NUS BUSINESS SCHOOL
ANNUAL GIVING
HELP A STUDENT.
MAKE YOUR GIFT TODAY.
HOW DO I MAKE A GIFT?
Go to giving.nus.edu.sg
Contact Daphne Ding at bizdqi@nus.edu.sg or 6601 5683
NUS Business School has been advancing knowledge for more than 50 years, developing visionary leaders with the skills to build the future economy.

With your generous support, we are able to help our talented students achieve their potential, through innovative teaching and rigorous research that is relevant to the needs of business and society.

Your contributions facilitate our initiatives to broaden perspectives and deepen intellectual intensity in our community.

This also sows the seeds of compassion in recipients, engendering a caring spirit that will pay forward for generations to come.

The care of our alumni and friends facilitates our drive to be the leading business school in Asia, globally recognised for excellence in research and education.

We thank you for your generosity and continued support.
FOCUSING ON RESEARCH, education and learning, several initiatives come under the CAMRI framework. These include classroom teaching, hands-on experiential learning programmes, public talks, forums, roundtables, and applied research. Each initiative is geared towards enhancing our collective expertise to take on the challenges of the volatile, uncertain, complex and ambiguous investment and financial environment.

CAMRI’s research offers rational solutions through the CAMRI Life-Cycle Savings and Investing in Asia Research Series, which was launched in 2011, and the Infrastructure Finance Initiative launched in 2015. The Life-Cycle Savings Series, for example, aims to identify and propose logical, scientific and rational solutions to the retirement savings and investment challenges that plague many nations. Resulting from this is a student-built Real Retirement Fund Calculator and six thought leadership papers on Retirement Finance which have been published and presented at various forums, conferences and events around the world, including Singapore, Hong Kong, China, and the United States. CAMRI also produces a monthly research digest which actively discusses hot topics of the day.

TURNING POTENTIAL INTO REALITY

NUS Business School’s Centre for Asset Management Research and Investments (CAMRI) was launched in 2010 as the centre of expertise for the incubation and generation of investment research, strategies, and ideas. It is Asia’s leading centre for asset management research and investments based within Asia’s leading business school.

Director of CAMRI, Professor Joseph Cherian, who was formerly a Managing Director, Global Head, and CIO of the Quantitative Strategies Group within Credit Suisse Alternative Investments in New York, and prior to that, a professor in the US, is thankful for the support towards CAMRI. He said: “We are fortunate to have supporters and donors who believe in our work which is achieved by leading-edge research, teaching and learning. Innovative and thoughtful applied research, presented in a form that is accessible to the lay person, can make a difference to the lives of many in the region. To this end, donors indirectly create giving impact.”

In education, CAMRI plays a leading role in grooming the next generation of finance leaders for Singapore and beyond. The CAMRI Graduate Certificate in Applied Portfolio Management (g-CAPM) is a state-of-the-art applied portfolio management training programme for finance executives. During the course, participants are exposed to equity and credit research, quantitative and fundamental portfolio and risk management, and current macroeconomic views and issues affecting investment management, all conducted using real time data analysis and financial software applications and resources.

In fiduciary fund management education, CAMRI uses a live Student Managed Fund (SMF) which was launched with the generous contributions of donors. Through this, students get hands-on experience in the execution, management and monitoring of a real portfolio. They are involved in all aspects of investment management, ranging from investment research, investment thesis generation to daily monitoring and dealing with counterparties. In all of CAMRI’s education efforts, training takes place in the dedicated Investment Management & Trading Lab, which is equipped with state-of-the-art tools and facilities. The Lab is equipped with 32 state-of-the-art workstations that offer live feeds from Bloomberg, financial data tickers, MSCI Barra investment and risk management software modules, and various other trading and portfolio management software applications.

Professor Cherian said: “These programmes and courses have attracted the most talented students and experts in finance to Singapore, while showcasing the city as a world-class asset management centre. In addition, our work fosters strong and long-lasting relationships between the industry, academics, asset owners and other stakeholders. Our industry-ready graduates are then provided a competitive career edge in the asset management industry: every year CAMRI compiles and distributes our SMF Track graduating students’ resumes to our hiring partners.”
THE MR & MRS WU JIEH YEE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

In conversation with Mr and Mrs Ngiam Tong Yuen, the donor couple who are continuing their family legacy of investing in future leaders.

Q. What inspired you to establish the Mr & Mrs Wu Jieh Yee Memorial Scholarship in 2009?
My wife Ngiam-Wu Po Kin, Jean, was inspired to establish the scholarship in memory of her parents.
My father-in-law did not receive a formal education but he strove to continue learning throughout his life. During the Second World War, he was constantly on the move from Hong Kong Island to villages in China with my mother-in-law and their children to stay ahead of the Japanese Army. During those turbulent times, he never stopped practicing Chinese calligraphy and reading. He also ensured that the children had structure in their lives in an unpredictable environment through self-taught math and Chinese lessons, as well as calisthenics. After the war, my parents-in-law ensured that all their children, regardless of gender, graduated from university. Before they passed away, they had supported various educational institutions in Hong Kong, China, and Canada. It is in this spirit that we continue their important legacy.

Q. How many students and graduates have benefited from the scholarship so far? How do you feel when you hear about their progress and see them graduate?
Since the scholarship was incepted in 2009, we have seen 14 students benefit from the gift, and we have had the pleasure and privilege to see seven of them graduate to date. Each time we are very happy that they have made good use of the opportunity that was given to them. We always hope that they will be successful in their careers, do well for their families and contribute to the community that we all live in.
All of them are exceptional young men and women who are filled with boundless energy, excel academically, and are natural leaders with broad range of interests.
We have no doubt they will succeed in life and we are overflowing with pride. They reaffirm our decision to set up this scholarship.

Q. Is there a student who stands out as being extremely memorable?
Tracy Ng, who graduated in 2013, was a memorable student. During her studies, her mother became very ill with cancer. Tracy managed to care for her mother, controlled her emotional turmoil and graduated with outstanding results. She showed courage and maturity.

Q. Why do you feel it is important to give back to society and continue the “virtuous circle”?
A university education is the surest way to ensure economic security for future generations. Along the way, we discover that our giving not only helps those who benefit directly but also ourselves. We feel fulfilled and happy for having repaid part of our debt to society. This virtuous circle of giving has much more room to grow and we strongly encourage present and future donors as well as supporters to continue this good work.

Q. If you had one piece of advice for our students, what would it be?
Be optimistic. Do the best you can in any situation and don’t forget your dreams.
What a surprise it was to hear that my gifts were able to help a student twice in his lifetime. Kia Wei is a worthy recipient whose determination and hard work has really impressed me. I have no doubt he will succeed in life.
A supper session with the Kent Ridge Hall Flag teams (past and present) brainstorming on fundraising.

Kia Wei (first on the right) competing for Kent Ridge Hall in the Squash inter-hall games.
Mr Eugene Wong and Madam Emily Chin apply the same good judgement to work and philanthropy.

“BUY LOW, SELL HIGH. This is my mantra,” remarks Mr Eugene Wong (’92), the founder and managing director of Sirius Venture Capital Pte Ltd, and proud alumnus of the National University of Singapore (NUS) School of Business.

Also working in a fast-paced industry that requires strong commercial acumen, Mr Wong’s wife, Mdm Chin (’92), is an oil trader with Shell Singapore.

Together, they made a joint decision to invest in the Business Dean’s –Emily Chin and Eugene Wong Scholarship at their alma mater, which is also the place they first met.

“The quality of students going to the NUS Business School is critical to its success. We are investing in young people who are academically strong and who will yield not just good results, but also meaningful contributions to society,” Mr Wong explains.

To do his part for the University, he served as adjunct professor teaching venture capital and new venture finance at the School for three years. Mdm Chin was also called upon to serve as a judge for students’ case studies.

“When we joined the Business School, it was not as highly regarded then. Now it is a globally recognised institution. We’ve made a good investment by choosing to study Business and we are proud to be BBA alumni,” Mr Wong shares.

Mdm Chin signed up for a recent donor event for the family, where they had the opportunity to go on a tour of the Advanced Robotics Center at the NUS Faculty of Engineering.

They were given a glimpse of how research in robotics impacts productivity and innovation in improving the quality of lives. “I want my boys to be exposed to the latest technology and also to the idea of philanthropy. We are all impressed by how NUS can push the frontiers of research and I feel it is a potential avenue we want to contribute to,” reveals Mdm Chin, who is leading by example by inculcating in her children the values of giving back to society.

Coming from a humble background and also a former scholarship recipient himself, Mr Wong is clearly aware that a scholarship is a valued form of recognition of one’s hard work and a great motivator. With this gift, he hopes they can offer the same kind of help and encouragement to business students today.

Any advice for the students? “The years in NUS may seem like hardship, but it’s a wonderful journey. I even met my life partner here! Do not just focus on grades as that is not the essence of the NUS experience. Take the opportunity to extend your network beyond your faculty. Enjoy different projects and overseas programmes that build character and life experience,” he adds.
Using case studies to illustrate how companies make financial and investment decisions has always been Professor David Reeb’s preferred way of involving students in class discussions.

SINCE MOVING TO SINGAPORE and joining NUS Business School six years ago, Professor David Reeb, the Mr and Mrs Lin Jo Yan Professor of Banking and Finance, has amassed 11 original regional case studies that are immediately familiar to his students.

“Making use of familiar brands within the region strikes a chord with students,” says Professor Reeb. “They can better visualise the scenarios involving business decisions, innovation, organisational structures, and the implications it poses within the company.”

Some of his favourites include brands such as Singapore’s BreadTalk Group, Indonesia’s Nippon Bread and Peru’s Big Cola whose beverages are sold all across Indonesia, Thailand and Vietnam. Intrigued by their ingenuity or innovativeness, these brands usually have large product portfolios and students are almost always surprised to learn that popular names and franchises such as Food Republic, Din Tai Fung, Ramen Play, and Toast Box actually come under these big umbrella brands.

Professor Reeb’s teaching style brings corporate stories to life and resonates with his students. He is passionate about imparting knowledge and shaping business leaders of the future.

Shaun Loh - an NUS BBA graduate of Class 2014 who is now working as an investment analyst - recalls Professor Reeb as a great teacher who taught him more than financial markets.

“Professor Reeb showed me how to think for myself and critically evaluate things,” he says. “All these skills are more important than any knowledge a teacher could possibly impart to his students, as they will follow me through life.”

Besides teaching, Professor Reeb is involved in research that ranges from the properties of mandatory disclosure rules to the efficacy of international financial regulation. The collaborative research culture at NUS Business School puts him among like-minded people, he says.

“Research is generally associated with rejection and it is tough. Colleagues here support and help each other, and that is critical to the research unit as we can focus on creating new knowledge.”

He is especially passionate about researching the business dynamics behind founding-family ownership and questions whether the popular perception of cronyism as being inherently negative is always correct.

“Managing and financing family-controlled firms entail specific challenges and issues,” says Professor Reeb. “How do we think about family and non-family members in the succession planning of the firm? How do we deal with potential conflicts?”

Professor Reeb’s current research includes investigating innovation trends within firms. “In most Westernised parts of the world,” he notes, “new products usually find their way to the patent office. Whereas, in Asia, these are fiercely guarded as ‘trade secrets’. However, that does not necessarily mean there is less innovation. All these contribute to a firm’s success in terms of product development which eventually translates into profits.”

With complex structures and behaviours within different families, decisions on how to groom future generations into the family business are not typically found in the public domain. Data collection is therefore a delicate process achieved through personal networks.

“This chaired professorship has given me privileged access to many family businesses in Southeast Asia,” says Professor Reeb. “Being able to collect data directly from companies in Australia, Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam, the gift has enhanced my research and inspired greater collaborations. It has also allowed me to think more broadly from a public policy and big picture perspective.”
WAYS to GIVE

We have a responsibility to nurture visionary and enterprising leaders with global connections who are also enlightened, socially responsible and imbue with deep Asian insights. Please help us continue to make a difference to lives through professorship, research, scholarship and bursary. The impact of your gift will be felt across the region and for years to come.

t: 6601 5683
e: givetobiz@nus.edu.sg
w: bschool.nus.edu.sg/giving

The Asian Bureau of Finance and Economic Research is an institute founded by academics from Asia, North America, and Europe. The Bureau aims to boost financial and economic research; collaborate and connect with academic researchers, practitioners and decision-makers; and further stimulate research capabilities and development of strong clusters of finance and economic research groups in Asia and globally.

Your support will help the School advance knowledge and develop leaders so as to serve business and society. Please join us in our mission through a meaningful contribution.

For more information, please visit abfer.org

MIZUHO SCHOLAR

I am humbled and honoured to be a Mizuho Scholar. This scholarship serves as a strong motivation to work harder in my studies and contribute to the society in the future.

It made me realise how fortunate we are to be studying in this society where your hard work is valued and your passion for learning is supported.

I hope my BIZAD friends will find their true passion during university studies and translate their passion into action.

And more importantly, believe in your capabilities. After all, the future is in your hands!

Zhang Shuwen

LEONG SIEW MENG MEMORIAL SCHOLAR

I am honoured to be a recipient and part of the late Professor Leong’s legacy.

Receiving this scholarship proved that the decision to major in Marketing was the right choice for me. Knowing that my hard work has not gone unnoticed has pushed me to do even better in my studies.

NUS Business School has much to offer. Make full use of your time here. Lead and organise a student-run event. Learn something outside of your major. Do all of these while you are still in NUS and you will have a rewarding and well-rounded 4 years to look back on.

Chong Wei Sheng

TEO LAI SENG BURSARY

Through this bursary, I have more opportunities to pursue fresh projects such as participating in community events at the Residential College of Alice and Peter Tan where I reside. I can expand my role in the NUS Business School BSA Committee, making my final year in NUS an extremely fruitful one.

I would like to express my utmost gratitude for your generosity.

Tan Shi Wei Leonard

LIM CHIN MEMORIAL BURSARY

My mother is the sole breadwinner after the passing of my father in 2003. She supports my brother who is serving NS, and me. With her income as a nurse, it is insufficient to meet the financial obligations of my studies and our family expenses.

This bursary reduces our emotional stress and enables us to use available money for our daily needs.

Thirutaniaasalam Naidu
THANK YOU!
DONORS
YOU MADE A DIFFERENCE