

## Science Student Overseas Exposure Fund (SSOEF) Annual Report – April 2007 to March 2008

Alumni and friends of the NUS Faculty of Science are no doubt aware of our endeavours in excellence and relevance. We are conscious of globalisation and its consequences. Our curriculum now allows students to spend some time overseas gaining valuable exposure. While they need to pay only their NUS fees for this unique experience, many do find difficulty in the extra costs of travel and accommodation. To meet such needs the SSOEF was established in May 2006.

The Faculty takes this opportunity to thank all donors for past and future contributions. Besides enjoying double tax relief, your donation is matched dollar for dollar by the Government.

In September 2007, the Faculty received a large donation from the Estate of the late C J Koh. With this gift, the SSOEF was able to create an endowed fund of \$335,000 from the three largest SSOEF donations received thus far. In endowing this sum, government matching of the same amount was added to the same fund thereby doubling both the endowment and the yearly earnings. We have named three awards arising from these three donations:

- CJ Koh SSOEF Award
- Madam Lum Yoke SSOEF Award
- Lee Foundation SSOEF Award

Our immediate aim is to endow a further \$165,000 in donations to make up, together with the government matching, a \$1 million endowment to disburse \$40,000 to \$50,000 each year. To date, the SSOEF has received a total of \$431,314.73 in donations.

During the year, \$28,302.01 of the SSOEF was disbursed as grants to needy students for the opportunity of an educational experience overseas. Sixteen students who went on NUS Student Exchange Programme or Science Summer Programme received help with \$25,000 of disbursements. The rest went to four students who participated in:

- Peaktime International Business Case Competition in Riga, Latvia
- Harvard Project for Asian International Relations student conference in Shanghai, China
- NUS BINGO study tour to India
- Innovate 2008 student conference in Vietnam and Singapore

Most significant of these was Chau Jiqing whose team won 1st prize at the Stockholm Business School's Peaktime International Business Case Competition in Riga, Latvia.

In addition, we disbursed \$15,000 to our NUS Student Science Club for their humanitarian initiative, Project Angel, in two separate trips to Thailand and Cambodia, respectively. There, our students helped construct schools and taught English, Mathematics and the Sciences to displaced children in refugee camps.

Our students benefited greatly from such educational experiences overseas, and we believe the positive influence on them will stay for the long term. The Faculty is committed to encourage at least half of our Science students to gain overseas exposure and we certainly do not wish to have students deprived of such opportunities because of financial difficulties.

### SSOEF summary report – April 2007 to March 2008

SSOEF donation	Amount
Beginning balance (1 Apr 07)	272,914.73
Donations	150,200.00
Disbursements	(43,302.01)
Transfer to SSOEF endowed	(335,000.00)
Ending balance (31 Mar 08)	44,812.72

To make a gift to the SSOEF, visit our giving webpage [www.science.nus.edu.sg/aboutfos/giving/](http://www.science.nus.edu.sg/aboutfos/giving/) or make cheque payable to National University of Singapore, indicating on the back For SSOEF. For more information, please contact Karen Wong on tel: 6516 8198 or email: [karenwong@nus.edu.sg](mailto:karenwong@nus.edu.sg)