



NUS  
MEDICAL  
SOCIETY



## PRESS RELEASE

### THREE STUDENT ASSOCIATIONS FORM NATIONAL ALLIANCE TO REPRESENT THE VOICE OF ALL LOCAL MEDICAL STUDENTS

***This unprecedented alliance by the student bodies of Singapore's three medical schools will unify and represent the voice of the local medical student community through regular dialogues and engagement with external stakeholders, and build on the sustained close relationships with organisations, including the Singapore Medical Association and Ministry of Health.***

**Singapore, 12 June 2021** — The National University of Singapore Medical Society, Duke-NUS Student Council and Nanyang Technological University Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine (LKC Medicine) Medical Society have come together to formalise the TriMedSoc Alliance, a first-of-its-kind collaboration between the student bodies of Singapore's three medical schools. The alliance aims to unify the voice of local medical students, and to advance and synergise student advocacy and community engagement efforts.

The collaboration was inked during a virtual Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Signing Ceremony this morning. Witnessing the signing were Associate Professor Kenneth Mak, Director of Medical Services at the Ministry of Health, together with the Deans of all three medical schools in Singapore (Professor Chong Yap Seng, NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine; Professor Thomas Coffman, Duke-NUS; Professor Joseph Sung, NTU LKC Medicine).

The TriMedSoc recognises the unique strengths and resources of students from each medical school, and allows representative student bodies of the medical schools in Singapore to come together officially to synergise their student-led efforts.

Mr Teo Chong Boon, Chairperson Pro-Tempore of the TriMedSoc Alliance and President of the NUS Medical Society said, "The signing of this MOU formalises the establishment of the TriMedSoc Alliance. It also recognises the importance of the TriMedSoc Alliance in creating an ideal environment for the holistic development of future doctors, through closer collaboration in the areas of community service and engagement, student representation and advocacy efforts by local medical students. It is our sincere belief that the combined unity of TriMedSoc will allow us to further engender change for medical students and hopefully the wider medical fraternity on a larger scale than before."

Since their inception, the student bodies of the local medical schools have remained steadfast in the service of their respective medical student populations through various initiatives in the fields of arts and culture, sports, academic support, and community service. In the wider community, medical students have upheld the spirit of community service embodied by generations of doctors through organising community health screening initiatives both locally and overseas.

"We are grateful for the wisdom of alumni who have laid the foundation for this unprecedented collaboration, and are humbled to bear witness to this landmark moment of partnership among

local medical students despite the ongoing pandemic restrictions,” said Ms Katherine Nay Yaung, President of the Duke-NUS Student Council.

The MOU inked this morning lays out a framework of sustained and close collaboration between the three medical student representative bodies, with the goal of developing programmes and activities that support the holistic development of the medical student community in Singapore.

They also reinforce the student-led efforts in the medical student fraternity and the wider community. Following the signing, the TriMedSoc Alliance will also serve as the official student representative body for all medical students enrolled in the three local medical schools.

The founding committee of the TriMedSoc Alliance identified four key areas of collaboration in the immediate to medium term, which are set out in the MOU. These include community engagement initiatives, encouraging discourse among doctors-in-training on pertinent healthcare topics, supporting the holistic development of patient-centric doctors, and intensifying stakeholder engagement efforts to promote an active student voice and representation.

For instance, the TriMedSoc Alliance will organise a revamped version of the upcoming National Medical Student Convention (NMSC) slated for December.

Mr Sean Ng Ming Sheng, President of the NTU LKCMedicine Medical Society, said, “This year’s National Medical Student Convention (NMSC) will be unprecedented in both scale and outreach. We will go beyond keynote addresses and dialogues on pertinent healthcare topics to feature a hackathon where inter-school teams can brainstorm artificial intelligence and tech-enabled community engagement solutions. Through the hackathon, we hope to emphasise the spirit of service to the wider community that all future doctors should embody. An event of this scale is made possible only through the close collaboration among the three student representative bodies under the TriMedSoc Alliance.”

Bearing the mandate from their various student bodies, each student medical society will continue to serve as the official representative student body for their own school. Uniting under the TriMedSoc Alliance will allow the societies to combine their mandates and officially represent the best interests of all medical students in Singapore.

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

The NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine is Singapore's first and largest medical school. Our enduring mission centres on nurturing highly competent, values-driven and inspired healthcare professionals to transform the practice of medicine and improve health around the world.

Through a dynamic and future-oriented five-year curriculum that is inter-disciplinary and inter-professional in nature, our students undergo a holistic learning experience that exposes them to multiple facets of healthcare and prepares them to become visionary leaders and compassionate doctors and nurses of tomorrow. Since the School's founding in 1905, more than 12,000 graduates have passed through our doors.

In our pursuit of health for all, our strategic research programmes focus on innovative, cutting-edge biomedical research with collaborators around the world to deliver high impact solutions to benefit human lives.

The School is the oldest institution of higher learning in the National University of Singapore and a founding institutional member of the National University Health System. It is Asia's leading medical school and ranks among the best in the world (Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2020 by subject and the Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings by Subject 2020).

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

## **About Duke-NUS Medical School**

Duke-NUS is Singapore's flagship graduate entry medical school, established in 2005 with a strategic, government-led partnership between two world-class institutions: Duke University School of Medicine and the National University of Singapore (NUS). Through an innovative curriculum, students at Duke-NUS are nurtured to become multi-faceted 'Clinicians Plus' poised to steer the healthcare and biomedical ecosystem in Singapore and beyond. A leader in ground-breaking research and translational innovation, Duke-NUS has gained international renown through its five [signature research programmes](#) and nine centres. The enduring impact of its discoveries is amplified by its successful [Academic Medicine partnership](#) with Singapore Health Services (SingHealth), Singapore's largest healthcare group. This strategic alliance has spawned 15 Academic Clinical Programmes, which harness multi-disciplinary research and education to transform medicine and improve lives.

For more information, please visit [www.duke-nus.edu.sg](http://www.duke-nus.edu.sg)

## **About NTU Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine**

The Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine, a partnership between Nanyang Technological University, Singapore (NTU Singapore) and Imperial College London (Imperial) is training doctors who put patients at the centre of their exemplary care. The School, which offers both undergraduate and graduate programmes, is named after local philanthropist Tan Sri Dato Lee Kong Chian.

Officially opened on 28 August 2017 by the then Deputy Prime Minister of Singapore Mr Teo Chee Hean, LKCMedicine aims to be a model for innovative medical education and a centre for transformative research. The School's primary clinical partner is the National Healthcare Group, a leader in public healthcare recognised for the quality of its medical expertise, facilities and teaching.

Graduates of the five-year undergraduate medical degree programme that started in 2013 will have a strong understanding of the scientific basis of medicine, with an emphasis on technology, data science and the humanities. The School's first doctors graduated in 2018 with Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) degrees awarded jointly by NTU Singapore and Imperial.

## **About National University of Singapore Medical Society**

Founded in 1949, the NUS Medical Society is the representative body of medical students in the National University of Singapore (NUS) and one of longest serving student representative body in Singapore. We carry the rich heritage and tradition of the medical fraternity, upholding the values of service, empathy and leadership upheld by the generations of alumni who have paved the way for us. Our raison d'être is to provide opportunities for the holistic development of student doctors.

The NUS Medical Society serves a 1500-strong NUS Medicine student body and plays an integral part of the medical student's life through its wide repertoire of social, sporting, community service, art, academic and welfare activities. Beyond the medical student population, it serves the wider community both in Singapore and abroad through more than 20 affiliated community service projects. With more than 50 events & services each year, NUS Medical Society is one of the most active student representative group in Singapore and is registered as an independent society under the Ministry of Home Affairs.

## **About Duke-NUS Medical School Student Council**

The Duke-NUS Student Council is a student body service organization for the Duke-NUS Medical School and serves as the official student body government for all graduate medical students in Duke-NUS Medical School.

Started in 2008 by the pioneer class (Duke-NUS Class of 2011) of 26 students, the Student Council has undergone numerous changes over the years. However, its primary aim to advocate for and represent the student body remains unchanged.

The Council aims to work with school administration, faculty, national organisations as well as other external groups or individuals in the course of promoting student interest, welfare and education. It manages student-led services, including but not limited to, community service groups, student interest groups and student representation in any student-faculty dialogue as deemed feasible, in order to promote the interests and welfare of students and enhance the overall student experience. The Council also acts as the student body service organisation for Duke-NUS Medical School and works with student-led community service groups in school to promote a culture of service towards the community and society.

## **About Nanyang Technological University Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine Student's Medical Society**

The Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine Students' Medical Society, or LKCMedSoc for short, is an academic constituent club as part of the Nanyang Technological University Students Union under the Student Affairs Office of Nanyang Technological University. It is the student representative body of all undergraduate medical students in Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine, Nanyang Technological University (LKCMedicine).

Founded in 2013 by our pioneer batch of 50 students, LKCMedSoc has since grown to 671 members, encompassing students from all five years of study. The society aims to enhance the university experience for LKCMedicine undergraduate students. It also acts as a channel for feedback and consistently represents the interests and needs of LKCMedicine students to the school. LKCMedSoc strives to promote a strong academic and education focus for LKCMedicine students to aspire towards and hopes to promote the cultural, social, sporting, professional interests and welfare of students to encourage and inspire students to pursue their interests outside of the curriculum.

## **ANNEX: TRIMEDSOC ALLIANCE MEMORANDUM-OF-UNDERSTANDING (MOU) SIGNING CEREMONY**

The TriMedSoc Alliance MOU Signing Ceremony took place online on 12 June 2021. The MOU lays out a framework of sustained and close collaboration between the three medical student representative bodies with the goal of developing programmes and activities to support the holistic development of the medical student community studying in the three medical schools in Singapore. It will also provide the platform for sharing of resources to promote coordinated student-led efforts in the engagement and service of the wider community in Singapore, and further representation and advocacy efforts by local medical students.

With the MOU signing, TriMedSoc Alliance is officially established as the sole legitimate student representative body of medical students studying in Singapore, with each constituent student representative organisation having received the mandate of their respective student bodies through the open elections of office bearers.

The online ceremony was attended by the student representatives of each medical school, and witnessed by the Ministry of Health's Director of Medical Services, alongside the Deans of all three medical schools in Singapore.

### **Guests-Of-Honour**

1. A/Prof Kenneth Mak (Director of Medical Service, Ministry of Health)
2. Prof Chong Yap Seng (Dean, NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine)
3. Prof Thomas Coffman (Dean, Duke-NUS Medical School)
4. Prof Joseph Sung (Dean, NTU Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine)
5. Dr Ng Chew Lip (Honorary Secretary, Singapore Medical Association)
6. Dr Benny Loo Kai Guo (Honorary Assistant Secretary, Singapore Medical Association)