FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Remembering Mr Lee Kuan Yew (1923–2015)

SINGAPORE - On behalf of staff, faculty and students, the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy (LKY School), NUS, wishes to convey its deepest condolences to the family of Mr Lee Kuan Yew on his passing.

The LKY School is proud to have been the first institution to be named after Mr Lee. His name has been an enormous blessing to our School. It has enabled us to rise rapidly in global rankings and to fulfil our mission of inspiring leaders, improving lives and transforming Asia.

Mr Lee also strongly supported the School personally. He came several times to interact with faculty and students and shared his wise counsel with us. He also wrote personal letters to potential donors. All these enabled the School to grow in strength and become the third-best endowed School of Public Policy in the world.

In 2011, we were further honoured by Mr Lee’s acceptance of the appointment as Distinguished Fellow at the School.

In 2013, the LKY School held a conference entitled, “The Big Ideas of Mr Lee Kuan Yew” to celebrate its 9th anniversary. The conference brought together notable speakers and close associates who spoke about his policies both in depth and with personal anecdotes which brought to life his leadership. A book of the same title and which collated the accounts from the conference was launched the following year at the School’s 10th anniversary.

Prof Kishore Mahbubani, Dean of the LKY School, shared his impressions of the former Prime Minister, “In my thirty-three years with the Singapore Foreign Service, one of the greatest privileges I had was the opportunity to work directly with Mr Lee Kuan Yew several times. He was a tough taskmaster. Yet, I never failed to learn valuable lessons from each encounter. Having watched him interact with several global leaders, including Reagan, Thatcher, Mitterrand and Kohl, I saw first-hand how they were blown away by his breadth of vision, acute geopolitical analyses and wise policy solutions.”

“When the dust of history settles and the definitive books are written on twentieth century history, Mr Lee will emerge as one of the greatest leaders of the century. His impact extended beyond Singapore and Southeast Asia. Great leaders like Deng Xiaoping and George H. W. Bush benefitted from his wise counsel. He will be missed in Singapore and by the world,” added Prof Mahbubani.

There will be a condolence book for signing placed in the lobby of the Oei Tiong Ham building.

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About Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy

Part of the National University of Singapore, the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy was established in 2004 with the mission to educate and inspire current and next generation of leaders to raise the standards of governance in Asia, improve the lives of its people and contribute to the transformation of the region. With over 400 students spanning 80 countries, the School’s unique Asian focus allows students to experience public policy education in a distinctively global environment. The School has a number of research centres and institutes that contribute both to scholarly inquiry as well as policymaking, and frequently plays host to distinguished speakers and visiting scholars. For more information about the School, visit www.lkyspp.nus.edu.sg.

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