The National University of Singapore (NUS) has nurtured generations of talent since our founding in 1905. Our 17 faculties across three campuses in Singapore, and 11 NUS Overseas Colleges around the world, provide a thriving environment for our diverse community of 40,000 students to live and learn together, in their pursuit of knowledge.

We pioneer innovative academic programmes, influential research and visionary enterprises to improve lives and contribute to society.

As Singapore’s flagship university and among Asia’s best, we strive to inspire and innovate, to shape a better future for Asia and the world.

This is THE

NUS

STORY

2018/19
The National University of Singapore aspires to be a vital community of academics, researchers, staff, students and alumni working together in a spirit of innovation and enterprise for a better world.

Our singular focus on talent will be the cornerstone of a truly great university that is dedicated to quality education, influential research and visionary enterprise, in service of country and society.
We aim to nurture future-ready leaders of society who are adaptable, entrepreneurial, global in outlook, industry-relevant and lifelong learners.

At NUS, we are committed to giving our students – from undergraduates and graduates to adult learners – a holistic education.

Our 17 faculties and schools provide an environment that facilitates exploration, experimentation and discovery of interests, and multiple disciplines that address the wide-ranging interests of our students. They learn from leading professors who are experts in their respective fields.

Apart from a rigorous curriculum which includes a grade-free scheme, we have pioneered innovative academic programmes which provide invaluable international exposure.

These academic pathways include the highly popular NUS Overseas Colleges and student exchange programmes, as well as double, joint and concurrent degree programmes. Experiential learning is also offered through residential college programmes customised to living-learning communities on campus.

As disruptive changes continue across the world, NUS has to re-imagine new models of teaching and learning. To keep pace with technological advances, we strongly advocate digital learning, with blended learning courses that integrate face-to-face activities with online platforms, and the latest technologies to enable seamless learning on and off campus.

“We aim to nurture future-ready leaders of society who are adaptable, entrepreneurial, global in outlook, industry-relevant and lifelong learners.”

To prepare our students for the future, the Centre for Future-ready Graduates equips them with the necessary life skills, as well as helps them accumulate practical experience and expertise before they embark on their careers. The Roots & Wings programme is specially designed to provide NUS students with foundational future-ready skills to strengthen leadership capabilities and further societal contributions.

FUTURE-READY EDUCATION
Lifelong Learners Programme for NUS Students and Alumni
In support of lifelong education, our School of Continuing and Lifelong Education extends many programmes for working adults who wish to acquire fresh skills and knowledge to stay relevant in today’s workforce.

The University recently launched the new NUS Lifelong Learners programme which provides NUS graduates ready access to a wide range of skills-based, industry-relevant courses for upskilling or reskilling. The programme also enables them to remain competitive in the job market, and to make a greater impact on the future economy. Since 2017, NUS alumni can sign up for free courses in various subject areas such as computing, engineering, science, arts, design and business at the University.

16th
globally in graduate employability

>300 partner universities in

>40 countries for student exchange

56 Bachelor’s degrees
25 Concurrent degrees
72 Double degrees
34 Second majors
35 Joint degrees

Building Global Alliances
Over the years, NUS has built a global network of partner institutions in education and research. Such collaborations promote an exchange of ideas targeted at areas of strategic interest and leverage each institution’s unique strengths, creating many opportunities for teaching, learning and discovery.

Member of Prominent Global Networks
• ASEAN University Network
• Asian Universities Alliance
• Association of Pacific Rim Universities
• International Alliance of Research Universities
• Universitas 21
• WEF Global University Leaders Forum

University Town
University Town embodies the NUS vision of a dynamic campus ecosystem. An educational hub complete with residential spaces, teaching facilities, study clusters, sports amenities and performance spaces, the lively intellectual and social environment provides for a richer and more holistic campus experience.

Yale-NUS College, a leading liberal arts college in Asia, is located within University Town. It features a full residential programme that incorporates deeper learning-living interaction. The College’s unique curriculum combines the strengths of established science and liberal arts traditions with the diverse intellectual practices and cultures of Asia and the world.
IMPACTFUL RESEARCH

NUS constantly pushes the boundaries to achieve research excellence through synergies across multiple disciplines.

At NUS, we adopt an integrated approach, bringing together researchers in diverse fields to examine critical issues in a holistic way to seek innovative measures and solutions to improve life in Asia and the world. Their research covers a wide range of themes including preventive and translational medicine; ageing; energy, environmental and urban sustainability; risk management and resilience of financial systems; smart nation; big data; and quantum technologies.

We also create synergies across boundaries, teaming up with government, industry, NGOs and leading academic partners to ensure that NUS research consistently addresses real-world issues.

Our strategy targets high-level research over a broad base from which several peaks of excellence naturally arise. To better address the interconnected challenges facing Asia and the rest of the world, we have combined the strengths of our faculties, schools and research institutes and centres to build eight integrative research clusters.
To be at the forefront of the 4th Industrial Revolution, our latest research focuses on data science, analytics and optimisation, artificial intelligence (AI), as well as cybersecurity to support Singapore’s Smart Nation initiative.

NUS’ Smart Nation Research Cluster dovetails this effort by gathering researchers from various fields such as engineering, mathematics, medicine, computing and the social sciences to create powerful solutions that enhance the way we live, work and play, as well as better protect us from cyber threats.

The new innovation4.0 (i4.0) building is home to the Smart Nation Research Cluster, which houses 13 interdisciplinary entities that will strengthen the University’s strategic capabilities to drive Singapore’s digital transformation. The sustainable building offers open concept workstations and generous interactive work areas to spark innovative ideas for smart mobility, smart living, digital health and social connectivity.

Also hosted at i4.0 is the NUS Graduate Research Innovation Programme, which will tap on our talented graduate students, post-doctoral fellows and research staff to establish and run high potential start-ups based on deep technologies. We intend to co-create up to 250 companies over the next five years under this programme.

At the national level, NUS is engaged in two research areas – artificial intelligence and data science, through the AI Singapore and the Singapore Data Science Consortium initiatives, respectively. Both endeavours advocate local and international collaborations between academia, industry and the government, bolstering our position as a dynamic hub for innovative research.

Other efforts include the Institute of Data Science, Singapore Cybersecurity Consortium, National Cybersecurity R&D Laboratory and NUS-Singtel Cyber Security Research & Development Laboratory which will help develop, apply and translate key technologies for industry implementation.

Industry partnerships play an important role in helping NUS inventions make the transition from the laboratory to the marketplace.

As such, through the NUS Industry Liaison Office, we engage researchers and work closely with national agencies and companies to deliver the technology transfer and market NUS technologies to the world. Some of our new spin-offs include FlexoSense, which develops insoles that address the problem of diabetic foot ulcers; and SenSing, which develops Internet-of-Things-based smart devices that provide real-time indoor space and energy analytics to help create better indoor environments.

“With an eye on the environment while conducting impactful research, we seek discoveries that push knowledge boundaries and disciplines.”

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4,332 new and existing projects underway¹
9,789 papers published² (Source: SCOPUS)
248 agreements with industry¹

540 patent applications¹
374 patent applications¹ (families²)
119 patents granted¹

84 patents granted¹ (families²)
123 technology licences executed¹
304 technology licences executed¹

¹ Financial Year 2017
² Calendar Year 2017 as at 29 June 2018
³ Figures correct as at 18 July 2018
⁴ A patent family is a collection of patent applications covering the same technical content but filed in various countries. The applications in a family are related to each other through priority (a first application in a country) claims.
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We pride ourselves in nurturing students to be successful entrepreneurs through our internship and business start-up programmes.

In 2001, the University started NUS Enterprise, an entrepreneurial arm to ignite the entrepreneurial spirit within the University. One of its successful initiatives is the much sought-after NUS Overseas Colleges programme. Combining overseas start-up internships with entrepreneurial coursework at prestigious partner universities, the programme provides our students with valuable hands-on experience in dynamic innovation hubs.

Since the first NUS Overseas College was established in Silicon Valley in 2002, more than 2,400 students have benefitted from an entrepreneurial education and made inroads in the business world.

Our other experiential learning opportunities include:

- Summer Programme: A two-week residential course on local business insight and entrepreneurship development activities for international students
- Lean LaunchPad Singapore Programme: Hands-on experience on commercialising technological inventions
- NUS Innovation & Entrepreneurship Exchange: A week-long exchange programme for start-ups to explore new markets, learn and exchange knowledge, and establish connections in tech start-up hubs worldwide
We provide entrepreneurship support through the NUS Start-Up Runway, a comprehensive suite of incubator-cum-accelerator services and platforms to form and grow businesses both in Singapore and overseas.

“

We help expose students to more career possibilities and provide them with resources for exploring the entrepreneurial path.”

Entrepreneurs can nurture their business ideas at The Hangar by NUS Enterprise on campus, while NUS Enterprise@Singapore Science Park and BLOCK71 Singapore offer off-campus entrepreneurial opportunities and access to the innovation and entrepreneurship community.

Entrepreneurs in the family also enjoy comprehensive support services such as dedicated guidance, access to funding, exclusive networking and assistance to integrate into the local ecosystems seamlessly.

Corporate partnerships also play an important role in bridging industrial challenges with innovations, technologies and fresh ideas. Through strategic collaborations with government agencies, corporations and industry partners, we support start-ups in the NUS ecosystem to grow, scale and gain international market access.

Collaborations and partnerships among the faculties and alumni groups, as well as student initiatives, help further entrepreneurship outreach. Programmes which spur entrepreneurial development include social-driven initiatives such as the DBS-NUS Social Venture Challenge and global networking events like InnovFest unbound.

Research on entrepreneurship and innovation is also conducted to ensure constant growth and support in entrepreneurial activities.

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“...
Life on campus is full of fun and excitement even while our students pursue an all-rounded education. A myriad of activities – ranging from music performances and outdoor adventures to practical workshops and volunteer work – allow our students to follow their artistic, cultural, sporting and social passions.

Many of our sporting champions have made the leap from inter-faculty and varsity games to represent the nation. Our talented musicians have also gone on to the world stage after refining their artistic flair at the University.

Our students strive for more than just academic excellence.

As a caring community, we constantly seek to make a difference to society. Our students continue to fulfil a proud tradition of active involvement in community service, both locally and internationally.

Through fundraising activities, health screening exercises, voluntary tuition and mentorship for youths, building amenities for the underprivileged, and other community projects, they have contributed unstintedly to improve the lives of others.

Rag and Flag
Rag and Flag is a unique NUS tradition dating back to 1957. The annual charity event builds a sense of kinship among students while galvanising a spirit of giving and volunteerism. On Flag Day, our students collect donations from all corners of Singapore to support beneficiaries. This is followed by Rag Day, when they thank the public for their contributions to the less privileged with a colourful parade of floats and exuberant performances.

>100 student organisations, societies and interest groups
>40 sports under TeamNUS
>20 groups in music, dance, drama and visual arts
>$8 million raised through Rag and Flag since 2000
Green NUS

NUS is committed to protecting the environment and incorporating sustainability in all aspects of our campus life – from education and research, to operations and community outreach. SustainABLE NUS captures multiple facets of greening our campus, such as energy and water conservation, recycling, green transportation, office and laboratory spaces, and appreciating biodiversity.

Our various student groups on campus are actively involved in the sustainability cause, promoting environmental awareness and action on campus through numerous initiatives.

For instance, students of Ridge View Residential College participated in water distribution for the College in a full-day water rationing exercise as part of Singapore World Water Day @ NUS 2018 to better appreciate the importance of water conservation.