



10 February 2018

Annual Report 2017/2018

It has been a pleasure serving the MBA Alumni as your President for the last seven years. There is season and reason for everything. A time to be born and a time to die; a time to weep and a time to laugh; this is the time for me to move on and let a younger leadership take over. Therefore, I have decided not to stand for board election next term 2018/2019. Nonetheless, I will continue to support the alumni as a participating member.

In 2017, we have signed a record number of new members - 104 associate members and 2 life members. This will put our alumni on a strong footing for the future. Another piece of good news in 2017 was that we won the NUS Business School Golf Reunion Challenge after several years of dry spell. In addition, the financial reserves of the alumni are very healthy. Thus, I am glad that I am able to hand over the reins of leadership of the alumni at a time when we enjoy peak membership enrolment, won back the golf championship trophy, with a strong financial reserve to boot. During my term, if my board members and I have failed in serving you all well in any way, please do excuse us.

The year 2017 appeared to have shown some signs of economic recovery in Singapore. However, I still see the large displacement of Professionals, Managers and Executives (PMEs) as the job market is transforming. Our MBA graduates and alumni members have to stay relevant as many jobs are being disrupted by technology and companies continue to delayer their middle management. I expect 2018 to remain difficult for the Singapore employment situation for PME's and some of our members may be displaced in their jobs or see their businesses being disrupted. The MBA alumni network is particularly relevant and useful for our members to help one another tide over the difficult period.

Thus, our vision in 2010 to transform the MBA Alumni–NUS to become relevant in the marketplace through Collaboration and NLP – Networking, Learning and Profiling remains, and I have continued to promote this vision in 2017. I am proud to announce that thanks to your generous support and assistance, we have successfully achieved some of these goals through the following NLP milestones and collaboration.

Networking

The board members organized many networking events:-

- 1. NUS Business School Golf Reunion Challenge 2017**

This year's Golf Reunion 2017 event was held on 15 August 2017 at Orchid Country Club. It was chaired by the NUS Business School Mandarin Alumni Association and co-organized by the NUS Business School Alumni Association and MBA Alumni – NUS Association. It attracted a total of 138 golfers. We are very proud to announce that the MBA Alumni won the Challenge 2017 Trophy against tough competitors NUS Business School Mandarin Alumni and Mandarin Alumni Association which had more players represented during the tournament.

- 2. Explore Singapore 2017 student and alumni networking**

The 9th Explore Singapore Tour, an annual flagship event organized jointly with GANO to orientate our new MBA students from overseas, was held on 2 August 2017. It culminated with

a dinner networking event organized by GANO at Mochtar Riady Building with 126 alumni and students in attendance. It was also a great platform for the new MBA intake to meet and interact with our alumni in a relaxed and casual setting over drinks and dinner.

3. Events organized by DUAL

Another example of long-standing close collaboration is with DUAL. NUS Business School is a member of the Distinguished Universities Alumni League (DUAL). DUAL aims to encourage knowledge exchange, strengthen relationships and promote community service among its member clubs. We continue to update our members about DUAL's events and programs of interest, encouraging them to take advantage of these networking opportunities.

4. Alumni Drinks

We organized our networking drinking session with the November edition of the monthly DUAL drinks that we hosted for the first time. It was held at Barnacles at Customs House.

5. Annual MBA Get Together for Alumni and students

Our board will be co-organizing an annual dinner with the MBA Student Council at Brotzeit Vivocity on 9 March 2018 at 7 pm.

Learning

Learning does not stop after we have graduated from the MBA programme. The alumni were invited on a complimentary basis to several seminars and forums in 2017 organised by the Singapore Manufacturing Federation where our members can interact with industry leaders. They were namely:

1. Finding the Right People for Your Business on 24 February 2017
2. CEO Think Tank Series 2017 on 31 August 2017
3. Singapore Innovation and Productivity Conference 2017 on 25 October 2017

Profiling

It is the objective of the board to raise the profile of the alumni consistent with the image that the NUS MBA programme is a top-ranking one in Singapore and amongst the top in Asia and the world. We aim to become the de-facto authority on business matters in Singapore which is rightly so as most of our members are holding senior positions in the industry.

Thus, we have already made some impact with some of the high profile events organized above and in the past. The board looks forward to the members' support and suggestions of high-profile events to organize in future. As we journey into the Year of the Dog, we want to make our alumni relevant for our members as well as raise MBA Alumni – NUS' profile befitting the status of being a top MBA programme in Singapore.

Finally, I would like to once again thank the board members, alumni members, GANO, the NUS Business School and many others for supporting me during the past seven years.

Best Wishes,

Dr Michael Teng
President of MBA Alumni-NUS (2017/2018)