The late Lady Yuen Peng McNeice has a crab in the French Loyalty Islands and an orchid in Papua New Guinea named after her. This comes as little wonder as she is remembered by many as a dedicated conservationist and philanthropist. And so to honour his late mother and commemorate her ardent support of conservation and the environment, Mr Terry McNeice, through the Cheng Kim Loke Foundation, has established the Lady Yuen Peng McNeice Graduate Fellowship at the National University of Singapore’s (NUS) Faculty of Science.

The Fellowship, which will benefit full-time postgraduate students with research interests in Southeast Asian biodiversity, will be first awarded in Academic Year 2014/2015.

The late Lady Yuen Peng McNeice won a Public Service Medal for her tireless work for the environment. She gave generously to the Singapore Botanic Gardens, donating an entire collection of plants and several sculptures, as well as sponsoring the publication of 3,000 books commemorating the Gardens’ 150th anniversary. The late Lady also sponsored roses for Gardens by the Bay and held her own fundraisers to raise money for the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Mr McNeice says, “The new Graduate Fellowship commemorates my mother, and is focused specifically on the natural environment in order to celebrate her passionate and long-standing support for nature. During her lifetime, my mother sponsored and befriended many naturalists conducting research in this part of the world. I hope that this Fellowship will serve to perpetuate her name and memory with future generations of nature lovers in the region, as she was in many ways an early pioneer for the cause.”

For information on making a gift to NUS, contact us at 1800-DEVELOP (1800-338-3567) or email askdvo@nus.edu.sg.