

THE STRAITS TIMES EDUCATION FORUM 2023

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Chan Chun Sing
Minister for Education

Mr Chan Chun Sing was appointed Singapore's Minister for Education on 15 May 2021. He is also Minister-in-charge of the Public Service since 1 May 2018.


Mr Chan drove Singapore's economic and industrial development as Minister for Trade and Industry (MTI) from 1 May 2018 to 14 May 2021. At MTI, he ratified the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership agreement, as well as deepened international cooperation on the digital economy. As Deputy Chairman of the People's Association from 1 October 2015 to 14 May 2021, he oversaw national efforts to foster social cohesion.

From May 2015 to May 2018, he was Secretary-General of the National Trades Union Congress (NTUC) and expanded the Labour Movement network to represent all working people in Singapore. Prior to NTUC, he served as Minister for Social and Family Development (2013-2015) and Acting Minister for Community Development, Youth and Sports (2011-12). He was also Second Minister for Defence (2013-15) and Minister of State for Information, Communications and the Arts (2011-12).

Serving with the Singapore Armed Forces (SAF) from 1987 to 2011, Mr Chan held various appointments including Chief of Army. He left the SAF to run in the 2011 General Election and was elected Member of

	<p>Parliament for Tanjong Pagar Group Representation Constituency.</p> <p>An SAF (Overseas) and President's Scholarship holder, he graduated with First Class Honours in Economics from Christ's College, Cambridge University, UK. He was also awarded the 1998 Distinguished Master Strategist Award by the US Army Command and General Staff College. In 2005, he completed the Sloan Fellows Programme at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology under the Lee Kuan Yew Scholarship.</p> <p>Born in 1969, Mr Chan is married with three children and enjoys reading and jogging.</p>
 <p>Ben King Country Managing Director, Google Singapore</p>	<p>Ben King was appointed as Country Director for Google Singapore in mid-2019, and was subsequently promoted to Country Managing Director in 2021. He is responsible for Google's sales and business development operations both within the country and as a hub for the region.</p> <p>Prior to this appointment, Ben ran sales and business development operations for Google Thailand between 2015 and 2019. He has also worked with various Google businesses across a diverse range of countries in South and Southeast Asia including Bangladesh, Indonesia, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Thailand.</p> <p>Before joining Google in 2012, Ben worked at Microsoft Advertising Australia. Joining the business shortly after its launch in the country, he held a number of roles as the business grew into a significant player within the performance marketing space.</p> <p>Ben is part of the Sentosa Development Corporation Board, sits on the board of advisors for the School of Computing and Information Systems of the Singapore Management University, and sits on the SGTech Council in the capacity of co-opted councilor.</p>

	<p>Ben has a BA in Media and Communications from the University of Sydney, Australia, majoring in Media, History and Ancient History.</p>
 <p>Frank Koo Head of Asia, Talent and Learning Solutions, LinkedIn</p>	<p>Frank Koo is currently the Asia Head of Talent & Learning Solutions at LinkedIn. Frank's team supports companies in talent acquisition, development and retention through the LinkedIn platform and solutions. Prior to LinkedIn, Frank was the Chief Operating Officer of BE Education based in Shanghai and Asia Pacific President of Learning Solutions at Pearson Education. At Oracle, he was the MD for Singapore and South Asia Growth Economies.</p> <p>Frank is a Bachelor of Business Administration graduate from the National University of Singapore. He has also attended executive programs with INSEAD and IMD.</p>
 <p>Prof Timothy Clark Provost, Singapore Management University</p>	<p>Prof Clark has been Provost of SMU since 1 April 2019. During his short time at SMU, Prof Clark has undertaken a range of initiatives aimed at enhancing the distinctive DNA of SMU's education and the impact of its research. These have included launching new workstudy programmes with prestigious partners like Google and SingHealth, expanding the innovative SMU-X pedagogy, increasing international learning opportunities by developing new partnerships with overseas universities to deliver courses jointly, expanding digital learning and extending the Core Curriculum courses. Under Prof. Clark's leadership the University has launched a number of significant research initiatives including its Centre on Research for Successful Ageing (ROSA) and the Singapore Green Finance Centre, a collaboration with Imperial College London.</p> <p>Prior to joining SMU Prof Clark was Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Social Sciences and Health) at Durham University, United Kingdom, where he was also Executive Lead for Computer and Information Services (CIS) and Estates & Buildings.</p>

	<p>Prof Clark is a former General Editor of Journal of Management Studies and was both the Chair and President of British Academy of Management. He is a Fellow of the British Academy of Management (FBAM) and the Academy of Social Sciences (FACSS).</p>
 <p>Prof Annie Koh Emeritus of Finance (Practice), Singapore Management University</p> <p>(Moderator)</p>	<p>Professor Annie Koh is Professor Emeritus of Finance (Practice) at Lee Kong Chian School of Business, Singapore Management University (SMU). She is a renowned conference speaker, panel moderator and commentator. She chairs the Asian Bond Fund 2 supervisory committee for the Monetary Authority of Singapore and is a committee member of Singapore's Customs Advisory Council.</p> <p>Professor Koh is appointed as Chairman of Prime US REIT and is currently an independent director of AMTD IDEA Group, EtonHouse Community Fund (Charity), Prudential Assurance Company Singapore Pte Ltd and Yoma Strategic Holdings Ltd. Professor Koh received her Ph.D. degree in International Finance as a Fulbright scholar from Stern School of Business, New York University in 1988.</p>