新大李光前奖学金得主 将为越南儿童建图书馆

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新加坡管理大学的30名学生定于7月到越南为当地儿童兴建图书馆，让贫苦学生也有念书的机会。

这项兴建图书馆计划是新大李光前奖学金得主的第一个海外社区服务活动。30名奖学金得主将把在当地募集的图书资料带到越南，再为当地建图书馆。他们也计划探讨将这些图书带到当地，供学生使用。

活动发起人之一黄金川（商学院一年级学生）说："我们意识到越南的小朋友有这样一种图书需求，而这个需求需要有人供应。我们希望通过图书馆，带给学生多一个读书识字的机会，帮他们脱离贫穷。"

在奖学金计划下，30名组织这次社区活动的学生将各得1500元的奖学金，让他们在无后顾之忧，专心为社会服务。

新大李光前商学院院长冯应鹏表示，在现今社会，公众会要求一个成功的企业家参与某种社会公益，而我国多家成功企业也已经积极配合社会的意识，知道赚取盈利之余也应该为社会做点事。

第一批李光前奖学金得主在8个月前去世，要在这么短的时间内完成计划的成效，冯应鹏表示已尽全力。不过，他感到欣慰的是，学生已经了解奖学金计划的目的，并愿意为社会做出贡献。

他说，学院不奢望会培养出像已故李光前一样成功的大慈善家，但至少要让学生知道营利不是成功企业家的全部，在能力所及的范围内，学生毕业后也应该为社会有所贡献。

从明年起，学院将安排一些奖学金得主跟随一些愿意指导他们的企业和非盈利机构执行总裁，让他们学习总裁们做生意的方式和理念。

接下来，新大也将同艺术学校和国家文物局合作，让 Milano奖学金得主到学校和当局旗下的博物馆实习，让学生吸收艺术和文化养分，从而得到更全面的学习。

冯应鹏说，希望长远下来，在资金充足的情况下，可以让奖学金得主以外的学生也享有同样的机会。

李光前商学院今天正式开幕，国务资政吴作栋将主持开幕仪式。

冯应鹏说，学院接下来将继续加强对学生提供优质课程，当中包括预计在明年推出一个时长4、5年的学士和硕士的双学位课程，但课程详情还有待确定。
Thirty SMU students are headed up to Vietnam this July to build a library to provide some learning opportunities for local children there.

The library building project is the first overseas community service expedition for the university's Lee Kong Chian scholars. Thirty of the scholars plan to collect books and other materials in Singapore, ship them to Vietnam and build the library from scratch. They also have plans to link up all the libraries in Vietnam built by Singapore students to consolidate library resources.

SMU's business school selected its first batch of 50 Lee Kong Chian scholars last year. The objective is to groom socially conscious business leaders. Therefore, the community service expectations of the scholars are higher than the university's mandatory 80 hours of community service requirement.

First year business management student and one of the project initiators Wil Ng said, “We are aware of the needs of Vietnamese children for books and someone should provide for them in this area. We hope the library will provide a chance for education and literacy for these children as a way out of poverty.”

Under the scholarship terms, the 30 scholars will each receive $1,500 funding for this expedition so that they can focus on achieving the objectives of the expedition and give back to the community.

Dean of the Lee Kong Chian School of Business at SMU Professor Pang Eng Fong said that society today would expect successful entrepreneurs to be involved in philanthropy. Many of our local enterprises are already imbued with this knowledge that while they are raking in profits, there is also a time to give back to society.

It is only eight months since the first batch of the Lee Kong Chian scholars enrolled in SMU. It is therefore a little early to measure the success of the scholars programme, said Prof Pang. However, he is very assured that the scholars have already demonstrated a keen understanding of the intent of the programme which is to be responsible towards society.

He said that the school is not aspiring to produce successful philanthropists like the late Dr Lee Kong Chian but students would at least appreciate that profits are not the sole raison d’être of any successful corporation. Where resources permit, students need to actively make contributions to the community when they graduate.

From next year, the school will arrange for scholars to shadow CEOs of corporations and heads of non-profit organizations to allow them to learn from the business strategy and philosophies of these industry leaders.

SMU will also arrange for the scholars to be attached to the Singapore Arts School and National Museum to immerse them in arts and culture as part of a holistic learning experience.

Prof Pang added that in the longer term when resources are sufficient, even non-scholars will get to enjoy such additional learning opportunities.

The Lee Kong Chian School of Business officially opens today with Senior Minister Goh Chok Tong as the Guest-of-Honour.

Prof Pang revealed that the school will enhance its offerings, one of which would be a new 4-5 years accelerated combined bachelor's and master's programme. Plans are still at a discussion stage.