



Yale-NUS Open Day 2016

Text by Melissa Wang | Images by Aleithia Low

On 12 March 2016, Yale-NUS College welcomed throngs of visitors to its new permanent campus, which was inaugurated in October 2015.

This is the first time Yale-NUS College hosted Open Day on its own campus.

catch a glimpse of the new campus.

Prospective students and their parents were invited to tour the campus facilities where living and learning intertwines.

Yale-NUS students led these hourly campus tours and shared

and self-organising behaviour.

Others tried applying a variety of theories to answer the question on why people migrate during a social sciences class with Assistant Professor Anju Mary Paul.

For those who were keen to pursue a Yale-NUS education, our Admissions Counsellors readily shared tips on how to put together a strong application – a bonus for those who visited the campus for the Yale-NUS Open Day!

The ‘Liberal Arts and Your Career’ panel was another key Open Day event that was fully subscribed.

Targeting questions about the value of a liberal arts degree, distinguished employers from Google, Bain and Company, and Tata Communications shared

why they preferred to hire liberal arts graduates.

They unanimously highlighted how liberal arts graduates are trained to approach a problem from multiple perspectives, an attribute that is becoming of growing importance in today’s ever-changing economy.

Yale-NUS students also showcased their talents and shared a slice of their college life.

The campus was abuzz with activities such as various groups serenading the crowds with their melodies, a merchandise booth by the Yale-NUS Bookstore and even a screening of the student-made award-winning film *Duende* at the café.



Visitors at the Saga College’s buttery, the campus tour led by students.

A dazzling array of activities was available across the campus for prospective students who also had the opportunity to meet with Admissions counsellors and Yale-NUS students to learn more about our community of learning.

As a College with a fully residential programme where students stay on campus during the four years of their undergraduate education, Open Day enabled prospective students to see campus residential life in action and

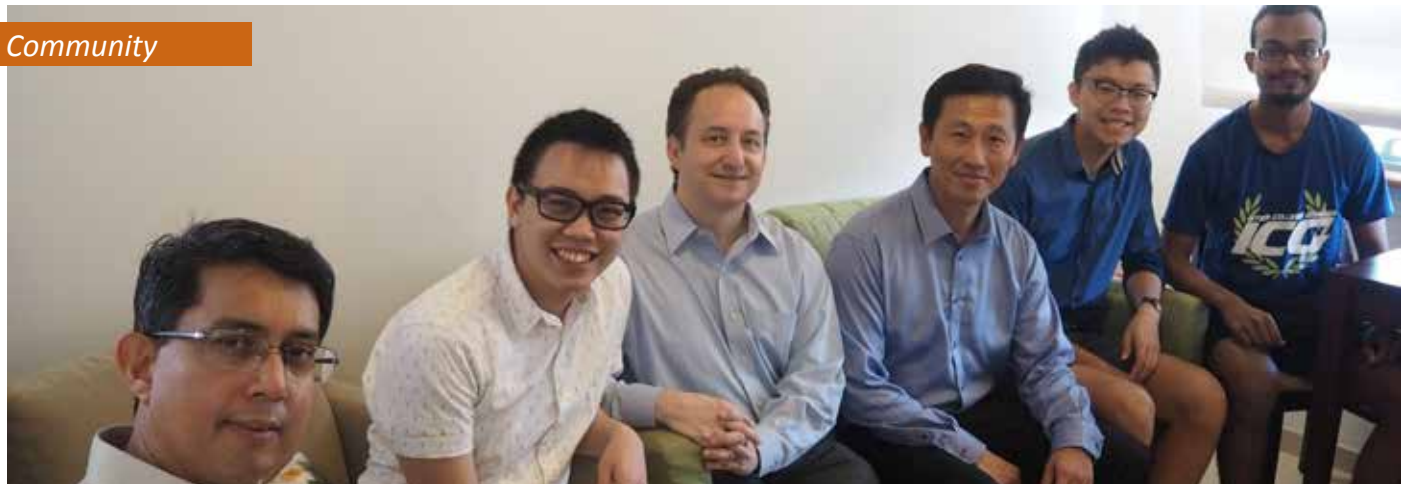
with visitors their favourite places on campus, and how spaces such as the dining halls, common lounges and even the walkways, helped them to build close ties with not only their peers, but also with staff and faculty.

At the sample classes, prospective students had a taste of the unique education model that Yale-NUS offers.

Assistant Professor Stanislav Presolski gave an interactive chemistry class on molecular building blocks, highlighting a molecule’s peculiar properties



Asst Professor of Science Stanislav Presolski conducting his sample class.



Minister Ong Ye Kung visits Yale-NUS

Text and image by Melissa Wang

On 3 March 2016, Acting Minister for Education (Higher Education and Skills) Mr Ong Ye Kung visited Yale-NUS College to see first-hand the unique liberal arts education experience offered here.

This was the second time Minister Ong visited the College. His first visit was during the Inauguration of Yale-NUS College Campus in October 2015, which he described as a more formal session.

This time, he wanted to get to know the College in greater detail and depth in a more casual setting.

During his visit, Minister Ong had the chance to do just that, meeting various members of the college community, including members of the senior administration, faculty and students.

At the meeting with staff and faculty, Minister Ong was given an insight into the unique education model Yale-NUS offers.

They discussed how subjects were not taught in silos and the deliberate effort in ensuring the multi-disciplinary nature of the classes offered.

For example, faculty members highlighted how they were grouped according to divisions rather than disciplines, to encourage greater opportunities for collaboration across disciplines.

During this visit, Minister Ong went on a comprehensive tour of the campus, including the various art and learning spaces,

butteries, common lounges, and a student suite and its sky garden.

Minister Ong also met another nine Yale-NUS students in the Cendana common lounge and heard more about the activities

Diyannah Kamarudin (Class of 2018) also found that this visit was “symbolic of how the Ministry of Education (MOE) is



Minister Ong Ye Kung on a tour of the Yale-NUS College campus.

At the common area in the student suite, flags of the students’ countries of origins reflected the diversity of the community here.

“The diversity of our community is a major part of what makes living and learning in Yale-NUS exciting for me,” piped Chong Woon Han (Class of 2018) who hails from Malaysia and is one of the six residents of the suite that Minister Ong visited.

He explained: “It’s one thing to study a Common Curriculum that’s founded upon a global outlook, but it’s so much more enriching getting to know people of diverse cultural backgrounds on a personal level.”

which our college community was deeply involved in and passionate about.

Students shared about their participation in activities such as the Singapore Asset Management Conference, Migrant Workers Awareness Week, and their various internship experiences amongst others.

Students found it a valuable opportunity to share more about their College experience with Minister Ong.

“I think that the experience was quite fascinating and that Minister Ong was candid, friendly and receptive to our views and opinions,” shared Look Woon Wei (Class of 2019).

very receptive about the liberal arts curriculum”.

Pogaru Saisrikar (Class of 2018) added, “I’m very grateful that Minister Ong took the time to speak with us, and it really shows how much MOE cares not just about the different education institutions, but also about the different thoughts and mindsets of the youth.”

He elaborated: “From the questions that Minister Ong was asking and his interest in the things we do here, you could see that it went beyond getting to know the College, but about understanding more about Singaporean youth and their education.”



Yale-NUS College Special Award for science projects

Text by Diyanah Kamarudin | Image from Singapore Science and Engineering Fair

At this year's Singapore Science and Engineering Fair, students stood a chance to win a new award handed out by Yale-NUS College.

Titled the Yale-NUS College Special Award, the new accolade aims to recognise school or home-based science projects that demonstrated exceptional innovation, creativity and resourcefulness.

The Singapore Science and Engineering Fair is a national competition held annually at the Science Centre for secondary and pre-university students between 15 and 21 years of age. It is jointly organised by the Ministry of Education (MOE), the Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR) and the Science Centre Singapore (SCS).

Professor Neil Clarke, Associate Professor of Science at Yale-NUS College who proposed this initiative, revealed that the new accolade celebrates the achievements of students who were at a disadvantage, compared to those who "had access to functioning laboratories or high-end equipment".

Professor Clarke pointed out that the majority of science projects exhibited at the Fair were done at local universities or research institutes. Students who complete projects at research facilities were typically mentored by graduate students who would provide advice to help students improve their projects. Hence, these projects tend to win top accolades and the winners usually go

on to compete at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair, often hailed as the Olympics of science competitions. The Yale-NUS College Special Award aims to fill the gap and recognise students who worked on projects without access to such high-end resources.

the project created a system that examined the hair before and after different treatments, and also had access to an instrument from the Science Centre that allowed them to analyse the hair surface.

Professor Clarke was impressed that the project formed from a scientific question that was

Indeed, Professor Clarke acknowledged that the award also gives students an opportunity to learn more about the College.

"We wanted to bring to local students' attention that a small liberal arts college is a good place to do science [and] saw this as an opportunity to get on the radar screen of students here," he commented.

Science is one of the three divisions at the College, along with Social Sciences and Humanities, and is also a critical component of the Common Curriculum that all Yale-NUS students undergo. To support the Science programme here, the College is home to four science laboratories that are well-equipped for instruction in chemistry, biology and physics. Yale-NUS students can also share the research spaces and conduct scientific research at NUS. In addition, summer research programmes provide Yale-NUS students with opportunities for hands-on research in the sciences, social sciences and humanities during the mid-year break.

Ultimately, Professor Clarke hopes that the award will be able to highlight two things: that students do not need to do research in professional laboratories in order to succeed, and that they consider the College as an excellent option for their undergraduate studies. This special award will be given out annually at the Singapore Science and Engineering Fair, starting from this year.

"We wanted to bring to local students' attention that a small liberal arts college is a good place to do science and see this as an opportunity to get on the radar screen of students here."

Ten judges from the Yale-NUS Science Division judged the projects, including Professor Clarke, Assistant Professor Ng Hui Khoon and Assistant Professor Matthew Stamps.

After reading the written descriptions of 80 projects, the judges interviewed 20 groups of students at the Fair and finally selected 10 outstanding projects as recipients of the award. The students, who had all completed school or home-based science projects, were selected for their independence, creativity and resourcefulness.

One particularly interesting project looked at the effect of different disinfectants, for example chlorine, on human hair. The students involved in

based on what the students were already interested in.

"I liked that it was a science question that originated from the students," he commented.

Andrew Lim, a junior college student studying at Anglo-Chinese School (Independent), was another recipient of the award. His project focused on strategies to solve Circular Minefield, an alternative version of the popular Minesweeper game where a player has to locate mines on a grid.

Andrew admitted that prior to winning the award, he was "quite surprised" as he thought that Yale-NUS was a small liberal arts college that did not have a Science faculty or offered any science curriculum.



'Balik Kampung' carnival at Yale-NUS

Text by Clare Isabel Ee | Image by Aleithia Low

On a warm evening in March 2016, the Saga courtyard was buzzing with excitement as student organisation RC3 threw a kampung-themed carnival, Balik Kampung (return home).

Inspired by the traditional night markets in Singapore known as pasar malam, the carnival had an array of local snacks,

The carnival featured nostalgic games like Country Erasers and Five Stones, most often played among primary school students in local schools, while the food on offer was typical pasar malam fare such as muah chee (glutinous rice balls with peanuts), Ramly burgers and kacang putih (mixed nuts).

Singapore too."

Founded in 2014 by students from the Class of 2017, RC3's main goal is to "foster residential colleges' (RCs) identity through friendly competition across the RCs in fun and inclusive events", explained Tong Xueyin (Class of 2018), president of the club.

Simply put, she says, "RC3 is all about fun."

Since 2014, they have organised many events aimed at bringing people in Yale-NUS together to foster community spirit through inter-RC interaction.

These include Beach Plz, a signature mass outing to Sentosa held at the end of semester, and this year's Bae My Valentine, a Valentine's Day event that paired people up for a friendship blind date.

With the success of Balik Kampung behind them, RC3 has plans to make the carnival an annual event.

"Yale-NUS is a really new community, and new traditions are being built by student groups every semester," shared Feroz Khan (Class of 2018), one of the main organisers of the carnival and a member of RC3.

"Opportunities to create new events that will go on to become traditions are precious, and RC3 will continue to work super hard to make these events happen and to create new traditions like Balik Kampung."

And traditions they become – for everyone in the community.

"It made me really, really happy to see that the cleaning staff were asking about [Balik Kampung], and that we invited them to come down and play games and have delicious Ramly burgers with us," said Feroz.

"That's the Yale-NUS spirit right there."



Carnival-goers play a round of country erasers

carnival games and activities, and even a dunking booth to really get the party atmosphere going.

"When RC3 was conceptualising the event, we knew we wanted to hold a carnival, but the question was what kind of carnival do we want?" said Bing Lin Nyang (Class of 2018), one of the main organisers.

"The Singaporeans in the club thought it would be great to bring our local version of a carnival to Yale-NUS... Our theme, 'balik kampung' was therefore closely tied to our desire to bring the local experience to Yale-NUS."

Yonatan Gazit (Class of 2018), who hails from the United States, found that helping out in the carnival was a fun learning process.

"I ended up learning a lot about Singaporean culture that I would have never known otherwise, like how competitive Country Erasers could get or how to cook muah chee," he said.

He added: "As a non-Singaporean student, I was really happy to see how open the event was to everyone regardless of nationality, and I think that other international students learned a bit about



Marcus Koe (Class of 2017), a member of RC3, making muah chee



Panel on education in the 21st century

Text by Daryl Yang | Image by Serena Quay

KidsAccomplish Education, a student group at Yale-NUS College, organised its inaugural education panel on 8 March 2016.

Titled 'Rethinking Education in the 21st Century', the panel sought to explore what and how young people should be educated to prepare them for today's increasingly challenging and interconnected world.

Three panelists from diverse backgrounds but with a common passion for education took part in the lively discussion that was moderated by Yale-NUS Dean of Faculty, Professor Charles Bailyn.

The panel comprised Yale-NUS Assistant Professor of Social Sciences (Psychology) Paul O'Keefe, whose research focuses on goals and motivation; Dr Mohamad Shamsuri Juhani, Associate Lecturer at SIM University and principal of an international school in Malaysia with over 15 years of experience in the education sector; and Dr Sumitra Pasupathy, co-founder of Playeum, the Children's Centre for Creativity in Singapore that champions children through play and creativity.

For Joyan Tan (Class of 2017), an audience member, what impacted her most was hearing from Dr Pasupathy about how play can be instrumental in a child's development and learning, which challenges the very ingrained utilitarian attitude of many Singaporean parents.

"The topic of this panel interested me and I wanted to find out if they had any new insights into how the current education landscape in Singapore could be reformed to focus on developing children holistically with a less grades-oriented approach," she added.

on the role of play in fostering creativity and innovation.

Dr Shamsuri shared about his philosophy on education, which he termed "conscientised learning". This refers to the use of active and interactive learning strategies to develop a student's critical consciousness

needs and challenges of this new century."

KidsAccomplish was co-founded by Saza, Lim Chu Hsien (Class of 2018) and Yogesh Tulsii (Class of 2020) with Lisabelle Tan from the National University of Singapore (NUS).

"We wanted this panel to provide a space for us to discuss this urgent question of how our idea of education needs to evolve to meet the needs and challenges of this new century."

In his opening dialogue, Dean Bailyn noted that KidsAccomplish is a poignant example of the type of active learning greatly encouraged by the College – where students not only learn and receive knowledge from their professors but, more importantly, use what they have learnt to create a meaningful impact on their communities.

Each panelist then shared their perspectives on the meaning of education and how it can be innovated to meet the needs of the 21st century.

Dr O'Keefe spoke on his ongoing research on the role of motivation and mindsets in bridging the achievement gap that exists between students as a result of ethnicity or gender, while Dr Pasupathy presented

of his or her surroundings and community so as to foster greater understanding and empathy for others.

According to the President of KidsAccomplish, Saza Faradilla (Class of 2018), the panel came about because of the need to have diverse voices heard regarding the way ahead for education in the 21st century.

"From our conversations with different stakeholders in the education sector, we realised that their insights on diverse modes of education would be very valuable for both the Yale-NUS community and the larger Singapore society," Saza said.

"We wanted this panel to provide a space for us to discuss this urgent question of how our idea of education needs to evolve to meet the

The group runs an enrichment programme for young primary school students, modelled after the concept of liberal arts and sciences in Yale-NUS College, and conducted by Yale-NUS and NUS students.



A group for students passionate about hacking

Text and Image by Diyanah Kamarudin

A liberal arts degree is perhaps not what first comes to mind when one thinks about technology. A student club in Yale-NUS College called YNC Hacks, however, would like to change that.

“There is a broad perception that liberal arts and technology are quite far apart,” said Hrishi Olickel (Class of 2018), one of the club’s two founders.

“But many studies have shown that liberal arts graduates perform better in the tech

The club holds many opportunities for members to participate in an exciting range of activities.

For example, it regularly conducts workshops for students who would like to hone their computer-coding skills or learn a new programming language.

Members also frequently form smaller teams within the club and participate in local hackathons together.

to participate in Startathon,” said Anya Evtushenko (Class of 2017), one of the members of the winning team. “You can imagine how shocked we were to win. We jumped and screamed.”

The club is also actively engaged in the local and international hacker scene.

A few members helped facilitate during Hack & Roll, the biggest student-run hackathon in Singapore, in January 2016.

“The idea itself was first proposed by Assistant Professor Presolski, and I decided to take it on as a YNC Hacks project so that other programmers could also collaborate to build the product,” Sean said.

As a club, they are collaborating on a few exciting projects with professors and external companies.

One team is working with Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies, Dr Michel van Breugel to build automated drones for ecological surveying, while another is collaborating with Bhattacharya Space Enterprises and industry experts in the tech field to organise the first ever Space Hackathon in Singapore.

On campus, YNC Hacks also has its very own hacking space.

Named the Fabrication Studio, more affectionately known as the ‘Fab Lab’, the space is equipped with state-of-the-art fabrication tools, 3D printers, as well as CNC (computer numerical control) routers.

As the group grows, Hrishi hopes that it will be able to work more closely with the local tech industry in the future.

“We are also looking into collaborating with similar student hacking clubs from Yale University, and perhaps even conducting our own internal hackathon,” he said.

“There is a broad perception that liberal arts and technology are quite far apart. But many studies have shown that liberal arts graduates perform better in the tech world because they can express themselves better, and that is very important in a group setting.”

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Hrishi and Parag Bhatnagar (Class of 2017) started YNC Hacks in 2014 in order to connect a small but growing number of students in the College who are passionate about programming and the tech industry.

Although the club first started as a hacking space, it quickly turned into an avenue where members could exchange ideas and collaborate on projects.

Hackathons are events that allow for computer programmers and coders to work together on projects.

At two years old, the club is still young, but it has already achieved a list of impressive accolades. Members have won in a total of 15 local and international hackathons so far.

Most recently, a team from YNC Hacks clinched first place in Startathon held in October 2015.

“None of us were experienced in hackathons when we decided

Both Hrishi and Parag are also Ambassadors of Singapore for AngelHack, the world’s largest global hacker community.

Members of YNC Hacks also work on their personal creative projects.

Sean Saito (Class of 2017), for example, is spearheading a web application that allows students to look up the availability of professors for office hours in real time. Pratyush More (Class of 2018) and Ross Rauber (Class of 2019) are also working on the app.



Promoting a 'maker culture'

Text by Jeannie Tay | Image by Wayne Xu

A new 'maker space' for creativity, design, invention and entrepreneurship was launched last month at Yale-NUS College.

The Fabrication Studio, or the 'Fab Lab', is a space for students who want to do some tinkering for course projects, or explore technological pursuits outside the classroom.

demonstrations of what the space has to offer.

"Maker spaces are becoming increasingly integral to the learning experiences of students – from school students to college students, and we hope that this new space can help to promote a 'Maker Culture' within Yale-NUS," says Mr Gurjeet Singh, Associate

Hrishi Olickel (Class of 2018), who is currently working on an independent research project with Dr Jan Gruber, Assistant Professor of Science (Biochemistry), is a regular at the Fab Lab. Hrishi's project aims to study the role of Chaotic Circuits in secure random number generation. Using the studio's equipment,

"So far, I have been using the Fab Lab as a space for concurrently setting up and executing multiple projects. In my opinion, the Fab Lab has been a great addition to the Entrepreneurship and Maker culture at the college. It lets students learn and use tools that would be out of their reach as individuals, as well as supporting long-term project building," adds Hrishi.

Faculty members like Dr Jan Gruber also welcome the new space, which allows learning to take place beyond the typical classroom. Dr Gruber felt that the Fab Lab is particularly useful in promoting learning as there is usually not enough time within a classroom or a laboratory setting, to allow students to do further exploration on their projects.

"The space is driven by students to develop their ideas. It also allows them to take a concept that they learnt in class and embark on an independent discovery," says Dr Gruber.

The Fab Lab is open to all aspiring 'makers' within the Yale-NUS Community, be it students, faculty or staff, who wish to try their hands at designing or creating objects. The College's ERT department also runs workshops to help interested users learn how to use the machines at the studio. Check out <http://arts.yale-nus.edu.sg/events/> to get updates on these workshops.



Carnival-goers play a round of country erasers

The Fabrication Studio is equipped with state-of-the-art fabrication tools such as a computer numerical controlled (CNC) Mill, Laser-cutter, 3-D Printers and Sewing Machines. It also has soldering and electronics stations, and a 'Thinking Space' for students to hang-out and discuss as they work on their projects.

At an open house event organised by the College's Educational Resources and Technology (ERT) department, the Yale-NUS Community had the opportunity to check out the new Fab Lab, and see

Director, Arts & Media, from the College's ERT team.

This maker space has proven popular with faculty and students. For this semester, the Fab Lab was the learning space for an animation course and students use the animation stations to work on their projects. The space also has gone further to aid the creation of props and publicity materials from the College's Halloween event to the upcoming performance of Qing – a production on the Sook Ching massacre during the Japanese Occupation in Singapore.

Hrishi is attempting to evaluate whether an artificial source of randomness can provide better quality numbers than cosmic radiation or weather systems.

Passionate about programming and the technology industry, Hrishi is co-founder of a student group called YNC Hacks and he can often be seen hanging out at the Fab Lab to work on his curriculum-related and co-curricular pursuits. The space provides a perfect avenue, well equipped with tools, for him to explore his interests, and study deeper into concepts learnt in class.



Mystery internship at Yale Peabody Museum

Text by Daryl Yang | Image from Adlin Zainal

Last summer, Adlin Zainal (Class of 2017) embarked on a journey halfway across the globe to New Haven, Connecticut, for her mystery internship at the Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History.

What this meant was, Adlin only found out about what she would be doing for the rest of summer a few days before she flew off to Yale University in New Haven.

Dinosaurs, the Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History is one of the oldest and most prolific natural history museums in the world.

Established in 1866 to house Yale's growing collections of natural and cultural history, the museum is also known for its Age of Reptiles Mural, a 110-foot (34 m) long depiction of dinosaurs in their natural habitats.

their plans to improve visitor experience.

Adlin shared that this internship helped her realise that museums are so much more than their public exhibits.

"They're first and foremost places of research and they have vast, vast collections beyond what is exhibited. The exhibits at the Peabody make up maybe 2% of the entire collection they have, and it's

abroad helped her to better appreciate the local museum's collections and operations better.

Before the internship, Adlin always had a perception that one has to be intellectual to enjoy museums.

"Going into a museum internship with no prior experience made me realise that there's something in museums for everyone. Being part of the museum team also gave me a newfound appreciation for museums. Whenever I travelled on weekends, I always made it a point to go to other natural history museums in the region. During the internship, whenever I travelled around the region during the weekends, I invariably was drawn to visit other natural history museums such as the American Museum of Natural History in New York, the Museum of Science in Boston, and the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History in Washington D.C."

Besides mystery internships, Yale-NUS' Centre for International and Professional Experience also work with local and global partners from across different industries to provide students with opportunities for learning and contribution.

These internships are structured to enable students to gain the most knowledge and professional experience while maximising their contribution to the organisations they work with.

"The international experience helped me to learn to adapt to different working styles in a completely new environment and become a more independent person."

The mystery internship was launched in 2013 by the Centre for International & Professional Experience (CIPE) to provide students with experiential learning, with a twist.

Depending on the destination of the programme, mystery interns find out about the organisation and their duties shortly before leaving.

A signature programme of Yale-NUS College, the mystery internship aims to create a space where students can practise taking a leap into the unknown and cultivate their ability to adapt to new environments.

Renowned for its Great Hall of

As a Public Programmes intern at the Museum, Adlin was responsible for the organisation's social media initiatives.

She managed the social media accounts of the museum and put together weekly reports on how to improve and sustain the museum's social media presence. She was also involved in a special project to renovate the Discovery Room, an immersive hands-on room with live animals and specimen.

She carried out regular tracking studies to understand and analyse how visitors interacted with the exhibits, and drafted a report, which was presented to the team to facilitate

incredible the vast amount of exhibits they have in the basements and all."

"The international experience helped me to learn to adapt to different working styles in a completely new environment and become a more independent person. I especially appreciate having the chance to interact with a diverse range of visitors from across the globe during my internship," Adlin added.

Coincidentally, the Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum officially opened its doors to the public in Singapore while Adlin was interning at Peabody. She shared that her experience



New boundaries, greater horizons

Text by Serena Quay | Image by Aleithia Low

The Lee Foundation has been making a difference for over 60 years and is known for its dedication to spurring progress in education and culture.

It was founded by Tan Sri Dato' Dr Lee Kong Chian, a well-known businessman and philanthropist.

Two Yale-NUS students are amongst those whose lives have been changed by their generosity.

They shared with Serena Quay (Class of 2019) how they are motivated by the Lee Foundation Scholarship to continue flourishing in new environments.

Regina Marie Lee (Class of 2018, left in photo) from Singapore and Rim Bettaieb (Class of 2019) from Tunisia are the inaugural recipients of the Lee Foundation Scholarship at Yale-NUS.

The scholarship has gone a long way in opening up opportunities for the two students who both intend to major in Politics, Philosophy and Economics.

In her two years at the College, Regina has served as Managing Editor of the student-run publication – The Octant, and as a cashier and cook at Saga College's buttry, The Shiock Shack, whipping up burgers, Indomee and other popular supper fare.

Both experiences spurred her interest in contributing to the College community in multiple ways.

"Ultimately, I believe everyone is here not just to gain an educational experience but to contribute to the building of the institution and its culture as well," shares Regina, explaining how she is excited by the possibilities in building a community that is unique to the College.

Recently elected to the Yale-NUS Student Government, Regina is the first female President to take office.

For Regina, stepping up to serve in the Student Government will help to keep the momentum going for student representation in Yale-NUS.

"I think the College administration and leaders value student input in

opportunities to explore new skills such as Latin ballroom dancing, while developing existing ones by joining a student organisation on consulting.

"Coming from a middle-class Tunisian family, my parents wouldn't have been able to pay for my education here in Yale-NUS," she said, highlighting that the scholarship was the sole reason she was able to study here.

"The scholarship has enabled me to not only explore my interests further and develop certain skills, but also to learn about theories and possibilities I had never considered before."

Rima will be starting Empower Education, a non-government

recruited other Yale-NUS students to join her in this endeavour.

In addition, she is involved in a pan-African women empowerment programme and will be supporting a women's dialogue group at Yale-NUS.

In view of her dedication to bettering her society, Rima has recently been accepted as an instructor for the Yale Young Global Scholars programme in Singapore.

She shares about her plans beyond Yale-NUS, "I am very interested in joining the consulting industry, and in working with non-profit organisations to help them make a greater impact in their environment."

"Ultimately, I believe everyone is here not just to gain an educational experience but to contribute to the building of the institution and its culture as well."

many areas, and I hope the (Student) Government will continue to build legitimacy as a representative voice for students," she elaborates.

Rim, more endearingly known as Rima to her peers, shares the same heart and passion to serve her community.

The Class of 2019 student credits Yale-NUS for expanding her view of the future and giving her incredible

organisation (NGO) in Tunisia that organises summer camps to prepare high school students to transit from school to the workforce by equipping them with the necessary soft skills.

Though she is more than 10,000 miles away from home, Rima is still actively working on launching this programme whilst pursuing her academic interests at Yale-NUS.

She has also successfully

The Lee Foundation Scholarship has equipped these two ambitious young women to have a larger pool of opportunities to grow and continue refining their abilities to serve their communities.

For them, this is only the beginning.