Speech by Professor Bernard Yeung, Dean of NUS Business School, at the Peh Chin Hua Charity Art Exhibition, Singapore Calligraphy Centre, 48 Waterloo Street on Friday, 10 July 2009, 3pm

Your Excellency, President S R Nathan,

President Tan Chorh Chuan,

Mr. Peh Chin Hua

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen.

Good afternoon.

First and foremost, I would like to thank President Nathan for taking the time to grace this event. It gives me great pleasure to be here today in the presence of generous and passionate individuals who have set an example in giving back to the community.

I am greatly heartened by the pledges that have come in for this round of fundraising. The figure stands at $415,000 and it continues to grow.

I would like to thank everyone who has given generously to the bursary fund. You are our partners in education; your generosity enables bright and diligent students the opportunity to pursue a quality education at NUS Business
School. You are investing in Singapore’s future; it my humble opinion, that is
the most valuable investment.

In recognition of your generous giving, Mr Peh Chin Hua has created a unique
and personalised painting for each donor. These paintings represent a
gesture of deep appreciation for an act of kindness and generousity.

Mr Peh Chin Hua, an alumnus of NUS Business School, is no stranger to
most of us. Singapore knows him as a former Member of Parliament for Jalan
Besar, who spent 13 years serving the people, from 1988 to 2001. In the
corporate world, Mr Peh is the executive chairman of the White Group, which
has properties and business interests in China and Singapore.

Many may not know that Mr Peh’s first love has always been painting. He took
painting as a subject in Chinese High School, studying under two of
Singapore’s pioneer artists, Chen Chong Swee and Chen Wen Hsi
[pronounced as ‘see’]. Despite having to join the family business to help take
care of his nine younger siblings, Mr Peh always knew he would one day pick
up the brush.

Over the years, he has created countless artworks, many for a charitable
cause. Today is no exception.

All the funds you have raised will go towards providing bursary funds for
financially needy undergraduates. Each bursary is worth $2,500 per academic
year. Based on my personal experience, I assure you that your giving will go a long way in helping them reach their fullest potential.

Once again, I thank you for the support that you have given to NUS Business School and our undergraduates. You have set a wonderful example for these students to follow, where one day, they too will also find joy in contributing back to the community.

Thank you and have a pleasant afternoon.