

## **PRESS RELEASE**



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### **NURTURING SINGAPORE'S NEW GENERATION OF GLOBAL LAWYERS**

*NUS law undergraduates benefit from close to \$330,000 in donations from firms and alumni; new scholarships, bursaries and prizes to help groom outstanding lawyers for the Singapore legal profession*

The National University of Singapore's (NUS) Faculty of Law is pleased to announce that it has recently received close to \$330,000 in donations from firms and alumni that would fund scholarships, bursaries and prizes for its law undergraduates.

The largest donation is from prominent local law firm, TSMP Law Corporation, which has generously provided S\$50,000 to set up the TSMP Law Corporation Scholarship. This donation will provide for ten scholarships of which each year, a second-year law undergraduate and a third-year law undergraduate are expected to benefit from this scholarship.

Ms Stefanie Yuen-Thio, Joint Managing Director and Head of the Corporate Department at TSMP Law Corporation, said, "We are delighted to be able to partner with the National University of Singapore's Faculty of Law in nurturing, developing and encouraging promising legal minds to become the top practitioners of tomorrow. Our firm has a long association with the NUS' Faculty of Law as our founding partner Dr Thio Su Mien was its first local and first lady Dean, and we count many of our senior partners as alumni. We owe a lot to the Faculty of Law and this is one way we hope we can give a little back."

Other firms who have generously donated to the Faculty of Law to establish scholarships include global law firm Baker & McKenzie.Wong & Leow whose donation will support a scholarship for a law freshman for his entire four-year undergraduate programme, and leading Singapore law firm WongPartnership LLP whose donation will go towards the establishment of five scholarships for second-year law undergraduates.

Baker & McKenzie.Wong & Leow Managing Partner, Mr Wong Kien Keong said, "Our firm is committed to providing our prospective law students with invaluable exposure to cross-border work. This experience should prepare the scholarship holder to contribute to the development of the legal profession in Singapore."

Mr Alvin Yeo, Senior Partner of WongPartnership and Senior Counsel, said, "The Firm is committed to the educational process of young lawyers in Singapore. We are proud to be a partner of the NUS Faculty of Law and we hope that the scholarships will encourage students to work towards the goal of becoming outstanding lawyers. The Firm hopes to

contribute to the development and growth of the students, who may one day become the next Chief Justice or Attorney-General.”

New book prizes have also been established through the generous donations by legal firms Keystone Law Corporation and Straits Law Practice LLC, and non-legal firm Wonders Engineering Co. Pte Ltd. While the Keystone Law Corporation Prize is set up to encourage students to take up Information Technology Law, the Straits Law Practice Prize rewards first-year law students for excelling in the core curriculum subject of Legal Analysis, Writing and Research at the Faculty of Law.

Wonders Engineering has donated S\$40,000 towards the setting up of the Yong Heng Kin Book Prize in Law of Contract, named in honour of the father of its Managing Director Mr Yong Eng Wah.

NUS law graduates have also come forth to contribute to their alma mater. The Class of 1987 and the Class of 1980 have each raised amounts to fund bursaries for the financially needy students at the Faculty of Law. Graduates from the Class of 1986 have also come together to establish the Class of '86 Bennett Lam Scholarship Fund, in memory of the donors' late classmate who went missing during a fishing trip. Over \$100,000 was raised during their 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunion in 2006.

The Class of '86 Bennett Lam Scholarship committee said, "The occasion of our Class' 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunion offered us an opportunity not only to renew our ties with old friends, but also relive the carefree days we had at Kent Ridge. We also felt that it would be a wonderful chance for us to make a small contribution to the future of Singapore's legal fraternity as it was our legal education which opened many doors for many of us. The establishment of the Class of 1986-Bennett Lam Scholarship is our gesture of gratitude for all that our teachers have done and in fond memory of our late classmate Bennett who went fishing and never returned. We also hope that this Scholarship will provide needy law students with greater opportunities to access a good legal education and thus give them a better foothold in life. "

Prof Tan Cheng Han, Dean of NUS Faculty of Law and Senior Counsel, said, "I am delighted and humbled by the continuing support of our law firms, alumni and friends. For more than 50 years the NUS law school has been serving Singapore and the region by providing quality legal education to thousands of legal professionals many of whom are making important contributions to their societies. The valuable support that we are receiving today will help us to continue to provide a rigorous and broad based legal education to bright students regardless of their financial circumstances. They will also help us to acknowledge and encourage students who have done particularly well in their law studies."

Since its humble beginnings when the pioneer batch of students graduated from the University of Malaya's Bukit Timah Campus in 1961, the NUS Faculty of Law has grown in strength and reputation. It is today widely regarded as Asia's leading law school. With the dedicated support of partners, alumni and friends, the NUS Law School is well-equipped to train leaders able to adapt and take on the challenges of the ever-changing global landscape, making it truly Asia's Global Law School. The NUS Faculty of Law remains committed to playing a key role in grooming outstanding lawyers for Singapore's legal profession.

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