As NUS celebrates its Centennial, the Faculty of Science can also be particularly pleased and proud of its contributions to all that has made NUS what it is today.

In step with our rising reputation in research, teaching and service is the caliber and contribution of our alumni. Many have been pre-eminent in pioneering modern Singapore and in nation building. Excellence is the hallmark of their endeavours. We owe it to both our students and society to showcase them. We want to share their attainments and accolades, their insights and the inspiration they bring.

Accordingly, on our Centennial year’s Science Alumni Family Day, we are installing our Commemorative Boards to honour these Distinguished and Outstanding Alumni who have done their alma mater proud. Besides having these Honour Rolls here at the Faculty, special plaques will be put up at the respective departments. Write-ups on each of them will also appear in our Faculty website, http://www.science.nus.edu.sg/alumni/familyday/

A summary of these can also be found in this inaugural Issue of our Newsletter, “OmniScience” dedicated to our alumni. We want this issue to also mark and serve as a special souvenir for this great gathering. We look forward to honouring and highlighting more such alumni in the future.

The term “OmniScience” has been chosen in line with our Faculty’s aspirations in our scientific quests and conquests. It signals and signifies our desire to acquaint our alumni with the exciting developments in the Faculty. It is also our hope to help our alumni to get to know as many fellow alumni as possible.

We trust that the Newsletter also gives you a feel for our Faculty and that in so doing you will feel proud of us even as we are of you. We look forward to keeping in touch with all of you and hope that future issues of “OmniScience”, most likely in electronic form, will make this possible easily and where you and we can share developments in the lives of our alumni and faculty.

In closing, and on this Alumni Family Day, we are also conscious and grateful, that in a special way, alumni and society have remembered and honoured our alumni who had served the faculty with dedication and distinction. These include Emeritus Professor Kiang Ai Kim and the late Dr Ang Kok Peng where funds have been established in their names. We thank those who made these possible and those who continue to make donations to these two and other Funds which have contributed to our Faculty’s endeavours in excellence for University and Society.

Dean Tan Eng Chye
Alumni Breakfast with Dean

As part of continuing efforts to engage with its alumni, the Faculty of Science initiated its Breakfast with Dean series of engagements in October 2004. Each event, which the Dean’s Office jointly organizes with each of the Faculty’s seven departments in turn, provides a conducive morning environment where alumni participants are updated on developments in higher education since their student days. In particular, changes in the education systems within the faculty and their former departments are highlighted.

The breakfast also provides a welcome opportunity for faculty and former students to meet in a relaxed and informal manner, thus optimizing networking opportunities. In many cases, the event also allowed long lost friendships among the alumni to be renewed and rekindled.

With the completion of the first cycle of breakfasts, feedback collated from participants and faculty participants indicated that the initiative has been well-received. Suggested improvements to the concept include a brunch (rather than breakfast – too early) and a more focused group of alumni be invited (eg, friends from the same class or cohort).

These ideas have been incorporated in the next round of brunches. To participate, please email scitsy@nus.edu.sg, with your

- Name
- Year of commencement
- Department
- Contact number, email and mailing address

We encourage group sign-ups, and look forward to seeing you soon.

“The breakfast also provides a welcome opportunity for faculty and former students to meet in a relaxed and informal manner, thus optimizing networking opportunities.”
Alumni Contribution in FoS Discretionary Admissions Exercise

“...to tap on their inputs on non-academic criteria that may influence the decision to admit such students – potential for leadership, entrepreneurship, contribution to society, personal achievement, etc....”

2005 marked a watershed year when the Faculty involved its alumni in the University’s annual discretionary admissions exercise.

As the name implies, the Faculty admits up to 10% of its first year students based on discretion, in line with the University’s practice of not focusing too rigidly on results, but to look for other qualities in its applicants from a holistic point of view.

The Faculty firmly believes that an alumni perspective will greatly enhance its interview panels, coming in as it is, with their accumulated wealth of experience and expertise.

In particular, it hopes to tap on their inputs on non-academic criteria that may influence the decision to admit such students – potential for leadership, entrepreneurship, contribution to society, personal achievement, etc. – which may be critical in producing successful graduates.

This year, 25 alumni assisted in the interviews over three weeks in Apr-May. As a panel member, each was paired with a faculty to interview 6 to 8 candidates over a half-day period. More than 300 candidates were interviewed, of which offers were extended to 161. This is considerably more than the numbers offered in past admissions. Debriefings with the interviewers indicated that both faculty and alumni were very satisfied with exercise. The former felt that their alumni partners brought in external perspectives that were not evident in previous exercises, while the alumni participants as a group were appreciative of the Faculty in seeking their industry and professional inputs.

The Faculty is confident that this joint effort with its alumni will enhance the vibrancy of student life on the campus, and extends its appreciation to all alumni who participated in this year’s exercise.
**Alumni Participation in FoS Commencement Ceremonies**

In a bold move away from tradition, the Faculty of Science introduced a new element in its Commencement Ceremonies by inviting a number of alumni to participate in the proceedings this year.

In their Commencement addresses in each of the four ceremonies, the alumni, each in his or her own distinct way, reminded, encouraged and extolled the young graduates to embark on their careers with zest, while not forgetting to embrace and live their lives to the fullest. Sharing reminiscences of their undergraduate days and young working lives, the speakers provided an inspiration and role model for the approximately 1470 individuals who were there to receive their degrees.

The Faculty is thankful to the following alumni who had kindly agreed to be members of this year’s ceremonial processions:

- **Mr Noel Hon** (1970)  
  Chairman,  
  NEC Solutions Asia Pacific Pte Ltd

- **Mrs Jane Lim-Wee** (1972)  
  Co-owner and Marketing Director,  
  Wee Hoe Cheng Chemicals Pte Ltd

- **Ms Sue Yap** (1985)  
  CEO, Research Biolabs Pte Ltd

- **Mr Patrick Yong** (1988)  
  General Manager (Sales and Marketing)  
  MediaCorp Press Ltd

Following this inaugural step, the Faculty is keenly exploring the possibility of inviting successful alumni to compose up to half the number for each ceremonial procession, in future Commencements.
The year 2005 is a special year in NUS’ history. It marks a century of excellent university education in Singapore provided by NUS. To commemorate this landmark milestone, NUS has planned a series of events from June 2005 to May 2006.

A laudable launch of the Centennial Celebrations was the successful summit expedition to Mt Everest, the world’s highest peak, by our NUS Everest Team. The Faculty of Science is proud that one of our alumni, Mr Ernest Quah Wei Siong, was part of this team. Mr Quah graduated with a Bachelor of Applied Science (Food Science and Technology major) in June 2004.

The Faculty is also proud that our very well-known paraplegic alumnus, Dr. William Tan, is taking the lead to raise funds for a Professorship in Pediatric Oncology through a series of marathons around the world under the auspices of the NUS Centennial Celebrations. Dr Tan completed 10 marathons in seven continents in 70 days (a probable new Guinness World Record) and a record-breaking 100 km around the NUS sports track during the NUS Centennial Challenge on a wheelchair.

The Faculty of Science had also lined up a series of conferences for the Centennial Celebrations. This series of academic/professional activities includes:

- Public Lectures in conjunction with the World Year of Physics 2005 (3 Jun & 6 Jul 2005)
- 17th Singapore Pharmacy Congress (1-4 Jul 2005)
- 3rd ICMAT and 9th ICAM (3-8 Jul 2005)
- Inaugural Combined Scientific Meeting 2005 (CSM’05) (4-6 Nov 2005)
- Centennial Physics Forum (Nov 2005)
- Singapore International Chemical Conference-4 (SICC-4) (8-10 Dec 2005)
The 75th Anniversary celebration dinner was held at Suntec City Ballroom, on 9 October 2004.

A carnival atmosphere with ample opportunity for mingling, with minimal protocol but maximum interaction...
Mr Noel Hon Chia Chun  
JP, BBM(L), BBM, BSc (1969), BSc Hons (1970)  
Chairman, NEC Solutions Asia Pacific Pte Ltd  
Chairman, Singapore Kindness Movement  
President, Singapore Scout Association

“Fortune Favours the Brave.”

Noel is a humorous and humble man despite his various accomplishments and prestigious position. He is the Chairman and former CEO of NEC Solutions Asia Pacific Pte Ltd. He is also a Director of NEC Business Coordination Centre Singapore. He is a board member of various companies and public organizations including Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore, Singapore Health Services, SembCorp Logistics, SISTIC, TREK2000, National Dental Care and National Cancer Centre. He also chairs the Singapore Kindness Movement, the Board of Governors of St Joseph’s Institution and he is President of the Singapore Scout Association. He has served as a valued member of the NUS Council. Mr Hon, a Justice of the Peace, received the Public Service Star and the Public Service Star (BAR) from the Singapore Government in 1991 and 2003 respectively.
Dr Lee Kum Tatt  
BBM, PPA(E), PPA(P), BSc Hons (1952), PhD (1955)  
Founder Chairman, SISIR, Science Council  
and RISIS Co Pte Ltd  

“The world does not care for what we lack, It’s interested only in what we can offer.”

He left an indelible mark through his tireless and devoted efforts in the area of industrial research and quality development in this country after receiving his doctorate in Chemistry. He has not only influenced the pioneering development of many scientific and technological organizations, such as the Singapore Institute of Standards and Industrial Research (SISIR), Science Council and Singapore Polytechnic but also created the gold-plated Risis orchid in SISIR in 1979. Dr Lee has always been very active in the activities and initiatives organized by the Department of Chemistry and NUS in general, lending his utmost support whenever possible. Dr Lee has also received several honours, including Hon. Fellowships from professional bodies and the Singapore government.

Prof Gloria Lim  
BBM, BSc (1953), BSc Hons (1954), MSc (1957)  
Dean of Science, SU (1973-77), NUS (1980-81)  
Foundation Director NIE (1991 - 94)  
Member, Public Service Commission (1982 – 96)  

"Where there is an open mind  
There will always be a frontier  
Ideas are funny little things  
They won’t work unless you do.”

Her drive and determination saw her become prominent in the field of Mycology after graduating with a BSc Hons, Dip. Ed., a MSc. and then a PhD in 1961 from the University of London. She was Professor of Mycology, Head of Botany Department and formerly Dean of Science in the University of Singapore. She was also Foundation Director of NIE, NTU. She also served on several public councils and boards and was awarded the Public Service Star (BBM) in 1993 in recognition of her contributions to the Public Service Commission. She was awarded an Honorary D.Sc. from the University of Loughborough in 1999.
Prof Lionel Lui Pao Chuen
BSc and BSc Hons (1965)
Chief Defence Scientist, MINDEF

“To make a difference in the world you must dare to dream, to do and to deliver.”

A Physics (Hons) graduate, he furthered his studies in Operations Research & Systems Analysis from the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School which has honoured him as a Distinguished Alumnus and inducted him into their Hall of Fame. His illustrious career has included many significant and prestigious posts including that of Chief Defence Scientist in MINDEF, Chairman of DSO National Laboratories, Temasek Laboratories at NUS and NTU and Temasek Defence System Institute. He also serves on the Boards of many other organizations like the Centre of Remote Imaging, Sensing and Processing and Tropical Marine Science Institute. He is an Adjunct Professor in the Engineering Faculty of NUS and has also served as a Physics Department’s Non-Executive Director since 1 October 1997. For his consistent and outstanding leadership in the build up of science and technology capability for the nation, Prof Lui was awarded the National Science and Technology Medal in 2002.

Ms Olivia Lum Ooi Lin
BSc (1985), BSc Hons (1986)
Group Chief Executive Officer/President, Hyflux Ltd

“Knowledge in science has provided me with a key to open the door of boundless opportunities”

After obtaining her BSc. Hons in Chemistry, she went on to set up a water treatment company Hydrochem (S) Pte Ltd, the precursor of Hyflux, which has since grown to one of the fastest-growing; most innovative and impressive water treatment companies in the region of more than $1 billion worth. She serves as a NMP of Singapore, contributing to national policies. She is a board member of SPRING Singapore, the NUS Council and the Singapore Exchange Ltd. She also holds membership to the UNESCAP Business Advisory Council and Singapore Green Plan 2012 Coordinating Committee. In addition, she acts as the President of the Singapore Water Association. Her many accolades include being ‘Businessman of the Year 2005’. 
Mrs Pauline Ong (Tsang)
BPharm (1966)
General Manager of Guardian Pharmacy (1978-93)
President of Pharmaceutical Society of Singapore (1989 – 91)

“The passion to learn, renew, review, teach, mentor and give must never die!”

She has not only been responsible for developing Guardian Pharmacy into what it is today but has also changed the face of Singapore’s pharmacy education, training and practice. She was Guardian Pharmacy’s General Manager from 1978 to 1993, President of the Pharmaceutical Society (PSS) from 1989 to 1991 and Singapore’s representative to the Commonwealth Pharmaceutical Association (CPA) for 12 terms. She even ventured into business consultancy. Currently she is an active retiree, directing her endless energies into dealing with museum and hospital visitors rather than pharmacists – always an educator, motivator and friend. She has also been given the inaugural Distinguished Contributor’s Award by the National Health Group.

Dr William Tan Kian Meng
PBM, BSc (1980)
Scientist/Doctor/Paralympian/Humanitarian

“There are no dreams that are unattainable for anyone who has the will and determination to redefine what is humanly possible!”

A man of grand passions, steely determination and great compassion, William embraces life with relish. Upon graduating with a Biology and Psychology major, he went on to be Harvard’s Fulbright and Oxford’s Chevening Scholar. As a social activist and an accomplished wheelchair marathoner and Paralympian where he holds several world and Guinness Book records, he chairs and raises money for various charities and Foundations. These include the Universities Endowment Fund, NUS Students’ Fund and a few endowed Professorship Funds e.g. Paediatric Oncology through his beloved sport. His accomplishments are breathtaking and an inspiration to us all.
Prof Leo Tan Wee Hin
BBM, PPA(E), PBM
BSc (1968), BSc Hons (1969), PhD (1974)
Director, NIE

Science is relevant and fun!"

Prof Leo is not simply brilliant in his own field of study; he has also attained much recognition in his public standing—as attested to by the long list of public awards he has received. Armed with a BSc Hons. in Zoology, he went on to a PhD in Marine Biology and finally appointed to full Professorship in 1992 after holding various teaching positions with NUS and being the Director of Singapore Science Centre. A man of both academic and administrative talents, he continues to write about Marine Biology while being the Director of NIE. Besides 3 National Day Awards he has also received the Green Leaf Environmental Award in 1997, the National Science and Technology Medal in 1999 and the National Order of Merit from the French Government in 2002. His latest recognition is an Hons DSc from the University of Loughborough.

Dr Lucy Wan
Dip Pharm (1957), BPharm (1958)
PhD (1965), DSc (1988)
Head, Department of Pharmacy, NUS (1988-94)

"I love my students, they give me the passion for my work."

Educator, researcher, and above all, a friend to all the students. Dr Lucy Wan is remembered for her deep empathy for the students throughout the years. She retired as Head of Department in 1994. During her distinguished academic career she scored many firsts: first NUS Pharmacy PhD, first local graduate to be appointed Professor of Pharmacy, and the first woman to be awarded the D.Sc. by NUS. For excellence in her field of work and study, Prof Lucy Wan was awarded the D.Pharm (honoris causa) by the Albert Einstein International Academic Foundation.
Mr Wee Heng Tin
PJG, BSc (1963), BSc Hons (1964)

“In 1959, The University of Singapore (predecessor of NUS) took in the first batch of 36 students from Chinese schools. I was one of them and have benefited from this move to provide equal opportunities for all. NUS has never stopped to innovate and re-make itself so that it can serve Singapore better”.

An educator and a visionary, he had been one of the key shapers and contributors to the advancement and shape of education in schools. Upon graduating with a BSc Hons in 1964, he embarked on a career with the Education Service that spans 40 years – from a teacher to a much admired and appreciated principal in several schools and junior colleges – finally being appointed Director-General of Education in Dec 1996. Heng Tin also served on a number of statutory boards and councils such as the NUS Council, the NIE Council and the ITE Board of Governors.

Mr Wong Ah Long
BSc Hons (1969), MBA (1972)
Chairman, Pacific Star Investment and Development
Deputy Chairman, NUS Council

We must embrace a “Jump out of the Box” mindset to remain relevant.

Backed with a BSc Hons. in Applied Chemistry and MBA, he had a glittering career in both the public and private sectors. He served as CEO of several companies including Suntec City Development and currently, Chairman Pacific Star Investment and Development. He has also been a pioneer in our aspirations to see some of our alumni in yeoman, strategic and entrepreneurial services overseas – in his case, Indonesia. He has an active interest in NUS in its education and alumni initiatives, serving in several councils and boards within the NUS fraternity including being Vice-Chairman of the NUS Council. He also lends much effort in promoting stronger ties between the alumni and the university and chaired the fund raising committee for the Kiang Ai Kim Scholarship Fund for the Department of Chemistry. In recognition of his devoted and sustained contributions to NUS and the alumni community, Mr Wong was awarded the inaugural NUS Distinguished Alumni Service Award. Furthermore, he was awarded the Eminent Alumni Award from the NUS Business School.
Mrs Pearleen Chan (Wong)  
BSc (1968), BSc Hons (1969)  
Divisional Vice-President, SIA  
“"My course in NUS sharpened my thinking ability and set me in good stead for a career in IT".”

She graduated with a BSc (Hons) in Mathematics and gave her life to IT. Involved in Government projects since 1969 in various professional capacities, she directed, planned and managed implementation of the computerization effort of every Government Ministry, while serving as a key member of the management team. She is regarded as an expert in IT in the international community, and is on the boards and advisory committees of many prominent bodies in setting IT policies and strategies. She is currently a Divisional Vice-President of SIA.

Dr Chua Yong Hai  
BBM, PBM, JP, BSc (1965), BSc Hons (1966)  
Chairman, Lend Lease Asia Holdings Pte Ltd, Asia-Pacific Investment Co Ltd, Stanbridge International Pte Ltd  
Non-Resident Singapore High Commissioner to Namibia and the Kingdom of Swaziland  
“"Humility is a great virtue. Understand your strengths and weaknesses and don’t ever think that you have arrived."”

Armed with an Honours degree in Applied Chemistry among his other degrees, he had a distinguished career in the civil service and later entered the private sector where he also held key positions. He is currently Chairman of Asia Pacific Investment Company Ltd and Stanbridge International Pte Ltd and continues to be a director of several listed and non-listed companies. He is a non-resident High Commissioner to Namibia and Swaziland and was previously the Honorary Consul of the Republic of Uruguay to Singapore. He is a co-patron of the Australian (Singapore) Chambers of Commerce. In recognition of his active contributions in social and community service in Singapore, he was awarded the Public Service Medal and the Public Service Star. He was also appointed a Justice of Peace.

Dr John Climax  
“"BSc Pharm (1976)", BSc Pharm Hons (1977)  
Co-founder/ Executive Director, ICON Clinical PLC  
“The courage to follow your passion wherever in the world it takes you. The strength to recognise failure as another opportunity. The wisdom to view successes as possibilities in pushing the boundaries.”

This BSc Pharmacy alumnus amassed a plethora of degrees in pharmacology upon leaving his alma mater. He has over 25 years of experience in the contract research industry in both Europe and the United States subsequent to his academic career. He then co-founded ICON, a global contract clinical research organisation and served as a Director and CEO. In November 2002, he was appointed their Executive Chairman.
Mr Goh Chee Wee
BSc (1968), BSc Hons (1969)
Chairman, NTUC Board of Trustees
Minister of State for Ministry of Trade & Industry, Ministry of Labour and Ministry of Communications (1993 – 97)

“To strive for excellence in whatever we do”.

This BSc (Hons) Physics alumnus is the Group Managing Director and CEO of Comfort Group Ltd, Chairman, NTUC Board of Trustees of NTUC and Media Co-operative Ltd and Deputy Chairman of NTUC Fair Price Co-operative Ltd since 1997. He is a Member of Parliament for the Boon Lay Constituency. Prior to joining Comfort Group Ltd, he was a Minister of State for the Ministry of Trade and Industry, Ministry of Labour and Ministry of Communications from 1993 to 1997.

Prof Hew Choy Sin,
BSc (1960)
Orchid Physiologist
Vice-Chairman, Tan Kah Kee Foundation
National Science Award (1997)

“What is research? It is search and to search again. The key is to ask what to search, why to search, and how to search.”

This alumnus is the Vice Chairman of Tan Kah Kee Foundation. He is also the Adviser of the NUS - Tsinghua-Xiamen University tri-lateral research program, Department of Biological Sciences, NUS. He was a Professor of Plant Physiology in the Dept of Botany, Dept of Biological Science, NUS. He has received numerous teaching and research awards which include the National Science Award, 1997 for his work on orchids. He is also Advisor and Visiting Professor at the Research Centre for Chinese Orchids, South China Normal University.

Dr Prasad Kanneganti
PhD (1989)
Quality Operations Director/Team Leader, Pfizer

“The Latin phrase ‘Multum Non Multa’ means ‘Quality not Quantity’. We are seeing increasing use of data driven and science-based tools for quality management in pharmaceutical manufacturing. My education in pharmaceutical sciences has provided me the necessary depth of understanding and is proving to be an invaluable asset to build my career.”

He completed his PhD in Pharmacy with NUS in 1989 and has over 20 years of experience in Manufacturing, Quality Operations, Technical Support and Regulatory Compliance with leading multinationals such as GlaxoSmithKline, Aventis, Wyeth and Pfizer. He is recognized professionally by the Royal Society of Chemistry as well as NUS and even the Ministry of Health for his contributions in this area. Currently, he is the Quality Operations Director/Team Leader at the Pfizer active pharmaceutical ingredients plant in Singapore.
Prof Koh Lip Lin
BSc (1959)
President, Singapore Association for Advancement of Science
MP (1979 – 96) and Dean of Science, NUS (1981-85)

From his Nanyang University days to the current NUS setup, his reputation and record in teaching and research led to him becoming the first Dean of Science in NUS. Even after his official retirement, he continued to be associated with the Department of Chemistry as Adjunct Senior Research Fellow. Apart from his enduring contributions to the university, he was an elected Member of Parliament of Singapore, playing his part in national policies. He is currently the president of the Singapore Association for the Advancement of Science. From 1994 to 1997 he served as a co-editor of the scientific journal Acta Crystallographica.

Ms Natasha Kwan Yuen Ching
BSc (1985)
Deputy General Manager, OEM Multi-National & Alliance,
APAC/GCR & Japan Region

“Small things done consistently in strategic places create major impact.”

She majored in Chemistry but was recruited to IBM and subsequently Microsoft. Ms Kwan has been a key contributor to Microsoft’s success in Singapore and is credited with giving .Net momentum in the Singapore marketplace. In recent years, she has been tasked to play a key role in Microsoft’s expansion into the Asia Pacific region. Currently, she holds the position of Deputy General Manager for OEM Multi-National & Alliance, APAC/GCR & Japan Region.

Dr Lam Lay Yong
BA (1957), PhD (1966)
Professor, Dept of Mathematics, NUS (1988 -96)
Kenneth O. May Medal (2001)

“Passion, conviction and perseverance are ingredients for a successful research project. They will ultimately triumph over all impediments no matter how formidable”.

Graduating with Honours in Mathematics in 1957, she went on to win the coveted Queen’s Scholarship. Upon obtaining her PhD, she joined the Department of Mathematics as Assistant Lecturer, and was promoted to Professor in 1988. For her contributions to the history of mathematics, Prof Lam won the Kenneth O. May medal in 2001, the highest honour given by the International Commission on the History of Mathematics once every four years. Prof Lam was the first Asian to win it. She retired in 1996 from the National University of Singapore.
Prof Peter Lancaster  
PhD (1964)  
Faculty Professor, University of Calgary, Canada  
Humboldt Research Award (2000)  

In 1964, he obtained a Ph.D. at the University of Singapore, becoming the first person since the founding of Raffles College to receive a Ph.D. in Mathematics in Singapore. Since then he had an illustrious and glittering academic career receiving the Humboldt Research Award in 2000. He is currently a Faculty Professor at the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Calgary, Canada. He is also Research Fellow at Manchester University, England and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada.

Dr Lan Weiguang  
PhD (1995)  
Chairman/CEO  
Sinomem Technology Ltd  

After obtaining his PhD in NUS he returned to China to assume the position of Assistant Professor at Jinmei University in Xiamen. He entered into the filtration technology business shortly. Today, Sinomem has evolved into a multinational filtration technology specialist company with its headquarters in Singapore, providing both equipment and training solutions as an integrated package. Dr Lan holds the realm as its Chairman and Managing Director.

Mr Lam Pin Woon  
BSc Pharm (1982), BSc Pharm Hons (1983)  
CEO, Health Promotion Board  
Ex-CEO, Cerebos Pacific Ltd  
Ex-Managing Director, Quaker Oats Asia Inc  

“No matter our station in life, everyone of us can make a difference in our own way.”  

After graduating with a BSc (Hons) in Pharmacy and armed with an MBA from Georgia State University, he accumulated more than 20 years of experience in regional marketing, sales, operations and business management in various corporations such as Cerebos Pacific Ltd, Quaker Oats Asia Inc. and F&N Coca-Cola Pte Ltd. Currently, he is the CEO of the Health Promotion Board, bringing with him valuable experience and a proven track record in the development of corporate strategies, directions and policies. He is also an Adjunct Lecturer at the Department of Pharmacy, NUS.
Dr Lien Wen Sze
BSc (1970), BSc Hons (1971), PhD (1975)
Group Manager, Culinary, Nestle R & D Center Singapore Pte Ltd

“Be profound in thinking but diligent in practice.”

Not content with a BSc in Mathematics & Chemistry, she went on to obtain a PhD in Chemistry. Through her various portfolios in SISIR, Nestle, her involvement in several SIFST councils, East China University of Science and Technology in Shanghai (where she is an Honorary Professor), Temasek Polytechnic and School of Applied Science, she contributed greatly to food science education and training. She is currently the Group Manager, Culinary, of Nestle R&D Center Singapore Pte Ltd. She is a Fellow of the Singapore National Institute of Chemistry and the Royal Society of Chemistry and Chartered Chemists (UK).

Ms Lien Siaou-Sze
BSc (1971)
Senior Vice President, Technology Solutions Group, HP Asia-Pacific and Japan

“Shine brightly. Remember that throughout history, people have always navigated by following bright stars, not black holes.”

This Physics graduate started as a systems engineer and took on a series of management positions in Singapore, South East Asia and the Asia Pacific region. She is currently the Senior Vice President of the Technology Solutions Group (TSG) for HP Asia-Pacific and Japan, the first woman to attain this title. In addition, she currently serves on the board of directors of the PSA, Republic Polytechnic, and is a Council member of NTU. She is currently pursuing a PhD at Cambridge University. She has been listed in Fortune Magazine’s “50 Most Powerful Women in Asia” for four consecutive years.

Mr Michael Liew Kok Pun
BSc (1965), BSc Hons (1966)
General Manager, ComfortDelgro East China Business Unit

“Life is full of colours and challenges, and opportunities. So live it to the fullest”.

This BSc (Hons) Physics alumnus is currently the General Manager of the ComfortDelgro East China Business Unit. He is responsible for the bus and taxi operations in Shanghai, Suzhou and Zhengzhou; and for business development in East China. He was conferred the Public Service Medal by the Singapore Government in 1972 and was a former Member of Parliament in Singapore. He has recently been appointed as advisor to the China Council for Promotion of International Trade, Chengdu. He was in the education service for 12 years and had been a science teacher, school principal and deputy director of education. During this time he co-authored a series of science books at primary school and “A” levels.
Mrs Jane Lim-Wee Fong Thim
BSc (1971), BSc Hons (1972)
Co-owner/Marketing Director, Wee Hoe Cheng Chemicals Pte Ltd
Wee Hoe Cheng Sdn Bhd (Malaysia)
Pt Lumindo (Indonesia)

“In a new and difficult business situation, when I take the first step, the next step reveals itself and after many steps, I find a pathway and usually a solution.”

After obtaining her BSc (Hons) in Chemistry, she started her career in Pfizer where she rose to be a Director in 1980. In 1981, she returned to her family business, remoulding and developing it into the successful Wee Hoe Cheng Chemicals Pte Ltd of today. The company has evolved to be a wholesaler, importer, regional stocklist and distributor of food ingredients and additives from all around the world. Ms Lim-Wee made several contributions to the community, which included the setting up of the Wee Hoe Cheng Bursary Award in Ngee Ann Polytechnic for needy students. Her support for her alma mater has included serving as a Commencement speaker and in our interviews of candidates for admission.

Mr Stephen Ooi Hong Liang
BSc Pharm (1976), BSc Pharm Hons (1977), MBA (1992)
President, Australasia Region, Zimmer

“Stay focused on a vision to leave something behind from hard work and commitment so that you can look back at your career and say “I did that!”

This alumnus holds a BSc. (Hons) in Pharmacy and an MBA from NUS. Since then, he has accumulated more than 20 years of experience in the orthopaedics and medical products industry. Then in 1986, he joined Zimmer, a company specializing in providing orthopaedic solutions. He rose through the ranks and was named General Manager and Vice President in quick succession. He is currently the President of the Australasia Region for Zimmer.
Prof Ong Choon Nam  
BSc (1971), BSc Hons (1972)  
Director, Centre for Environmental and Occupational Health, NUS  

“Dare to venture into the unfamiliar”  

An alumnus with a great passion for the field of environmental health, he made key contributions through his research and has received the Astra-Zeneca Award in 2001. He served as a consultant to WHO and continues to exert an influence globally and locally. He is currently the Director for the Centre for Environmental and Occupational Health at NUS. He has been a Visiting Professor at Fudan University, Sun Yet-Sen University and the China Center for Disease Control. He is currently also an Advisor to the National Water Research Institute (US) and Deputy Honorary Secretary of the Tan Kah Kee Foundation.

Dr Karunanithy s/o Ramasamy  
PBM, BPharm (1962), BPharm Hons (1963)  
Assoc Prof & Senior Fellow, Dept of Pharmacy, NUS (1963 -98)  

“Make ourselves indispensable in our National Health Care Team”  

This first class Hons BPharm alumnus and Chalmers Medalist started his 35-year career with the Department of Pharmacy (NUS) as an Assistant Lecturer, rising through the ranks, to finally being a Senior Fellow. Though retired, he is currently a Part-Time Academic in the Department. More than simply academia, his list of contributions to various public and community services is also lengthy and impressive. In view of his vast contributions to academia and to community services, Dr Karu has received numerous awards from both the University and the State, including the Public Service Medal in 2004.

Ms Seetoh Hoy Cheng  
BSc (1970), BSc Hons (1971)  
Singapore High Commissioner to New Zealand  

“In victory, learn when to stop.”  

After graduating from Botany with a BSc Hons, she joined the Ministry of Education and then the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. She went on to obtain a Masters degree in International Public Policy from the John Hopkins University, USA in 1984. Since then, she has served in a variety of positions in the Ministry, our embassies and High Commissions in Washington, London, Laos People’s Democratic Republic and New Zealand. She is currently the High Commissioner to New Zealand.
Prof Sim Keng Yeow  
BSc (1959), BSc Hons (1960), MSc (1961)  
Head, Department of Chemistry (1988 - 96)  
President, Singapore National Institute of Chemistry (1975 -78, 1992-96)  

“Knowledge speaks, Wisdom listens.”

He joined the Department of Chemistry in 1964. His extensive commitments in teaching, research and service also included serving as Head of the Department. During his immense contribution as head, the Department achieved a status as a top and highly respected research entity not only in comparison with departments of chemistry in Asian universities but also in the world. He was conferred an Honorary Fellowship by SNIC (Singapore National Institute of Chemistry) in 2000 for his scholarship, his leadership and contributions. He has served as its President (1975 – 78, 1992 -96) with considerable connections and influence in the region as well.

Dr Tan Eng Liang  
PJG BBM (L), BSc (1960), BSc Hons (1961)  
Rhodes Scholar/Olympian  
Chairman, WizVision’s Board of Directors  
Senior Minister of State (1975 -80) & MP (1972 -80)

This Chemistry alumnus, first regional Rhodes Scholar and Olympian had a meritorious career in the university and government. He was a Member of Parliament from 1972 to 1980 serving also as a Senior Minister of State from 1975 to 1980. He has also made pioneering contributions in developing sports in Singapore. He is currently the chairman of WizVision’s Board of Directors. He has been awarded the Public Service Star, the Public Service Star (Bar), and Meritorious Service Medal as a form of recognition to his services to the country. In 1995, the IOC “Olympic Movement Unity” Trophy was presented to him for his invaluable services to Olympism.

Dr Tan Kok Kheng  
BSc (1969), BSc Hons (1970)  
Founder/CEO, MycoBiotech Inc (Everbloom Group of Companies)

This alumnus is the founder and CEO of MycoBiotech Inc (Everbloom Group of Companies). He is also the Chairman of SMA’s Food & Beverage Industry Group. He also sits on the committee of many public organisations, including Food Standards Committee of SPRING Singapore, IE Singapore, Ministry of Environment, and the Singapore Cancer Society. In addition, has served his alma mater as a staff member in Botany and has been both a regular participant and sponsor of alumni functions.
Ms Tan Mui Ling
BSc Pharm (1976), BSc Pharm Hons (1977)
General Manager, East Shore Hospital (1997 – 2002)

“In all work undertaken, do them with a spirit of excellence”

She started her career as a hospital pharmacist with SGH after her BSc (Hons) in Pharmacy. During her tenure, she set up the Drug Information Service under Pharmaceutical Department to educate and help health care professionals in drug related matters. She moved on to hospital administration and worked in both Singapore and overseas hospitals, contributing much to the quality of service in these hospitals. She was also involved in hospital planning and commissioning work in a private hospital in Yangon, Myanmar.

Mr Tan Seng Chye
BSc (1966), BSc Hons (1967)
Singapore Ambassador to Vietnam

“Whatever we do, if we are open to take on new challenges and we are resourceful and are determined to achieve the best, we will realize our dreams. My primary school’s motto ‘Courage in every storm’ is apt to meet life’s challenges.”

This BSc (Hons) in Chemistry alumnus has been serving the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for 38 years and his impressive credentials include ambassadorships to Thailand, Myanmar, Fiji, Australia, Philippines and Laos, as well as directorship for Technical Cooperation. He is currently the ambassador to Vietnam. In addition, he has represented Singapore in many renowned international conferences such as ASEAN, UN and ESCAP. He has certainly dedicated his life to strengthening the bilateral relationships between Singapore and her neighbours and building trade and investment opportunities outside Singapore. He has been supportive of alumni gatherings whenever he is in Singapore.

Mr Winston Tan Tien Hin
BSc (1972)
Managing Director, Corporate Brokers International Pte Ltd
Director, Singapore Technologies Engineering Ltd
Director, Ascendas Pte Ltd

“The friends made, the things learned and the experiences encountered during my years in SU have definitely and positively influenced my life, and for this I am very grateful to my Alma Mater.”

Mr Winston Tan, physics graduate, is the Managing Director of Corporate Brokers International Pte Ltd., dedicated to helping SMEs with the passion and potential of becoming MNCs. Mr Tan is a Director of Singapore Technologies Engineering Ltd. (STE) and has been associated with the STE Group of companies for over 10 years. He is also a Board Member of several other private equity companies. Mr Tan was Citibank’s Vice-President (72-88) and General Manager of Deutsche Bank (88-96). His contemporaries may remember the weekly folk sessions that he conducted in the lecture theatres. He is also a member of the Salvation Army Advisory Board.
Mr Wong Hung Khim
PJG, BSc (1963), BSc Hons (1964)
Retired Permanent Secretary and Chairman Jurong Town Corporation
Medal of commendation Gold, NTUC (1995)

“I developed an analytical and enquiring mind through learning Physics. This helped my career as it enabled me to look at issues and problems logically and objectively from different as well as new angles.”

This BSc (Hons) Physics alumnus served in various positions in his career in the civil service, holding positions of great responsibility including that of a Permanent Secretary. His influence and impact have been both substantial and significant in areas like our transport and communication systems and the Port of Singapore Authority. For his contribution in the public sector, he was conferred the Meritorious Service Medal in 1992 by the Singapore Government and in 1995, the Medal of Commendation (Gold) by the NTUC. He is currently an Independent Director of Medi-Flex Limited, the non-executive chairman of Zhonghui Holdings Ltd and Independent Director of Stamford Land Corporation Ltd and Overseas Union Enterprise Ltd. He was also made Honorary Citizen of Suzhou.

Ms Sue Yap Soh Mooi
BSc (1984), BSc Hons (1985), MBA (1994)
Founder/CEO, Research Biolabs Pte Ltd

“Work hard, work smart and never give up.”

A biologist by training, this BSc Hons alumnus also has an MBA from NUS. With more than 15 years of experience in the Life Sciences industry, she is the driving force behind the company for which she is the founder and CEO. Under her leadership, Research Biolabs has grown from a startup in 1993 to a fully integrated Life Sciences company with research and diagnostic consumables and instrument distribution, manufacture of custom oligonucleotides, DNA sequencing and other genomic services. She has also made her mark and contributions in sports since her student days.
Rewarding Reflections
From An Alumnus

I was originally from Manila and was educated in the United Kingdom at the Universities of Warwick (1994-1997) and Edinburgh (1997-1998), where I completed my degrees in Mathematics & Economics (B.Sc.) and Operational Research & Management Science (M.Sc.) respectively.

In 2000, I started working at the Land Transport Authority (LTA) here in Singapore as part of a new Operations Research Unit that had just been set-up to help support LTA in the use of scientific analytical methods for management decision-making. The work was quite varied, ranging from estimating the property price impact of the distance to the nearest MRT station, to creating a lorry queueing model for a soil dumpsite, to predicting the number of road accidents in 2010.

I had been working as an Operations Research Analyst at the Land Transport Authority for one and a half years before I joined the National University of Singapore’s part-time M.Sc. in Statistics by coursework programme in July 2001. I found the part-time schedule to be quite manageable. Interestingly, that arrangement also allowed me to apply many of the techniques that I had learned almost immediately to my work. I did not have to wait until graduation before I could put my expanded professional toolkit to good use!

Through my experience at NUS, I was fortunate to have met and befriended many like-minded classmates all working in various applications of statistical analysis. It is good to know how we all share similar challenges at work, in our career, and in life in general. Since then, as an NUS alumnus, I have also had the chance to participate in a number of interesting activities, such as the breakfast gathering with the Dean of the Science Faculty, as an interviewer for the NUS discretionary undergraduate admissions exercise, and as a judge for the Statistical Poster Competition in 2005.

In January 2005, I moved on to work on CRM analytics in a telco environment at MobileOne Limited, working on various issues such as predicting customers who might potentially ‘churn’ (i.e. ‘switch’) to other operators, developing a new system for retention campaign optimisation, and providing support to various analytical functions such as customer segmentation and how to use conjoint analysis for studying new tariff packaging ideas.

The journey continues, and I hope to be able to keep on meeting new friends and participating in exciting activities as a proud NUS alumnus!

Nathaniel B. Noriel,
M.Sc. (2003), Senior Business Analyst,
MobileOne Limited
Science Club
Won Major Awards
at the 2005 Centennial Rag and Flag Day

Our Science Club has done extremely well in the Centennial Rag and Flag on 6 August this year.

With the support of hundreds of freshmen, senior undergraduates and alumni, the Science Club clinched the following awards:

(a) Chancellor Challenge Shield
For emerging the overall champion in both Rag and Flag - it was in 1988 (17 years ago) when we last won this Shield!

(b) Centennial Best Dance for Faculty Clubs
A special award given during this Centennial Celebrations.

(c) Gold Award for Flag
For raising more than $47,000 for charities (given to Clubs and Halls that raised $45,000 or above) This is the first time that Science has won it.

On that scorching hot Rag Day morning, Science Dean Tan Eng Chye joined and cheered with the students. His staunch support was a tremendous encouragement to the students. Despite the many sleepless nights spent on putting the finishing touches to their floats and dance performance, the students remained in high spirits throughout. It was a splendid display of the Science Firepower!
Inaugural
OmniScience
NUS Centennial Celebrations
Reflections via Photoflashes

A Photo history of Faculty of Science...
Acknowledgement

Prof Shih Choon Foong, President, NUS
for his encouragement and presence as Guest of Honour.

Lee Foundation and Shaw Foundation for their generous sponsorships and support of the Faculty on this occasion.