



**National University of Singapore**

**Commencement 2014**

11 July 2014, 3:00pm

University Cultural Centre

Lee Sze Han

BSc (Pharmacy) First Class Honours

### **Valedictorian Profile**



Lee Sze Han graduates with a First Class Honours in Pharmacy. He was placed on the Dean's list for two consecutive semesters in Academic Year 2010/2011 and also Semester 2 of Academic Year 2013/2014. With a deep interest in both physical and health sciences, he aspires to utilise his knowledge to help his patients and the healthcare industry.

In addition to his academic achievements, Sze Han was also a servant leader to his peers. He was the Class Representative for all four years of his undergraduate years, acting as a vital communication channel between the class and Department of Pharmacy.

As a NUS Giving Commencement Class Champion, he and his classmates raised more than \$1,500 for the Pharmacy Bursary Fund. Sze Han was also the Event Director for the Pharmacy Graduation Dinner, an event that aims to bring the class together as a "Pharmily" for a final farewell.

### **Commencement valedictorian address**

Professor Shen Zuowei, Dean, Faculty of Science; Ms. Linda Seah, Vice President, International Marketing, Emerging Asia, Baxter Healthcare Asia Ptd Ltd; Distinguished guests; Fellow graduates; Ladies and Gentlemen.

A very good afternoon to all! It is my great honour to address everyone here on behalf of the class of 2014. Firstly, congratulations to all my fellow graduates! Regardless of whether you are from Pharmacy or Math majors, I am sure we are all relieved to have made it through all the demanding tests, projects and examinations during our stay in NUS. It is truly a remarkable feat to have persevered through all these challenging years to emerge victorious as a graduate of this university.

I'm sure all my classmates would agree, these four years in Pharmacy has been demanding, to say the least. The 150-membered bell-curve was a constant reminder for us to put in our best effort, even for a test which only accounts for 5% of the module. Many would recall the struggle against time to place our handmade capsules onto the trolley for submission, while others struggle just to be on time for 8am lessons at Utown. And who can forget the checking of virtual patient profile on our mobile app while preparing for our counselling role-plays, or furiously flipping through our reference books while we stumbled from stations to stations during the Pharmacy Practice Spot Quiz?

But beyond these nerve-wracking moments, being in the same class for 4 years allowed us to forge great friendships and cooperation. We would line up our smartphones on the table to voice-record lectures, after which we can share them with absentees. We would even broadcast the tips we received from our seniors for upcoming tests. There were also many moments of shared laughter. I remember hearing the sizzling of water in Microbiology Lab which sounded like someone was cooking something, as well as the ridiculous and exaggerated acting by our many talented actors and actresses during counselling role-plays. Just earlier this year, we also had fun guessing the baby photos of each other, made possible by Ihtimam and Chit Yin. These lighter moments definitely made our course more enjoyable and interesting. Thank you my dear class of 2014, for these precious memories.

But as we celebrate today, let us not forget the people who have accompanied us on our journey towards graduation. On behalf of all the graduates seated here today, I would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to the following groups of people: our families, for their unwavering support and endless care in everything we do; our professors, for their patience in guiding us towards wisdom and being a source of inspiration to us; the administrative staff, for their efficiency in providing a neat and conducive learning environment; and lastly the commencement organizing committee, for their diligent effort to make this day so special for all of us.

I see lots of smiles and happy faces here. Indeed, a graduation is worth the celebration. Life is often celebrated by many milestones such as one's graduation, birthday, or marriage. But sometimes, we focus so much on the "big" events that we forget about the "little" things that matter as well. Every joke you laugh with your friends, every good meal you eat with your family, every pleasant moment you spend with your spouse, deserves a celebration. Even as you end today's special occasion, continue to celebrate every happy moment with the loved ones around us. And with that, you should bring that same smile on your face now, to wherever you go and in whatever you do. With that, I wish you all the best, and may you find great happiness in your future endeavours. Thank you.