

NTU Singapore, donors, raise \$3 million for a new Professorship in tribute to the University's founding President

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Credit: Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

University alumni, faculty, and partners of **Nanyang Technological University, Singapore (NTU Singapore)** have raised S\$3 million for a new Professorship named after the University's founding president, Professor Cham Tao Soon.

Launched with the support of donors and Schools in NTU's College of Engineering, the **Cham Tao Soon Career Development Professorship in Engineering** aims to recognise mid-career faculty members with distinguished achievements.

The income from the endowed fund supports the awardee's research and salary, with any surplus to be used in supporting activities related to the appointment.

Professor Cham Tao Soon, NTU President Emeritus, said: "The Career Development Professorship in Engineering is very much in line with my initial task of building up NTU from scratch. Over my years as President, I had the pleasure of working with many talented young academic staff under the Principal Staff Officers Scheme, most of whom turned out to be very successful and became key professors at the University. I hope with the establishment of the current Professorship, more young academic staff will be given such opportunity. The fund will be useful in helping them with their research."

"I wish to thank all the donors who made this fund possible. It shows their firm belief partnering the University, its professors and its students to create positive impact on our collective future. NTU and I are grateful for their noble spirit," added Professor Cham.

Professor Cham is the founding President of NTU, which was formed in 1991 following the merger of the Nanyang Technological Institute (NTI) and National Institute of Education. He held the position for 22 years until stepping down in 2002 and was conferred the title of President Emeritus in July 2007.

NTU President Professor Subra Suresh, said: “This endowed professorship is the University’s tribute to Professor Cham. By establishing this professorship, the University is pleased to acknowledge and celebrate his many contributions in leading NTU, and in building and nurturing NTU through its early years. The Cham Tao Soon Career Development Professorship in Engineering recognises mid-career faculty members with impressive achievements and further potential for significant advancement in their careers.”

The award specifically recognises and rewards this group of outstanding faculty and encourages them to continue excelling in their careers so as to raise the standards of research, teaching, and knowledge transfer in the University.

The Professorship awardee will hold the title of “Career Development Professor in Engineering”, which is tenable for up to five years.

The Professor will advance the state of knowledge and education in the field of Engineering, including:

- Conducting cutting edge research and development;
- Helming seminars on trends and findings impacting the selected field;
- Mentoring younger researchers and academics; and
- Teaching graduate/undergraduate programmes.

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