

TO BE CHECKED UPON DELIVERY

SPEECH FOR DR TONY TAN KENG YAM AT THE GLOBAL YOUNG SCIENTISTS SUMMIT 10TH ANNIVERSARY EVENT ON 17 JAN 2022

Deputy Prime Minister Heng Swee Keat

Senior Minister Teo Chee Hean

Ladies and Gentlemen

Good evening

I am happy to join all of you to celebrate the GYSS 10th Anniversary Event.

I thank DPM Heng Swee Keat for launching the GYSS 10th Anniversary commemorative publication, and his kind words of appreciation for my work as GYSS Patron.

When I attended the Lindau Nobel Laureate meeting in 2010, I was struck by the insights of the speakers and the energy and enthusiasm of the young scientists who participated.

I thought that it would be useful to organize a similar event in Singapore, where young scientists could connect with and be inspired by eminent scientists from around the world.

With this vision in mind, we developed the GYSS' motto to "Engage, Excite, and Enable" the next generation of young scientists.

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I am heartened by the progress that GYSS has made in exciting public interest in science since its inaugural edition.

GYSS started in 2013 with 260 participants.

This year we have a total of 1,600 participants who have registered for GYSS. More than 800 young scientists will be participating at the summit itself and more than 700 will be viewing the proceedings online.

To reach out to more audience, GYSS is being livestreamed on the National Research Foundation's YouTube channel.

GYSS has been successful in helping young scientists to build networks and multidisciplinary collaboration to enhance the impact of their work.

For example, Prof Alireza Javadian, a GYSS 2016 participant is now CEO of Widuz, a sustainability startup that specialises in renewable materials for the construction industry.

Prof Javadian's startup was based on his research work at Singapore and ETH Zurich, research that he actively discussed with fellow GYSS participants, and whom he continues to collaborate with.

GYSS 2022 will feature a panel session on "Startup Opportunities for Young Scientists."

This will help to spur young scientists to amplify the impact of their discoveries through translation into products that can be scaled and applied across multiple countries.

It will also complement our efforts to spur innovation and enterprise in Singapore, such as through the Singapore Biodesign Programme led by Dr Mary Kan, a GYSS alumnus.

The Programme aims to develop the next generation of biotech startup founders.

In closing, I thank all the speakers and participants who have helped to make GYSS a success over the past decade and look forward to your continued support for GYSS.

I am grateful to the National Research Foundation organising team for their hard work in organizing GYSS and I wish NRF the very best as it works to bring GYSS to greater heights.

Thank you.
