The Centre for Social Entrepreneurship and Philanthropy (CSEP) was officially launched on 28 August, to advance social entrepreneurship and philanthropy research and education. It also seeks to enhance the community development efforts of the university's students, alumni, staff and other stakeholders.

Over the past year, CSEP has found opportunities for final-year business students to carry out their consulting practicums with social service organizations, social enterprises and co-operative societies. They assisted the organisations in specific areas such as planning and strategizing, branding and marketing, managing their cash flows and many other aspects related to their businesses. The Centre also co-runs a Volunteer Service Management Programme with YMCA Singapore, providing training for managers, executives and volunteers of non-profit organizations in Singapore.

CSEP is also involved in community development, having seed-funded and incubated a couple of web-based student projects to promote public awareness of and interest in social entrepreneurship and philanthropic giving. In addition, the Centre is also working with various student groups to embark on community development expeditions to Vietnam and China.

During the launch, Mr Keith Chua, Co-Trustee of Mrs Lee Choon Guan Trust Fund also presented a generous gift of $1.5 million. This supports the Centre's efforts to engage more students in community development and to build up research in the field of social entrepreneurship and philanthropy.

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