SPEECH BY MS MAVIS KHOO FOR THE ESTATE OF TAN SRI KHOO TECK PUAT DONATION TO DUKE-NUS GRADUATE MEDICAL SCHOOL

Good evening Minister for Education Mr Tharman Shanmugaratnam; Doctor Tony Tan, Chairman of the National Research Foundation and Patron for the Duke-NUS Graduate Medical School Development Committee; Mr Tony Chew, Chairman, Duke-NUS Graduate Medical School Governing Board and members of the Board; distinguished guests, and members of the media.

On behalf of the trustees of the Estate of Tan Sri Khoo Teck Puat, I would like to thank the Duke-NUS Graduate Medical School for arranging the appreciation dinner today.

My late father was a visionary and pioneering business leader in international banking, hotel and property. In his latter years, he devoted himself to philanthropic work and championing community values that centred on education, healthcare and medical research. He believed that our society and people would benefit most directly from improvements in these three, important areas.

The Estate of Tan Sri Khoo Teck Puat has continued in the spirit of this vision since 2004 - and today’s donation is the Estate’s most substantial to date.
By supporting this initiative, The Estate believes that Singapore will be able to build on past and current successes, and develop into a centre of excellence for education, healthcare and medical research.

When the first class of students join the medical school later this year, they will have access to the finest medical education possible. In future years they will develop into talented scientists who will both strengthen Singapore’s position as a regional medical hub, as well as emulate the pioneering spirit of my late father by shaping the way medical issues are addressed.

We are confident that the training offered at the Duke-NUS Graduate Medical School will break new ground in the treatment of diseases, thus benefiting current and future generations.

Thank you.