

## SMAC 2023 Student Reflections

**Xu Siyan**

*Class of 2027*

We're taught since young that when someone dies, they have left us and they have 'passed on'. But I think our sessions with the silent mentors have showed us that our mentors, while they have passed on, have also passed on to us a gift, a privilege and a legacy.

Words can never fully encapsulate the indescribable nature of holding a person in our hands. To study the way their muscles move in a life we will never know, the way their blood flows through a network of vessels in a heartbeat we will never hear, and the way their brain functions in thoughts and emotions we will never comprehend. The lessons our mentors impart to us go far beyond our textbooks and slides. In feeling the weight of who they once were, I think we learn about the fragility of life and its sanctity.

To our mentors and their loved ones, thank you for gifting us lessons so precious and so intimate in a way that no one else can. Thank you for teaching us so patiently and so unconditionally. As my seniors and the generations before of us have done so, we will continue to uphold the legacy you have passed on to us. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you.

Collin Chu

Throughout the months of anatomy hall sessions, the Silent Mentors have imparted invaluable knowledge to us, and put human anatomy into perspective. What we have learnt from them goes beyond exploring structures and relations. Silent Mentors have shown us the spirit of giving, selflessness, and altruism, as they continue to help others after they passed on. The lessons and values they taught us not only supports us in developing as future healthcare professionals, but in turn, contributes to the health of patients and the society at large. We are eternally grateful to our Silent Mentors and their family members in giving us the privilege to learn from them. Your legacy stays on.

