

# Bursary for SMU students who did well in NS

---

**Lim Min Zhang**

---

Having seen national servicemen who serve with commitment despite financial hardships, Colonel (Retired) Kong Kam Yean, a recipient of a scholarship from the Singapore Management University (SMU), decided to pay it forward.

He and Brigadier-General Chua Boon Keat, commandant of the Safti Military Institute, led efforts to set up a bursary to help two needy SMU undergraduates who do well in NS each year.

A cheque for \$200,000 – the amount raised so far for the SMU Warriors Bursary – was presented to SMU president Arnoud De Meyer yesterday. Details of the bond-free bursary will be posted on the university's website when ready, a spokesman said.

Col (Ret) Kong, 50, and BG Chua, 46, were recipients of the SMU Warriors Scholarship, first given out in 2014 to help retiring servicemen move on to a second career. To date, SMU has awarded 47 scholarships for postgraduate studies in areas such as innovation, data analytics and human capital leadership.

Col (Ret) Kong, vice-president of international business at ST Engineering Electronics, said on Tuesday he was inspired by the "grit, sense of duty and aspiration" of soldiers in difficult situations.

"We hope to be able to do something to help... and hence have set 'good national service performance' as a criterion," he said. He studied for an executive master's in business administration in 2016.

Professor De Meyer said: "The (bursary) will contribute to SMU's overall efforts to ensure that no deserving student misses out on... an SMU education."

BG Chua received the scholarship this year to pursue an executive master's in business administration. "We welcome SMU Warriors Scholars to continue to support this fund... The more we raise, the more we can benefit needy students," he said.

---

mzlim@sph.com.sg