The meeting was called to order at 1915 hrs.

1 Union Representative

- Foong Wai Yan Amanda is running for the position of Union Representative.
- Good evening everyone, my name is Amanda and I will be running for WSC's Union Representative today. I am a year 2 student studying Business and I have often been described as communicative, responsible and meticulous.
- I place strong emphasis on doing things that I love and doing things with a sense of purpose. These are the guiding principles that helped define my actions for many years. In addition, I strongly believe that the greatest resources in any organization are the people within itself. Every NTU student has his part to play in creating his university experience and shaping the community that he belongs in. The value of giving back resonates within me strongly and I want to be an active contributor to the NTU community and then even beyond that, the wider society.
- With that being said, some of the experiences being the CGL of my hall orientation programme and ACGL for NBS freshmen orientation. Being a freshman last year, the freshmen orientation has helped me greatly in adapting to the University life and I too want to do the same and provide the same experiences for the current freshmen so that they are able to have fruitful and fulfilling first year in Uni just like I had. Besides, being the CGL has given me the opportunity to lead, to listen and to put myself in the shoes of others to better facilitate the camp which are skills that are important in every organization and definitely WSC.
- Besides simply organizing events for one organization, I also had experience in leading a tripartite collaboration. A few years ago, I led two teams of students from my school as well as the
people from Boon Lay CC in the planning and execution of a Mid-Autumn Festival for the residents. This experience further developed my ability to work as the bridge between two organizations which I feel is essential, to compromise the needs and goals that the two different organizations might have and of course to coordinate the 2 organizations to work together. From this experience, I believe that I will be able to do my job well as a Union Representative where I will have to be engaged in and communicate with both WSC and SU. This leads me to my next point.

- The main reason why I am running for this position in this elections is because I have the passion to serve and I want to instil the spirit of community engagement in the union. I believe that WSC is very purpose driven and members are part of WSC simply because they love what they are doing, and they do things with a purpose which aligns greatly with my underlying principle. As such, I want to be the voice of WSC in the NTUSU council, to represent its interests and highlight any potential concerns. Being in the 27th NTUSU council myself where I better understood how academic clubs and constituent clubs come together to discuss school wide ideas and policies which are important for me to provide more constructive opinions and judgements together with the incoming WSC President and vice-president. Furthermore, I want to strengthen the relationship between WSC and SU to bridge any future collaborations. With that, I will look into areas where SU can embark on community engagement in which WSC can provide the expertise in and how SU on the other hand can provide the resources as well as external publicity for WSC.

- These further reemphasize my main objective as a Union Representative. I will strive to ensure that WSC will have a stronger standing and representation that it already has in the Student Union as well as in the council. I look forward to working with all of you to further establish WSC’s presence in the school and to make the community a more vibrant one this year. Thank you for your time.

As mentioned that you’re a year 2 student, lacking of experience in WSC, how will put yourself in good capacity for the WSC?

Yes, it is true that I’m not part of the WSC. However, I was involved in engaging community and I had worked as a collaborator along with other clubs who discuss ideas to benefits the wider community. Talking to a few WSC representative, I realised the important of community engagement. I realised that being the union rep for WSC, I will learn more about the portfolios and being WSC’s relevance to Student Union.

Why do you want to run for WSC union rep instead of the other club representatives?

*esprit de volontaires*
Yes I could have chosen other club like my faculty. However, I feel strongly about the cause of WSC. I will like to bring WSC involvement to more events such as NTU Fest or Open House and be a voice for WSC inside Student Union, strengthening the communication between two clubs.

- Andy Teo is running for the position of Union Representative.

- Good evening everyone. My name is Andy Teo and I am currently a year 2 student from Accountancy from NBS.
- Before I start, I would like to describe a bit about myself. I am someone who believe in that everyone in this world is kind, but they are not always nice. This belief has always been with me and despite how me and my friends always bickered about my belief and tell me that I'm naïve, I still choose to believe in that. It is their decision if they want to believe. And you all are a prime example of my belief. By being part of this loving community, you all are really kind and nice.
- As for my leadership experiences, in NP, I was the executive and advisory committee for my faculty and also the president of Ideawerkz, now called the Sandbox. In NTU, I was very involved in my hall. I joined my hall’s 17th JCRC as a recreational secretary, my hall Overseas Expedition (OCIP) as a safety officer, joined GL for my orientation challenge and Henderson-IGS as a volunteer.
- I believed that my past leadership experiences have shaped me to think more and try to look at the bigger picture while my recent OCIP to Vietnam really gave me an awakening that we are really fortunate and that we should really help people whenever we can.
- Moving on, now the main reason why I want to be a union representative of WSC is because of my goals that I set out for myself before I join NTU.
- I have 3 goals that I set for myself to achieve during my 3 years in NTU. For my first year, I want to contribute back to my hall. Therefore, I joined JCRC and be heavily involved in hall related events. In year 2, I want to give back to the school and that is why I want to join SU. In year 3, I want to give back to the community which is why I am not part of WSC yet as I am intending to join WSC in my last year.
- And I believe being a representative of WSC will really help me understand more in depth of the portfolios about what you all do and really interact with everyone in this loving family and this will make me have a clearer idea of what I can help out in WSC when I transit to year 3. As your union rep, I will definitely try to be involved in WSC and help out in WSC whenever possible especially in special projects like CurL and VM where they require volunteers for their major events. Every student in NTU should join one WSC event in their time.
- My vision is that everyone in NTU should at least have an experience in WSC as I believe that this world will only be
better if everyone helps each other. This will also cultivate a stronger community within NTU and hopefully in the future, volunteering and helping the community can be a common shared experience for example like army for the guys and that it will make people think/put people before others. Imagine a society that have that kind of mindset. I think it will be damn sweet. We are not there yet but I believe as a collective effort, the world will get there, and it will be a very good feeling to know that WSC plays a part in this movement. I have the interest and desire for the WSC to heard of.

- To sum up, I believe that I have the heart for WSC, the interest in being an union representative of WSC and the desire to promote WSC to the people around me. Please vote for me as your union representative next Tuesday, 11 September. Thank you.

It is heartening to hear that you have feel for WSC. Can you tell me more on how you want to make WSC better? What are you plans?

I am aware that there is 5 Special Projects and 9 Regular Service Projects. I will like to see more bigger event organised under NTU but fully supported by WSC. The event will be a team effort with WSC and NTU coming together. The big scale event will attract media and reach out to more people about the WSC cause.

It does seem like you have a understanding of WSC. What are the events that are opened to NTU students and how will you promote it?

Two events that I know are opened to NTU students are CurlL and VM. They actively look for volunteers to help out in their events. There might be other portfolios who also ask for NTU student volunteers through the emails. To address the issue of promoting the events, I will join the event first and then invite my inner circle friends to come along. With that, I hope that with my friends, there will more publicity, promotion and word of mouth for more people to join.

Regular Service Projects

- Yeo Khai Sern is running for the position of RSP (Deaf Community) chairperson.

- Good evening everyone, thanks for coming down to this rally! My name is Khai Sern and I will be running for the position of Chairperson for the Regular Services Project (Deaf Community). You must be wondering, why do I want to run for the position? I have always been passionate to volunteer and I really hope to give back to DC by being more than just a member and helping DC to reach out to a wider audience as well.
touched my heart and DC feels like a second home which really motivates me to want to give back and continue serving the community.

- Before joining WSC, I have been volunteering on my own accord for a few years and have tried taking on various roles such as group facilitator, game master, head of programs, head of admin and hence would like to further challenge myself by running for chairperson and take up the challenge of leading and representing DC with the experiences I have.

- Some of the plans that I have for DC will include improving the way things are being done now for the various events and planning new events for the Deaf Community. It will be a year of exploration and trying out new things but the most important factor will be to keep faith and continue serving the community with our beliefs.

- As an individual, I am responsible and one that plans things ahead as I do not like to do last min work. Things will continue to be organised and well planned like how it is now.

- No one is perfect, and neither am I. But I have the heart to serve and is willing to listen to all your feedback and work on it to make DC more enjoyable for everyone. With this, I have come to the end of my speech and I hope that I can have your support.

**What are some challenges you think you will face?**

Some of the challenges I foresee will be handling conflict among the committee members. To resolve the conflict, it is important to hear both sides of the stories first and not take any sides. Try to come to a consensus for both side and minimize the damage as everyone will still be working together for quite some time.

Another challenge faced will be having non-committed members. I think the main reason for this is usually not feeling the sense of belonging to the club and hence the beginning phase of integrating the new members into the club is the most crucial and should be done in an organised and fun manner without leaving out anyone, building the family culture into each and everyone of them. Once they feel that they belong into the CCA, they will naturally want to continue to serve together with the rest.

- **Wong Yee Kiet is running for the position of RSP (Elders) chairperson.**

- Good evening everyone. My name is Yee Kiet and I'm a year 3 engineering student. I am here today to seek your support in becoming the chairperson of Elders. It has surprised many that I have decided to run for this position, reason being that I have joined Elders for only a year.

- Let me talk more about myself. Before joining this portfolio, I have been volunteering with a programme called "Meals on Wheels", in which we deliver food packages to seniors in my
neighborhood. These seniors mostly lived alone and were ecstatic when meals were delivered. Throughout my volunteer in 6 months, I didn't think much about it, assuming that the elderly was simply glad that their food had arrived. However, one day, after distributing the meals, I realized it was not the food they were waiting for but the companionship that they longed for. I began to realize that regular care and attention are just as important as the food they receive.

- In a way, you can say that I have been around seniors, but have never really done much to uplift their lives. Elders has not only given me opportunities to interact with the elderly, but also celebrate moments that mean the most to them. It has been a fulfilling year for me as a member, and I would like to give more.

- As chairperson, I will introduce changes that can foster the development of the portfolio. First and foremost, it is important to recruit and induct new volunteers properly. We can do so by equipping them with necessary skills and means to interact with our beneficiaries comfortably, so that they can be capable and confident in assisting our beneficiaries.

- The next fundamental goal would be to focus on improving volunteer retention rates. If volunteers do not feel appreciated, we naturally run the risk of losing their commitment. My view is that volunteers are no different from our beneficiaries in terms of the care and concern they deserve from the organization. As such, we must create a sense of belonging by matching them with well-fitted tasks. When our volunteers can enjoy and excel at what they do, a natural sense of appreciation will arise, and I believe this is especially important for us in the committee. I will be working on solutions to engage our volunteers and creating opportunities for both our incoming and existing members to get together. If given the mandate to lead, I will not disappoint and make my time as chairperson, great and memorable.

As a chairperson, what do you foresee being your biggest challenge during your term of office and how will you go about solving it?

It will be to balance the need of the volunteers and the needs of our beneficiaries. Even the most committed volunteers are prone to burn out. Therefore, it is important to show appreciation and recognition for their work. Such maybe in the form of appreciation dinners that we have annually. However, another way to express recognition would be to take their feedback seriously and make sure they are heard.

Can you elaborate on the well-fitted tasks that you will equip volunteers with?

By well-fitted tasks I mean to leverage on every volunteer’s strengths and weaknesses. It is important that every volunteer can
perform to their best of abilities. For e.g., if I have an ambitious volunteer who is willing to learn, it will be great to pair him/her up with a more experienced volunteer who has less time to offer.

- Jimmy Teoh Min Wei is running for the position of RSP (Friends of Children) chairperson.

- Good evening everybody. I’m Teoh Min Wei but you may know me as Jimmy. Today I’m running for the Chairperson position of RSP (Friends of Children). When you hear the word, “Children”, what do you think of? Do you think of crying kids in your 4 hours flight to Korea or do you think of the innocent cute children with their smiles beaming at you? For me, I think of the second one. Kids are like devilish angels but every moment with them makes your heart melt. Because of this, I am running for the position of Chairperson for RSP (Friends of Children) otherwise known as FoC.

- I have been part of FoC for my whole university life, starting as a regular member in year 1, Centre Head in year 2, Vice-Chairperson in year 3 and finally, I’m running as the Chairperson in my final year of university. Being in the same portfolio for 3 years has its perks because I have seen how FoC has grown from 13 centres to 14 centres and experimented with different structures for the past 3 years. With this experience, I believe that I am capable of sieving out the successful attempts in change from the less successful attempts.

- I’ll elaborate on how the different positions in my various years would help. Firstly, when I was a Freshman, I experienced how a volunteer perceives FoC and this serves as a ground level observation for me. Secondly, my second year as a Centre Head allows me to learn on how the communication between the Main Committee for FoC and the volunteers is done and how it has greatly evolved over the years. And finally, as a Vice-Chairperson, I learnt the ropes on how a portfolio of 300 members are managed from the Top 3 perspectives and how policies affect the whole portfolio dynamics. I feel like I know what I have to do to improve FoC.

- Throughout all these observations, I have learnt one main thing, to serve our service users well, we must first ensure that our volunteers are managed well and my objective this year is to ensure that we bond together as one FoC throughout our events and ensure that we grow as one portfolio together. Without the volunteers, the children which we interacted will not happen.

- With that, I hope that I have persuaded everyone to vote for me as the Chairperson for Regular Service Project (Friends of Children). I will end off with one quote from a wise woman. As quoted, “You come into the portfolio to teach the children, but in the end, you realize that you are the one being taught instead”. Let’s continue being the reason for them to smile.
With a portfolio like FoC being big, how are you intending to bond the volunteers of FoC from different centres?

As we know FoC has 14 centres, it will be very hard to bond all of them together. We have events such as Bonding Day in Semester 2 to help bond the volunteers on top with WSC events as well. However, for this year, we are planning to focus more on volunteer bonding with Team and Team games to encourage teamwork instead of Team vs Team games for Orientation Programmes. Through the planning of events, it will bond the volunteer better.

What are the plans you have for FoC this year especially for the children service-users?

For volunteers, we aim for them to be more bonded within their own centres as well as within FoC. Ideally, everyone from FoC should be able to recognize each other but on the main committee level, we would ensure that we as main committee will try our best to recognize each other from different centres.

For the service-users, the previous committee has done a great job ensuring that they had fun during our biannual event: December and June event as well as benefit from our weekly sessions, be it from tutoring, life skills or Kidsread. This year, we aim to follow this tradition of providing necessities for the children service-users be it stationeries or targeted items for their needs. Children ADHD, we can buy something to calm their nerves.

As the biggest portfolio, it is important for FoC to promote bonding for the WSC event. How will you ensure that FoC will take part in the WSC event?

Yes, being a big portfolio, it is important to promote bonding for WSC event. I will encourage more people to go down for the WSC event, get to know other volunteers, find out more of the portfolios and get inspired to volunteer more. For example, FoC volunteers can learn from the Elderly volunteers about the patience they have for the service users and feel inspired. Other portfolio like IGC, our volunteer can learn to have fun and give back to the society. Hence, I will encourage more people to join the events.

- Ang Ruizhu, Patricia is running for the position of RSP (Intellectually Disabled) chairperson.

- Hello everyone, my name is Patricia Ang, a Biological Sciences Year 4 student nominating myself for the position of RSP chairperson in the WSC constitution. I have been a member of Regular Service Project for the Intellectually disabled, RSPID in short, for about a year, quite young volunteer and I have gone through the process of self discovery. I have many ideas and plans and I wish to bring
In my year as a volunteer, I have realized that there are many gaps in RSPID that should be resolved to provide better quality sessions for our beneficiaries. Ultimately, the goal of RSPID is to be able to integrate Persons with Intellectual Disability back into the society and equip them with basic life skills that they will be able to use for independent living.

A little background to RSPID, it is one of the oldest portfolios, the service users have been with us since their teenager days till now elderly. There is a change is demographic which I will try my best to cope with it.

Firstly, I would like to touch on the aspect of volunteerism. In RSPID, committed volunteers are an asset to the organization as we carry out sessions every single week for our clients without fail. Thus, manpower is something that would affect RSPID greatly if we do not do our utmost best to invest in the growth and learning of our volunteers. I wish to promote learning and responsibility in our current volunteers further by allowing them to recognize their own strengths and put them to good use in nurturing their beneficiaries. This will allow them to find a meaning in their volunteering experience with RSPID.

Secondly, RSPID’s beneficiaries are very diverse in their cognitive abilities and social skills. Since the start of RSPID, sessions are mostly catered to the majority which are the mid-functioning beneficiaries. Even though the lessons taught in a single way may benefit the majority, we tend to overlook and miss out on our lower functioning and higher functioning trainees whose potential we have yet to develop. Hence, I would like to bring forward a series of changes, step by step, to introduce specialized teaching within the same functioning level, progressing to an individual development training for our current beneficiaries. This is however, not an easy path to tread as it would require dedicating and close monitoring of our clients to help bring out the best in them. Therefore, this has been an ongoing long-term goal of RSPID that have yet to be fulfilled and that I wish to continue to achieve the goal or pave the path to individualized learning for our future generations.

Lastly, I wish to promote RSPID as an inclusive family where no one is left behind. I have previously mentioned that volunteers are an asset and without them, it is not possible to have proper sessions. Thus, volunteer-beneficiary bonding and volunteer bonding is another important aspect I wish to focus on during my term. Thus, activities will be conducted to facilitate more interaction between the senior and junior volunteers as well as interaction with the beneficiaries to strengthen the ties between all of us in the team. This will allow us to have a common understanding and focus to better the lives of our beneficiaries.

I would like to end by acknowledging the fact that all these goals may be large and hard to achieve in my term but I will definitely pursue these goals with the interest of my volunteers and beneficiaries in mind and to promote the spirit of \[\text{esprit de volontaires}\]
volunteerism through the people we work with and open their hearts to our beneficiaries. With that, I end my speech. Thank you and please vote for me!

Considering RSPID volunteers are not specialists in the field of ID, how would you go about having tailored sessions for our beneficiaries? Will you bring in the specialists and how can us as normal volunteer play a part to contribute to their learning other than carrying out the set of teaching plans given to us?

We do get specialist to come in to help us teach the basic skill. Beside the specialists, I will get our volunteers to learn more from seniors, encourage them to learn more from them and at the same time gain more experience to deal like service users. It is important to work together with the training officers to benefits the service users.

What are some of the challenges you face?

The biggest challenge faced is the volunteers. Volunteers are very important to us. We have just opened another centre, making it two centres in total. The bonding among will be very important. I will encourage the bonding between the seniors and the juniors. There is another external organisation called West End which normally conducts sessions together with RSPID but do not partake in our other activities causing a divide between the organisations.

- Iswari Joyce Kaliappan is running for the position of RSP (Mental Health) chairperson.
- Good evening everyone, my name's Joyce, and I'll be running for the position of Chairperson for RSP Mental Health. Mental Health has always been a passion of mine, having pursued psychology as my diploma in poly and currently in NTU, I'm in my 2nd year majoring in psychology as well.
- Did you know that according to the World Health Organization, 1 in 4 of us will have a mental illness at some point in our lives? This means that even if it doesn't affect us, mental illness could affect our family, friends, or any of our loved ones. Despite this, mental illness remains massively unaddressed and misunderstood which is why my dream is to become a clinical psychologist to treat people with mental illnesses. In leading RSP MH, I hope to spread the same passion that I have to my members and raise greater awareness about the importance of mental health in our society.
- Volunteering at IMH for the past year as a member of RSP MH has truly been an enjoyable and eye-opening experience for me. Over time, many of our members have become close friends with the beneficiaries there and Saturday afternoons became something both we and the beneficiaries eagerly
looked forward to. I hope to ensure that my members this year will also find the same joy in interacting with our beneficiaries. By forming lasting relationships and engaging them in more meaningful activities, I hope that we can make a difference in their lives and better support them on their road to recovery. However, I believe that it's a two-way thing, where it's not just about our members giving and the beneficiaries receiving. I believe that there are also many valuable life lessons we can learn by listening to their stories and connect on a personal level.

- Beyond our regular sessions, I also want to organize educational programs on mental health that will make RSP MH a more holistic learning experience. I don't want my members just to be volunteers, I want them to be enthusiastic ambassadors of mental health, spreading awareness in their social circles, and being knowledgeable enough to lend help to those who need it. Hopefully, this experience will also allow them to understand our beneficiaries on a deeper level, improving the quality of interactions that take place.
- My vision is to make RSP MH a platform that will further develop my members' interest in mental health, inspiring them to continue contributing to the mental health scene even long after they've left. And on this journey towards understanding mental health, I hope to make RSP MH a close-knit family, where lasting bonds are created both between members and between members and beneficiaries.
- While there are definitely many challenges in leading RSP MH which is WSC's youngest portfolio that was just founded last year, I'm very excited to explore new initiatives that will help shape RSP MH into something great and to realise its full potential. Thank you.

What are some of the challenges RSP MH faced last year and how do you plan to overcome them?

Towards the end of the year, our attendance rates fell considerably, and we weren't able to fully engage with our beneficiaries in all of our 3 adopted wards. To solve this issue, I plan to make it clear from the start that we'll be tracking everyone's attendance seriously. But besides taking a strict stance on this, I feel that it's also important to relate to our members on a more human level as some people may have their own personal reasons for being absent that we should try to understand. So I'll encourage my Ward ICs to follow up and find out why they aren't coming and if there's anything we can do on our end to work things out.

Low attendance is also related to the second challenge which is lack of bonding. I believe that bonding is crucial in every CCA as members can be very passionate about a club and what it does, but if they don't feel a sense of belonging, they won't want to dedicate their time to it. Therefore, I'll strive to organise bonding
events every term and plan to meet for lunch or dinner before or after every session. I believe that with enough of these events, bonds will form organically. I hope to make WSC MH a very bonded CCA.

**Being a new portfolio, how do you plan to better establish RSP MH’s operations?**

I hope to create a better structure in our regular ward sessions. Instead of just doing the same old basic activities like coloring or handicrafts with our beneficiaries every week, we should plan for more engaging activities that will keep them active and allow them to pick up new skills. In planning for these activities, our Ward ICs should maintain constant communication with the staff-in-charge of each ward to check on what kind of activities would be of interest and within the safety limits of the beneficiaries.

I also believe that planning should not just be something that the main comm does and regular members should be involved in contributing their ideas for regular sessions events. By doing so, we can ensure that we’re catering to our members’ interests. And by being a part of planning, members will feel like they have a valuable role and an important stake in the CCA. This will then encourage their attachment and commitment to RSP MH as well.

Lastly, within the main committee, I think there can be improvements on how responsibilities of tasks are delegated for each role which have not really been clearly settled yet. This will be quite tough, but I’ll strive to discuss with the main committee members and reach a common understanding on proper standard operating procedures as early as possible so that the rest of our events can run smoothly.

- **Smeetha Nair is running for the position of RSP (Operation Hope) chairperson.**

- Good evening to all. I am Smeetha, currently a Year 3 Biological Sciences student and I will be running for the position of Chairperson of RSP Operation Hope, previously known as Operation Hope.
- The past two years in RSP Operation Hope had been very rewarding for me. During my first year, it was still known as Operation Hope and we focused mainly on annual events. Back then, as an events subcommittee member in my first year, I was exposed to a lot programming and planning. This allowed me to learn the art of planning games for different children who had different needs. Working with children in general has always been my passion and thus the interactions with our service users were priceless and being able to make a difference to their lives made the experience even better.
- Moving forward into my second year, I was encouraged to take up a main committee position. At that time, OH was also slowly
transitioning into RSP. Our new partners were KK Women's and Children's Hospital and Children's Cancer Foundation. I always had a passion and interest to work in healthcare area and hence these organisations really resonated with me. Thus, I decided to take up the role of a centre head. This position gave me lots of insight and experience liaising with external organisations and managing a group of volunteers which I faced a couple of challenges and I managed to overcome it.

- This year, Operation Hope has officially transitioned to RSP Operation Hope, thus expanding our opportunities to interact with our service users. This was done so to better fulfill our main objective of reaching out and connecting with children and youths suffering from chronic and life-threatening illnesses. However, the portfolio still aims to reach out to other organisations to target our second aim of raising awareness on the plight of these children and youths. The second aim has not been explored much. Thus, if I have the opportunity to be elected as the chairperson, I will like to further fulfill the objectives of RSP Operation Hope by collaborating with new partners which match our portfolio's vision.

- I've worked with kids with autism and ADHD but have never really worked with children battling life-threatening diseases. Despite my pre-conceived notion, through my year of volunteering at KKH, I realised that these kids are very positive and they smile constantly, without any complaints. Every session and event we have with them makes me reflect and realise that I want to do more for our service users.

- RSP Operation Hope is still a relatively new portfolio, which provides me with room to develop it. While keeping the vision of the portfolio in mind, I hope to be able to build closer relationships with organisations that we are currently working with as well as build new relationships with external organisations that we have not worked with yet, such that RSP Operation Hope will be able to extend its reach towards more service users. Besides this, I would also want to create an avenue for volunteers to bond together and find joy in volunteering. Through the various events organised by RSP Operation Hope, I hope that our members will have a meaningful volunteering experience and spread the spirit of volunteerism to the people around them.

- If I am elected as the Chairperson, I hope to be able to see RSP Operation Hope become more established in the upcoming year, in terms of outreach to the community as well as in terms of number and engagement of volunteers. Through more bonding sessions, I hope for the volunteers to have a wholesome experience in RSP Operation Hope. I also hope that our actions would inspire more people to start volunteering such that they can bring joy and happiness to these children and youths.

- As such, I would like to run for the role of Chairperson for RSP Operation Hope, to not only challenge myself, but more importantly, to also bring out the vision of the portfolio, which is
to reach out and connect with children and youths suffering from chronic and life-threatening diseases, and to also raise awareness of the plights of these children. With this, I hope to be given the chance to serve the community and bring RSP Operation Hope to greater heights. Thank you!

**What do you hope will be the greatest takeaway for RSP OH volunteers during this academic year?**

I really hope that our volunteers will be able to see the impact that they have on our service users no matter how small it may be. By keeping this in mind, I hope that they will go on to serve other people in need and share the love of volunteerism with those around them as well.

**What are some of your aspirations for RSP (OH) volunteers during your term as chairperson?**

I hope that we will be able to give our members a good exposure to a niche area of volunteering. This year, we are pushing for members to be leading our annual events and I think that will be a good opportunity for many of our members to showcase their leadership skills. Finally, and most importantly, I really do hope that our members find joy and a true passion working with our service users as that is the key driving force for them to continue such great acts of service. As such, I hope that even after leaving this portfolio they continue to commit to these external organizations to provide help for those in need.

**What are the challenges faced from being a Centre Head to Chairperson?**

As a centre head, the challenge faced is when member disappeared. The member will just stop communicating and it is hard to bring the member back. Hence, I will like to increase the bonding among the volunteers. It may be a casual statement to say increasing the bonding, but I do feel strongly in increasing the bonding session. As a chairperson, liaising with the organization maybe a challenge. The service users are sensitive hence I will need to work with the organization and maintain good relationship. I do hope that they see the good in us and continue working with us.

- **Amelia Choo Shu Xian is running for the position of RSP (Physically Challenged) chairperson.**
- Good evening everyone, I am Amelia and I’m a candidate running for RSP Physically Challenged Chairperson this academic year. I am a final year English literature student from the School of Humanities.
- I was fortunate enough to have spent my last three years in RSP Physically Challenged. It may not have been my initial
choice of portfolio at first, but it has been a conscious choice I make every year since. But what’s so special about the physically challenged community? To be honest, I didn’t know it either. It was only when I joined the portfolio that I realised how different the world looked from the vantage point of a wheelchair.

- How many of you needed to climb a flight of stairs at some point to reach to this place? How many of us actually complained? Was it very inconvenient for you? Yet, this is an inconvenience that our clients will never get to experience. As able-bodied people, the world was built for us to live in. We have escalators which are frankly, just mobile staircases, and seats designed just for us to enjoy. But in our success, we neglect those who are left in the shadows, marginalised by the society we live in. A journey from the top up machine to the MRT platform takes us a mere three minutes. Triple that time, and you catch just a glimpse of the inconveniences our clients face daily.

- My desire to run for this position, is thus not because of the leadership experience I have gained previously as a Cheshire Centre Head, but to remove the blinds inhibiting us to see the privileges we own that are built on others’ inconveniences. That we need to do more and above and beyond to integrate the physically challenged into our community. Our efforts cannot stop here.

- This world is not just ours to live in. With this, I wish to end off with a quote from Mohamed Jemni, “The disability is not the problem. The accessibility is the problem.” Join me if you want to make the world a better place for everybody to live in, physically challenged or not. Thank you.

Do you have any plans to expand PC? If so, what are some of the possible challenges that you can foresee? And how will you address them?

Yes. I am hoping to expand PC’s reputation in the physically challenged community. One way of doing so would be to expand on the collaborations we currently have. For instance, we are in the talks with SDSC, Singapore Sports Disability Council to bring our clients out to try disabled sports and to help them regain some sense of agency that may have been lost along the way. I also wish to transform others’ perceptions of the physically challenged community. Of course, it is going to take beyond a year to shift others’ perceptions of disabilities, but a good starting point would be to promote the celebration of Disability Awareness Day which falls on 3 December every year. More activities or games can be played to get the able-bodied community involved. With festivals and galleries being the trend for youngsters these days, tapping onto these areas of potentials could possibly gain much rapport from the public beyond the sphere of NTU. While others may still be disinterested in disability, having a day out to promote these activities or even creating a challenge like the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge.

esprit de volontaires
challenge could still be a way to promote awareness and generate publicity.

PC’s annual event, Pursuit Challenge, has different objectives every year. Can you share the direction that your committee is intending to work towards?

I think for past events, we have been solely focused on our clients’ enjoyment and their satisfaction through our events. However, I think it would be also beneficial to think about our volunteers and have them play the games not as able-bodied people but as part of the physically challenged community. One great way to promote empathy is through shared experiences and I think that by making Pursuit Challenge an event where the able-bodied experience a day of difficulty like our physically challenged clients, both our clients and our volunteers will be able to form closer bonds and be as one community.

- Seang Wei Wen (Jessica) is running for the position of RSP (Visually Handicapped) chairperson.

- Good evening everyone, I am Seang Wei Wen, you can call me Jessica. I am a Year 2 Business student running for the position of Regular Service Project Visually Handicapped chairperson. Allow me to start with a quote that a wise man, not me, but Patrick Dixon once said, you cannot have strong leadership without passion.

- To me, passion is oxygen of the soul. Passion is the fuel that can keep one going when times are tough. I believe that I will be a good candidate because I have the passion to serve and to lead. I hope to use my time in the coming year to organize sessions and events that are not only fun to the service users, but to my portfolio’s members as well. To me, it’s not about making a great impact to the world but making an impact that meant the world to someone. I hope I can make an impact in the lives of people that I serve. I hope to run for this post so that I can make that impact to people’s lives and bring smile to their faces.

- I want to run as chairperson because I felt that in the past year that I have served in VH, there were many things that were taught to me by the service users. Their independence, their joyfulness in what seem as a simple thing to us such as playing Monopoly together and their enthusiasm in wanting to learn new things, these are things that I hope more people can get to experience and hopefully deconstruct some of the misconception that some people may have in the service users. Volunteering has always been a two-way street to me, each journey has taught and given me more than I have contributed and I hope others will have the same experience that I had.

- In addition to my passion in wanting to serve, my past volunteering and leadership experiences also make me a good
volunteering and leadership experiences also make me a good candidate. One of the notable experiences that I had was being the Operations in Charge for the ushers that volunteered with Heartware Network for National Day Parade last year. As the Operations in Charge, apart from managing more than 500 volunteers, I also liaised with army personnel and planned training sessions for the volunteers. All these were done as I was holding on to a full-time job as the promotions staff in one of the radio stations in Singapore.

- The ability to juggle both my job and volunteering commitments is a good demonstration of how I can manage time well, which is essential for a chairperson as we have to manage both our portfolio and studies. Prior to this, I had also held on to key appointments such as being the secretary of a club in my polytechnic days and heading both the drama and debate wing in secondary school. Hence, with my experiences, I believe I will be able to set a clear direction for the people that I will be leading and be a good role model that inspires them. I hope to reach out to more people and serve them better with my experiences. With this opportunity I can work towards creating an impact to more people and bring on more smiles to their faces.

- If I am elected as the Chairperson, I aim to implement some changes in the upcoming year. It includes modifying the current volunteers' roster for sessions from two separate groups to a three-week roster where members will get to interact with all volunteers instead of just the volunteers from their assigned groups. With this change, I hope that members will be more bonded with each other and hopefully, VH can be their family and home, away from home.

- To end off, I would like to quote what Albert Einstein once said, "I have no special talents. I am only passionately curious." Thank you.

How would you delegate your work in an effective manner?

I think I would first access the strengths and weaknesses of my main committee members and find out what are their interests before delegating work to them because it will be easier, both to them and to me if they are doing something that they like, and they are good at. For example, if I give someone who has no interest in taking photos to do PnP, it's gonna be torturous to that person and to me because he/she will not like what he/she is doing, and I might not like the end products that are given to me. Hence, I believe in wanting to know each of my main committee members, and hopefully, members as an individual and not just as a VH volunteer so that I can know them on a personal level and have lasting friendships and tap on their knowledge and abilities when the need arises.

But that's a very optimistic picture and many times we do face situations where we need to do things that we do not like or are
not good in, I think that’s when the reality hits in. We will see who would most likely be able to do it in the most effective and efficient manner or who has the capacity to do when the work come in because chances are, everyone will have different schedule and those who are already caught up with work won’t be able to do it.

**What do you hope to achieve as a chairperson in VH?**

I think one of my mottos that I set out for all my volunteering journeys, for both myself and my team, is to have fun. Yes, we will definitely work hard and try our best in everything that we have to work but ultimately, I want everyone to have memories that they will like to share with their friends or even children in future. I feel that this should be a journey where we will give and take. Give in terms of volunteering our time and doing our best to make sure that our service users is well taken care of and take in terms of being happy or having good memories of what was done. To me, if everyone is not having fun or enjoying what they are doing, then we have lost the purpose of volunteering.

Of course, that is a very intangible way of measuring what I want to achieve, perhaps a more indicative measure of what I want to achieve is to have more than 70% of my volunteers returning next year and have members who are willing and ready to step as the next main committee.

**As member in VH, can you share about some challenge you face and how will you face it?**

In my year in VH, there was two group, group A and group B. The volunteers from both groups do not interact much with each other. As elected chairperson, I hope that I can improve the rooster to three weeks. Involve the volunteers whether it is Group A or Group B to come together and interact with each other. In the last week of, there can be event planned that require the volunteer from both group. In addition, another challenge face is the timing of the session. The timing are often release late hence as a elected chairperson, I will inform the member in advance of the session timing.

- **Tan Jia En is running for the position of RSP (Youth) chairperson.**
- Good evening everyone. I am Jia En, a Year 3 Biological Sciences Major from the School of Biological Sciences, and I am a candidate running for the position of Chairperson for Regular Service Project (Youth) under Welfare Services Club.
- Having volunteered for two years in WSC, I have had the opportunity to meet other like-minded volunteers who share the same passion as me and learn more about the cause of RSP (Youth) from the senior volunteers. As quoted, we cannot build a future for the youth but we can build the youth for the
future. I was also able to interact with youths from various background, and fortunate enough to be able to listen to their stories and given a chance to be a small part of their lives. I was inspired not only by my fellow volunteers, but also the youths themselves; seeing them giving their heart and time to our programmes further affirmed my passion of volunteering for the youths.

- That was why I decided to take up the role of Main Programme Coordinator of Jurong Youth Centre in my second year in WSC. The position came with new responsibilities which provided more avenues for me to learn from the staff working at the centre. For the past one year, I have witnessed their dedication and commitment to the youths in our community and was honoured to have their support for my initiatives. Besides forming a closer bond with the youths, I feel that I have also forged a stronger working relationship with the staff.

- It was a fulfilling and life-changing year that influenced me to take on a bigger role in RSP (Youth). I believed that my prior experience in the management committee of my faculty club and faculty orientation will help me adapt to the dynamic nature of the position. RSP (Youth) has always been striving to create a safe and conducive space for the youths to learn. I hope we can also be the platform for them to freely express themselves, where they set their own directions to fulfil their goals and expectations and acquire the courage and confidence to pursue their dreams.

- With that, I seek your support in voting for me as the Chairperson of RSP (Youth) so that we can collectively create a truly inclusive and vibrant learning environment for the youths and bring the portfolio to greater heights. After all, RSP (Youth) is a portfolio for youths by YOU. Thank you!

Can you share with us some of your plans for RSP (Youth) for the upcoming year?

As we have undergone some administrative restructuring in our programmes, I would want to make sure that our existing programmes are stabilized first by reinforcing our ties with our partner organizations through active feedback and improvements on our programmes. After our programme has stabilize, we will lie to expand the scope further. As I firmly believe that volunteer bonding is critical in order for our programme to be sustainable in the long run, I would also want to reinforce inter- and intra-centre bonding among the volunteers by including our volunteers in the planning and execution of their respective programmes. I hope that there will be more sense of belonging to the RSP Youth. More sense of belonging to RSP Youth.

How does your previous experience in other committees accustom you to meet the expectations of the role?

Having been in an academic club and orientation planning
committee, as well as in WSC, I have experienced the different working cultures in the different committees. I also learned a lot from my fellow committee members, especially from the other Centre heads in RSP (Youth) as I got the chance to work with them when planning Youth events. As such, I believe that I have the flexibility and spontaneity in handling different types of situations. I always try to listen to different perspectives and make sure no opinions are left unheard, which I think is an important factor to enhance the sense of belonging in our members to the portfolio.

From the last academic year, it has been noted that there have been very little participants from Youth portfolio when attending WSC event. What do you intend to do about it?

I'm aware that our youth volunteers do not actively participate even in our own bonding events. Hence, we are undergo some changes, shuffling of manpower. The changes will take place and I will stabilize the programme in the first semester. In the Semester 2, I will plan some youth wide bonding activity with another external organization to encourage bonding. With regard to WSC events, I will strongly encourage all of them to attend it, taking it as a bonding for the RSP Youth. It

Special Projects

- **Ahmad Rabani Bin Hafsun** is running for the position of Camp Outreach (COR) chairperson.

- Dear ladies and gentlemen, I've read recently that there has been a surge in volunteering activity in Singapore in the past few years and some hinted that we could add in a sixth C on top of our existing 5 Cs – namely Cash, Credit Card, Car, Condominium and Country club membership. So what's the sixth C? Caring. A rather contrasting element to the materialism nature of the 5Cs. Despite the fast-paced lifestyle prevalent in Singapore, to know that more and more Singaporeans, no matter their age and background, are investing time to a cause shows a paradigm shift in the mindset of Singaporeans/ or perhaps break the stereotype that Singaporeans tend to prioritise materialistic gains.

- I am Ahmad Rabani, in my Junior year aka third year in Information Engineering & Media, and I stand here before everyone to run as Chairperson for Camp OutReach, a special project under Welfare Services Club. A little bit on my background – I grew up with a passion in music, I joined my primary school's choir, and then jumped to the string ensemble where I picked up the cello. During that period, iMeem was still a thing online and I even aspired once to be a music artist and have my own album showcased on iMeem. Learned the trombone in secondary school, even was told that I would shake my body whenever there's music playing while in my
nursery stage. Music played a huge role in my life. So when I was exposed to the Deaf culture and how the Deaf communicated, it was all eye-opening and yet felt so foreign to me. Being inquisitive by nature made me even more curious to learn more about the Deaf world. Having had the opportunity to carry out Overseas Community Involvement Programme, OCIP, with the deaf volunteers further enriches the experience. Indeed, with supportive opportunity, the Deaf too can contribute to the bigger society. I wish to further build upon the achievement and strengthen the friendship that COR has with the Deaf community, as our society strives to be a more inclusive!

- If I were to be elected as Chairperson for Camp OutReach, I would like to strengthen the bond among the members and our Deaf friends. A strong connection is not important when we carry out our volunteer work overseas, but we are more likely to continue the friendships we’ve made and solidified through our shared experience that we’ll carry on as memories. I hope for that even after one’s commitment to COR is over, the relationship is still sustained and end off as a one-time thing. I also wish to have our Deaf volunteers to be more involved in our planning process. Not only will it offer a fresh perspective in the process, it’ll give a sense of meaningfulness and ownership to enrich the experience. In hopes in the long run, we may continue to attract new volunteers as well as sustaining existing volunteers. I believe the COR can grow further.

How do you intend on strengthening the bonds among the members and the Deaf?

While as a club we do have outings with our Deaf friends to bond, I wish to further value add the outings with a takeaway everyone can appreciate. One way would be to introduce a centralized idea/theme for the outings such that every outing feels like a continuation of the previous with a linked objective. Apart from it, I hope to promote more self-initiated proactiveness from the members to have a casual hangout, either by catching up over dinner, joining the games several organizations such as Touch Silent which will set up sports games for those interested, including the Deaf! It gives the members and the Deaf a more personal touch and meaningful on a long run.

What were some challenges you faced while you doing your OCIP?

We had gone to Nepal and working with a deaf school in the recent COR. As a logistics and welfare member, I was tasked to ensure that we had the required supplies to cover us for the entire duration of the project.

We had everything packed in 3 separate luggage, upon removing
the items for the day's activities usage, it became harder to keep track of the inventory lists. For the first few days, we were only focused on preparing for the next day's logistics. When there were difficulties in preparing the items for the following day, we started to plan, preparing a list of items for the next day and the subsequent days to come. It became easier to gauge the usage of certain items and better keep track of things.

**Society has the struggle of the concept of sustainability with overseas volunteerism. So what would be your approach in overcoming this problem?**

On the issue of sustainability, we do local CIP and overseas CIP. The topic of sustainability is not an issue just within COR, but it is a prevalent issue worldwide. For COR, one solution would be to set up a sustainable LCIP. In this approach, it would give a better sense of understanding for our members and deaf volunteers, what sustainability truly means in terms of volunteering. It is not just about helping a person for that one day, or a few days, but it is more about thinking of the consequence and long term impact. While I do not have an immediate solution to sustainability issue with overseas CIP in COR, I hope that through this small steps approach, the club can evolve to implement a more sustainable project.

- **R Gandharuban is running for the position of Challenge ur Limit (CurL) chairperson.**

- Good evening everyone, my name is Ruban and I am running for the position of Chairperson for the Special Project portfolio Challenge ur Limits. Our vision at Challenge ur Limits is to push beyond predetermined boundaries, set by ourselves or society, of our clients and members.
- Being in CurL for the past year has greatly broadened my horizons and shown me what it means to be a great leader. I was the biz mag IC for the past year and I have coordinated the preparation and execution of multiple events. Together with my team, I initiated and executed novel ideas for Social Impact Week, secured numerous sponsorships and contributed to CurL beyond my usual scope of responsibilities.
- I was inspired by the previous chair, Zi Xuan, who had exhibited tremendous leadership skills such as being adaptable in situations and changing her style of management contingent to the situation. Her ability to instil self-confidence towards CurL members was what inspired me to run for Chair. I hope to carry on her legacy by inspiring the spirit of excellence in each and every one of you, and for everyone to persevere on in the face of adversity. That is, to challenge your limits.
- What can you expect from me as Chair for the next year? First, an inclusive and cohesive CurL. CurL is a relatively small portfolio whose goals are to achieve big things. To do this, we
would need to be an inclusive and cohesive family. As such, I intend to hold more bonding activities and anything else it takes to raise a 50-strong family that is ready to take on this task of Challenging Limits.

- Next, after achieving my goals of a cohesive and inclusive Curl, I will focus and sharpen Curl as an organisation. Through laying out concrete goals and objectives for our events so that everyone can understand the mission of why we do these activities. With a more focused Curl, we would be more effective in spreading joy to our clients. This would mean our Christmas visits; CNY visits and all our other events in between would be executed with a common goal in mind.

- Lastly, with a strongly bonded and focused Curl, I would like to up-scale Curl’s main event. This year’s event had a unique take on volunteerism where it was the service users who were the station masters, facilitated by student helpers. Ultimately the crux of this event was how empowering and realistic it was as our clients could learn life skills, that could be applied to find employment outside. For the next main event in 2019, I intend to kick it up a notch. I want to include a wider range of People with Disabilities or clients and bring in more industries that are willing to accept our service users as part of their workforce. Furthermore, I would also like to reach out to a larger range of public participants, ranging from the clients’ parents to people who have never volunteered before in hopes of introducing the idea of volunteerism and challenging their perspective of it.

- I am confident that with my leadership and vision, Curl will continue to challenge the limits of our members and clients, also maintaining its goal of being a great introduction to volunteering for students in NTU. I will do nothing less than my best to lead Curl to greater heights. In closing, I’d like to leave you with a quote from Toni Morrison, a famous author, a Pulitzer prize winner and someone I feel personifies the spirit of excellence, “If there’s a book you really want to read, but it hasn’t been written yet, then you must write it”. Thank you.

Given that Curl’s main event changes every year, could you share the direction that your committee are striving towards for 2019’s main event?

As stated earlier, I would like to build on this idea of clients helping themselves and us paving the way towards a more inclusive society. I would like to include new vocations from more industries like KFC or Macdonald which are more willing to accept disabilities. More booths including other types of service users such as Down Syndrome Association of Singapore and SUNDAC. As well as to expand our reach to the participants’ parents and hopefully form a long-term relationship which would hopefully reflect well on the reception of our main event.

Since Curl is a special project and members do not meet on
a regular basis, how would you aim to promote bonding among members?

The very first step would be to hold more bonding events. We have the Volunteer Orientation Programme coming up soon which would serve as a good opportunity for our Curlers to bond. We are also currently looking into including one more event into our workplan which would double up as a volunteering event. We are working with Kreta Ayer YEC But it does not always have to be about work. Perhaps we can go out for a movie together after meetings or even just supper with their respective committees like Biz mag, PnP and Events. It’s these little moments shared together that would make this academic year a memorable one.

• Jasmine Tay Qi Ying is running for the position of Ignite Change (IGC) chairperson.

• A very good evening to my fellow WSC members and to the NTU community who are present here today. My name is Jasmine Tay Qi Ying, and I am running for the position of Chairperson of Special Project Ignite Change, also known as IGC.

• As an events manager in IGC the previous year, I had the opportunity to be part of something bigger. Throughout the past one year, I gained invaluable experiences interacting with service users and being involved in the execution of events catered to them, ranging from visits to Regular Service Projects’ centres to IGC’s own event with the Muscular Dystrophy Association (Singapore). The first-hand encounters with the service users were truly eye-opening and it made me realise how much I took for granted.

• In addition, I was given the opportunity to plan and manage IGC’s freshmen orientation programme alongside my fellow members. Together, we managed to overcome the obstacles we faced by working closely and providing support to one another. Witnessing our collective efforts achieve fruition gave me an immense sense of pride and accomplishment.

• IGC is a warm and fun-loving place that has given me new perspectives. I learnt about the importance of giving back to society, to treat service users as friends instead of merely conditions, to empathise instead of sympathise. Hence, this time round, I would like to step up and run for the position as I want to do more to contribute to IGC.

• This year, if I were to be elected, I hope to use the opportunity to recreate these experiences for my members as well as to impact more service users and volunteers. I hope to make IGC a place where there are no boundaries between volunteers and service users and for IGC to continue being a platform to ignite the spirit of volunteerism in others.

• Within IGC itself, I will place more focus on interacting with service users by exploring additional opportunities for collaborations across WSC portfolios. Doing so will enable our
volunteers to be exposed to various service users, making the journey in IGC as fulfilling and enriching as possible. During the freshmen orientation programme, this will better help our IGC members to translate the joy and meaning of volunteerism to incoming freshmen of NTU and inspire them to kickstart their volunteering journey.

- In addition, I hope to promote bonding across portfolios within IGC through regular bonding activities. Although there are 5 different portfolios within IGC, it is crucial that we become bonded and view ourselves as one IGC family, working together for a common goal. By forging close friendships, our volunteers will remain as a tightly-knit family willing to support and lift up one another during tough times.
- Last but not least, I will work hard to ensure that IGC’s freshmen orientation programme continues to serve its goal of introducing incoming freshmen to NTU Welfare Services Club and to promote volunteerism. By making it fun yet meaningful, we aim to bridge the connection between freshmen and service users.
- With your support, I hope that you will give me the chance to serve IGC, to create lasting memories and to bring IGC to greater heights. Thank you.

Although IGC is involved with volunteering, most people think that IGC is only responsible for planning the freshmen orientation programme. What will you do to address this issue?

To address this issue, I plan to emphasize on the importance of volunteerism by exploring opportunities for visits to various service users and collaborating with Regular Service Projects. I also hope to make these visits a regular activity in IGC so that our volunteers are constantly gaining new and valuable experiences. Through these initiatives, I believe IGC members will realize that they are also active contributors to the sphere of volunteerism. This will then instill the idea that volunteering is just as important as ensuring the smooth flow of the freshmen orientation programme. By ensuring that the mindsets of IGC members are aligned with one another, we will be able to work together to satisfy a common goal.

What challenge do you think IGC will face and what will you do about it?

I believe moving forward, the most prominent challenge IGC will face is the issue of funds. Due to a decrease in grants for events such as Seniors’ Camp and SAGL Bonding Day, we will have less funds to allocate. Nevertheless, it is important for these events to be carried out to test the feasibility of our activities and to identify possible issues that may occur. Therefore, to deal with this, I believe it is all the more important to ensure IGC’s finances are well managed. Together with my main committee members, we
will look into ways in which IGC can improve the efficiency of our fund-raising efforts and try to source for more sponsors. We will ensure that our funds are properly accounted for as well.

IGC is the first touch point for new participant. How would you encourage freshmen to join WSC after the programme?

I hope to implement more outreach effort such as leveraging on social media to introduce freshmen to the different portfolios in WSC, and to also hold an Information session to introduce the portfolios.

- Shirleen Kok Suet Yin is running for the position of Overseas Volunteering Expedition (OVE) chairperson.

- Good evening everyone, I am Shirleen Kok Suet Yin, and I am running for the chairperson role in Overseas Volunteering Expedition, a Special Projects portfolio in Welfare Services Club.

- During my journey in OVE 2018, I have witnessed many heart-warming and inspiring moments. I remembered the warm hugs and friendly smiles I received from the clients from our local CIP social service organisation, Metta Home, that we have been volunteering often for one or two years. I also recalled the locals in Prey Veng, Cambodia being so welcoming and hospitable during the overseas volunteering trip in collaboration with Operation Hope Foundation. Even though I was volunteering to help the clients locally and overseas, they helped me as well to grow as a person and understand that although they do not have much in life, they are still contented with what they have.

- Even though the trip was just 14 days, and we could not do much to help the locals in Cambodia, the locals were still so appreciative with us coming over. That is when I realised that although our efforts are small, every small step we take to help them will lead to bigger changes and outcomes. This is why OVE is gearing towards sustainability in our projects, and why we have collaborated with Operation Hope Foundation for 3 years and hopefully more.

- I was also inspired by the leaders and members during my one year in OVE. Seeing many individuals with the passion to serve selflessly made me realise that I too would wish to lead a team of individuals with the same heart, passion and drive as I do when it comes to volunteering. Hence, I decided to take up the challenge to run for the chairperson role in my portfolio and am motivated to bring OVE 2019 to greater heights and to inspire the next batch of members to cultivate a continuous volunteering spirit, like how the previous batch did to me. I would like to end of my speech with a bible verse that keeps me going whenever I volunteer or help others, and that is “Let all that you do be done in love”. Thank you for listening!
As OVE is a high-commitment portfolio, how will you make sure that the members stay throughout the one year till the trip itself?

During CCA Fair, there is a misconception that OVE only does only overseas volunteering, we do local and overseas volunteering as well. As we are all grown adults, I will prefer to motivate the members instead of using force. I will tell those that are disheartened or not as motivated anymore that we are all not alone in this journey, and that we will start and end the journey together even if there are rocky paths along the way. As I have experienced what it’s like in OVE for a year, I do admit that there are times that I felt tired as a programmer, as I have to plan local and overseas volunteering activities together. I also was an assistant chief programmer during my faculty camp. I did a lot of planning as I was programmer for two clubs. There were a lot planning and I felt tired. But it was seeing the other members in OVE’18 continuing without giving up, that made me persevere on too. It is something like a chain reaction, when someone motivates, the motivation continues in the team. That way, members will continue volunteering wholeheartedly and willingly, rather than halfheartedly and unwillingly if force was used.

Understand that OVE focus on OCIP, and locally you collaborated with Metta Home. How do you make sure that the programme can sustain in overseas context.

We went to the same place for the past few years. We continued to work with Operation Hope Foundation. We will liaise with them to understand what the locals need. For construction, we will see which locals to reach out to. For education, this year’s trip did business plan. If I am elected as chairperson, the education lessons can be on soft skills and also on art and craft skills, so that the locals can further practice and continue after we leave. This is what I believe sustainability is about.

- Lam RunHong, Darren is running for the position of Volunteer Management (VM) chairperson.
- Good evening everyone! My name is Darren and I am running for the position of Welfare Services Club Volunteer Management Chairperson.
- I first joined WSC Volunteer Management, to experience volunteering and to learn how to plan volunteering events. Through my 1 year in VM, I was thankful for the many opportunities that was given. It allowed me to experience many firsts and to grow as a person. The sense of satisfaction after the successful completion of an event and the smiles on the people that we have touched is truly an amazing feeling. These meaningful experiences I had is the main reason why I am running for the position today. I would like to take up a more active role and to contribute to Welfare Services Club
and Volunteer Management by impacting a greater number of people.

- If I was elected as chairperson, I will be focusing on two main areas. Firstly, it would be the events that we planned and Secondly, it would be the bonding among the committee members.

- Firstly, I will be addressing on events mainly Kidsworld and Golden Generation which are our two signature events. One area I would be focusing on would be volunteers experience. I will be focusing on activities whereby both volunteers and service users are able to enjoy maximising the interaction between them. Also, programmes that will allow the service users to learn a skillset will be priorities among others. This is of course not forgetting, the fun factor which Kidsworld and Golden generation have constantly been aiming at. Another area that I would be addressing on would be volunteers' recruitment. Volunteer recruitment has dropped slightly over the past years and more efforts should be placed on our recruitment drives to gather a greater number of crowd. Portfolio will be tasked since the first meeting, to gather and execute ideas to improve the current recruitments. Through this change, I hope that the events would more impactful and meaningful to those involved.

- Secondly, another main area I would be focusing on will be bonding. Bonding is important especially in a team central portfolio like ours. Communication is key in event planning and members should feel comfortable to express their opinions and thoughts to each other. I understand that there are members that are quieter in nature and might not dare to express themselves in an open environment such as during meetings as such a google survey would be created and share with the members after every meeting. This survey would enable all members to express their thoughts and opinions, allowing them to fully able to contribute in decision making process. To make meetings more interesting, meetings would now include short team bonding activities that allow members to have fun and unwind after a long day of school. Through these, hopefully it would allow members to better able to enjoy their time in VM.

- All in all, what I hope to achieve if elected as chairperson would be a VM that has the right balance of work and play. Thank you for your attention.

What are some other actions you can take to induce more non-WSC members to join in the event and what are some challenges that you may foresee in implementing that?

I think that one way we can work to induce more non WSC members is how we are able to package our events. The highlights of our events should be shared through social media and flyers, targeting group of friends to join with each other is also a good way to attract more applicants. Volunteer and having fun
with their friends at the same time. Another suggestion I have in mind would be to do a promotional video for our events, these can be done through our own Human resource team. Often not, it is videos and pictures which might attract people to join our events. A potential challenge if its implemented this year, most likely not the videos would only be pictures of what went down in event. Early planning needs to be done for this idea to work out. This means allocating work to a specific portfolio. The portfolio would be task in creating videos for our event that could be used for our future recruitment purposes. Lastly, it would be to increase our social media coverage, this means that most posting should be done on our Instagram and Facebook page, hashtags relevant to NTU should be use in our post to attract the right target audience.

What do you hope to achieve in your term?

There are a few goals I hope I can achieve in our term. Firstly, it is to build lasting friendships among the members. As you grow older, you realize that it is more difficult to forge long lasting friendship. I would like to bring back the culture when the most introverted person would feel comfortable to speak up. I guess the direct benefit for this is of course, true friends that you can keep, friends that you would bring forward even when your university life is over and ultimately, communication skills that is essential in everyday life.

Secondly, to expand our events. I hope that through my term, our annual events like Kidsworld and Golden Generation would be bigger and better. With a larger scale event, members would be stretch and be able to truly learn about event planning. They would be able to learn more through these events and to grow. This also means increase publicity of our events to reach a wider audience.

Lastly, I want members to enjoy what they are doing. Ultimately, we all are students and CCAs are supposed to be activities where people look forward too, a venue for one to chill relax and have fun. if you enjoy what you are doing, it would show and, in our case, show it in our events.

What do you hope to achieve for yourself?

I hope to be able to achieve leadership skills in terms of communication. I feel that communication is an essential skills, regardless of your discipline. It is a skill which you will bring forward when you are in your career. I hope to be able to work with everybody and have minimal conflicts with everyone. Leadership skill, it is important to work with different groups of people, work with everyone and minimize conflicts.

Supporting Committee

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• Johan Ng Choon Herng is running for the position of Growth and Opportunities chairperson.

• Good Evening everyone, I am Johan Ng Choon Herng, a Year 3 Psychology Student and I'm running for the position of Chairperson for the Growth & Opportunities portfolio. I joined GO! as the objectives of GO! on spreading the volunteerism spirit and exploring social causes that go beyond the scope of WSC is a very fulfilling purpose and is in line with what I currently want to accomplish in my time in WSC.

• So why am I running for the position of Chairperson for GO!? Over my time spent in GO, I believed that GO has potential to be so much more and I want to bring this portfolio to that potential. Thus, I have outlined three objectives that I would like to achieve if I were to be elected chairperson.

• Firstly, I realized that many WSC members do not actually know that GO exists or exactly what we do. Hence, my first objective is to improve the brand image of GO! and increase awareness of how GO can contribute to the cause of WSC among the WSC members as well as NTU masses. I believe that we can achieve this objective by playing a greater role in supporting the WSC cause by taking part in WSC level events, letting people know what GO! does in a meaningful way through events organized by our portfolio. (e.g. Social Impact Week, GO! Initiative)

• My second objective is work on improving and managing external organizations outside NTU as well as other CCA clubs in NTU that GO has liaised with in the past. I believe maintaining and increasing our external contacts is crucial in achieving the objectives of GO! As much as our events are reliant on our planning efforts, they are also reliant on the external organizations that we liaise with for the event. That is why maintaining a good relationship with our external partners is important.

• Lastly, my third objective would be to incorporate sustainability among our events. I believe that the key to successfully raise awareness of any social issue require a sustained interest of that issue. Sustainability is a buzzing word that is mentioned quite often these days and that as much as GO! is the exploratory arm of WSC and spearheads new initiatives, I think that they should also be sustainable as well.

• To sum off, I envision Growth and Opportunities portfolio to be more in-line with its name; Growth being growing and expanding the WSC cause to NTU students through exploration of social causes not covered by WSC as well as growing our GO members to be potential leaders and cultivating the spirit. Opportunities, finding and capturing opportunities that allows us to work on our events as well as creating opportunities for NTU students as well as our own members to cultivate the interest in volunteerism.

• If I would to be elected, I aim to do my best in serving the WSC community as well as allowing GO! to further flourish and grow

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to help WSC achieve its objective. Thank you!

How do you intend to make GO! event sustainable?

The key is to introduce something like a digital initiative that will last even after the event ended, and a pre-event and a post event for it to sustained. Mainly through incorporating a long-term item inside the event which is expected to last even after the event has ended. It could be in the form of social media or an initiative that was born out of an event (like the Food Bank Singapore).

Are there any other events that you are looking to introduce in the upcoming year?

Yes, we are looking at an event that is planned to be a yearly affair and aimed at tackling a social problem in Singapore in a unique and creative way. As noted, GO! schedule tend to be empty in the summer holiday hence the event planned will happed during that time period.

As you know the exam welfare pack for WSC for semester 2 usually has lower attendance rate as compared to semester 1, how do you go about tackling this?

My committee and I are looking towards improving the number in semester 2. One way we have thought of is to do the EWP giveaway similar to other big clubs, like introducing food, games and side activities. So we hope that having this will attract the WSC members to come.

- Chua Beng Lee is running for the position of Internal Relations chairperson.

- Good evening everyone. I am Beng Lee, currently in my second year, studying Accountancy and I am running for the Chairperson position for a supporting committee under WSC, Internal Relations, or in short IR.

- Welfare Services Club is very, very big, with more than 1,400 volunteers and every student that joins WSC seeks to serve in many different ways, be it through the regular service projects, special projects or supporting committees. Naturally, it is very hard for members from different portfolios to know one another and come together via a common platform to engage in more cross-portfolio interactions.

- As such, this is where the supporting committee Internal Relations come into place by providing avenues and multiple platforms for WSC members to foster bonds with each other. Every year, we aim to engage WSC members through 3 main events, namely the WSC Bonding Day, Community Service Day and the Annual Appreciation Dinner.

- Throughout the years, IR has been expanding our projects every year such as the Community Service Day to benefit the...
What I want to do

I want to create great events. Once your members are bonded, they’ll be able to create great events. Once your members are bonded, they’ll be

 needy families and to provide more chances for WSC members to serve and bond. As part of the IR committee last year, I was blessed with many opportunities and experiences to take on different planning roles across the 3 events. More importantly, with all the great amount of teamwork, collaboration and support from the main committee and members, we inched closer towards our aim of weaving WSC together.

• Being involved in WSC for the past year has allowed me to gain insights on greater ideas that can be executed in aim of giving the IR and WSC members a better experience with us. I hope to shape this portfolio and bring the team to greater heights through new ideas and refined objectives. Throughout this journey, I aspire for my volunteers to forge greater ties between themselves as we join hands in weaving WSC together and enhance the spirit of volunteerism.

• Hence, I am running for this Chairperson position as I hope to serve WSC and the community in a greater capacity as the Chairperson of Internal Relations. This year, I will like to bring my IR committee to greater heights and to expand our events even more!

• If I am elected as the chairperson of Internal Relations, I will do my best to create opportunities for WSC to bond through meaningful community service events. I hope my passion for leading will inspire you. I would appreciate your vote for me as the Chairperson of Supporting Committee, Internal Relations. Thank you!

What is a problem that you foresee if you were the Chairperson and how do you intend to solve it?

A problem that I might face if I was the Chairperson is the problem of not having enough signups for the events. IR events are done mainly through Chairpersons. Of course, I would need the help of the Chairpersons to encourage their members to sign up for the events we organize, since these are avenues for them to know other portfolio members better. But you can see IR’s 3 main events as a sequel to a movie. If let’s say Spiderman 1 wasn’t good, do you think people will want to watch Spiderman 2? Probably not. So I’ll say the solution to getting members to sign up for our events is to obviously, persuade them to come for our first event through persuasion of individual chairpersons. Secondly, making the first event successful and fun so that the other events will naturally have higher turn ups.

What do you feel is the top priority that you have if you were to become Chairperson of IR?

I feel that the first thing that would be pivotal is that my members are bonded as one. I feel the members must first feel a sense of belonging and attachment to the portfolio before we are able to create great events. Once your members are bonded, they’ll be

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able to work well together and be more willing to share their past ideas. Henceforth, your events will run smoother because everyone is comfortable with everyone else and is willing to do their part to make things happen. Hence, my first task if I am to be elected is to get everyone aligned to the same direction.

Personally, do you think it is important to bond WSC? If I was a member sitting in front of you, how would you convince me to go for IR initiatives?

Of course I think it is important to bond WSC. Even though we are in different faculties and we are in different portfolios, we all have the same purpose in mind, which is to spread the spirit of volunteerism. As for the second question, I am not in a position to convince them since I do not know them personally. But if I really have to, I would ask them to come for at least the first event, and if it is not fun for them, they can choose not to go for the second one.

- Lim Gu Ying Jaslin is running for the position of Publicity and Publications (PnP) chairperson.

- Good Evening everyone, my name is Lim Gu Ying Jaslin and I am running towards becoming the next WSC Supporting Committee, Publicity and Publications portfolio, PnP's chairperson.

- The past three years in WSC PnP have been very rewarding for me. As a subcommittee member in my first year, I was exposed to many experiences in event coverages for other portfolios within WSC and this has allowed me to learn the different skill sets required for event coverages. I had zero knowledge on photography previously and I was able to pursue this area of interest while volunteering here in WSC.

- In my second year, I served the PnP community and took up the position as a Photography Assistant in the main committee. Throughout the entire year, I gained a better understanding of the PnP committee and how much work were involved within the different divisions. I have also gained experience in working with the members to ensure that they stay committed to the portfolio.

- In my third year in PnP, I continued serving in the main committee as the Vice-Chairperson. In Academic Year 2017/18, we implemented more bonding initiatives to engage the members and to ensure that a close working relationship is formed within the respective divisions. The past years within PnP gave me lots of insights and helped me to see how PnP is a portfolio that possesses great potential to grow in certain areas which has been lacking that I would love to address in the year ahead.

- Definitely branding of the portfolio. PnP has always suffered from its very nature that keeps it alive. The fact that what we do is very ad-hoc made it seemed like it is less known by
members within WSC and even within PnP. We aim to find a common ground, to help both WSC and PnP members to understand the importance of having a PnP portfolio within the club and be more aware of what the respective divisions in PnP do. Based on the feedbacks that I’ve gathered and also from my own experience, some photographers, videographers and journalist are bound to feel quite detached from the portfolio even when they head down to cover different events and they never quite understand what other divisions within PnP are doing.

- On the other hand, many WSC members do not know the existence of the PnP portfolio or they do not know the existence of WSC’s social media platforms which is managed by the PnP team.
- Another problem I have identified and really wish to tackle will be helping PnP members discover the joy in volunteering. I wish to do so by introducing new initiatives that PnP members, as well as myself can serve and contribute back to the society. It’s apparent that what PnP does is very skillset-based, very ad hoc and we do not have much interactions with any group of service users. Moving forward, we aim to look for a platform where PnP members will be able to grow holistically, not just in their skills but in different areas such as reaching out and connecting with the service users.

What do you hope to achieve with your team over the term of service if elected?

On top of working towards the branding of the portfolio, I hope to work towards bringing PnP members to greater heights and grow in different aspects. I believe that every experience that each individual can get from volunteering, be it from PnP or other portfolios within WSC can be so much more. For PnP, we will also work towards instilling sense of ownership and belonging among the PnP members whose hard work needs to be recognized and appreciated so much more.

When you talk about looking for a platform where PnP members will be to grow holistically, do you have an exact plan in mind?

I will not say that I have an exact plan per say, but I do have an idea which I would like to implement this academic year. As mentioned, PnP is a very skillset-based portfolio and we do not get to interact with any group of service users. To help PnP members to grow in this aspect, I will like to work with a Social Service Organization in Singapore, to help plan and execute an event for their service users. This will help PnP members to be more involved and work closely together as a team, and also be given the opportunity to volunteer, to reach out and connect with the service users.

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In terms of work flow for PnP, there are a lot of tasks which requires different division to work together, how would you coordinate to improve workflow?

This is a problem we face, and we want to address it in the next academic year. We would plan ahead one month in advance and get thing done before the urgent period, to ensure that things are in order.

Top 5

- Lam Wei Han is running for the position of Honorary General Secretary.
  
  Good evening to all! I am Wei Han, third year student pursuing Aerospace Engineering. I will be running for Honorary General Secretary also commonly known as HGS. Firstly, biggest thanks to everyone who is down here to listen to our rallies. I know it can be quite dry and boring by now but no worries I will try to make my rally as interesting as possible.
  
  To start off, I'd like to give everyone a little insight to my journey in WSC. I was a poly graduate who excelled in my poly studies and was given a direct entry to year 2. So technically, this is only my 2nd year in NTU and 2nd year in WSC. However, not to worry, I find that this one year in WSC had given me enough opportunities to learn more about WSC for this HGS position.
  
  I joined the Overseas Volunteering Expedition portfolio as a Business Manager in my 1st year in WSC. I was tasked to be the leader for of the projects under the Biz Mag sub-committee. Together with my team, we had to plan the activities from scratch. Through the process of planning, it brought me great joys, and sense of achievement to see that the event went smoothly and benefitted our service users in a way. For that, I'm thankful for the OVE 2018 Biz Mag team to giving me a chance to lead.
  
  As a member of OVE, I was given the chance to participate to WSC-wide events, for example WSC Bonding day, Community Service Day and Friendship Day. I actively participated in these events and met up with other WSC members from other portfolios. I had made it a point to know more people and learn more about other portfolios during such WSC-event. Through these interactions, I was exposed to the other 17 portfolios in WSC.
  
  Next, I will talk a little about my traits and how it can help in the HGS position. I do hope that all of you will find these traits as a key factor to voting me for the HGS position.
  
  As HGS, he/she will be involved in the administrative works of running WSC. It includes taking the regular meeting minutes down, compiling quarterly term reports, booking school venues for all WSC portfolios and communicating with external organisations. This role will involve heavy commitment and

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time from the elected person.

- Tasked-orientated, Committed and Organised are the three traits in me that will help me in this position.
- Being task-orientated pushes me to stay focused to complete my tasks quickly and accurately without much procrastination. On top of the given tasks, I am willing perform tasks outside of my work scope for the benefits of WSC.
- Being committed leads me to strive for the best and most efficient way of completing even the simplest task. I believe in perfection and accuracy for all the work I do. I am willing to spend extra but necessary time off to ensure that the work I have done is up to standard. I take pride in the work I do and always look for ways to improve it.
- Being organised is the last trait of me which I feel HGS will need. As HGS handles all the administrative work of WSC, it will not be an easy task without any organisation skill. My upbringing as an organised person from a young age will help me to prioritise my tasks and keep track of the events happening in different portfolios.
- In addition, HGS role will involve a lot of communication between WSC and the school or external organisations. I admit that I might not be the best in expressing spoken or written words, but I am willing to go the extra mile to learn from my mistakes and be a better communicator. As quoted, being a good communicator, it is not about writing “big and beautiful” sentences but rather learning to put your points across in a direct and clean manner so that it can be easily understood by the other party. It is also about developing a “voice” in your writing that is authoritative, tactful and professional. Learning from that principle, I will strive to be a better communicator for WSC.
- With that, I have come to the end of my rally speech. I hope I have given all of you enough reason to vote for me as the Honorary General Secretary. My commitment to be an efficient and effective HGS for the well-being of WSC will be the key factor for all of you to vote for me. Thank you!

As mentioned that you’re a direct 2nd year student and year 3 currently, it is bound to have clashes between academic and CCA stuffs. How will you cope with it?

It is all about the balance of time. If I can balance my time between studies and CCA, I don’t think there will be clashes. Of course, it is not easy to balance both, but my organized traits as mentioned will helped me. As a person, I will be aware of the upcoming deadlines prioritize my time evenly. I will strive for a balance without compromising my studies or CCA.

As HGS is not part of any portfolio and not involved in planning of WSC event, how will you being elected as HGS help in improving WSC?

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Yes, I do agree that HGS will not play a big part in improving WSC. However, unknown to many people, HGS plays an important backend role in running WSC. Without HGS, there will not be anyone to take the meeting minutes down or anyone to do the venue booking or answer to enquires from external organizations. The workload of HGS is something not be underestimated, and it needs someone to commit their time fully. Hence, even though I agree HGS does not play a big part of improving WSC, HGS is a very important role for the backend work of WSC.

Can you share about how you as HGS can help to improve HGS?

Improving WSC lie largely with the portfolio. I can voice out my opinions but it will depend on the individual portfolio to have changes. As of now, I have raised up issue about the WSC website. The loading of the website is slow and some of the information are outdated. I have spoken to the PnP team and they are in the progress of changing the website.

- Chua Yin Yin is running for the position of Honorary Financial Secretary.

- A very good evening to everyone. Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedule to attend today’s rally. My name is Yin Yin and I will be running for the position of Honorary Financial Secretary of Nanyang Technological University Welfare Services Club, NTU WSC in short.

- I will first begin with an introduction of myself. I am currently a year 2 Business student, specializing in Banking and Finance. I was formerly the Accounts Officer under the Finance portfolio, one of the supporting committees of WSC, and I had been working alongside with Xiao Xuan, who was the Honorary Financial Secretary of WSC’s 23rd Executive Committee.

- As an Accounts Officer, I assisted Xiao Xuan with the collection of claim forms and ensured that the forms met the standards and requirements of a proper claim form. In addition, I also ensured that the receipts and invoices received fulfilled the various requirements before handing them over to Xiao Xuan. This has helped to speed up the reimbursement process so that the respective portfolios can get their reimbursement more efficiently in a shorter period.

- Besides the mentioned tasks, I was also responsible for overseeing the accounts for the portfolios under my charge, which comprises of all the Regular Service Projects (RSP) portfolios of WSC. The purpose of doing so is to keep track of the incomes and expenses of these portfolios, which is also the inflow and outflow of money to and from their general ledger account, to ensure that they always remained financially healthy. Also, I am precise and meticulous regarding the
verifications and calculations aspect of the claims to ensure a true and fair view.

- While working with Xiao Xuan, I was also given numerous opportunities to get first-hand experience of managing the allocated budgets and assisting in the procedures on donations and remunerations. Apart from gaining more insights on how to manage the finance within WSC, I had also learnt about how crucial Finance plays in the operation of the portfolios. These valuable experiences gained had built the relevant skills set required to accomplish the tasks entrusted to me. I believe that with my support in the financial aspect of each portfolio's operations would enable all the portfolios to carry out their activities successfully thereby allowing them to focus on achieving their respective goals and objectives, as well as to ensure accountability and transparency in the WSC's financial operations.

- During my time as an Accounts Officer, I had the opportunity to interact with the financial controllers from the different portfolios and had gain better understanding of how they managed their financial duties. Furthermore, I have learnt about some of the challenges the financial controllers encountered and the solutions to overcome them. These experiences had painted a clearer picture of the potential issues and concerns faced by the portfolios. Hence, if I was given the honour to serve WSC as the Honorary Financial Secretary, I hope to assist these portfolios in order to alleviate and address their finance-related difficulties and concerns.

- Over the past 1 year, I was also blessed to foster new friendships with the financial controllers from the various portfolios whom I have worked with. These friendships created an avenue for the financial controllers and I to share about the concerns of our job as well as to give one another moral support. Being the supporting committee, Finance which gets to work with all the portfolios in the WSC, motivates me to run for the position of Honorary Financial Secretary. This is because I would like to meet new people and gain new friends from the different portfolios while continuing to provide my services in the financial aspects of all the WSC's portfolios.

- If I am elected as the Honorary Financial Secretary, I will be able to be part of the executive committee which gives me an opportunity to work together with others to enrich the journey of WSC members.

- I am aware that stepping up to the position as Honorary Financial Secretary is a large transition as compared to my days as an Accounts Officer, but I believe that my passion and enthusiasm towards finance, coupled with my willingness to learn is what makes me a great candidate for this position. Therefore, I would like to serve WSC in a greater capacity as the Honorary Financial Secretary.

- Once again, my name is Yin Yin and I am running for the position of Honorary Financial Secretary of Nanyang Technological University Welfare Services Club. Thank you for
your time and have a good evening ahead.

What are some of the things that you can improve for the portfolio?

Thank you for your question. Since I have joined finance portfolio for a year already, I do realize some things can be implemented to improve the process to be more efficient. For example, the claims can be vet through online before submission to enable a more efficient procedure. From my period of service during the past 1 year, I realized that some of the financial controllers that I had worked with would make mistake on the claims, and it is time consuming to pass back and forth since we have to find a timing that we both are free. There is also a lag time while waiting for the financial controllers to amend the claims and documents correctly. This would usually delay the process of portfolios receiving the reimbursement. For portfolios to receive the reimbursement successfully, they need to prepare the receipts or invoices correctly. This means the standards and requirements of the claims need to be adhered and fulfilled to. Therefore, by uploading the claims and required documents online, I can get to vet the claims and documents and avoid non-claimable claims beforehand.

How can you improve the communication with Financial Controllers with Chairpersons to let them be aware of the financial protocols?

Clear and effective communication is important. Some Financial Controller and chairpersons are aware of the financial protocols. I wish to conduct financial briefing, so that they will know the standards and the requirements of the claims and documents, in order to get the reimbursement, remuneration, donations and sponsorships successfully. They need to comply with the standards and requirements for proper claim forms. I would communication with them through texts or emails.

How do you think you can bond your portfolio, since your portfolio is small?

Thank you for your question. I agree that our committee is small, but it is important for us to bond well in order to get our work done. To address this issue, I will probably have a few outings with my team as well as encouraging them to join WSC wide events such as the social impact week, Annual Appreciation Dinner, Chinese New Year Celebration dinner. I hope that through these events, we can get to know one another better and to mix around with one another better to work well as a team, to help all our financial controllers from the different portfolios. For my batch, I am very close with all my members in the Finance committee. We do

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attends to the WSC wide events together. We also have frequent outings which really bond us well. This enable us to work together, communicate our difficulties encountered to achieve the objectives effectively and efficiently. Also, I find that I am very lucky to work under Xiao Xuan, not only does she provide me guidance related to finance work in WSC, she had also provided me with the moral support. Hence, in the future, I would provide the same kind of support and service to my members.

- Jeline Chia Sin Ning is running for the position of Vice President.

- Good evening everyone, I am Jeline Chia, a final year Communication Studies student at the Wee Kim Wee School of Communication and Information. I am running for the position of Vice President in Welfare Services Club.

- I have been a member of WSC since my freshman days. 3 years ago, I joined Regular Service Project (Elders) as a regular volunteer. Subsequently, I served as the Centre Head for Tan Tock Seng-Ren Ci Hospital, a centre under RSP (Elders). Last year, I was the Honorary General Secretary of the WSC Management Committee.

- Many would have asked, isn’t tiring, or boring even, to serve in the same club for 3 years? I would gladly say no. The various positions that I have taken on for the past 3 years has allowed me to experience different things, and every experience is fulfilling and enriching. The sense of familiarity and belonging that I felt towards the club has also allowed me to be more courageous in the steps I want to take. Hence, I have decided to run for the role of Vice President in my final year of studies.

- Being a member of the club for the past 3 years has its advantage. I attended many events, and I was able to get first-hand experience of the improvements and the shortcomings of the club. If elected as the Vice President, I would like to work on two things – one, would be to continue to work towards our objective of "Unifying WSC". And two, to improve volunteer recruitment and retention rate. All these sound like big ideas, and it will definitely be difficult to achieve without the help from all our members. In this speech I have, allow me to talk a bit more about my vision and goals.

- Forging Identify, Strengthening Image, and Unifying WSC were our three internal objectives for the last academic year. Particularly, Unifying WSC was an objective that was added just last year, to help to promote ourselves as one WSC. Promoting a common identity is particularly important, especially since all our portfolios differ in nature, and they serve different groups of service users. It is important to have a common aim to work towards to. I hope to increase the interactions between portfolios, and for members to understand each other better. If we were to strip down all our differences, we can see that we are all guided by the same sense of compassion and the desire to serve our service...
users. I have a simple dream, although some may say that is ambitious – I hope that after one year of service, WSC members can name and identify all 18 portfolios of our club. I also hope to encourage more collaborative projects between portfolios and promote the efficient sharing of resources and knowledge.

- During my time as a Honorary General Secretary, I got the chance to speak to many chairpersons. It heartens me to know that chairpersons are extremely passionate about the social service groups that they are serving. They too, saw the importance and benefits of providing individualized service to their service users. Many chairpersons also wish to scale up their projects to reach out to more organizations and service users. However, to achieve that, a pool of committed and skilled volunteers is required. If elected, I wish to improve the problem of volunteer recruitment and retention. I believe one way to achieve this would be through the strengthening of the WSC branding.

- I would like to share with you my experience during recruitment drive. During recruitment drive, we would meet a lot of interested applicants. After explaining to them the various portfolios in WSC, I am often being asked this question, “Is there a lot of commitment?” Many people have the impression that service-based volunteering requires a lot of time and effort. And for first-time volunteers, it might be scary not knowing how much commitment volunteering entails. While a certain level of commitment is expected from volunteers, I believe it should not be reason that deters people from volunteering and understanding more about social services. Apart from promoting WSC as a club that does service-based volunteering, I believe more emphasis can be put on promoting skills-based volunteering. People with special skill sets, for example, design, IT, event-organization, or public relations skills are also welcomed to join us. Volunteers can organize events and put their skills to good use. This can enrich portfolio events, and also allow volunteers to develop a sense of ownership, which can possible affect and improve retention rates.

- One of my greatest motivations to run for Vice-Presidency was the gratitude I felt towards the club and its members. The past year as an Honorary General Secretary was not easy. It was a huge step out of my comfort zone, and along the way I experienced many difficulties. However, I was able to pull through the journey as I had many supportive figures by me. The 23rd Exco, and the friends and peers I met in RSP (Elders). They have given me a lot assurance, lent me their listening ears when I needed them the most. I would like to give a shout-out to the top 3 of the previous Management Committee. Thank you all for always giving me words of comfort and assurance. You all inspired me greatly as I made my decision to run as the Vice President. And if elected as Vice President, I aspire to do the same for the other members
of the Management Committee. I would like to become the person who spreads warmth and comfort and be a pillar of support for the others through this challenging journey. I have to admit that I am lacking, but then again, no one is perfect on their first try. I hope to be able to grow with each and every single one of you. Thank you.

Just now you mentioned about working to unify WSC, and having more collaborative projects. Being a Honorary General Secretary, you understand that chairpersons have a lot on their plate, and they have a lot of internal things to improve on, chairpersons might not have the time to do it. Can you share how you want to do this?

First of all, unifying WSC is not something that can be achieved in one year, it has to be a long term goal. The future leaders of WSC will need to have the common aim to identify ourselves as ONE WSC. The role that I would like to play is a supportive leader, and I want to support the portfolios as much as possible. While it is not something that is doable in a year, it is necessary to plant the idea in the mind, and that collaboration will have more benefits.

As a Honorary General Secretary, can you tell us something that have not been done well, and how can you improve it?

Last year as a Honorary General Secretary was a very enriching experience, and I have learned a lot. I think we can relook into the WSC wide events. And we should ask ourselves, whether do we have to always do it the same way? Take for example, WSC Lunar New Year, rather than sitting around tables, and organize an event that requires heavy logistics, can we have a carnival instead that can bring people together and yet reduce logistics involved? And something to include more people in the planning.

You are a final year student, and I understand that you have a lot of things on your plate. How confident are you to be able to cope with the tiring journey?

I think it is very important to set clear goals for myself. This year, I am doing a narrative short film for my FYP, and for those of you who know, pre-production takes up a lot of time. I did not sign up for this not knowing what to expect. I have set a goal and I know that I can do it. It requires continuous planning and a lot of discipline but I believe I can do it.

• Fang Shawn is running for the position of Vice President.

• Good evening, I am Fang Shawn, a third year Biological Sciences student. And I am running for the position of Vice-President for NTU's Welfare Services Club. So just a little background to kick things off. In my past two years with WSC, I was both a member and a Chairperson for the special project.
Camp OutReach - where we work with the Deaf community to volunteer together both locally and overseas. And the journey through it all taught me a great many things.

- As a member, I learnt about the beauty of connection. I've seen the strength of having people serve the community, not as an external force or party, but as a friend and an ally – and I have seen how these connections unify people and turned volunteering into not just supporting your friends. And then as a chairperson, I took those lessons and focused on empowerment and ownership.

- So, when we finally decided on working with Kavre Deaf school in Nepal, I tasked our Deaf volunteers to spearhead and conceptualize the lessons that we will teach there. Through our brainstorming – we settled on scrapping the whole English, Math, Science sort of lessons – and we came up with two main overarching themes: which were Leadership and Creative Learning.

- And in that journey, I’ve learnt two additional things. The first: Opportunities for minority groups to feel empowered are, sadly, really scarce in the larger society. And this platform that we have called WSC, is truly powerful if done right; And then the second: If we just take a small step and make a shift from “helping” another, to “uplifting” them – we can then truly see each other as equals – rather than individuals who are more or less than.

- And now two years have passed, and here I am now, trying to have some sort of learning progression in my WSC experience. But why be a part of the WSC Top 3? So, in my time with the 23rd Exco – the Vice-President who oversaw my portfolio, Amanda, really helped push me to think of what volunteering can become. An example is the idea of sustainability (which she always passionately talks about). Through her own WSC experience – she saw a lapse in sustainability in the general overseas CIP landscape – and she really pushed hard, for this thing she believes so deeply for, during her own journey as a chairperson and then Vice-President.

- And being under her charge, she really digs in deep and tries to question us (the new chairpersons) on how we can make our programmes and activities truly sustainable. She took her own experiences – set things into motion – and then provided newer and fresher perspectives to others. And I think that’s a big part of what being a Vice-President is all about.

- The new 24th Exco, whoever you all may be, they will have their own goals and ideologies and ideas of what volunteering can be. Without a doubt. But with 18 portfolios in this very large club of ours, there are so many perspectives to learn from (be it in terms of leadership, volunteer management, or the directions to set our goals to). And if I were to be elected as Vice-President – I want to not only use my own experiences and lessons learnt to help guide the Exco into thinking from multiple different angles, but I want to inspire them to learn
from one another as well.

- Volunteering – actually, I prefer the term ‘advocating for inclusivity’ – should not end with just one community. Sometimes, the first step to inclusion, is just being aware. And being in the Exco really helped me gain insights to so many different communities. It is something I genuinely want the next team to experience for themselves too. So, this idea of exposure is one of my two main goals that I will have if I become Vice-President. And I hope to set it into motion through our own Exco internal bonding, for example. I hope to bring the team out to volunteer together (to let’s say, the Willing Hearts) – and I really want them to share their own views on the tasks of volunteering, and for them to exchange their experiences and opinions.

- And as for my second goal – in line with the first – is to grow alongside the 24th Exco in finding their own voice and their very own way of leadership. This future group of chairpersons will certainly have the common traits which are passion, dedication and a belief in a better world – but a group of 20 odd people will start to become pretty diverse. And I want to use this role as a Vice-President to be that constant supporter of each and every one of their own unique style of leading.

- Leaders need not always be extroverted – and neither do they need to be ‘strong’ and have authority. But a commonality between most good leaders is purpose and confidence.

- I have no fancy quote to exemplify this, but I do have a little mantra thing I live by – and that is to: 1) Never be afraid to be yourself. 2) But be the best version of you that you can be. And 3) Appreciate others no matter who they’d be. A little cheesy, I know, but that is how I would want to lead in this upcoming year through this role. I want to appreciate the quieter ones, and the louder ones; the timid ones, and the brave ones. I want to help the team (including myself) see value and worth in their own person – and know that we have all got each other’s back through this ride.

- So, to end of this rally speech – I do want to thank some people. First up would be the 23rd Exco in being so supportive of one another – and for making our experience so positive that a few of us would even want to run again for 24th. Thank you for being so passionate about that causes all of you are fighting for – and for letting, not just me, but the larger NTU and even Singapore society have a glimpse of the world outside of ourselves.

- Next, thank you to Jessica, Yun Mei and Amanda for being such good examples for this next batch of Exco to follow from. These three ladies really embodied what I talked about just now – because they are such three different individuals (we have got one silent hard worker, one sporty sister and mother-figure, and one chatty and defiantly brave motivator). Yet, they really banded us all together.

- And lastly, thank you to the Deaf and hearing volunteers and members from Camp OutReach for believing and supporting
my run in the club – because all those great experiences led me here one way or another. These past two years gave me so much perspectives on what volunteering and inclusivity means.

- And yes, one more, thank you everyone here for listening to me. I hope my little rally speech allowed you to understand me a little better, and I hope we’ll get to meet again after the elections! Do come down and vote!

**What is your opinion on the current WSC outreach to other organizations and how can you improve it?**

Currently WSC sustain very well with local organization, but what I really want to introduce to the team is the shift from helping others to uplifting them, as I mentioned in my speech.

**Do you think WSC bonding is important?**

Bonding for fun may not be as important as bonding to have a purpose. I want the team to bond through learning from one another, and for them to communicate their ideas and opinions in a comfortable environment. This is for them to be more aware of inclusivity.

**As a OCIP chair, how would your experience benefit local CIPs, which embodies the majority of WSC?**

In WSC, we have 18 different portfolios, and although majority of them serve locally, they still have very different experience with the service users they work with, and as such, I do not think that my experience are is any less valuable. Additionally, if we are talking about inclusivity, there are a lot to learn from an overseas community, as they face this same problem in a different social landscape. And as such, this perspectives could also benefit WSC in the grand scheme of things.

**What are some of your weakness?**

I think I blabber too much. My goal is to talk more with lesser words.

- **Chan Kah May is running for the position of President.**

- Good evening everyone, my name is Kah May, a Year 4 Sociology student and I will be running for the position of President for Welfare Services Club, in short WSC. Before I start, I would first like to thank everyone for taking your time out of your busy schedules to attend the rally today.

- First, I would like to share about my experiences in WSC and what motivated me to run as the club’s President. I started off as a member in a portfolio called Operation Hope 2 years ago. Back then, Operation Hope was one of WSC’s Special
Projects which reaches out to children who are chronically-ill or has terminal illnesses.

- As a member, I was involved in the planning and execution of key annual events that the portfolio had. We usually engaged the service users with games and activities and our roles were either game facilitators or Befrienders. As a result, we were only able to interact with the services users on a one-off basis and personally, I felt that the impacts to them were not substantial enough. However, these interactions were only on a one-off basis and the impacts. As such, I took on the courage last year, to run as the Chairperson of Operation Hope with aims to improve and enhance the existing structure and programmes of the portfolio. My direction was to focus on building a portfolio that was sustainable in terms of outreach and engagement to the service users. As such, I was determined to transit OH into a Regular Service Project. Thankfully, I managed to gather a team of like-minded people who worked hard alongside with me to establish new partnerships with organizations which offered regular volunteering sessions. We received positive feedbacks for embarking on weekly volunteering sessions as the volunteers felt that they were able to connect better with our service users, thus, allowing the interactions to be more memorable and rewarding. Today, I am happy to announce that Operation Hope has become a part of the WSC’s Regular Service Projects and is now known as RSP (Operation Hope).

- The past two years in WSC has allowed me to grow, learn and mature. From a person who is unconfident and indecisive, I have slowly grown comfortable into leading, having a voice on my own and most importantly, become someone who courageously learn from my own mistakes. A transition from a member to a Chairperson has taught me how to spread the spirit of volunteerism through impacting others, learning from one another and growing together as one community. As I set foot into my third year in WSC and my final year of studies in NTU, I wish that my journey will be one that is progressive. I hope to be able to impact not just members of a portfolio but members of one entire club or even to larger community beyond our club. As such, I was motivated to run as the Club’s President.

- Another factor which motivated me to run as Club President is my passion to serve and volunteer. Being exposed to volunteering since I was 13, I crossed paths with many different service users – from children of low-income families, to children who are chronically-ill to youths at risk and to elderly and even to people across the geographical boundaries like Nepal. Time spent on planning and engaging the service users were worthwhile as what matters most was that they enjoyed themselves. Through all time spent together with them, what encouraged and motivated me to continue on was the need to empower these service users. It was to assist them in making their voices heard and to include them as a part of
our daily lives. With these thoughts in mind, it pushed me further in wanting to step up and run as the Club's President.

- With all that said, I understand that by running as a President, the responsibilities and tasks to fulfill will be much more as compared to that of a Chairperson. I am well-prepared that it will be a long road ahead with times of ups and downs. But I strongly believe that with my passion to serve, it will overcome any difficulties that comes along the way. In addition, I am fully prepared to learn as I progress, grow together with a team and spread the spirit of volunteerism as one entire club. If I were to be elected as President, I hope to be able to improve the club's presence as a whole to shine as one WSC in spreading awareness of all service users and to encourage more people to be part of volunteering and not just as specific portfolios. Ultimately, at the end of the day, all portfolios are a part of the club and we are one big family.

- To ensure this vision will be realized, it begins from giving a clear direction to the team from the start. If I am elected, I will hope to ensure that my team of committee members will be as driven as I am to push forth the spirit of volunteerism as one united club. Through supporting all the existing portfolios and truly understanding the needs of all service users, I believe that the club will slowly transform into a great cause in future, that is, to make our society a more inclusive one.

- Lastly, I would like to say that to make a difference in someone else's life, it starts from oneself. The spirit of volunteerism should be one that is spread positively, and I hope that all my sharing was sufficient for you to cast me a vote as the President of Welfare Services Club. Once again, I am Kah May here, signing off. Good night everyone!

**Can you share why you want to run for the role of President and not Vice President?**

I am a fourth year student, and this is my third year in WSC, I hope that my journey will be one that is progressive so from a member, to reach out to small group, and to a chairperson, to be able to influence a portfolio, I hope to become a president that can be able to give the portfolio a direction. I hope that my voice could be heard and to advocate to more people. Even though, the Vice President role is just as important, but I strongly believe that a clear direction will be set out by someone who is highest in the hierarchy. As such, I hope to run as President.

**Just now you shared about your direction. Can you share your direction and how you want to implement it?**

For my own leadership style, I tend to maximize efficiency, and delegate task to each of my capable Exco members. Everyone is very important. For example, IR is the first step to build committed WSC members. As a president, I will be able to provide support to IR, to guide them and provide insights on how to improve internal...
bonding. Together with my Vice Presidents, we will all support IR into getting the right volunteers and then to be united, and to spread volunteerism out and beyond the club.

After hearing from Union Representatives, what are your thoughts and how do you intend to work with them?

Union Representatives have great thinking, and it is aligned to my thoughts and to advocate the beauty of volunteering. With not just one club doing the same thing, Union Representatives can bring it to a greater scale. A few portfolios can start collaborating first, allowing the exchanging of thoughts and ideas between each other. I strongly believe that it is not just a one-way thing, but the entire project requires the two clubs to support each other.

Just now you mentioned about internal bonding, in terms of T-Shirt Thursday, how can you enhance it?

Personally I feel that this one of the things I want to change. T-Shirt, in case you didn't know, it's an initiative to promote WSC's identity. Starting from semester, games were played every Thursday, to bring WSC members together. In the past few years, the turnout was pretty low. If I am elected as president, I would like to change the way of promoting our sense of identity, rather than going through the mundane games, we can think of new ideas like a sports challenge. So instead of having it every week, we can maybe have it once every month or once every two weeks, so that it is not too hectic for the students.

Other than bonding, what are some other challenges you might face if you are elected as the President?

Another key thing is the true spirit of volunteering. It is declining as not all members join the club to serve for a good cause. Take the entire Exco for example, they might be advocating to spread the spirit of volunteerism but the presence of true volunteering is not there. What I hope to be able to do, is to sue more platforms to influence the people of general public as well as to reach out to our volunteers, so as to retain them as volunteers with the right mindset. Use more platform like fb influence people of general public, retain the volunteer number and grow the club.

Given that you are a year 4 student, and that you have your FYP ongoing, how confident are you in handling this position?

Yes I am year 4 student doing my FYP. For my academics, I am thankful that I have cleared most modules that are required and this year, I am taking just one to two modules, together with ym FYP. Thus this is very manageable. In addition, When I was a chairperson, I was already involved in many external and internal events, thus commitment wise, it would not be an issue. In
addition, running as president, is mainly providing a guiding role and I believe that I would have a team of people, who are capable in completing their own tasks. So personally, as someone who believes in job delegation, I am confident that I can uphold this role well.

Meeting adjourned 2307 hrs

Recorded by:
Lam Wei Han

Vetted by:
Ong Hong Jun, Linus

Returning Officer