

A Message

FROM THE PRESIDENT

4 April 2020

Dear alumnus,

On 3 April 2020, our Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong [addressed the nation](#) on the COVID-19 situation in Singapore. The Government has decided to impose significantly stricter measures to control the spread of the virus. These restrictions include [home-based learning](#) as well as the [suspension of activities at workplace premises](#) from 7 April 2020 to 4 May 2020.

The safety and health of the NUS community are our utmost priority. In line with these latest controls, the University will be implementing the following:

Academic Matters: From Monday, 6 April 2020, all in-person classes will move to e-learning. In addition, all face-to-face examinations and tests will move to alternative modes of assessment (e.g. online examinations, tests, or assignments). NUS Libraries will be closed from Wednesday, 8 April 2020 to Monday, 4 May 2020. However, we will offer students, who do not have a suitable study environment at home, special access to the Libraries or University Town Commons.

Research Matters: All research activities that cannot be conducted through telecommuting will be suspended from 7 April 2020 to 4 May 2020, except for research related to COVID-19.

Residential Living: Student residents who have a residence in Singapore are encouraged to move home. Those who would like to remain in the hostels will need to stay on until end of term, and not visit their homes during the period in which the circuit breaker is in place. In addition, there will not be any social activity in the hostels.

Working From Home: All staff, except for those working in essential campus operations, will telecommute until 4 May 2020. The essential campus operations include campus security, facilities management, health services, housing, IT as well as lab support for COVID-19 research and other selected projects.

Essential Campus Services: During this period, the shuttle bus services will continue to operate as usual. Selected food outlets will be open but with shortened operating hours. The University Health Services (Clinic) and the University Counselling Services will continue to serve staff and students.

Events and Activities: All alumni, staff and student events and activities will be suspended until further notice.

These stricter measures will cause inconvenience and disruption to our community but they are necessary to mitigate the continued spread of the virus in Singapore.

It has been a trying time for everyone. I would like to extend my appreciation to our frontline nurses, doctors and researchers, many of whom are our alumni, as well as to our colleagues across the University for working so tirelessly during this difficult period.

We are grateful for your efforts and contributions.

Please continue to practise good personal hygiene, safe distancing and social responsibility.

I wish you and your loved ones good health.

Stay safe.

With best wishes,

Professor Tan Eng Chye (Science '85)
NUS President