NUS lauds 15 alumni for contributions

Caroussel co-founders among the winners, with highest honour going to Venture CEO

Calvin Yang

For the first time, an alumnus in the National University of Singapore’s (NUS) alumni awards has been named as an individual rather than as a team. Co-founders of co-founder platform Caroussel, Arun Sridhar, Louis Ng and Marcus Tan were awarded the Outstanding Young Alumni Award for their innovation, entrepreneurship, dedication to their alma mater and society. The award recognises the trio’s stellar achievements and entrepreneurial spirit. The comprehensive Caroussel platform was an application for people to sell their used goods in a simple way, after a strike in Silicon Valley under the NUS/Science College programme. Caroussel, launched five years ago, is now one of the region’s fastest-growing marketplaces.

Mr Tan, 34, who graduated in 2010 with a business administration degree, said the accolade is “a validation of the problems we are solving in a meaningful way that impacts the lives of people, and looking to the future. Without the support of NUS/Science, we wouldn’t be where we are today.” Mr Sridhar, 30, received the Outstanding Young Alumni Award for his success in his startup firm, which he co-founded with Dr Siu-Kong Fung and Dr Siu-Yan, a doctor who runs a clinic in Hong Kong. The three alumni have also been awarded funding from NUS/Science, which supports alumni who have distinct skills to transform existing commercial or research initiatives.

The highest honour for NUS alumni, the Eminent Alumni Award, went to Venture Corporate chief executive Yung Ngip Jaih, who was awarded the award for his contributions to the University and community. Under Mr Ngip’s leadership, NUS was transformed from a re-sourced local teaching institution into an international university. The 75-year-old said it was a pity he could not attend the ceremony but was able to “speak to the NUS alumni in a way that I haven’t done before.”