Community & Environment

Ken Ong
Class of 1995
Diploma in Electronic & Computer Engineering

Helping senior citizens at the Kusu Island jetty sparked Dr Ken Ong’s lifelong passion for community service. Then a member of Ngee Ann Polytechnic’s Lifeguard Corps, he was serving as a volunteer to ensure that passengers were embarking and disembarking safely. The experience moved him deeply and became the start of a lifelong interest in caring for society and the less fortunate.

Since then, Dr Ong has worked tirelessly with young people, receiving the National Youth Achievement Award (NYAA) Gold Award in 1995 for his outstanding contributions and achievement. Dr Ong has also initiated Service Beyond Gold where NYAA Gold Award Holders Alumni would serve in schools and communities for the benefit of the society.

On the professional front, Dr Ong worked in the DSO National Laboratories for eight years before setting up his own company, Chuan-Fa Auto Pte Ltd. Established in 2010, Chuan-Fa Auto deals with state-of-the-art, advanced driver assistance systems that help prevent motorists from getting into road accidents. One thing is for sure: no matter how busy he is, Dr Ong will always have the time for his community work.

Ho Yew Kee
Class of 1982
Diploma in Business Studies

Always ready to lend a helping hand, Professor Ho Yew Kee divides his time between his duties as the Head of NUS Business School’s Department of Accounting and the many worthy causes that he supports. A large part of his community service involves accounting, finance, investment and treasury where his training as an accountant is useful. Over the years, Professor Ho has served extensively in many organisations which include St Luke’s Hospital, Lions Home for the Elderly, Dover Park Hospice, Social Innovation Park, Kuo Chuan Presbyterian Schools and SATA CommHealth. He is currently the President of The Boys’ Brigade in Singapore, an organisation he has served for the last 30 years.

A graduate of Ngee Ann Polytechnic’s Business Studies course, Professor Ho has a host of impressive credentials to his name. He has won numerous teaching and research awards, published extensively, and served as Vice-Dean of the NUS Business School and Director of the MBA programme.

As a member of the Ngee Ann Polytechnic Council, Professor Ho provides valuable advice to help raise the standards of diploma education and take the polytechnic to greater heights.
Judy Anne Wee
Class of 1997
Diploma in Computer Studies

Ms Judy Anne Wee is dedicated to promoting a better quality of life and greater accessibility for people with disabilities. Now the Vice-President of the Disabled People’s Association, the Computer Studies graduate from Ngee Ann Polytechnic has worked actively with Government bodies and private developers to create awareness of the need for a barrier-free environment in areas ranging from buildings to walkways, transport facilities and tourist attractions.

Since 1998, Ms Wee has been a resource person with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) and taught a module on Non-Handicapping Environment. Participants in her module included people with disabilities, architects and government officials from the Asia Pacific region.

In 2007, she took a further step by founding LevelField Consultants to help level the playing field and promote an inclusive environment for all.

In recognition of her outstanding community and public service, she was awarded the Public Service Medal in 2004.

Fanny Lai
Class of 1974
Diploma in Business Studies

Ms Fanny Lai, a passionate conservationist, revels in the thrill of exploring the great outdoors with its awesome wildlife. A graduate of the then Ngee Ann Technical College, Ms Lai is able to effectively combine her business acumen with her love for animals. As the former Group CEO of Wildlife Reserves Singapore, she was credited with turning the group into a financially-independent institution with a strong wildlife education and conservation focus. Ms Lai was also instrumental in setting up the Wildlife Reserves Singapore Conservation Fund and acquiring a pair of giant pandas for the River Safari.

Apart from volunteering with charitable organisations, Ms Lai has written a book, A Visual Celebration of Giant Pandas, with proceeds going to the World Wildlife Fund. Her dream is to establish a “zooniversity” - a Centre of Excellence for wildlife education to provide formal training to those who are truly passionate about taking care of wildlife and protecting biodiversity.