



Representatives from YLLSoM, SMA and SMACF with the student beneficiaries

An Evening of Collegiality

By Martin Ho

“YOU WILL eventually graduate and proceed on to become a doctor, and you will face many social and ethical challenges. Remember this day. Remember that you have been a beneficiary of the SMA Medical Students’ Assistance Fund. Remember that when you were in need, the profession was there for you. Remember to practise ethically and support the students who come after you.”

This was the gist of the message that Prof Wong Tien Yin, Chairperson of the SMA Charity Fund (SMACF), shared with the beneficiaries of the SMA Medical Students’ Assistance Fund for 2013/2014 during an appreciation dinner organised by the National University of Singapore Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine (NUS YLLSoM) for SMA and SMACF on 4 March 2014. The dinner, held at The Scholar Chinese Restaurant in the NUS Kent Ridge Guild House, was hosted by NUS YLLSoM faculty Prof Hooi Shing Chuan, Vice-Dean (Education), and Prof Rajendran Kanagasuntheram. Also in attendance were 13 bursary recipients from YLLSoM and six officials from SMA and SMACF.

Before the dinner commenced, two

of the recipients, Ada Ngo and Joy Tan, spoke about the impact the bursary had on their school life and medical studies. Next, Prof Wong discussed the importance of practising ethically and supporting the future of Medicine. Prof Hooi then concluded with a speech in which he expressed appreciation of the financial support provided by the SMA and SMACF through the SMA Medical Students’ Assistance Fund.

The SMA Medical Students’ Assistance Fund was not set up solely to provide needy medical students with financial help, but also serves as an avenue for the medical profession to give back to support the future of Medicine, to emphasise the importance of collegiality and giving, and to maintain the tradition of giving in medical students.

The evening was particularly meaningful as the representatives from SMA and SMACF had the opportunity to meet the bursary recipients in the flesh and discuss the latter’s concerns, academic lives and hopes for the future. The recipients also presented the SMA and SMACF officials with a compilation of personal thank you letters that they had addressed to donors. ■

“I will remember the help received and after I graduate. I will do my part to pass on the favour to other needy students.”

– Xiong Meng Fei (left)



Donations enable SMACF to carry out its work, including the SMA Medical Students’ Assistance Fund. Online donations can now be made through the SG Gives Charity Donation Portal (<http://www.sggives.org/smacf>), where SMACF is listed. As SMACF is an approved Institution of Public Character, cash donations to SMACF qualify for a tax deduction of 2.5 times.