

PRESIDENT'S FOREWORD



The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the wide-ranging significance of Singapore's long-term investments in science and technology and its impact on our healthcare systems and community. This is evident from the innovative products developed and made in Singapore, including COVID-19 diagnostic kits that deliver test results quickly and accurately, and autonomous disinfection robots and artificial intelligence platforms that screen patient chest X-rays for signs of pneumonia.

Given the disruption of COVID-19 on our economy and society, it is imperative that we continue to look to science, technology and innovation for breakthrough solutions. To do so, Singapore needs top scientific talent with the courage and drive to create new knowledge and continually innovate, leading to positive societal and economic impact for the longer term.

The President's Science and Technology Awards (PSTA) recognises Singapore's top research talent who are pushing scientific frontiers in the fields of biomedical and physical sciences, as well as engineering. This year, we honour individuals and teams for their scientific achievements in the fields of immunology, gene-editing, nanophotonics and wireless technologies. Like those before them, these award recipients have contributed to making Singapore a world-class science and technology hub.

Congratulations to all recipients of the 2020 PSTA and Young Scientist Awards (YSA). I wish all of you continued success and hope that your achievements will transform Singapore into a Global-Asia node of technology, innovation and enterprise.

A handwritten signature in white ink that reads "Halimah Yacob".

HALIMAH YACOB
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE