

On 8th July 2014, the Dean's Office, FASS, the Department of Sociology, Office of Alumni Relations (OAR) and NUS Sociology Society co-organized the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual post-Commencement Graduation Dinner for their graduating students. This occasion was special for the Sociology graduates as it celebrated their transition into an important new phase of life and allowed them to spend a memorable evening together as the NUS Sociology Class of 2014 cohort.

This event attracted over 135 guests, including graduates, their loved ones, as well as Faculty members. Guests were warmly welcomed by ushers from the NUS Sociology Society, who presented each graduate with a commencement gift kindly sponsored by the OAR. Prof Chua Beng Huat, Head Department of Sociology was the guest of honor for the event. He spoke with glowing pride about the class of graduating students and the promise of their future as Sociology graduates. The humor in his speech helped make his message clear; to stay connected, keep ablaze the culture of excellence and service that has defined our alma mater, and wished them all the very best in their future endeavors.

Following the speech by Prof Chua, guests proceeded for a buffet-style dinner comprising of halal and non-halal menus. The dinner arrangement allowed for much interaction between graduates, and created opportunities for free-flowing conversation between graduates, faculty members and other guests. Mr Chua Sin Chew from the OAR then promulgated the importance of remaining connected as NUS alumni as graduates step forth into the next phase of their life. As dinner came to an end, four graduates--Ho Chor Kiat, Lim Chin Pin, Cindy Chang and Eugenia Chuah--delivered a band performance of three songs, providing much quality entertainment for the night. The graduates were then treated to a video montage put together by class rep, Junbin, which highlighted the memorable moments during their time as undergraduates. They even laughed along to some inside jokes that were included in the video.

The Graduation Dinner provided a precious chance for graduates to get together and interact with their peers and mentors a final time before heading off into working life. Graduates were able to mingle with the professors casually, and the numerous photos taken will become precious keepsakes in years to come. In sum, the event acted as the perfect closure to an invaluable 4 years of the graduates' lives in NUS Sociology and a warm welcome to the next phase of their lives.

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