## Provost's Message



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> Professor Timothy Clark PROVOST

Over the past year, SMU has continued to expand and innovate its distinctive approach to education while making significant strides in advancing worldclass research.

To ensure our graduates are equipped to navigate an increasingly complex world, the University introduced several initiatives in sustainability. A new graduation requirement now obliges incoming freshmen to gain a foundational understanding of sustainability through SMU's enhanced Core Curriculum. The School of Social Sciences (SOSS) launched a second major in Sustainable Societies, alongside a new Master of Sustainability, in collaboration with the College of Integrative Studies. The value of an SMU education was affirmed in the Graduate Employment Survey, where our graduates were recognised as the most employable in Singapore.

SMU is a city university committed to advancing interdisciplinary research that addresses key societal issues in Singapore and Asia, and this year saw the launch of the Urban Institute, focusing on Urban Growth, Life, and Infrastructure. Our research impact expanded with significant grant wins from organisations such as the Cyber Security Agency of Singapore, the Smart Nation Group, AI Singapore, Ford Foundation, Institute of Singapore Chartered Accountants, the Ministry of Education and National Research Foundation, amongst many others. We also extended our strategic research collaborations, regionally with Chulalongkorn University and IIM Ahmedabad, and globally with the University of Toronto.

Our faculty continued to garner prestigious awards for their research excellence. Professor Lily Kong received the Royal Geographical Society's Victoria Medal, Professor David Lo was named a 2023 ACM Fellow, and Professor Sun Sun Lim was recognised as one of Asia's Top 50 Women in Tech.

It has been an enormous pleasure to welcome two new Deans and many new talented faculty to the University and see the accomplishments of existing faculty recognised through promotion.