IT wasn’t too long ago when our Engineering Alumni Gala Dinner marked the 55th anniversary of Engineering at NUS. Three years later, the NUS Faculty of Engineering has leapt forward – rising from 9th to 7th place according to the QS World University Rankings. In terms of specific disciplines, a number of our programmes have made it to the top 10. Mechanical Engineering was ranked 6th, a tie with Harvard University; Chemical Engineering and Materials Science were ranked 6th while Electrical Engineering was regarded as 10th.

As for alumni strength, it has grown from fewer than 50 to more than 47,000. Many have done well in their careers and in their contributions to nation and society. Our recipients of the Distinguished
Engineering Alumni Award (DEAA) and the Engineering Alumni Service Honours (EASH) are notable examples.

The 2013 DEAA recipient, Mr Lee Yi Shyan, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Trade and Industry and Ministry of National Development, hails from the Class of 1986. He majored in Chemical Engineering and started his career as a systems engineer with MINDEF. Mr Tan Sim Chuan, the Faculty’s young Class Ambassador from the Class of 2009 has carried his fervour of volunteerism into working life. Despite holding demanding responsibilities with the Land Transport Authority, he still finds time to advance alumni welfare and build alumni ties.

These two fine examples of Engineer-Leaders were recognised at the Engineering Alumni Gala Dinner 2013 held on 1 Nov, at the Kent Ridge Guild House. Classes going back all the way to 1974 returned to celebrate this great reunion.