

BALAJI SADASIVAN FUND FOR MEDICAL UNDERGRADUATES

Dear Friends and Colleagues

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Our distinguished friend and colleague Dr Balaji Sadasivan passed away on 27 September 2010. The undersigned members of his 1979 graduating medical class initiated a fund to honour his memory. We believe that Balaji would have liked and supported this idea. Rather than an expensive obituary in the newspapers, money would be better channeled to help needy medical students. We trust that recipients will, in time, reciprocate and return to society with the spirit and vigour that Balaji embodied.

Initially, we hoped to raise \$45,000 for an expendable bursary to be called the “**Balaji Sadasivan Fund for Medical Undergraduates**”, administered by the National University of Singapore. Needy medical undergraduates could apply for bursaries of between \$3000 - \$5000 per annum, with which to defray a part of their education costs.

Early responses to an appeal, which went out to our classmates and doctors at Mount Elizabeth and Gleneagles have been very heartening and \$235,000 had been raised by November 2010. Several doctors gave generously and recounted their personal difficulties as students. Many more saw this as a meaningful opportunity to help future doctors.

As the donated amount has exceeded \$150,000, our intended bursary has been transformed into an endowment. While an expendable bursary will close once the funds have been depleted, an endowment is permanent. An endowment also triggers a government grant of 1.5 times the donated amount. We hope this 1.5X matching grant will be directed in total to the fund. If so, this fund will generate an income of more than \$20,000 per annum and will thus assist 4 to 5 deserving undergraduates every year in perpetuity.

Each donor will get 2.5 times the donated sum in tax exemptions, provided that the donations are received before 31 December 2010. We ask you to look favourably on this proposal, dig deep into your pockets to support this fund to remember a friend, and help future members of our profession.

Here's what you should do:

1. Make cheque out to National University of Singapore
2. On the back of the cheque, please write clearly:
 - 2.1. Balaji Sadasivan Fund for Medical Undergraduates
 - 2.2. Your name or your company name in capital letters
 - 2.3. Your NRIC number or your company UEN
 - 2.4. Your mailing address in capital letters
3. Mail cheque to:
Dr Tang Kok Foo (Fund)
#14-01 Mount Elizabeth Medical Centre
Singapore 228510

Thank you.

Drs Ang Yong Guan, Tang Kok Foo, Pauline Cheong, Yeoh Swee Choo and Chen Khet Kuen. On behalf of the University of Singapore Medical Class of 1974-1979. **SMA**

