ADVANCING WITH
YOUR SUPPORT
SMU Giving Review 2012
Meet Eugene.

K H Tan Study Award Recipient and Temasek Foundation LEaRN Scholar. He’s always eager for the chance to grow and learn and pays it forward by volunteering at an orphanage in Cambodia every year.

He’s all this and more because you gave.

www.giving.smu.edu.sg
Since its inception in 2000, SMU has built a reputation in the region as a dynamic university whose transformational education nurtures leaders of the future. Our broad-based curriculum, interactive seminar-style teaching environment, and emphasis on ethical and social responsibility, exposes our students to learning that transcends the classroom, preparing them to make a positive impact in the global marketplace and community. This is supported by a distinguished faculty comprising top academics from the world’s most renowned universities, dynamic centres and institutes of excellence, and an innovative research culture.

This interconnected cycle of excellence takes SMU students on an educational journey that is enriching, far-reaching and relevant. And there is no underestimating the impact you, our donors and supporters, have on the success of this journey.

As we aspire to raise our reputation on the global arena, every gift, whether from corporate or private donors, and regardless of size or purpose, enables us to enhance and expand our programmes and facilities, recruit and retain outstanding faculty members, and support research that drives change for the better – for individuals, organisations and society.

This 2012 Giving Review is an opportunity for us to thank all of the donors that have contributed to SMU in the past year and whose gifts continue to shape our future. We share with you key developments within SMU in 2012 and some of the new initiatives that your philanthropy has enabled. I hope you are inspired by the outcomes of your generosity.

We also thank the SMU Alumni whose commitment to give back to your alma mater through initiatives such as the Senior Class Gift, Annual Giving and Undergraduate Mentoring Programme is greatly appreciated.

For the opportunities you have all helped to create and the growth that we hope you’ll continue to invest in, we sincerely thank you.

Professor Arnoud De Meyer
President, Singapore Management University
2012: A Year of Sustained Growth and Globalisation

President Tony Tan Returns as Patron
In January 2012, twelve years after SMU first opened its doors, we welcomed our incoming Patron, President Tony Tan, back to the university that he had envisioned. During his visit, he aptly launched the SMU Oral History Collection, which contains testimonies from the visionaries who first shaped SMU.

Record-Breaking Student Numbers
SMU's 9th cohort of graduating students – 1,929 students in all – was our largest ever graduating cohort. This was mirrored by our largest intake to date of 1,951 new students.

Growing Alumni Network
The SMU Alumni now counts around 10,000 members globally with eight overseas alumni chapters in ten cities in China, India, Indonesia, UAE, USA and UK, with plans to open further chapters in China and Myanmar in 2013.

Tapping Into Thought Leadership
Well-respected scholars, politicians, diplomats and business leaders from around the world visited SMU to share their knowledge and perspectives with students and faculty, among them Georgia Tech Associate Professor Dan Breznitz, Harvard Professor Ezra Vogel and Nobel laureate Paul Krugman.

Expanding Postgraduate and Professional Studies
In efforts to expand the boundaries of education, SMU now has a comprehensive suite of 18 masters and PhD programmes following the launch of several new programmes including the first Master of Science in Innovation in Asia; the first and only Master of Science in Communications in Southeast Asia; Masters in Quantitative Finance, in Financial Economics and in Information Systems; and PhD in General Management.

SMU also opened two new institutes: the Business Family Institute (BFI) which aims to develop successful family businesses through research, teaching and outreach; and the Asia Private Equity Institute (APEI), the first Asia-focused academic research centre on private equity and venture capital.

Building International Alliances
SMU enjoys exchange partnerships with more than 200 institutions globally that provide students with valuable opportunities to develop a global perspective and cross-cultural understanding. We have also cultivated collaborations with leading universities such as Wharton School, Carnegie Mellon University and Cass Business School. In 2012, SMU forged further collaborations with leading institutions in the emerging powerhouses of China and India through the setting up of the China and India Desks.
You Make An Impact
In More Ways Than One. Thank You!

Funding for student scholarships. Recruitment of high-calibre faculty and research staff. New and improved facilities and equipment. Innovative research programmes. Industry- and community-focused initiatives. The donations we receive are channelled into a wide variety of different areas providing students greater levels of access and exposure to a world-class, world-relevant education, and allowing us to extend our knowledge in the service of the community.

We cannot thank our donors enough for the gifts you have contributed over the years. You are making a difference within and beyond SMU, as you’ll see in the selection of recent initiatives featured here.

Numerous studies have shown that young adults are among the least financially literate in our society, leading to a growing trend of young Singaporeans ill-equipped to manage their finances and defaulting on credit card debts. As a response to these findings, the Citi-SMU Financial Literacy Programme for Young Adults was launched in April 2012 specifically aimed at equipping 17 to 30-year-olds with essential personal financial knowledge and skills.

Jointly developed by SMU and Citi’s in-house experts, the programme uses a train-the-trainer model whereby selected SMU students will be trained to deliver a financial literacy outreach curriculum to young adults in the wider community, with a focus on reaching those with lower income. In the first year, Citi has pledged an amount towards the planning and development of the programme. Pilot sessions have begun and the programme will be fully rolled out starting 2013.

Exemplifying its commitment to invest in the communities it operates in, and to help advance the legal profession and education, global law firm Jones Day made a donation to SMU for the set-up of a Professorship of Commercial Law for a term of seven years.

This gift, the largest to SMU from a law firm, will enhance our strength, and facilitate greater focus on advancing the development of Commercial Law in Singapore. SMU is delighted to have appointed Professor Adrian Briggs as the first Jones Day Professor of Commercial Law at SMU, an internationally renowned scholar who has been on the faculty of the University of Oxford for more than thirty years.

Jones Day Professorship of Commercial Law

Citi-SMU Financial Literacy Programme for Young Adults

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In 2012, Mr Kuok Khoon Hong, Chairman and CEO of Wilmar International, Asia’s largest agri-business group, graciously donated a further endowed gift to establish the KKH Scholarships, opening the door to an SMU education by providing financial support to selected local and international students each year. Continuing the cycle of giving back, scholarship recipients will be encouraged to pay it forward after graduation by contributing back a pledged sum of the scholarship received, which will in turn be used to fund future scholarships for those in need.

Wilmar International has extended generous support to SMU over the years through funding for scholarships, professorships and research, as well as donating an endowed gift to the Lee Kuan Yew Global Business Plan Competition, which will enable this global event to run in perpetuity.

On 18 September 2012, SMU launched the Dato’ Kho Hui Meng Career Centre, a fully renovated, state-of-the-art facility for career counselling services. Named in recognition of a gift donated by Dato’ Kho Hui Meng, President of Vitol Asia Pte Ltd, this purpose-built centre offers a one-stop resource on SMU’s campus for career planning and development, education and resource support, as well as opportunities for internships, business networking and relevant experiential training. Dato’ Kho has long been a champion of SMU, making several donations over the years. This latest initiative will go a long way towards developing future SMU graduates into versatile, knowledgeable and socially conscious professionals who will be an asset to any organisation.
On 20 September 2012, UOB and SMU launched Asia’s first institute for SMEs – the UOB-SMU Asian Enterprise Institute – which succeeds its predecessor, the UOB-SMU Entrepreneurship Alliance Centre. The new Institute was made possible by a donation from UOB and an additional amount pledged by its customers.

In the last five years, the Centre has seen more than 560 senior-year SMU students provide consulting services to over 170 companies, working on more than 220 SME business consulting projects in various industry sectors. As the Institute continues to build on the success of the Centre in providing SMEs with the knowledge and resources to grow locally and overseas, it will also embark on knowledge creation, engaging in applied research in key areas such as HR, operations, marketing, branding and management.

Mr Timothy Chia Chee Ming and his family established two Charlie Chia Cheng Guan Scholarships to honour the memory of his late father, who founded the United Motor Works (UMW) Group in Malaysia in 1917. The two bond-free scholarships give preference to Singaporean accountancy, business, economics or law undergraduates with financial needs in their second, third or final year.

“My late father was deprived of the opportunity to further his studies when he was young. It is my hope that this scholarship will enable more deserving students to benefit from the quality undergraduate programmes that SMU offers.” – Mr Timothy Chia

An endowed gift from Dr Della Suantio Lee and D.S. Lee Foundation will create an enduring impact through several university initiatives, including scholarships, bursaries and grants that will greatly support student development. In recognition of this wonderful gift, we are delighted to have named the Gallery and Seminar Room in the School of Economics and School of Social Sciences building as the de Suantio Gallery and the Della & Seng Gee Seminar Room.

“In this period of economic uncertainty, I hope to lend a hand to outstanding faculty and deserving students to pursue their academic goals. I value the young university’s broad-based learning approach, particularly its focus on community service and global exposure. I feel the need to help nurture and groom talented young people for our future, even in these challenging times.”

– Dr Della Suantio Lee