Shangri-La exec chairman to head Yale-NUS College board

SINGAPORE — The governing board of the Republic’s first liberal arts college, the Yale-NUS College, will be chaired by Shangri-La Hotel executive chairman Kay Kuok.

Mdm Kuok is also a member of the National University of Singapore’s (NUS) Board of Trustees.

The 10-member board includes Yale University president Richard C Levin, NUS president Tan Chorh Chuan, former Nominated Member of Parliament Gautam Banerjee and Ministry of Education Deputy Secretary (Policy) Ng Cher Pong.

The board will serve a three-year term, providing strategic direction and oversight of the school, and will be instrumental in the appointment of the college president and faculty.

The school, a landmark collaboration between Yale University and NUS, will open in August 2013 with an intake of 150 students.

Said Mdm Kuok: “It is a distinct honour to be the chair of Yale-NUS College, a groundbreaking partnership between two of the world’s leading universities ... We believe strongly that there is a need in today’s changing world for a top quality undergraduate education that teaches students to think critically and prepare them for leadership in all sectors of society.”

Chairman of Yale-NUS College and executive chairman of Shangri-La Kay Kuok

We believe strongly that there is a need in today’s changing world for a top quality undergraduate education that teaches students to think critically, prepares them for leadership in all sectors of society and offers a full residential college experience.”

She added: “The lively co-curricular activities and exciting global study abroad and internship opportunities will contribute to developing the whole person. I see the opportunity to develop a novel, world-class educational experience as a rare privilege.”

The Yale-NUS campus will be built next to NUS’ University Town along Clementi Road, in close proximity to world-class research and entrepreneurial hubs as well as the NUS Kent Ridge Campus.

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