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Headline: Scholarships and Juris Doctor Prize in Honour of Republic of Singapore's first Chief Justice Wee Chong Jin

Scholarships and Juris Doctor Prize in Honour of Republic of Singapore's first Chief Justice Wee Chong Jin

Saturday, September 29, 2012

Report by India Education bureau; Singapore: The family of the late Mr Wee Chong Jin, the Republic of Singapore's first Chief Justice, has set up an endowed fund for students at the National University of Singapore (NUS) and Singapore Management University (SMU).

With the gift, NUS will establish up to two Wee Chong Jin Scholarships in Law, while SMU will establish one Wee Chong Jin Scholarship in Law and the Wee Chong Jin Prize for the Most Outstanding Juris Doctor Graduate.

"Chong Jin was loved and well-respected by many. My children and I felt that bequeathing scholarships for needy undergraduates in his name was a meaningful way to remember him by. We hope that present and future students in both law schools will be inspired by the qualities of integrity, passion and hard work which marked his life-time achievements and legal career," said Mrs Cecilia Wee Chong Jin, wife of the late Mr Wee Chong Jin.

NUS will award up to two Scholarships a year, valued at S\$10,000 each. The award is to support law students pursuing their undergraduate studies in NUS Faculty of Law who embody similar values to the late Mr Wee. The candidate should be a law student who is active in community or charity work, and display a spirit of sportsmanship and collegiality.

"The Wee Chong Jin Scholarships in Law will help financially needy students who epitomise the very best qualities in a lawyer: young men and women of outstanding academic ability who are also deeply engaged in their communities," said Professor Simon Chesterman, Dean of NUS Faculty of Law. "As NUS Law strives to be one of the very best law schools in the world, it is important that we do so without leaving deserving students behind. Through the generosity of the Wee family, these scholarships help us achieve that aim - while also celebrating the memory of an outstanding jurist and a role model for the next generation of lawyers and judges."

At SMU, the Wee Chong Jin Scholarship in Law will be awarded to undergraduate law students following the traditional UK model of legal education at the undergraduate level whereas the Wee Chong Jin Prize for the Most Outstanding Juris Doctor Graduate will be awarded to law students pursuing the North American model of legal education at the postgraduate level through the Juris Doctor programme, pioneered by SMU in Singapore in 2009.

Professor Yeo Tiong Min, S.C. (Hon), Dean of SMU School of Law, said, "We are very grateful to the family of the late Mr Wee Chong Jin for setting up both the Wee Chong Jin Scholarship in Law and the Wee Chong Jin Prize for the Most Outstanding Juris Doctor Graduate at SMU. Through these awards, SMU students will be able to aspire to the qualities epitomised by the late Mr Wee Chong Jin - excellence, charity and collegiality."

The inaugural Wee Chong Jin scholars, fourth-year NUS law student Seng Han Ting and second-year SMU law student Eugene Neo Zhi Wei, were announced at the Wee Chong



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Jin Scholarship Appreciation Event held this afternoon at the Supreme Court. Both students were elated to receive from Mrs Cecilia Wee a biography of the late Mr Wee, entitled *The First Chief: Wee Chong Jin - A Judicial Portrait*, which will enable them to get a full appreciation of Mr Wee's contributions to the Judiciary and judicial system of Singapore.

The appreciation event was graced by Guest-of-Honour, The Honourable The Chief Justice Chan Sek Keong. Also present at the event was Puan Noor Aishah, wife of former President of the Republic of Singapore Yusof Ishak.