# Colourful Year in Review

By Lin Ziwei, Rajesh Ravi and Jonathan Seow









It is a commonly heard complaint that medical students have nothing in their lives except... well... Medicine. However, we all know that this isn't true (mostly!). Amidst the flurry of books and stethoscopes, here are just some of the events that have made life at the Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine (YLLSoM) that much more colourful in the year 2011:

## **Playhouse**

The start of 2011 saw the school reeling from the awesomeness that was Plavhouse 2010. The annual inter-class drama competition which has seen generations of medical students engaging in friendly competition reached epic proportions last year, with all the classes setting their hearts on winning Playhouse. Sets that literally touched the ceiling were built (much to the consternation of the university's security department, which had to take much pains to ensure that they didn't pose a threat to the safety of the students), musical scores were written, and costumes were painstakingly sewn. Of note was the Class of 2011's play, Butterflies, a heartwarming recollection of their journey through medical school, as well as the Class of 2012's Secrets of the Golden Palace, a period piece complete with chest-baring kungfu action and a sinister plot shrouded by the mystery of the Orient.

# **Singapore Biomedical Challenge**

The first Singapore Biomedical Challenge, jointly organised by YLLSoM and Anglo-Chinese Junior College (ACJC), was held this February with great success. It included both Olympiad and Symposium segments targeted at pre-university students, with the objective of introducing the joy of learning basic medical sciences to students, as well as to provide a platform for interaction between pre-university students and medical students. Through this event, many pre-university students had the chance to be exposed and challenged to interesting biomedical concepts, and were also given the opportunity to ask questions about Medicine and medical school alike.

## Rag and Flag

Rag and Flag 2011 was a resplendent affair that saw the culmination of months of hard work by all our "med-raggers", as they are affectionately known. Ever since the completion of the Year 1 professional exams, the main Rag committee had to sacrifice their holidays, and at many times, their sleep, as they raced against time to design and develop the float as well as choreograph the dance routine. They went on a mission to express the elements of medical school life in line with the Rag theme, "Experience NUS", and accomplished

it by producing a scintillating performance that was out of this world. Everything from the gravity defying stunts to the magnificent float was like an all you can eat buffet for the eyes. It was no surprise that we managed to pick up the first runners up award for best performance amidst the intense competition. Congratulations to all raggers!

## **Inter-Faculty Games**

This year's edition of the annual Inter-Faculty Games will probably go down in our faculty's history books as we emerged Overall Champions for the first time ever! Having contested in no less than 20 events, Team Medicine finished atop with gold medals in road relay (mixed), squash (mixed), volleyball (women's), swimming (men's), swimming (women's) and touch rugby (women's). Not to be outdone, our peers participating in other sports also brought in five silvers and six bronzes to seal the Tan Chorh Chuan Challenge Trophy that now sits proudly in our faculty exhibit. Go Team Medicine!

# Public Heath Screening and Neighbourhood Health Screening 2011

2011 also revealed the true potency of health screenings. Both the Public Health Screening (PHS) and Neighbourhood Health









Screening (NHS) were carried out with resounding success. PHS 2011 in particular had Health Minister Gan Kim Yong as Guest of Honour. After going through the entire health screening process, Minister Gan commented on how impressed he was with our medical students' level of professionalism and ability to handle people of different backgrounds. NHS 2011 Session 1 was held at Bukit Merah in conjunction with the local community centre. Follow-up sessions were also held on 19 and 26 November at two locations simultaneously: Taman Jurong and MacPherson. The objectives of health screening are to screen for individuals (especially the elderly) with higher risk factors for certain diseases, as well as any problems whether socioeconomic or medical that residents of these neighbourhoods may face.

We look forward to a bigger and better 2012! SMA

Ziwei is from the Class of 2014, while Jonathan and Rajesh are from the Class of 2015.

and Singapore Biomedical Challenge - Jasper Wang (Class of 2015)

Photos: IFG – Colin Ng (Class of 2016), NHS – Seth Yeak and Joshua Tan (Class of 2016), PHS – Brendan Chin (Class of 2015), Playhouse 2010 – Tay Kaijun (Class of 2014) and Sia Ching Hui (Class of 2012), Rag and Flag – Joshua Koh and Brendan Chin (Class of 2015),

# Calendar of events 2011

#### **February**

- Neighbourhood Health Screening
- Singapore Biomedical Challenge
- Sign Language Classes

## March

- NUS Open House
- Neighbourhood Health Screening
- Sign Language Classes

## April

Medicine Dance Concert

#### May

- Malaya University NUS Games
- Alma Maters Project

#### June

- Camp Simba
- Joint Conference, Hong Kong
- Project Lokun
- Alma Maters Project

#### July

- Freshman Orientation Camp
- Career Symposium: NUHS, NHG and Singhealth
- Charity Movie Screening
- Alma Maters Project

## **August**

- White Coat Ceremony
- Rag and Flag
- Inter-Faculty Games
- Medsoc Elections
- ActivAid 2011
- Singapore Medical Education Conference
- Monash-NUS Games
- Medical Instruments Fair

#### September

- Keynote Address
- Dinner and Dance
- Annual General Meeting
- Public Health Screening

# December

- Project Rudolph
- Medical Overseas CIPs: Project Lokun, Project Sabai and Project Battambang
- Charity Movie Screening
- Running Project
- Playhouse 2011