

**THIS  
IS NUS**

**20  
25**



VISION

A leading global  
university shaping  
the future

MISSION

To educate, inspire  
and transform

VALUES

Innovation, resilience,  
excellence, respect,  
integrity



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# A School of 23

The National University of Singapore began in 1905 as a small medical school with only 23 students. Over decades — and through the growth of Singapore from island colony to dynamic city state — we have evolved into a leading university on the global stage.

Driven by our values of innovation, resilience, excellence, respect and integrity, we seek to educate, inspire and transform.

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# A Campus in a Rainforest

Our three campuses across Singapore — Kent Ridge, Bukit Timah and Outram — are home to over 40,000 students and 12,000 staff. That's not to mention 16 colleges, faculties and schools, over 48 research institutes, centres and corporate laboratories, and thousands of trees (the aim: to plant 100,000 by 2030). Together, they make up a campus that is smart, green and sustainable.



## Trees and tech

The NUS campus is a remarkable blend of rich biodiversity and cutting-edge technology. Digital twins are used to find the best spots to plant trees and cool the campus, while smart systems help to reduce waste and emissions.

Our novel education pathways offer our students the depth, breadth and flexibility to shape their own futures for an ever-evolving tomorrow.



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# Shaper of Minds

Launched in 2024, NUSOne is a new initiative that encourages personal growth and development through experiential learning and self-discovery, with Wednesday afternoons kept free of lessons for students to explore their interests outside of the classroom.

**“We are committed to giving our students the space and resources necessary to develop their potential to the fullest.”**

— Professor Aaron Thean  
NUS Deputy President (Academic Affairs) and Provost

## Interdisciplinary

An interdisciplinary education grants students opportunities to learn across disciplines, challenging and broadening their perspectives so that they are prepared to take on the complexity and dynamism of real-world issues. We have three interdisciplinary colleges, more than 270 interdisciplinary courses, and a broad-based, flexible curriculum that allows students to chart their own learning pathways.

## Global

With more than 300 partner universities in over 40 countries, we offer many opportunities for our students to meet the world. These include exchange programmes, short-term programmes and study trips. Overseas exposure is an invaluable component of an NUS education, as is access to it: recent enhancements to financial aid have allowed us to provide additional funding to students for a richer university experience that includes the chance to venture abroad.



1 in 2  
students venture  
abroad at least once  
in their time at NUS

## Holistic

Our General Education curriculum offers every first-year student a broad range of intelligences and competencies – from data literacy to community engagement – that will enable them to thrive in a complex, ever-evolving world.

Complementing formal learning is NUSOne, a new initiative that supports personal growth and development through out-of-classroom experiences, from co-curricular activities to campus living and community service. Through these, we seek to nurture well-rounded, resilient individuals who can flourish during and beyond their time at NUS.

## Lifelong

Industry-relevant, multidisciplinary and innovative, our continuing education offerings enable our students, alumni and the wider community to succeed in the future economy. New postgraduate programmes relate to emerging fields that cut across disciplines, from sustainable medicine to arts and cultural entrepreneurship, in addition to a plethora of short courses and stackable certificate programmes.

To ensure greater access to upskilling opportunities, enhanced tuition fee rebates were introduced in 2024, offering Singaporeans and permanent residents a 40% rebate on fees for over 80 self-funded master's programmes.

**“Given that most of our graduates will be disrupted throughout their careers, we want to help them prevail by pivoting to other roles within their industry, or even across industries.”**

— Professor Bernard Tan  
NUS Senior Vice Provost (Undergraduate Education)

### WE OFFER:

>130

postgraduate by  
coursework programmes

>280

graduate, specialist and  
executive certificates

>120

professional  
certificates

>1,300

modular and  
short courses

## The undergraduate experience

100%

of our students engage in service learning as part of their curriculum, learning about social issues while working with community partners

1 in 3

of our students live on campus for at least a year, experiencing a unique blend of academic, co-curricular and social activities for holistic development

We account for

38%

— the largest share — of undergraduate university enrolment in Singapore

Our graduates are ranked

9th

for global employability, and command a

9%

salary premium

Interdisciplinarity is a key feature of an NUS education: 8 in 10 students are enrolled in an interdisciplinary college.

“We hope that students who come to NUS will be inspired by the manifold possibilities that can come from learning across diverse disciplines and modes of thinking.”

— Mr Hsieh Fu Hua  
NUS Chairman



Powered by conviction, talent and collaboration, our research is rising to meet the challenges of our time.

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# A Research Powerhouse



## Decoding the living machine

Mechanobiology research at NUS — which studies how living cells respond to their physical surroundings — is targeting ailments like infertility, muscle atrophy and cancer. The latest: a novel approach to rejuvenating aged egg cells, which may offer hope for older women seeking to have babies.



## Our core interdisciplinary research clusters



### Health Innovation

Boosting human health and potential through innovations in biomedical science and translational medicine



### Sustainability and Urban Solutions

Mitigating the impacts of climate change and enabling urban resilience for future generations



### Smart Nation

Accelerating Singapore's digital transformation through research in data science, artificial intelligence, operations research and cybersecurity



### Materials Research

Bringing modern tools to traditional materials science to produce technologies with a wide range of applications

## Our research footprint

In the past year,  
we published

12,501

papers in international  
journals and launched

1,292

new research  
projects

42%

of our research  
publications feature  
in the top 10% of the  
most cited journals  
worldwide

We have research  
collaborations with

>4,000

universities and  
institutes in

175

countries

## Impact for the future

From harnessing hydrogen for a cleaner future to helping more people age well, our researchers are constantly working to address the needs of tomorrow.

New research platforms include:

### NUS Artificial Intelligence Institute

A platform for synergistic AI research, talent development, and collaborations with government and industry

### NUS Centre for Hydrogen Innovations

The first of its kind in Southeast Asia, the centre aims to bring green hydrogen from the laboratory to society

### Coastal Protection and Flood Resilience Institute Singapore

Hosted at NUS, the institute brings universities, research institutes and industry together to bolster Singapore's defences against rising sea levels

### Centre for Environment and Ageing Well

A platform that seeks to foster the well-being of people of all ages through sustainable and inclusive living environments

### Centre for Sustainable Medicine

The first of its kind in Asia and largest in the world, the centre seeks to pave the way for more climate-resilient health systems

### Bezos Centre for Sustainable Protein

The centre, the first of its kind in Asia, advances research in alternative proteins to meet the demands of a growing global population

With more intense rainfall and rising sea levels at hand, researchers at the Coastal Protection and Flood Resilience Institute are looking into multidisciplinary solutions to protect vulnerable islands like Singapore. These include using hybrid nature-based solutions — like perched beaches with seagrass and mangroves on rock revetments — to protect our coasts.

“The challenges we face are unprecedented; so should our solutions be. By actively engaging with our industry partners and local communities, we can develop strategies tailored to the unique challenges of each coastal region.”

— Professor Richard Liew  
Founding Executive Director, Coastal Protection and Flood Resilience Institute

Our global ecosystem of creativity and enterprise nurtures the next generation of entrepreneurs, transforming ideas to impact.

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# Innovators of Impact



## **Innovation for the greater good**

A joint venture by NUS and the Singapore Centre for Social Enterprise, the Technology for Sustainable Social Impact accelerator programme supports tech-based social enterprise start-ups in Singapore like Tech Up Advance, a digital platform founded by Ainaa Rosli and Sulfya Lim (pictured) that revolutionises education through simulation and gamification.

## Cultivating an entrepreneurial spirit

For more than 20 years, the **NUS Overseas Colleges (NOC) programme** has nurtured over 4,000 NUS undergraduates into budding entrepreneurs, offering them the opportunity to live, intern and study at top entrepreneurial hubs around the globe. These include Silicon Valley, Munich and Shanghai, with new hubs in Santiago, Chongqing and Nagoya, among others, launched in 2024.

>25 NOC hubs around the world

>1,100 start-ups founded by NOC alumni, raising

>S\$3.9b in equity funding

## Catalysing venture creation

The **Graduate Research Innovation Programme (GRIP)** is a comprehensive 12-month acceleration programme that provides support to budding NUS entrepreneurs, equipping them with the knowledge, skillsets, networks and funding to transform their ideas into start-ups solving real-world problems. In 2024, we launched two new initiatives to further enhance deep tech innovation and our entrepreneurial ecosystem. **GRIP 2.0** will provide pre-seed funding of S\$250,000 to participating teams, 2.5 times more than before, while the **NUS Innovation Fellowship and Venture Creation Awards** provides grants and guidance to help NUS faculty and researchers commercialise their research.

To date, GRIP has:

Trained >475 entrepreneurs

Produced >50% of all NUS spin-offs

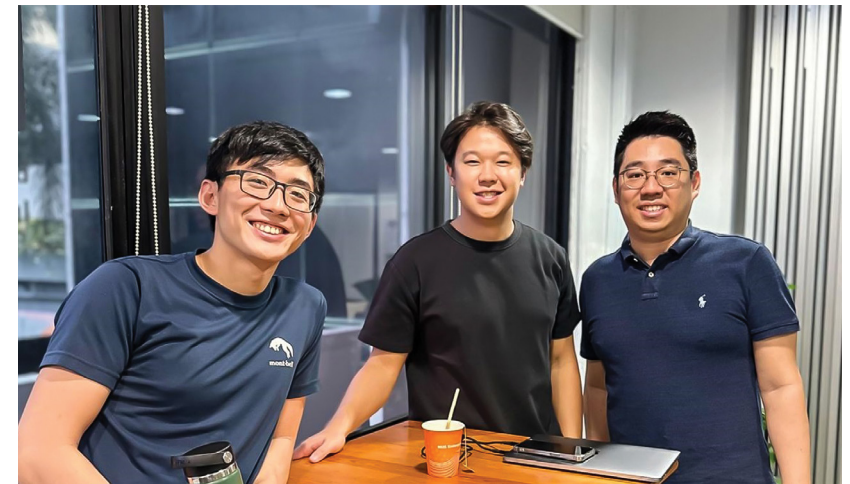
Formed 113 start-up companies, which have collectively raised over S\$60m in external funding

We have helped bring about 11 unicorns – start-ups that reach US\$1 billion in valuation

## Building a local and global ecosystem

**BLOCK71** is NUS' tech-focused global ecosystem builder. Running in 10 key enterprise hubs around the globe, it provides start-ups access to key local and global markets, networks and support.

Our industry-specific platforms bring various stakeholders together to uncover opportunities for innovation. **PIER71™** and **ICE71** have given rise to new solutions and collaborations in the maritime and cybersecurity sector respectively over the years.



In partnership with Microsoft, **BLOCK71** launched the **Generative AI Accelerate Programme** in 2024, a platform to support start-ups in accelerating their AI innovations. Francis Lee and Phang Wei Jun (pictured), GRIP alumni and founders of the language learning start-up **Lingosnap**, were among those selected to participate in a four-month incubation programme, during which they collaborated with and gained mentorship from industry partners.



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# A Community United

Serving others is a part of learning at NUS. Under the General Education curriculum, students can choose to enrol in service learning courses such as Community Link Befrienders, wherein students build relationships with disadvantaged families, partnering them to support their goals.

**“I've seen first-hand how a little empathy and care can motivate someone to improve their circumstances. Sometimes all we need is to know that someone cares.”**

– Nityasree d/o Rajendran  
NUS Business School student

## A tradition of service

Our longstanding community programmes allow us to forge enduring connections and bring about meaningful change over time.

### NUSSU Rag & Flag

A signature event of the NUS Students' Union since 1958, Rag & Flag sees students collect donations from the public for charity, and put up vibrant performances in appreciation.

**S\$4.6m** raised for charities since 2009

### NUS Cares

A university-wide movement for NUS students, staff and alumni to get together and volunteer for a variety of causes.

**>5,000** beneficiaries per year

### Teach Singapore

Piloted in 2021, Teach Singapore enables NUS students to offer academic coaching and character mentorship for children and youth from disadvantaged families.

**1,650** NUS student volunteers have partnered

**3,600** beneficiaries to date



**“As mentors, embarking on a learning journey with our mentees is not just about planning and organising activities, but about creating meaningful memories that foster connections.”**

— Giovanna Maria Santoso (pictured)  
NUS Business School student

Going beyond tutoring, Teach Singapore mentors seek to nurture their mentees through a holistic slate of experiences, including exposure to sports and the arts, introduction to life skills like time management and data literacy, and bonding activities like laser tag. The student volunteers are trained in coaching and mentoring skills, and provided with the tools and resources they need to effectively engage their mentees.

## A community united

Building a strong community begins with us. A vibrant line-up of events and experiences that last the whole year through — from a festival celebrating well-being to inspiring cultural performances — allow for stories to be shared, understanding to be gained, and bonds to be formed.

### A snapshot of life on campus:



Prioritise well-being with the WellNUS Festival, where students and staff can take part in a myriad of wellness-related activities, from mindfulness lessons to muay thai workouts

Celebrate our diverse tapestry of communities at the yearly mOSAic festival, which includes cultural showcases, engaging dialogues, and bonding over food and sport

**“It was insightful hearing about everyone's experiences as we all come from diverse backgrounds. Despite our different upbringing, the human experience is relatively similar in many ways. It reminds me of the quote by Carl Rogers, ‘What is most personal is most universal’.”**

— Maryam Saleel  
NUS Life Sciences student

Foster friendships — and fitness — through sporting events like the Inter-Faculty Games, NUS' biggest and most anticipated student life event



**“The Inter-Faculty Games are not just a showcase of athletic prowess, but also a celebration of diversity and inclusion. We come from different backgrounds, but when we step onto the field, we are united by a common goal. This diversity is our strength.”**

— Adam Dai  
43<sup>rd</sup> President of the NUS Students' Sports Club



Imbibe the arts and culture with the NUS Arts Festival, which draws artists and collaborators from across campus and around the world

“At NUS, we are moving boldly — and concertedly — to expand tomorrow’s frontiers. We believe that we have the power to shape the future, for the better.”

— Professor Tan Eng Chye  
NUS President







# NUS120

CELEBRATING THE PAST,  
SHAPING THE FUTURE

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