



Annual Report 2019/20



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2020 marks the 15th Anniversary of Duke-NUS, and also the graduation our 10th batch of medical students. For the DNMA, the past year has seen a steep increase in the number of alumni exiting training which resulted in a few exciting hires for alumni in various roles at Duke-NUS. This year, we are especially grateful to the large number of alumni who answered the call to serve the school whether as teacher, mentor, committee member, or face of Duke-NUS's new corporate branding campaign.

All of these achievements sit atop the complexities and the uncertainties that have emerged due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We know that our alumni are working harder than ever to provide outstanding compassionate care to patients in Singapore, and beyond. Thank you for all your efforts to keep us safe!

We would also like to welcome the graduating Class of 2020, our newest members of the DNMA: Welcome to the Duke-NUS alumni family! The COVID-19 pandemic has added to the challenges that will emerge during your transition from medical student to PGY1, and we firmly believe you will remain resilient in the face of these and other challenges.

Please approach any of the DNMA committee members, the Duke-NUS Alumni Relations team, and your peers in the alumni community for help and support. Here's to an exciting and promising year ahead!

President's Message

My dearest fellow alumni,

The past half-year of 2020 has been nothing short of a rollercoaster ride for everyone, more so for us in the healthcare profession. I hope everyone has been coping well. We've seen healthcare systems in many developed countries crumble in the face of this pandemic, and I feel comforted that Singapore's COVID cases have fared relatively well compared to what we've heard in other parts of the world.

Through the pandemic, many of us may have felt stressed or even burnt out from all the challenges brought on by COVID. Some have taken care of patients with COVID-19, while putting our loved ones at risk. Some had training affected due to restrictions in movements across hospitals, other had all clinical research activities put on hold. Some may even have family members or friends who were infected with COVID-19. Travel plans have been cancelled. Friends have not met for months, and families have even been temporarily separated.

Through these challenges however are stories of resilience and overcoming challenges.

Duke-NUS, for example, has been repeatedly featured in the news, not only for the all the hard work our Emerging Infectious Diseases (EID) department has led, but also for the care given by our alumni to COVID-19 and non-COVID-19 patients alike. Most, if not all, have agreed to directly manage COVID-19 patients, despite the potential dangers to ourselves and our families. Many Duke-NUS alumni are at the forefront of our response, be it at the dormitories, at primary care or polyclinics, the fever screening areas, the emergency departments, the COVID wards in restructured hospitals, and also in the offices planning our workflows.

We have found ways to keep in touch with loved ones within Singapore or overseas, while anxiously waiting for the time we can finally see them in person again. Some have even welcomed new family members during the Circuit Breaker, facing the challenges of parenthood without the usual help of doting grandparents, who were initially not allowed to visit their grandkids.

We have found new habits to stay fit and healthy. Some have taken up cycling, zoom gym or yoga classes. Many have started or restarted running during their new-found free time.

We have come up with innovations to ensure patient care is not compromised during the pandemic, for instance the development of telemedicine.

The pandemic has also reshaped how we carry out academic activities. For example, those preparing for exams have formed online study groups. We have participated in virtual international conferences in the comforts of our own homes or offices. In the past month, we have also enhanced the education of our medical students within the constraints of the social distancing rules.

Duke-NUS had both its first online white coat ceremony for the new Class of 2024, and also held the nation's first oath-taking ceremony for the newest members of our alumni, the Class of 2020.

The number of adjustments and innovations that the pandemic brought on are countless. No matter the difficulties, our lives have progressed, and I have faith that we will not only recover, but even emerge to a new better life, armed with the resilience learned from these challenges.

Of course, I am aware that my experiences are very much skewed to what's been happening in SGH. Some of us may have vastly different experiences in other institutions or even in other countries. At our first online Alumni Happy Hour on July 17, we thoroughly enjoyed hearing from our alumni around the island and from outside of clinical medicine, sharing how their lives have been shaped by the pandemic. We may not be able to hear from everyone, but do drop us an e-mail, a text, or better yet, join us at our next online event, the upcoming Annual General Meeting on the 9th of September.

I hope everyone stays safe. I wish you happiness and good health in these challenging times. Hopefully, we can all meet in person and catch up as one big alumni family soon.

See you all in our upcoming AGM.

Respectfully,

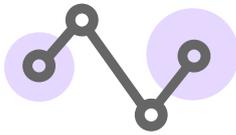
Maverick

President, Duke-NUS Medical Alumni Committee

OUR OBJECTIVES



To represent and promote the interests of Duke-NUS Medical Alumni



To facilitate interaction and networking amongst the alumni members



To strengthen ties between medical alumni and Duke-NUS Medical School



To promote the interests of Duke-NUS Medical School



To promote the advancement of medical education and medical research



To foster goodwill among the local and regional community through community service activities

DNMA MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



Dr Felix Maverick Rubillar Uy
PRESIDENT



Dr Anuradha Pandey
VICE-PRESIDENT



Dr Kenneth Chin
SECRETARY



Dr Lek Sze Min
ASSISTANT SECRETARY



Dr Edwin Yang
TREASURER



Dr Eric Cher
ASSISTANT TREASURER



Dr Chia Ghim Song
HONORARY AUDITOR



Dr Maryanne Romero
HONORARY AUDITOR

DNMA COMMITTEE MEMBERS



Dr Tan Xian-li Olivia



Dr Nicholas Shannon



Dr Chan Yuan-Lang, Brian
CLASS AMBASSADOR (CLASS OF 2017)



Dr Ruan Xucong
CLASS AMBASSADOR (CLASS OF 2017)



Dr Gwen Hwang
CLASS AMBASSADOR (CLASS OF 2018)



Dr Goh Kian Leong
CLASS AMBASSADOR (CLASS OF 2018)



Dr Samantha Tan
CLASS AMBASSADOR (CLASS OF 2019)



Dr Tan Si Qi

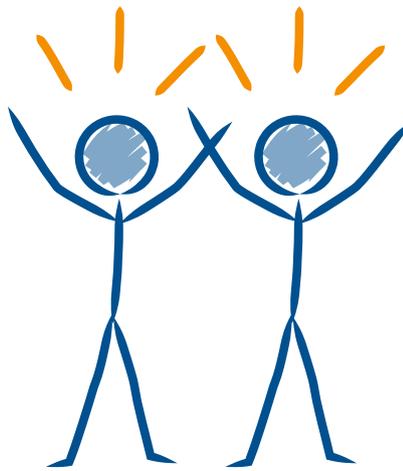


Dr Michael Yan Shi
CLASS AMBASSADOR (CLASS OF 2019)

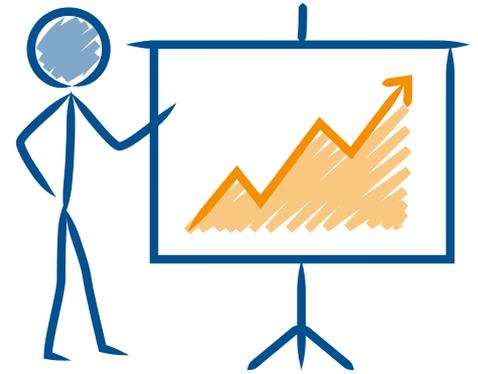
ALUMNI INVOLVEMENT



**Social
Events**



**Community
Service Events**



**Alumni Teaching
and Sharing**



**More than 460 hours
collectively contributed by
more than 60 alumni**

Thank you for your support and contribution!

TIMELINE OF KEY EVENTS 2019/20

2019

NUS Day of Service (7th September 2019)



7th Duke-NUS Dialogue (1st November 2019)

Alumni Movie Night (3rd January 2020)



PGY1 Preparation Talk (26th May 2020)

Happy Hour (17th July 2020)



If you have any ideas for future events or if you'd like to organise a class or specialty gathering (be it virtually or face-to-face), we would love to support you and making them happen!

2020

LEADERSHIP TRANSITION OF CHAIRMAN



The chairmen of Duke-NUS Medical School stand together, former Chairman, Mr Kai Nargolwala, founding Chairman, Mr Tony Chew and current Chairman, Mr Goh Yew Lin.

We bade farewell to the outgoing Chairman of its Governing Board, Mr Kai Nargolwala, at a transition ceremony in September last year, and at the same time, welcomed the new Chairman, Mr Goh Yew Lin.

Mr Goh, who is the Managing Director of G.K. Goh Holdings Ltd, is distinguished by his decades-long career in business. He is also the founding Chairman of the NUS Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music's (YST) Governing Board and a recipient of NUS' Outstanding Service Award, for his meritorious service to the university, Singapore and beyond.

During the Chairman Handover Ceremony (20th September 2019), our alumni, Dr Ruan Xucong (Class of 2017) gave a speech, expressing gratitude for Mr Kai Nargolwala's stewardship of Duke-NUS for eight years – seven years as Chairman and one year as a member of the Governing Board. She also talked about Project Inspire, an initiative by SingHealth Internal Medicine Residency that helps prepare final year students for their tenure as house officers, which found support under Mr Nargolwala's leadership and the school's administration.





KEY EVENT: 7TH DIALOGUE



OPTIMISING HEALTHCARE ECONOMICS

**Guest speaker:
Deputy Prime Minister
and Minister for Finance,
Mr Heng Swee Keat**



For our 7th Dialogue, we were honoured to have Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance, Mr Heng Swee Keat as our guest speaker.

We had a turnout of over 80 guests – our biggest yet – and with the generosity of our hosts, Mr Tony Chew and Dr Melanie Chew, the dialogue was a success. We would like to thank the attendees (distinguished leaders and professionals, Duke- NUS alumni, students, faculty and staff) for their active participation and continuous support of the Duke-NUS Alumni Dialogue. As per tradition, the event started with the chance for guests to mingle and chat. After dinner, we kicked

start the dialogue with DPM Heng, who delivered his take on optimising healthcare economics with much humour and candour.

Not only did DPM Heng share with us many personal stories, he also took few questions from the floor, providing great insight on topics such as long-term healthcare financing, the role of research and technology in shaping Singapore's future, and continuously channelling precious resources towards good causes.

*To read more about past dialogues, check out our Alumni Newsletters:
<https://www.duke-nus.edu.sg/alumni/>*



NEW EVENT: MOVIE NIGHT

We welcomed 2020 with an epic new event: our first ever Duke-NUS Alumni Movie Night on 3rd January. Not only did we invite our alumni for the movie date, we also extended the invitation to their family and friends. It was great to see everyone come down to catch “Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker” and enjoy some popcorn and drinks to go along with the interstellar experience. When the pandemic is over, we hope to have more fun movie nights with you guys!



NEW E-VENT: HAPPY HOUR

While it was regrettable that we couldn't realise our plans for more fun and exciting face-to-face events this year, the restrictions of the COVID-19 situation prompted us to think out of the box and experiment with new ways of engaging our alumni family. Our first virtual get-together took place on 17th July 2020. Over drinks and chit-chat, it was wonderful to have alumni from various batches and Sponsoring Institutions get to know one another better, sharing interesting stories from their lives, and it was definitely a good catchup and break in the midst of this challenging period.

NEW EVENTS



ALUMNI TEACHING & SHARING

As course directors, Dr Andrew Chou and Dr Petty Chen (both from Class of 2015) taught the second annual Innovation and Design Thinking course for Duke-NUS students. The course included a hackathon, where students work in collaborative teams in developing solutions to challenging healthcare problems across the world, including visualising difficult veins, preventing falls in the elderly population, and improving diabetic foot screening rates in the community.

Our alumni, Dr Rena Dharmawan (Class of 2011) and Dr Shravan Verma (Class of 2014), also came back during the course to inspire the next generation as clinician innovators and also helped judge the student pitches during the course.



Teaching &

ALUMNI TEACHING & SHARING



Medtalk Evenings: The Clinician Scientist

[Dr Feng Jiajun](#)
Senior Resident SingHealth
Plastic, Reconstructive and
Aesthetic Surgery
MD, Duke-NUS Medical
School Class of 2012



Medtalk Evenings: The Clinician Scientist

[Dr Ku Chee Wai](#)
Senior Resident SingHealth
Obstetrics and Gynaecology
MD, Duke-NUS Medical
School Class of 2013



Medtalk Evenings: The Clinician Innovator

[Dr Shravan Verma](#)
Founder & CEO, Speedoc
MD, Duke-NUS Medical
School Class of 2014



The quarterly MedTalk Evenings is a series that feature various guest speakers from different backgrounds who are making an impact in their unique ways. Some of our alumni have been invited to share their stories and experiences at MedTalk Evenings, showing how they were able to bring different perspectives and apply their skills in the field of medicine, especially in areas of clinical innovation, clinical leadership, clinical education and more.

For Medtalk Evenings: The Clinician Scientist, and Medtalk Evenings: The Clinician Innovator, our alumni, Dr Feng Jiajun (Class of 2012), Dr Ku Chee Wai (Class of 2013) and Dr Shravan Verman (Class of 2014), were invited to share their journey in making an impact in their unique ways. It is truly inspirational to see how our Duke-NUS graduates have embraced the 'Clinicians First, Clinicians Plus' mission in their own ways.



Featured alumni: Dr Feng Jiajun and Dr Ku Chee Wai



Featured alumnus: Dr Shravan Verman

Sharing

ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS AND AWARDS

SingHealth Excels RiSE Awards 2020

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AWARD

This award is based on QI projects that encourage Residents to innovate and come forward with fresh ideas on how current academic or clinical structure can be improved.

Project: Increase Referral Rates of Eligible Cases in SGH for Tissue Transplant from Baseline to 90% within 1 month

by **Dr Zhang Yuan Helen** (Emergency Medicine)

OUTSTANDING FACULTY AWARD

Top 5% Faculty nominated by the following programmes for their commitment and contribution to Residency.

Dr Hsieh Yi Chen Jenny (Internal Medicine)

Dr Ku Chee Wai (Post Graduate Year 1)

INSPIRING RESIDENT EDUCATOR AWARD

The Inspiring Resident-Educator Award recognises exemplary Residents who teach and nurture both fellow peers and juniors.

Dr Ku Chee Wai (Obstetrics & Gynaecology)

OUTSTANDING RESIDENT AWARD

Top 5% of each Residency cohort who have done exceptionally well in their clinical and academic avenues of medical education.

Dr Lee Aik Beng Marcus (Emergency Medicine)

Dr Trina Arifin (Geriatric Medicine)

Dr Ruan Xucong (Internal Medicine)

Dr Tan Yu Bin (Internal Medicine)

Dr Chou Chia Chen Andrew (Orthopaedic Surgery)

Dr Leong Dalun (Orthopaedic Surgery)

Dr Chester Huang Junjie (Paediatrics)

Dr Khor Yu Keat Andrew (Rheumatology)

2020 MOH Outstanding PGY1 Award

Dr Ong Shu Zhen Alicia (Class of 2018)

Dr Goh Xi Tai, Winfred (Class of 2018)

American Kidney Fund (AKF) Research Fellowship

Dr Maria Clarissa Tio (Class of 2015)

2020 Macula Society Award: Evangelos S. Gragoudas

Dr Sally Ong (Class of 2013)

The Retina Society: Raymond R. Margherio Award

Dr Sally Ong (Class of 2013)

Appointed Positions at Duke-NUS

Dr Ee Tat Xin (Class of 2011): Phase 2 O&G Clerkship Coordinator

Dr Lim Kheng Choon (Class of 2011): Clinical Assistant Professor

Dr Rena Dharmawan (Class of 2011): Clinical Entrepreneur-in-Residence, Duke-NUS Office of Innovation and Entrepreneurship

Dr Shan Koh Bundgaard (Class of 2011): Assistant Professor and Director (Student Academic Development, Student Affairs & Alumni Relations)

Dr Tina Tan (Class of 2011): Phase 2 Psychiatry Clerkship Coordinator and Adjunct Assistant Professor

Dr Ignasius Aditya Jappara (Class of 2012): MD Programme Board Representative

Dr Heah Ya Ting, Charmain (Class of 2013): College Master, Eugene Stead College

Dr Ruan Xucong (Class of 2017): Student Promotion Committee Representative

SingHealth Residency Graduands (2019)

Advanced Internal Medicine

Dr Hsieh Yi Chen Jenny (Class of 2014)

Dr Low Su Hui Esther (Class of 2014)

Cardiology

Dr Ignasius Aditya Jappar (Class of 2012)

Dr Oh Ying Zi (Class of 2012)

Diagnostic Radiology

Dr Aftab Syed (Class of 2013)

Emergency Medicine

Dr Ting Boon Ping (Class of 2013)

Endocrinology

Dr Koh Huilin (Class of 2013)

Family Medicine

Dr Goh Glenn (Class of 2015)

General Surgery

Dr Szymon Mikulski (Class of 2013)

Haematology

Dr Tan Si Yun Melinda (Class of 2012)

Obstetrics & Gynaecology

Dr Ee Tat Xin (Class of 2011)

Ophthalmology

Dr Foo Li Lian (Class of 2012)

Paediatrics

Dr Chan Su-Wan Bianca (Class of 2011)

Dr Karen Donceras Nadua (Class of 2011)

Dr Ong Li Ming (Class of 2011)

Dr Guadalupe Cara Jimenez Viegelmann (Class of 2012)

Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery

Dr Tay Khwee Soon Vincent (Class of 2011)

Rehabilitation Medicine

Dr Tan Pei Ling (Class of 2012)

SingHealth Best Junior Doctors Awards

Best House Officer Award

Dr Goh Xi Tai, Winfred (Class of 2018)

Dr Hwang Yung Hsin Gwen (Class of 2018)

Dr Lim Mei Xing (Class of 2018)

We strive to stay updated to our alumni's achievements. If you or your classmates win any awards or completed your training at other SIs, please feel free to share the news your achievements with us!



**Dr Shan Koh
Bundgaard
(Class of 2011)**



**Dr Lim Kheng Choon
(Class of 2011)**



**Dr Rena Dharmawan
(Class of 2011)**



**Dr Vincent Tay
(Class of 2011)**



**Dr Charmain Heah
(Class of 2013)**



**Dr Jacelyn Lim
(Class of 2013)**



**Dr Kenneth Chin
(Class of 2016)**



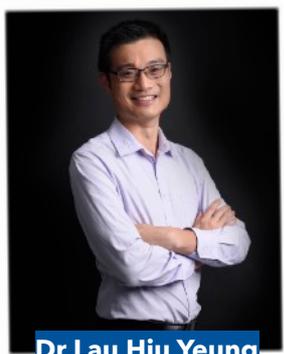
**Dr Ruan Xucong
(Class of 2017)**



**Dr Deepali Bang
(Class of 2018)**



**Dr Gwen Hwang
(Class of 2018)**



**Dr Lau Hiu Yeung
(Class of 2018)**



**Dr Chia Xintian
(Class of 2020)**

We would like to thank our alumni for taking part in the photoshoot for the upcoming Duke-NUS 15th Anniversary Commemorative Photobook.

Duke-NUS 15th Anniversary

F e a t u r e d A l u m n i

Post PGY1 Experience Survey 2019

In a survey about their experiences in PGY1, 34 alumni from the class of 2018 responded. This represents 50% of the cohort (of 68) and gave us valuable feedback on how Duke-NUS has prepared them for PGY1, how the school can continue to improve our MD programme for subsequent Duke-NUS student cohorts, and how we can continue to assist our alumni in their career aspirations.

PGY1 Preparedness



68%

23 out of 34 alumni
felt that the school has
prepared them well.

Most post-PGY1 alumni felt well prepared for the first year of training. Across 13 Entrustable Professional Activities*, majority of the respondents felt as well or better prepared than their peers.

Intended Career

The majority of respondents indicated they would like to pursue a 'Clinician Plus' career.



21% indicated interest in Clinician Educator as an aspect of their intended career



21% indicated interest in Clinician Leader as an aspect of their intended career



26% indicated interest in Clinician Scientist as an aspect of their intended career



*13 Entrustable Professional Activities (EPAs) by Association of American Medical Colleges are a commonly used set of competencies for PGY1.

FINANCE

The Duke-NUS Medical Alumni (DNMA) was officially registered with the Singapore Registry of Societies on 15th April 2013. Its place of business is at Alumni Relations, Duke-NUS Medical School Singapore, 8 College Road, Singapore 169857.

Since DNMA's inception in April 2013, no entrance fees and subscriptions were collected from the members and all expenses were borne by the School's Alumni Relations office.

There are no income and expense as well as assets and liabilities for the financial period, 1st April 2019 to 31 March 2020.

The Management Committee will take responsibility for preparation of DNMA's financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with the Singapore Financial Reporting Standards, and for devising and maintaining a system of internal accounting controls sufficient to provide a reasonable assurance that assets are safeguarded against loss from unauthorised use or disposition; and transactions are properly authorised and that they are recorded as necessary to permit the preparation of true and fair profit and loss accounts and balance sheets and to maintain accountability of assets.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Special thanks for your guidance and support of DNMA!

Mr Goh Yew Lin

Chairman, Duke-NUS Governing Board

Prof Thomas Coffman

Dean

Prof Ian Curran

Vice Dean (Office of Education)

Mr Tony Chew

Honorary Member of DNMA

Founding Chairman, Duke-NUS Governing Board

Mr Kai Nargolwala

Former Chairman, Duke-NUS Governing Board

Dr Mara McAdams

Associate Dean (Alumni Relations)

Ms Maria Tan

Senior Manager (Student Affairs and Alumni Relations)

Mr Wong Yong Jie

Senior Executive (Alumni Relations)

Ms Stella Liang

Executive (Alumni Relations)

...as well as other DUKE-NUS staff and friends for always supporting and believing in us!



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