester

Chin Chin pioneered many forensic capabilities in Singapore, including analysis of counterfeit drugs, unknown chemicals and bloodstain patterns, forensic simulations and scene reconstructions. She was an expert witness in many notable cases, including the HUANG Na and Yishun triple murders and the suicide of American researcher Dr Shane TODD.







With the rapid growth in analytics, a new breed of business professionals who are analytics-savvy and who possess a strategic mindset will thrive in the next era.
 Dr Murphy CHOY, Director of Analytics, Operations and Technology, DART Institute B.Sc. in Statistics (2006)
 M.Sc. in Finance (2009), University College Dublin

Ph.D. in Professional Studies by Public Works (2015), Middlesex University, London

Murphy's passion for Statistics kindled his ability to perceive problems in many dimensions and to implement complex solutions. His interest in programming languages exposed him to the greater world of technology and its intersection with society.



Community work reminds me to count my blessings. It does not take much to spare a thought for others or to make their day.

Brandon CHUA, Pharmacist, KK Women's and Children's Hospital B.Sc. (Hons) in Pharmacy (2015) SingHealth Local Health Science Scholarship **Brandon** is a pharmacy lead for HealthServe, a nonprofit community organisation that seeks to meet the needs of low-wage migrant workers in Singapore through social assistance, legal clinics and medication advice.

NUSGIVING

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