



CITATION FOR DR SOO YUEN JIEN OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR AWARD

Dr Soo Yuen Jien is a versatile and passionate educator. He has taught modules of varied subjects, class sizes and pedagogical approaches. From large foundational programming modules with hundreds of students, capstone project modules with tens of teams to niche specialised modules like parallel programming and computer architecture with only a handful of students.

In all modules, Yuen Jien aims to kindle deep interest in domain discipline and to inculcate higher order thinking skills. By structuring his lessons as an exploration journey peppered with creative analogies, he is able to spike students' interest in some of the driest modules. He also spends considerable effort in designing assessment tasks that challenge students to think further. As a student summarises it best, "*He makes even the most mundane topics interesting. He does not just teach; he ensures students learn.*"

Yuen Jien is also keen in leveraging technology for education. He has undertaken several LIFT-funded projects which successfully developed and deployed several software solutions. Most notably, the classroom response system **Archipelago**, developed by Yuen Jien and a student, has garnered warm response from the NUS community. Since its formal deployment in 2017, Archipelago has supported hundreds of live lessons and interacted with thousands of students in NUS.

Last but not least, Yuen Jien contributes to the teaching community by serving on the NUS Teaching Academy Executive Council, Learning-Innovation-Fund in Technology (LIFT) review panel, Faculty Teaching Excellence Committee and CS department Teaching Evaluation Committee.

Yuen Jien exemplifies an excellent example for all of the NUS teaching community, and is most deserving of the NUS Outstanding Educator Award. My heartiest and sincere congratulations to Dr Soo Yuen Jien.