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Min Lee Wong

Alumnus & Donor

Shaping the new Science program

Jason Yeap has helped shape the new Bachelor of Science (Advanced) Global Challenges. He is keen that students learn to understand and develop an ethical framework because he says "integrity – in life and in business" is essential.

Yeap and his wife, Min Lee Wong have established the Wong Swee Soon International Science Internships Award under the auspices of the Global Challenges International Science Internships Fund. Through the fund, students in the new program will be supported through an international internship. The award is to honour Min Lee's late father, Wong Swee Soon, a senator in Malaysia who sent his children to Australia to be educated. "I want to recognise what he did," says Yeap. "He was a very generous person. He cared for the family, in some ways to the detriment of himself."

Min Lee Wong – mother of two children – Chuan-Jun and Nai Yan – says she is delighted to honour her father through the new science program. Key to the ambitious new program are two internship experiences that are reliant on alumni and key others in the community for support.

Wong says her father valued education and worked very hard to ensure his own two children (Min Lee and brother) could study. "He said to me no matter how tough things get for us both me and my brother would have the same opportunities to study in Australia".

"Australia has given us something," says Wong. "Jason feels strongly about giving back. We call Australia home. We had free tertiary education and now it's time for us to give something back. We are sure many students that come from overseas need some support and have parents who struggle like ours did."

Yeap and Wong's "non-negotiable" demands on their own two children – is that they learn Chinese and attend university.

Life's lessons are learnt largely through travel. The family has for the past 12 years travelled over the summer months for seven weeks at a time and often two or three times a year. They have explored six continents.

Yeap – named Sau Lee at birth – is a well-known Melbourne property investor and a philanthropist. He has been awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia for his services to the arts. 🇦🇺

Pictured: Jason Yeap OAM honours his father in law

Interested in helping? Contact Enrica Longo – call+61 3 9903-4855 or email enrica.longo@monash.edu