

ANNEX

2024 Scholars' Bios

Max Han Kai Ding 韩凯定
Final year student majoring in Environmental Studies
Yale-NUS College Class of 2024, Malaysia
Rhodes Scholar-Elect 2024



Max Han is pursuing a Bachelor of Arts with Honours in Environmental Studies at Yale-NUS College, with a focus on environmental justice. Currently, Max is working with environmental defenders and policymakers to draft Southeast Asia's first Environmental Human Rights Framework with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). Living in a region already bearing the brunt of climate change, Max believes in the power of local action and decolonisation, and aspires to amplify voices from the Global South.

Upon entering Oxford, Max looks forward to learning, unlearning, and relearning how to integrate the perspectives of vulnerable communities and grassroots voices into policymaking. He envisions a just and liveable world, and invites everyone to join him in finding solutions to the climate crisis together.

Quote:

As an Environmental Studies major, I had the opportunity to gain practical exposure and engage in critical dialogue about environmental issues. For instance, my environmental history and ecological economics classes

have led me on field trips to learn about local biodiversity and cost-benefit analysis. I now know how to view Environmental Impact Assessments more holistically and appreciate the voices of various stakeholders.

I also really cherish Yale-NUS's curriculum which covers not only canonical works and ideologies in the West, but also in other regions closer to home. This has been central to my interests and work in decolonisation, Southeast Asian history, and Global North-South relations in climate policy.

Lastly, the diversity of our student population is central to my journey of personal development. It's so rare to learn in a classroom with so many global perspectives on one issue – you eventually learn to be more culturally adept, global-minded, and compassionate. When a crisis happens in another part of the world, you also tend to be more empathetic when you have friends who are directly affected. I think that was key to developing my own stance as a climate advocate.

After completing my studies, I hope to integrate environmental justice into climate policies or contribute to movement-building in an institution that aligns with my values.

For now and during my studies at Oxford, I will keep working to mainstream youth climate action through my nonprofit, Youths United for Earth (YUFE).

Rachel Juay 芮恺励

Bachelor of Arts with Honours in Politics, Philosophy and Economics (PPE), Masters in Public Policy (MPP)

Yale-NUS College Class of 2020, Singapore

Project Manager at United Nations Global Risk Report

Schwarzman Scholar-Elect 2024



Rachel Juay graduated from the five-year Concurrent Degree Programme (CDP) offered by Yale-NUS College and the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy (LKY School), where she earned a Bachelor of Arts with Honours in Politics, Philosophy and Economics (PPE) and a Master in Public Policy (MPP).

Rachel is currently a project manager for the upcoming United Nations Global Risk Report, a flagship publication focuses on the world's most pressing risks and how multilateral institutions can mitigate them. Prior to this, she was a Research Analyst at Oliver Wyman where she published works focused on building public-private partnership capacities across infrastructure, technology, and climate nexus. Her experiences with research at Yale-NUS College has laid the foundation for her to pursue an understanding of how different ideas affect us all across the globe.

During her time at College, she was president of the Yale-NUS Student Government, representing students' voices and working with stakeholders to co-produce policies centred around student wellbeing and inclusion.

Quote:

My passion for public policy spawned from my participation in the Summer Research Programme in 2019 with then Yale-NUS Assistant Professor Valentina Zuin. My work with Asst Prof Zuin, where we worked to improve water and sanitation processes in rural Cambodia, and my experiences leading the Yale-NUS Student Government have fuelled my belief that effective policy processes can make a marked difference in lives across all contexts. This led me to my Masters' in Public Policy (MPP) programme at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy (LKYSPP) where I was enrolled in the Concurrent Degree Programme (CDP). My three years with the

Yale-NUS Student Government were also extremely transformative. It helped me learn to build bridges and engage with people from different contexts and with different perspectives, which has been indispensable for collective problem-solving. I have been able to take those experiences with me into my community work for the Merpati Resettlement Project, and into professional realms when engaging policymakers at different levels.

I feel incredibly humbled by members of the Yale-NUS community who have shaped my journey thus far, including the Centre for International and Professional Experiences (CIPE) team, President Joanne Roberts, and our wonderful alums who have enveloped me in their kind wisdom and tireless support.

Lucy Zhu Xinyu 祝心愉

Bachelor of Science with Honours in Mathematical, Computational, and Statistical Sciences (MCS)

Yale-NUS College Class of 2022, China

Investment Banking Analyst at Morgan Stanley

Schwarzman Scholar-Elect 2024



Since graduating from Yale-NUS in 2022, Lucy Zhu has been working as an Investment Banking Analyst at Morgan Stanley. While working on Southeast Asia capital markets and Mergers and Acquisitions (M&A) transactions in her role, she realised that there are opportunities for China to offer its expertise to and also participate in the growth of these local companies.

She looks forward to joining the Schwarzman programme as she feels it recognises the variety of pathways where students can create impact. Moreover, the courses and experiential exposures are tailored for scholars with different backgrounds to come together and learn from each other. She is keen to explore how corporate finance and capital markets, her two key focus areas, can better fund solutions for pressing global issues.

During her time at Yale-NUS, Lucy was active in two student organisations – Yale-NUS Women in Business (WiB) as Head of Finance, and Yale-NUS Table Tennis as co-captain. At Yale-NUS WiB, she was exposed to the world of business where she started to explore the different potential roles that she could pursue upon graduation. Lucy also values the strong culture of “passing it on” at Yale-NUS where seniors are always very willing to chat and share insights or guidance with those who reach out, for example, at WiB, they organised peer learning sessions to bridge the gap between what they studied and the world of finance.

Quote:

What I appreciated most about my time at Yale-NUS was the freedom and support to explore different fields, both in terms of academic interests as well as extracurricular activities. I was a Mathematical, Computational and Statistical Science (MCS) major on top of the interdisciplinary Common Curriculum that all Yale-NUS students take, I also thoroughly enjoyed my other classes in global affairs, urban studies, economics, and more.

I have taken a variety of courses in different fields and joined classrooms of people who were more knowledgeable than me in a certain field. Daring to try to learn as much as possible in unfamiliar fields has now become a habit – life post-college is an ongoing journey to develop my passion and further my skills through interacting with different communities.

Htet Myet Min Tun
Final year student majoring in Global Affairs
Yale-NUS College Class of 2024, Myanmar
Schwarzman Scholar-Elect 2024



Htet Myet Min Tun, born and raised in Yangon, Myanmar, is a student of global affairs and economics at Yale-NUS College in Singapore under the ASEAN Undergraduate Scholarship. In the aftermath of the 2021 coup, which brought his country into political turmoil, Htet Myet became deeply interested in the issues that plague the developing world – ethnic conflict, state violence, and the rise and fall of authoritarian regimes. Motivated by his desire to better understand the situation in Myanmar, Htet Myet developed research interests in statecraft, state-society relations and socio-economic development in developing countries, with a special focus in Southeast Asia. In line with these interests, he has conducted some research on Myanmar during his internships at the ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute, and the Yale Research Initiative on Innovation and Scale, a development economics lab at Yale University. He has co-authored research papers which can be found in the ISEAS' Perspective series. Prior to coming to Yale-NUS, Htet Myet graduated from the Practising High School, Yangon University of Education, securing the fourth position in the highly competitive National Matriculation Exam in Myanmar.

Quote:

Four years at Yale-NUS have shaped me in many ways both as a person and a scholar. The education I have received has prepared me not to take what we see as they are, but to ask questions, think critically, and articulate my own thoughts. I am also grateful for many opportunities the College has provided. For example, without the generous support from the College, I would not be able to intern at the ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute in Singapore or at Yale in New Haven, where I did research on Myanmar, or study Chinese at Tsinghua University during the summer. All these experiences helped me advance my academic interests on Myanmar and global affairs as well as prepare myself for my professional career.

Full list of Rhodes and Schwarzman Scholarship recipients from Yale-NUS College

Rhodes Scholars

- [Nicholas Carverhill](#) (2018), Yale-NUS Class of 2017
- [Hazeem Abdul Nasser](#) (2022), Yale-NUS Class of 2022
- [Max Han Kai Ding](#) (2024), Yale-NUS Class of 2024

Schwarzman Scholars

- [Mollie Saltskog](#) (2017), Yale-NUS Class of 2017
- [Daniel Ng](#) (2019), Yale-NUS Class of 2018
- [Ryan Kueh](#) (2023), Yale-NUS Class of 2023
- Htet Myet Min Tun (2024), Yale-NUS Class of 2024
- Lucy Zhu Xinyu (2024), Yale-NUS Class of 2022
- Rachel Juay (2024), Yale-NUS Class of 2020