

# NURSING MATTERS

Her goal to make a direct impact on the lives of others led Lim Shi Min, 19, to pursue a nursing degree from the National University of Singapore

**L**im Shi Min wants to become a nurse researcher and educator so that she can encourage more students to be nurses. She wants to show others that this profession encompasses so much more than they think.

She said: "Patient recovery doesn't depend solely on the medical procedures administered, but the entire patient experience at the hospital. Nurses play an important role in the quality of care delivered to patients."

For now, the 19-year-old is focusing on equipping herself with the skills and knowledge to be a competent nurse practitioner. She is pursuing her nursing degree at the National University of Singapore (NUS), an institution she feels "teaches the best nursing practice for every procedure that is proven by research journals".

NUS even has a module that teaches nurses communication skills so that they can build rapport with patients and understand their concerns. Through such modules, Shi Min is learning to be a more patient-centric nurse to cater to the medical and emotional needs of her patients, and provide them with better quality healthcare.

## SCHOLARLY OPPORTUNITIES

As an NUS Global Merit Scholar, Shi Min is able to enjoy many opportunities, such as the chance to go on a Student Exchange Programme (SEP) and receive the NUS Scholar Enrichment Grant. The SEP allows scholars to gain exposure to the cultures and nursing profession in different countries, while the Scholar Enrichment Grant empowers scholars to take charge of their own learning to enrich themselves beyond their academic modules.

The bond-free nature of the scholarship also lets her utilise her undergraduate years to experience the avenues within the nursing profession before she decides what she wants to do and where she wants to be.

## AN IMMERSIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

"Nursing depends heavily on skill sets and it is crucial for us to know how to properly carry out procedures as they have severe implications on the patients' lives," said Shi Min.

Some modules involve lab sessions to give students a hands-on learning experience. The university also has most of the equipment found in an actual ward. These lab sessions enable students to hone their skills on mannequins in simulated wards. At the end of the semester, practical examinations ensure that the students can safely and correctly carry out all the procedures.

## EXPOSURE TO THE NURSING WORLD

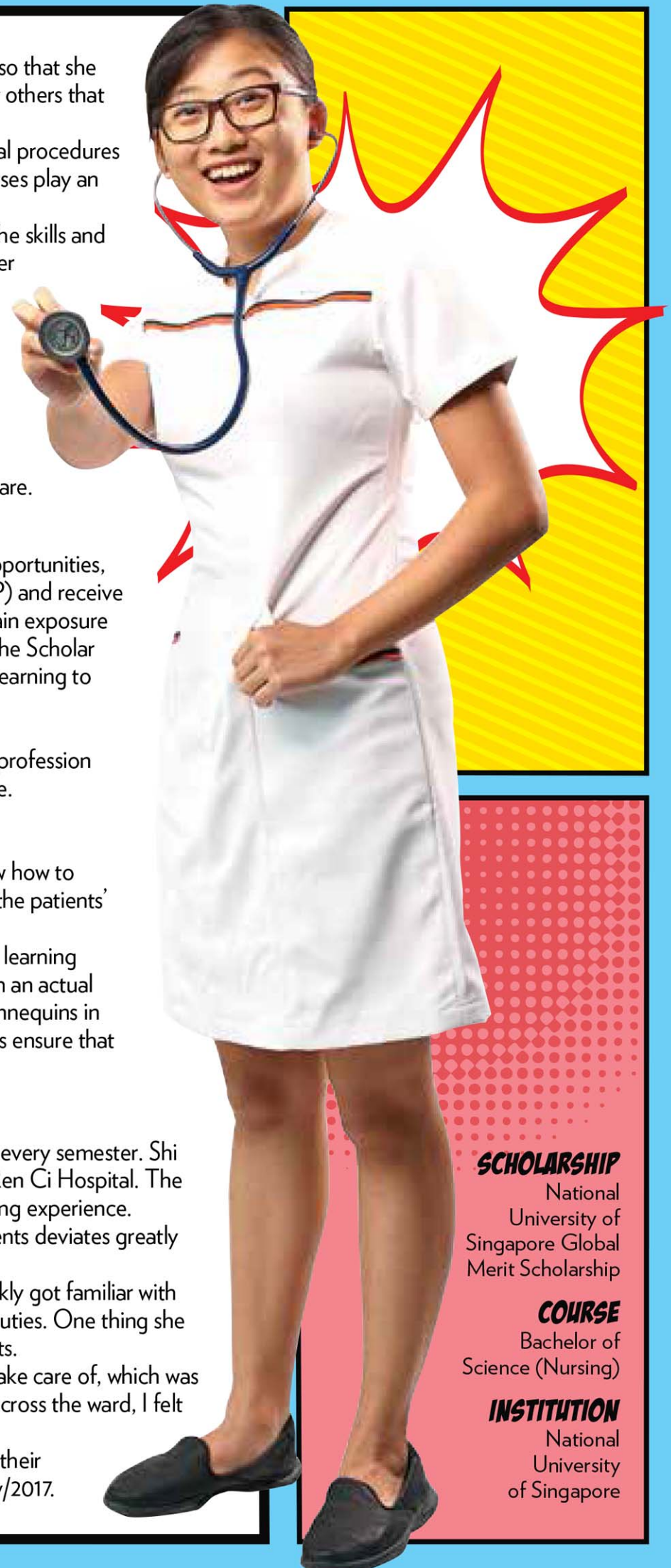
NUS nursing students serve attachments at hospitals at the end of every semester. Shi Min, who is in her first year of studies, had her first attachment at Ren Ci Hospital. The two-week attachment at the community hospital was an eye-opening experience.

She said: "Being in an actual ward and interacting with real patients deviates greatly from the orderly environment in simulated wards."

While it took some time for her to learn the ropes, Shi Min quickly got familiar with her role at the hospital and was soon confidently carrying out her duties. One thing she enjoyed most during her time there was interacting with the patients.

"Working in the male ward felt like I had eight grandfathers to take care of, which was very heart-warming. At the end of every work day, when I looked across the ward, I felt that I had fulfilled my role and it made me happy."

Visit NUS Open Day 2017 on March 11 to find out more about their programmes and scholarships. For details, visit [nus.edu.sg/openday/2017](http://nus.edu.sg/openday/2017).



**SCHOLARSHIP**  
National  
University of  
Singapore Global  
Merit Scholarship

**COURSE**  
Bachelor of  
Science (Nursing)

**INSTITUTION**  
National  
University  
of Singapore