

Publication: CIO Asia

Date: 23 May 2016

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Nurdianah Md Nur | May 23, 2016

The Singapore Management University has appointed Professor Pang Hwee Hwa as the university's Dean of (SMU) School of Information Systems (SIS) for the next five years, with effect from 1 July 2016.

He succeeds Prof Steven Miller, who is completing 13.5 years as SIS's founding Dean. Prof Miller will continue with his role as Vice Provost (Research).

In his new role, Prof Pang aims to "further develop SIS into an institution that is internationally admired for our research and education." "To achieve this, my priorities would be to strengthen the practical relevance of our School's research, further our contribution to academic knowledge, and train our students to become professionals who employ IT innovatively to create business value," he said.

Prior to joining SMU in July 2005, Prof Pang was with the A*Star Institute of Infocomm Research where, as Division Director and Principal Scientist, he was responsible for strategic planning, project management, industry and government agency engagement, leading and managing research staff. Under his leadership, the division was one of the most successful in transferring technology to industry.

At SMU, Prof Pang has played a central role in supporting the development and growth of the PhD programmes at the university. He served as PhD Programme Director at SIS from 2006 to 2014, and took on additional responsibilities as Director, and later Dean for Postgraduate Research at the university level from 2011.

Prof Pang's research interests include Data Security & Privacy, Database Systems, Information Retrieval & Multimedia Analytics, Spatial and Context Aware Data Management, Recommender Systems & Preference Analytics.

He has published more than 20 papers in top-tier refereed journals, including ACM Transactions of Database Systems, Very Large Database Journal, and IEEE Transactions on Knowledge and Data Engineering. He has also presented 50 papers at numerous conferences in the US, Europe, China, Korea and Japan.

Commenting on the new appointment, SMU Provost Professor Lily Kong said: "Prof Pang brings with him an admirable track record of teaching and research. Within SMU, Prof Pang enjoys a strong reputation as a dedicated educator, a meticulous planner and an able administrator, known for his integrity and highly respected by faculty, staff and students. We are confident that Prof Pang's expertise and experience will lead the School to even greater heights."