About AUS 2019

Hindu College in association with National University of Singapore is organizing the Third Asian Undergraduate Summit on:

Leadership in a Complex World: Harnessing Untapped Potential

The Summit is being organized in two legs (Tentative Dates):
(1)   Leg I at Hindu College, Delhi (1 July to 8 July)
(2)   Leg II at Singapore (15 July to 23 July)

The Summit offers an excellent opportunity for international exposure to the students of the College. The participants will include students from National University of Singapore, other Universities of Asia and Hindu College. Limited seats have been allocated for our College participants. All boarding and lodging expenses of participants at Hindu College as well as Singapore will be borne by the organizers. The participants will only have to pay the air fare between New Delhi-Singapore and back and Visa Fee.

Leadership in a Complex World: Harnessing Untapped Potential

When we create products, more often than not, we create by-products too. One such by-product is okara, the remnants left after making soya milk. Tasteless and lacking appeal, it is easy to see why the soy pulp was often discarded after production. In 1929, T.A Van Gundy had the foresight to realise the market potential of okara. He led the production of Soy Spread, the first okara-based commercial product in the US. The example of okara is a poignant reminder of how resources can have other uses if only we can think it. Hence, the question at the heart of our theme is: **How can we achieve more out of our resources?**

The theme for AUS 2019 is "Harnessing Untapped Potential". It focuses on resources that have not realised their full potential either because they are not currently being utilised or are utilised only in selected manners. The first step would thus be to identify areas in which resources can be better mobilised. Thereafter, we will look into ways to optimise such resources to meet the needs of your own community with the tools at your disposal, which include technology, education to train and change mindsets as well as interregional collaboration and sharing of expertise.

There are various ways for us to relook at how we utilise our resources. We can consider how individuals with skills deemed obsolete can be mobilised for the progress of society. One such group might be the elderly. While a member of an older time, the elderly remains a valuable source of wisdom and perspectives. Could we come up with innovative ways to integrate their wisdom into solving today's problems? Or we could consider how sunset industries can be modernised in line with the needs of today's societies. Rethinking the role of traditions to solve problems might also be a viable sub-theme. The above examples are non-exhaustive and all OHUs are invited to choose an issue, social group or phenomenon that remains under-utilised and explore its potential towards building a better future. The human, economic, environmental and cultural perspectives are some ways that OHUs can consider when looking for areas in which there are resources with untapped potentials. However, these categorisations are merely suggestions and OHUs may find other ways to identify the area that they wish to work on. OHUs are highly encouraged to explore an issue that is pertinent to the
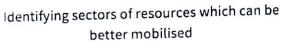
OHU's city and that has attracted some support from local civil society organisations or non-governmental groups to engage participants with fresh material and insights.

As the saying goes, "One man's trash is another man's treasure". Each resource has its intrinsic value and it is up to us to imagine the numerous ways it can be used. In AUS 2019, we invite our participants to take up the challenge of reimagining our resources to create a cycle

Breaking Down 'Harnessing Untapped Potentials'

Identifying sectors of resources which can be better mobilised

Human resources (e.g. marginalised communities or individuals with skills deemed obsolete)

Environmental resources (e.g. upcycling, repurposing waste produced)

Cultural resources (e.g. rethinking existing cultural assets such as traditions, art)

Economic resources (e.g. identifying new uses for traditional resources or revitalising sunset industries)

Employing different tools to optimise the potential of identified areas of resources

Technology: use of technological resources such as digital platforms as means to reinvent ways in which resources are employed.

Education: skills-retraining or the use of other educational resources to change mindsets about how resources are used.

Globalisation: leveraging on interregional cooperation to share expertise and collaborate