

NUS honours J Y Pillay

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SINGAPORE: The National University of Singapore (NUS) has set up two distinguished professorships, a fellowship and bursary at the Yale-NUS College, as well as a research centre at the NUS Global Asia Institute to honour renowned policy maker and corporate leader, Professor J Y Pillay.

Donations totalling S\$12.9m will fund the new initiatives.

With matching grant from the government, NUS said these initiatives will be supported with a total funding of up to S\$49.6 million.

NUS President Professor Tan Chorh Chuan said: "NUS is very grateful for the generous donations that have enabled the University to honour Professor J Y Pillay, a remarkable Singapore pioneer who will serve as a role model for our students now and those to come. Our goal is for the high-impact programmes established through these gifts to serve the needs of Singapore, as well as the Asian and global communities."

The donors are Singapore Airlines, Singapore Exchange, Binjai Tree, Mr Low Check Kian, Dilhan Pillay Sandrasegara, Mr Tan Kwang Kherng, John, ACR Capital Holdings, Allen & Gledhill, Deutsche Bank, Mr Nicholas Kong, and Schroder Investment Management (Singapore). Some donors chose to remain anonymous.

The two J Y Pillay Distinguished Professorships will bring leading academics to teach and carry out cutting-edge research at the Yale-NUS College.

Professor Sir Peter Crane, a renowned evolutionary biologist and dean of Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies at Yale University has been named as the first visiting J Y Pillay Distinguished Professor.

The J Y Pillay Fellowship will allow the college to appoint highly promising but younger academics, or visiting experts to add to the vibrancy of intellectual life at the college.

The J Y Pillay Bursary will support financially needy students admitted into Yale-NUS.

It will be available to Singaporeans and Singapore Permanent Residents.

The J Y Pillay Comparative Asia Research Centre at the NUS Global Asia Institute will allow researchers to pursue research on issues that are pertinent to China, India and Indonesia.

Professor Gavin Jones, an internationally recognised demographer, has been appointed as director of this centre.

- CNA/ck



Photos

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From L: Prof Tan Chorh Chuan, President, NUS; Prof J Y Pillay; Prof Sir Peter Crane, First Visiting J Y Pillay Distinguished Professor; Prof Gavin Jones. (Photo: NUS)