



PRESS RELEASE

Singaporean elected President-Elect of International Society of Infectious Diseases

NUS professor and infectious diseases expert Paul Tambyah to head Society in 2022

Singapore, 16 June 2020 — In his new role, believed to be held for the first time by a Singaporean, Professor Paul Tambyah will support the current International Society of Infectious Diseases (ISID) President, Professor Alison Holmes, in the running of the organization. The ISID aims to support health professionals, non-government organizations, and governments around the world in their work to prevent, investigate, and manage infectious disease outbreaks and endemic infectious diseases such as tuberculosis and dengue.

The Society has a special focus in countries with limited resources and which disproportionately bear the burden of infectious diseases. It is dedicated to developing partnerships and finding solutions to the problems of infectious diseases across the globe. It encourages the collaborative efforts of human health, veterinary health, and environmental health communities working locally, nationally, and globally for best control and management of infectious diseases.

Established in 1986, the Society is a non-profit, apolitical and transparent organization based in Massachusetts, USA. Its network of over 90,000 individuals worldwide share a collective belief that infectious diseases cross all borders and that long-term, effective solutions require international scientific exchange and cooperation.

Commenting on Prof Tambyah's appointment, Professor Marc Mendelson, Past-President of ISID, said, "Paul is well-known to all in the field of infectious diseases, and brings a wealth of experience from his time with multiple international societies and august bodies, as well as formidable experience across the spectrum of infection, including outbreaks, tropical medicine, and clinical applied research. He is a go-to speaker on so many topics and currently serves as Chair of the ISID Publications Committee, playing a vital role in the success of our journal IJID."

At the NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, Prof Tambyah is Professor of Medicine. He is also a Senior Consultant in Infectious Diseases at the National University Hospital and has served as the Research Director in the Division of Infectious Diseases at the National University Health System (NUHS). Outside of the NUHS, Prof Tambyah is the President of the Asia Pacific Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infection. Other positions Prof Tambyah has held include being the immediate past-president of the Singapore Society of Infectious Diseases and Assistant Dean at NUS Medicine in 2015.

"This is a critical time for infectious diseases globally. The COVID-19 pandemic has brought home the fact that viruses do not respect international boundaries. No one is safe anywhere

until everyone is safe everywhere. Singapore academics, clinicians and public health professionals have much to contribute to societies such as ISID to help make the world a healthier place for everyone,” said Prof Tambyah.

About the National University of Singapore (NUS)

The National University of Singapore (NUS) is Singapore's flagship university, which offers a global approach to education, research and entrepreneurship, with a focus on Asian perspectives and expertise. We have 17 faculties across three campuses in Singapore, as well as 12 NUS Overseas Colleges across the world. Close to 40,000 students from 100 countries enrich our vibrant and diverse campus community.

Our multidisciplinary and real-world approach to education, research and entrepreneurship enables us to work closely with industry, governments and academia to address crucial and complex issues relevant to Asia and the world. Researchers in our faculties, 29 university-level research institutes, research centres of excellence and corporate labs focus on themes that include energy, environmental and urban sustainability; treatment and prevention of diseases common among Asians; active ageing; advanced materials; as well as risk management and resilience of financial systems. Our latest research focus is on the use of data science, operations research and cybersecurity to support Singapore's Smart Nation initiative.

For more information on NUS, please visit www.nus.edu.sg.

About the NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine (NUS Medicine)

Established in 1905, the NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine is the first institution of higher learning in Singapore and the genesis of the National University of Singapore.

The School offers one of the finest undergraduate medical programmes in the Asia Pacific region and enjoys international recognition and respect. The Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2019 by subject and Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings by Subject 2019 list NUS Medicine as the leading medical school in Asia.

It admits 300 students to the MBBS degree programme annually and its principal missions are to educate and train the next generation of healthcare professionals, and foster research that will help to advance the practice of medicine.

The 18 NUS Medicine departments in the basic sciences and clinical specialties work closely with the Centre for Medical Education, the Centre for Biomedical Ethics, the Centre for Healthcare Simulation as well as the restructured public hospitals to ensure that teaching and research are aligned and relevant to Singapore's healthcare needs. The School is a founding institutional member of the National University Health System.

For more information about NUS Medicine, please visit <http://nusmedicine.nus.edu.sg>.