

The NTU Safety and Health Awards Ceremony 2024 took place on 6th March 2025, under the theme **“Celebrating Collaboration & Transformation for Safety & Health Excellence.”** The purpose of the event was to honour and recognize the outstanding performance of NTU’s schools, departments, and centers in health and safety for the year 2024. The event saw over 400 participants from NTU, along with guests from other Institutes of Higher Learning (IHLs), marking a 60% increase in attendance compared to the previous year. This rise reflects a growing interest in safety and health among academics, faculty members, administrators, and safety professionals in IHLs.



Group photo of panel discussion (Left to right): Mr Saravanan Gunaratnam (OHS Director), Ms Jaime Lim (Major Hazards Department Director, Ministry of Manpower), Ms Tan Aik Na (SVP Administration), Professor Ernst Kuipers (Vice President Research) and Professor Warren Chan (Dean, College of Engineering).

After a buffet breakfast and networking session, the ceremony commenced with a short video montage to recognise schools, departments and research centres for safety and health excellence. Mr Saravanan Gunaratnam, Director, Office of Health and Safety (OHS) started the ceremony with his opening speech.

Mr Saravanan highlighted that the NTU Safety & Health Awards Ceremony 2024 celebrates exceptional achievements in safety and health across NTU’s departments, schools, and research centers, with a focus on collaboration and innovation. In 2024, there were 4 recipients of the Gold Award, 3 international awards, 2 Silver Award recipients, and 21 Bronze Award winners. He noted that 2 departments advanced from Silver in 2024, and the number of Bronze Award recipients had grown by 75%.

Mr Saravanan further mentioned that OHS rolled out various initiatives in 2024 to engage stakeholders and foster a positive, progressive safety culture. These included hosting more than 4 key lectures on

safety topics and collaborating with 3 NTU schools to enhance safety programs. Additionally, OHS optimized 2 core programs—biosafety and radiation safety—by consolidating Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and standards. OHS also launched the first phase of an integrated application aimed at digitalizing and automating safety audits.

Finally, Mr Saravanan expressed his sincere thanks to the attendees, emphasizing that the achievements in safety and health were made possible by continuous collaboration, improvement, and a shared commitment to safety excellence.

Following his speech, Mr Saravanan moderated a panel discussion with Ms Jaime Lim (Director of Major Hazards Department, Ministry of Manpower), Ms Tan Aik Na (Senior Vice President, Administration), Professor Ernst Kuipers (Vice President, Research), and Professor Warren Chan (Dean, College of Engineering).

The discussion touched on key topics such as the importance of cross-departmental collaboration in addressing safety and health challenges and how to secure organizational leadership support for safety improvement projects. Ms Lim and Ms Tan highlighted the critical role of organizational leadership in fostering safety and health. Ms Lim emphasized that collective support across departments is crucial to demonstrate the positive impact of safety and health on profit margins, while Ms Tan pointed out the direct link between safety and an organization's reputation and the need for individuals to take responsibility for personal safety.

Professors Kuipers and Chan offered their perspectives on safety in research and academia. Prof Kuipers noted that while researchers often focus on research results, integrating safety and health is essential to overall success. Prof Chan added that while safety management systems such as policies and training are crucial, providing feedback and addressing safety concerns from all stakeholders is equally important.

The panel discussion concluded with a group photo of the panellists. Professor Warren Chan and Professor Boh Wai Fong (Vice President, Lifelong Learning & Alumni Engagement) were invited to present the awards to the 21 Bronze Award winners. Professor Kuipers then presented the awards to the 2 Silver Award winners, and Ms. Tan presented the Gold Awards to the 4 top recipients.

The ceremony ended with an engaging safety quiz, followed by an invitation for participants to visit the Safety Carnival at AIA Canopy. The carnival featured 16 booths with interactive safety activities, including health check-ups, CPR training, and fire extinguisher demonstrations. Gold and Silver Award winners were also invited to host booths to promote safety awareness.

Overall, the awards ceremony and Safety Carnival is a strong reflection of the growing interest and interdepartmental collaboration toward achieving safety and health excellence at NTU.



The guests enjoyed a buffet and networking session before the start of the ceremony.



Mr Saravanan addressed the audience with his opening speech at the beginning of the ceremony.



The panel discussion was moderated by Mr Saravanan.



Prof Warren Chan (centre) presented the NTU Safety & Health Award to 11 Bronze Award Winners.



Prof Boh Wai Fong (centre) presented the NTU Safety & Health Award to 10 Bronze Award Winners.



Prof Ernst Kuipers (centre) presented the NTU Safety & Health Award to the Silver Award Winners.



Ms Tan Aik Na (centre) presented the NTU Safety & Health Award to the Gold Award Winners.



The audience raced against time to guess the correct answers in the safety quiz as they attempt to win \$50 worth of NTUC vouchers.



As per past year's practice, the audience took a group photo with the panellists during the ceremony.



The safety carnival has garnered huge interest with its variety of activities. Clockwise from top left: Participants learnt more about chemical safety through interactive quiz. Spinal checks, hands-on firefighting and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) were among the numerous activities organised in the carnival.