

UOB is Patron Sponsor of Wharton Global Alumni Forum

*UOB supports platform for networking and exchange of ideas
for leading business minds in Asia*

27 May 2005, Singapore - United Overseas Bank Limited (UOB) is pleased to announce its patron sponsorship of the Wharton Global Alumni Forum 2005 which is held at the Shangri-la Hotel, Singapore on 27 – 28 May 2005. This year's forum is entitled *Crosswords: A fusion of ideas, cultures and opportunities*. The Forum will provide in-depth discussions on political, economic and financial issues and challenges.

Participants of the Forum are alumni of the prestigious Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania as well as leading executives and government officials hailing from all over Asia. Speakers at the Forum are prominent leaders of businesses and governments worldwide. The keynote address will be delivered by Singapore's Senior Minister Goh Chok Tong.

UOB has long been an active contributor to community development. In the area of education, the Bank has worked closely with various schools and tertiary institutions in funding education programmes and helping the needy. It has also funded programmes that promote excellence in education and life-long learning.

The sponsorship of the Wharton Global Alumni Forum targets less directly at students as beneficiaries, but at the wider community at large. In this instance, as the Forum caters also to participants from other countries, UOB's sponsorship is aimed at the regional community where the platform serves to facilitate the exchange of ideas and experiences in a knowledge-based economy as well as provides networking opportunities for leaders and top executives in government, business and the academia.

"Wharton has a strong business pedigree. It is a great brand name and some of the world's best business brains have Wharton connections and roots. At UOB, we have been developing our footprint in the region. And when it comes to business expertise, we must strive for the highest international standards. I hope that the exchange of knowledge and ideas at this forum will generate excitement and positive spin-offs for the region," said Mr Wee Ee Cheong, Deputy Chairman & President, United Overseas Bank.

We play an active role in the communities in which we work and live, with our focus on community development, education and the arts. We view our sponsorship as being socially responsible to the society in which we live in. Ultimately, we believe that the community should benefit from our sponsorship in one way or another.

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UOB's support for education is not only in dollar terms; it includes contributions in kind, as well as time and expertise. For example, with the recently launched UOB-SMU Entrepreneurship Alliance, instead of an outright donation, UOB enlisted wider support from other businesses. The scheme allows students and the lecturers from the Singapore Management University and local enterprises to learn from each other in a unique and innovative industrial attachment programme.

The Bank pledged S\$1 for every S\$2 donated by other enterprises to the Alliance. It spearheaded the effort to ensure sustainable funding and provided the key support in supervising the projects for students. Over time, the Bank hopes to see the momentum pick up in a cycle of social responsibility, where success breeds success.

UOB has also contributed S\$1 million as Founding Donor of the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy to help establish Singapore as a global point of reference for the study of public administration and public policy. In addition, it has supported other programmes that focused on increasing access to education for children and low-income families.

In 1995, to celebrate its 60th Anniversary, the Bank gave S\$1.5 million to set up a UOB Professorship in Banking at the Nanyang Technological University.

On top of its support of education, UOB has also championed the development of local art for over three decades. Over the past 23 years, through our UOB Painting Of The Year Competition and Exhibition, the Bank has helped many promising artists in Singapore gain recognition for their works.

The Bank also contributes to a number of charities including the President's Challenge.

For media enquiries, please contact:

Vivian Song
Group Communications Division
Tel: 6539 3990
Email: Vivian.SongKY@UOBgroup.com