



CITATION FOR ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR GERALD KOH

OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR AWARD

Our first 2016 Outstanding Educator Award recipient, Associate Professor Gerald Koh desired to be a teacher since he was in secondary school. He never forgot his passion for teaching. After qualifying as a medical doctor, Gerald pursued a career as a university professor and educator. Gerald currently teaches public health and medicine at the Schools of Public Health and Medicine, and his teaching philosophy exemplifies the Schools' noble educational missions, which are to “train the next generation of future-ready public health leaders”, and to “nurture servant leaders who will change the practice of medicine for the better”.

Gerald is an enthusiastic teacher, who is always approachable and genuinely wants his students to understand the material. He is congenial and is distinctly recognisable by his hearty laughter. Inquisitiveness, critical thinking, logical reasoning, passion, humility, compassion, integrity, professionalism and being a team-player — Gerald lives, breathes and walks the talk these qualities and values that he espouses. He is a fine and inspiring example to his students.

Gerald has been serving as the Academic Advisor of the Neighbourhood Health

Service or the NHS since 2008, a very creative and impactful social and educational initiative. The NHS is a multi-disease health screening and follow-up programme for under-privileged persons living in rental flats, helping this segment of society with better access to healthcare. Gerald involves a multi-disciplinary team of medical, nursing, dental, pharmacy, social work and engineering students and family medicine residents in planning and executing the Neighbourhood Health Service. Hundreds of NUS students volunteer at the NHS each year and the programme has provided many NUS students with an invaluable experiential learning opportunity to practice in real life settings what they learn in class, give them exposure to the under-privileged in society, developing students' empathy and compassion.

Gerald serves the NHS, NUS, and the wider healthcare community with passion, dedication and professionalism, inspiring his students as well as colleagues to aspire to these qualities in themselves. This, together with his commitment and creativity in education, is why we are delighted to confer the Outstanding Educator Award to Gerald. My heartiest congratulations to Associate Professor Gerald Koh. Keep your love for teaching and trademark laughter going!