LEE KUAN YEW SCHOOL (NUS) AND SAIS (JOHNS HOPKINS) FORM GRADUATE EXCHANGE PARTNERSHIP

Partnership allows schools to send post-graduate students to the host university’s campus for semester-long exchange programme

1 SINGAPORE – The Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy at the National University of Singapore (NUS) and Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) at the Johns Hopkins University (JHU) have signed an MOU for a new exchange programme between the two schools to broaden the experiences of its students. Under the five-year agreement signed early this year, up to two post-graduate students from each institution will be able to spend a full semester as an exchange student at the other school from July 2015.

2 Exchange programmes are an important part of the LKY School experience, with an average of seven students going on exchange every year across the school’s 16 partner institutions, including SAIS. Prof Suzaina Kadir, Associate Dean (Admissions and Student Affairs) of the LKY School commented: “Our students are thrilled about this exchange. These global academic partnerships are increasingly becoming an integral element of our students’ learning experiences at the Lee Kuan Yew School. The overseas stints give them additional insights and perspectives on the issues and topics that they study. The student exchange programme with SAIS adds to our roster of academic partnerships and illustrates the strong position and high level of collaboration the LKY School has with other schools of public policy.”

3 Eligible students are selected for the semester-long exchange programme based on their academic performance, and nominated by their respective home institutions. Students enrolled in the LKY School’s two-year Masters
in Public Policy (MPP) and PhD programmes are able to spend their third semester at either of SAIS’ campuses in Washington, D.C., or Bologna, Italy. During the exchange, participating students do not pay additional tuition fees and students have the flexibility of proposing their own exchange study programmes, provided they are aligned with the requirements of their home universities.

Two students from each institution will be participating in the exchange this year. Sakshi Balani from India and Farzona Makhitdinova from Tajikistan, students from the LKY School, will be attending the third semester of their two-year MPP programme in SAIS. The LKY School is also looking forward to receiving Dao Luoxi and Chen Yunping as exchange students from SAIS.

The programme offers students at the LKY School a great opportunity to spend a semester at one of the other leading public policy schools in the world, and benefit from the renowned experts and guest speakers that SAIS has to offer.

Established in 2004, the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy runs exchange programmes with 16 global universities. It enrols some 400 students from over 70 countries in its four Masters and PhD programmes. The school boasts long-term partnerships with global institutions including the Harvard Kennedy School, and was the first Asian school to join the Global Public Policy Network established by Columbia SIPA, the London School of Economics and Sciences Po. The school curriculum spans across multiple disciplines and is complemented with case studies and a problem-based learning approach. Students from the LKY School can expect to extend their learning well beyond the walls of the classroom, and to benefit from strong empirical evidence and contextual narratives that emphasise Asian and international dimensions.

By providing opportunities for the education and training of the next generation of Asian policymakers and leaders, the LKY School aims to raise the standards of governance throughout the region, improve the lives of the people in the region and, in so doing, contribute to the transformation of Asia.
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