Outstanding Young Alumni Award

<u>Ms Annie An Dongmei</u>

As a solutions architect at Amazon Web Services, Ms Annie An Dongmei helps enterprises across ASEAN to adopt and innovate with modern technology powered by cloud computing, machine learning and artificial intelligence. She believes technology is a key driver of innovation, an enabler for enterprises, and the workforce of tomorrow.

Ms An is a strong advocate for enabling next-gen coders and women in IT. A committee member of the IT Youth Council at the Singapore Computer Society, she also serves the global community by actively participating in technology projects that dive deep into social issues. She has taught and mentored youths, and served on the judging panels at technology hackathons.

A regular at Women in Tech panels, Ms An has given talks and conducted workshops in various countries such as Indonesia, Vietnam and China to inspire youths to create their own voice applications with emerging technology.

The University is pleased to confer the NUS Outstanding Young Alumni Award on Ms Annie An Dongmei, in recognition of her impactful contributions to technology.

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Mr Laurence Putra Franslay

Mr Laurence Putra Franslay is one of the founders of Project Stable Staples. It raised over SG$167,000 in 2020 and supported families who suffered a loss in employment due to COVID-19. Under Mr Franslay's leadership, Project Stable Staples has pivoted to acting as a quick response fund for families waiting for assistance. For his contributions, Mr Franslay was presented the People of Good Award by President Halimah Yacob in 2020.

With a commitment to improving the lives of others, since 2014, Mr Franslay has also been a core team member at I Am Talented, a social empowerment initiative that provides self-discovery and skills-based workshops for youths. He has also mentored and volunteered in multiple projects at NUS School of Computing.

The University is pleased to confer the NUS Outstanding Young Alumni Award on Mr Laurence Putra Franslay, in recognition of his outstanding contributions to fundraising and charity.

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Dr Sharon Heng Ling Zhi

Dr Sharon Heng Ling Zhi is respectively an ophthalmic surgeon at Moorfields Eye Hospital and an honorary clinical lecturer at the Institute of Ophthalmology, University College London. She is also the co-founder of Angel Babybox, an award-winning multifunctional baby crib that was named 'Most Innovative Baby Crib in the World 2020' by LUX magazine.

11 years ago, Dr Heng moved to London to pursue her PhD under Professor John Marshall, the inventor of excimer laser. She won the prestigious Mulan award in 2014 for her contributions to science and technology.

Dr Heng has also been serving on the NUS Alumni London Chapter since 2012 and has organised alumni activities and mentorship programmes to provide pupillage to NUS students in the UK. She assumed the role of Chairperson in 2017 and started the Professional Forum Series, where participants network and gain insights from distinguished speakers on global issues.

The University is pleased to confer the NUS Outstanding Young Alumni Award on Dr Sharon Heng Ling Zhi, in recognition of her contributions to healthcare and the NUS alumni community.

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Mr Lim Wei Jie

Mr Lim Wei Jie co-founded Foreword Coffee Roasters in 2017, which has since increased the visibility of the "differently-abled" community and created opportunities for them to interact with the wider Singapore community. 80% of Mr Lim's employees are persons with disabilities and he provides training and mentorship to them.

A champion for the common good, Mr Lim adopts environmentally sustainable practices in his coffee chain, while enabling sustainable public consumption and importing directly from coffee growers to channel greater profits to them.

Determined to help alleviate hardships brought about by the pandemic, Mr Lim's Foreword Coffee Roasters pledges 5% of revenue to community development projects in coffee growing regions in Asia.

The University is pleased to confer the NUS Outstanding Young Alumni Award on Mr Lim Wei Jie, in recognition of his socially impactful entrepreneurial spirit.

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Mr David Low Jia Wei

Mr David Low Jia Wei co-founded Pand.ai, a deep technology start-up incubated under the Facebook Start and Google Cloud startup programs. As the sole technical co-founder, he developed a proprietary Natural Language Processing engine that is serving tens of thousands of users for several Fortune Global 500 companies.

Under Mr Low's leadership, the company has expanded rapidly with close to SG$1 million annual revenue in the first two years, and raised a funding of US$1 million from an angel investor and later a seven-figure investment from Bangkok Bank's venture arm. Pand.ai has produced award-winning chatbot solutions and garnered multiple international accolades.

Mr Low also taught as a guest lecturer, and later as an adjunct lecturer, in NUS. He often speaks at international conferences and public talks on Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning.

The University is pleased to confer the NUS Outstanding Young Alumni Award on Mr David Low Jia Wei, in recognition of his outstanding achievements in the infocommunications industry.

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Dr Mohammad Hossein Davood Abadi Farahani

During his time at NUS, Dr Mohammad Hossein Davood Abadi Farahani's PhD thesis received the "Outstanding Postgraduate Research Thesis Award 2018" from the American Institute of Chemical Engineers. To commercialise his PhD research, he founded his startup, SEPPURE, and raised approximately SG$3.79 million from accredited investors.

Dr Farahani received the prestigious award of "Innovator Under 35" from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, won the Founder of the Year, Movers and Shakers Award, and was named a 'Leader of Tomorrow' by the Gen.T List, Class of 2020. He also has three patents, 23 peer-reviewed publications with 1,250 citations to his name.

As an alumnus, he readily shares his wealth of knowledge and experience as a Startup Mentor at NUS Entrepreneurship Society, guiding NUS students who have plans to start their own companies.

The University is pleased to confer the NUS Outstanding Young Alumni Award on Dr Mohammad Hossein Davood Abadi Farahani, in recognition of his excellent contributions in chemical engineering and entrepreneurship.

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Mr Muhammad Ibnur Rashad Bin Zainal

Ever since Mr Muhammad Ibnur Rashad Bin Zainal Abidin published his first scientific article at the age of 15 with an NUS professor, his spirit of experimentation has driven him to innovate and create more projects.

Mr Muhammad Ibnur Rashad founded multiple award-winning and meaningful startups dedicated to sustainability, such as Ground-up Innovation Labs for Development which unites nature, technology and community to create learning experiences. He also co-founded Sustainable Living Lab and co-invented iBam, the world's first compact bamboo speaker crafted by bamboo artisans in Indonesia.

Mr Muhammad Ibnur Rashad also serves at Ground-Up Initiative, a community organisation that seeks to bring sustainability back into the hearts of many.

Through his work, he was recognised as a UN Sustainable Development Goals Pioneer and won 2 UNESCO Mondialogo Engineering Awards.

The University is pleased to confer the NUS Outstanding Young Alumni Award on Mr Muhammad Ibnur Rashad Bin Zainal Abidin, in recognition of his excellent work in sustainability.

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Mr Ow Tai Zhi

Mr Ow Tai Zhi is the co-founder and Chief Investment Officer of AutoWealth, an MAS-licensed fintech startup that manages more than SG$50 million in assets and innovated the wealth management industry by lowering the barriers of entry to investment.

He was also appointed the Vice-Chairman of SAFRA Investment Committee since 2014, a role in which he lends his professional astuteness to oversee the management of more than SG$135 million of assets to upgrade SAFRA clubhouses in Singapore for the benefit of more than 300,000 national servicemen and their families.

Mr Ow is currently a member of NUS Alumni Advisory Board and has served on the Board of Directors of NUS Business School Alumni Association, and was Chairman of Bizad Charity Run for two consecutive terms. To benefit undergraduates, he initiated a Bursary Fund in 2018 and provides regular internship programs.

The University is pleased to confer the NUS Outstanding Young Alumni Award on Mr Ow Tai Zhi, in recognition of his outstanding work in financial technology and his contributions to alumni leadership.

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Mr Rameez Ansar

Mr Rameez Ansar co-founded Circles.Life in 2016, making it the world's first fully digital, 100% cloud-based telecom operator. Circles.Life grew to become the telco of choice for the digitally savvy in Singapore and led the change in customer experiences, data usage and innovation across the industry.

Prior to this, Mr Ansar helmed various positions, notably as a Founding Member of teams at Boston Consulting Group, where he contributed to the setting up of the regulatory framework and corporatisation of Changi Airport, Temasek Holdings, and as a co-Founder of TechCube8.

Mr Ansar continues to give back to NUS through the Sajjad Foundation that assists international students with financial aid. He also mentored students and advised numerous entrepreneurs and businesses within the NUS ecosystem.

The University is pleased to confer the NUS Outstanding Young Alumni Award on Mr Rameez Ansar, in recognition of his excellent work in the infocommunications industry and fundraising efforts.

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Ms Carrie Tan Huimin

Ms Carrie Tan Huimin founded Daughters Of Tomorrow, a charity organisation with a mission to facilitate support and livelihoods for underprivileged women to achieve financial independence. She engages various Singapore government agencies to shape their policies and implementation to enable social mobility for under-privileged Singaporeans.

Currently, Ms Tan is steering advisor to RISE Community, the first non-profit organisation in Singapore to focus on men from low-income backgrounds. Ms Tan was also elected into the 14th Parliament of Singapore in 2020 and serves as Member of Parliament of Nee Soon GRC.

She raises awareness about urban poverty, championing caregiving and mental health support in Singapore, and forges collaborations to improve the lives of citizens. In her personal time, she is also a self-work practitioner who helps clients achieve breakthrough transformations in their personal, professional and leadership journeys.

The University is pleased to confer the NUS Outstanding Young Alumni Award on Ms Carrie Tan Huimin, in recognition of her pioneering spirit in social change and volunteerism.

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Ms Audrey Joy Tan Yan Xi

Ms Audrey Joy Tan Yan Xi co-founded PlayMoolah in 2009, one of the pioneering social enterprises in Singapore, with a mission to enable positive financial emotional resilience and empower the next generation to make smart money decisions. To date, the company has impacted over 80,000 individuals globally.

In 2019, Ms Tan also co-founded Circles of Angels to enable social entrepreneurs to impact local communities by leveraging frontier technologies for greater transparency and accountability of funds raised. Circles of Angels was selected to be funded and mentored by UNICEF Innovation and its network in New York City.

Ms Tan has also devoted her time as a social entrepreneur to create greater awareness for women social entrepreneurs, shift conversations beyond the existing scope of gender diversity and equity, to investment and support for women entrepreneurs.

The University is pleased to confer the NUS Outstanding Young Alumni Award on Ms Audrey Joy Tan Yan Xi, in recognition of her socially impactful entrepreneurship in finance.

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Ms Audrey Joy Tan Yan Xi

Dr Andy Tay Kah Ping

As an Assistant Professor of biomedical engineering, Dr Andy Tay Kah Ping develops new materials to engineer the immune system. He is one of the recipients of the NUS Presidential Young Professorship award and has received a slew of international accolades, including the Helmsley Fellowship and the Toshihiko Tokizane Memorial Award.

Dr Tay's research has been recognised in lists such as the Forbes 30 Under 30 (Global List) in 2019, and he was the only Singaporean selected as the 2020 World Economic Forum Young Scientist.

Dr Tay volunteers in a mentorship programme run by the New York Academy of Sciences where he remotely mentors pre-university students from minority ethnic groups and low-income families from all over the world. He provides students with tips for their university applications and guides them through science competitions.

The University is pleased to confer the NUS Outstanding Young Alumni Award on Dr Andy Tay Kah Ping, in recognition of his excellent work in health research and mental health advocacy.

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Mr Aseem Kumar Thakur

Mr Aseem Kumar Thakur co-founded GIVE.asia with the belief that the process of giving to a charitable cause needs to be more fun, social and simple. Since then, GIVE.asia has successfully raised over SG$90 million for various charitable causes.

He is also the Founder and CEO of Aseemai, a digital transformation company that aims to create a more conducive ecosystem for socially conscious initiatives. The company focuses on building digital products, making investments and supporting entrepreneurs with a social mission.

Most recently, Aseemai is championing the future of distributed work by providing remote work opportunities to software developers around the globe. Aseemai's newest project is to effect opportunities by giving access to software developers and high-quality work. In 2020, Mr Thakur was featured in the Gen.T List that recognises leaders of tomorrow who are shaping Asia's future.

The University is pleased to confer the NUS Outstanding Young Alumni Award on Mr Aseem Kumar Thakur, in recognition of his outstanding contributions in fundraising and charity.

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Ms Tin Pei Ling

As a Member of Parliament, Ms Tin Pei Ling has a deep interest in diverse topics such as public health, mental health and Singapore's progress into a smart nation. She actively champions issues pertaining to the elderly, youths, and women.

Ms Tin was the People's Action Party's youngest candidate in the 2011 Singapore general election. She was elected as a Member of Parliament and later stood on her own in the MacPherson SMC from 2015. Ms Tin also serves as Chairperson of the Government Parliamentary Committee for Communications and Information, and a Member of the Government Parliamentary Committee for Culture, Community and Youth.

She is also the CEO of Business China, working to strengthen ties between Singapore and China. Giving back to the local and NUS community has always been at the top of Ms Tin's priorities. She has contributed to the Tin Chew Hong Prize at NUS and is a regular speaker at University Scholars Programme events.

The University is pleased to confer the NUS Outstanding Young Alumni Award on Ms Tin Pei Ling, in recognition of her achievements in community leadership.

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Mr Wong Kah Chun

Mr Wong Kah Chun became the first Asian to win the prestigious Gustav Mahler Conducting Competition in 2016. He was later appointed the Chief Conductor of the Nuremburg Symphony Orchestra in Germany,

Deeply invested in the next generation of musicians, Mr Wong co-founded Project Infinitude, a movement to encourage children from all walks of life to enjoy music. He was one of ten Singaporeans recognised for his outstanding international achievements and community work during Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong's National Day Rally speech in 2018. In 2019, Mr Wong was awarded the Order of Merit by the Federal President of Germany for his achievements in Singaporean-German cultural relations. With a heart to uplift the community through music, Mr Wong assembled local and overseas artists to put on a virtual performance during the COVID-19 outbreak.

The University is pleased to confer the NUS Outstanding Young Alumni Award on Mr Wong Kah Chun, in recognition of his exceptional international achievements in music.

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Ms Janice Wong Huixian

Ms Janice Wong Huixian is a celebrated pastry chef who redefined the dessert experience with the launch of her dessert restaurant, 2am:dessert bar. In 2014, she launched her sweet concept brand Janice Wong Singapore, and the company has since expanded to global collaborations.

Determined to bring Singaporean food to the global stage, Ms Wong promoted local cuisine in several cities and published her first cookbook in 2011. She enjoys working with youths and has conducted a specially tailored class to impart simple culinary skills to youngsters from MINDS and Lee Kong Chian Gardens School.

Ms Wong's edible art works have been showcased at over 40 public and private events, including those for high-end brands. She has also appeared as a guest chef on reality shows such as MasterChef Australia and MasterChef Asia.

The University is pleased to confer the NUS Outstanding Young Alumni Award on Ms Janice Wong Huixian, in recognition of her outstanding achievements in the food and beverage industry.

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Ms Janice Wong Huixian

Dr Zhou Lihan

Dr Zhou Lihan is the co-founder and Chief Executive Officer of biotechnology company MiRXES. Under his leadership, the company grew from a 3-man local start-up to a global leader in RNA technology and early disease detection.

Prior to founding MiRXES, Dr Zhou led a research team at A*STAR's Bioprocessing Technology Institute. As a scientist-entrepreneur, he is driving ground-breaking RNA research and actively champions a global ecosystem to accelerate clinical adoption of RNA diagnostics.

MiRXES collaborates closely with NUHS with the bigger goal of saving and improving lives. At the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, MiRXES responded to the government's call to mass-produce the first COVID-19 test approved for use in Singapore.

In 2015, Dr Zhou was recognised by the MIT Technology Review as one of its Innovators Under 35, and in 2017, he received the A*STAR Scientist-Entrepreneur Award.

The University is pleased to confer the NUS Outstanding Young Alumni Award on Dr Zhou Lihan, in recognition of his outstanding innovations in biotechnology and healthcare.

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