

**Citation by Mr Ho Kwon Ping for  
Professor Arnoud De Meyer's University Professorship  
at the SMU President's Farewell and Handover Ceremony,  
SMU Hall, Friday, 16 November 2018**

As SMU's fourth and longest-serving President, Prof De Meyer has helmed the University since September 2010. A leading figure in business school management, he spent over two decades in INSEAD and served as founding Dean of INSEAD's Asia Campus in Singapore.

Prof De Meyer joined SMU at an important juncture of its development, succeeding, Professor Howard Hunter, and went on to build upon the strong foundation that had been set in place.

SMU has performed remarkably well for a young university and has achieved many highly significant milestones since its incorporation in 2000. Under Prof De Meyer's leadership, SMU has continued to deliver a transformative education experience to produce confident, versatile and well-rounded graduates who are highly sought after – as attested by the continued success of SMU graduates in landing meaningful global careers and securing competitive starting salaries.

The University's postgraduate programmes, as well as its executive development and continuing education outfits have all expanded very significantly during this period. SMU continues to grow from strength to strength – building its world-class faculty, and anchoring its research focus through its impactful research centres and institutes, several of which are at the cutting edge of knowledge and thought leadership.

SMU has also significantly raised its thought leadership profile through hosting speaking events for many world political leaders and renowned thinkers. In addition, the University has forged strong linkages, collaboration and partnerships with academia, industry, government, social organisations and the community at large.

Prof De Meyer led in the expansion of the SMU campus with the development of the School of Law building and the Kwa Geok Choo Law Library, which were officially opened in March 2017. SMU's outreach and advancement activities have also progressed well under his leadership — several significant gifts were received during this period, with many donors convinced and inspired by the vision and aspiration that Prof De Meyer, together with key members of the leadership team, have articulated for SMU. His leadership and direct involvement and support, notably in the areas of SMU's internationalisation and reputation-building efforts – particularly in China, India, Southeast Asia and Europe – and SMU's postgraduate programmes, have helped SMU to achieve impressive successes.

Through his sterling leadership, SMU has transformed itself from being, in his own words, a “single product” university to becoming a “multi-product” university. In coming years, “SMU-X” (as well as its overseas version, named “SMU-XO”) – both the brainchild of Prof De Meyer and which have gained global recognition as innovative experiential learning — will become an integral part of SMU's pedagogical DNA, and be viewed as a defining step in SMU's progress and development.

Prof De Meyer's contribution to the wider business community, and to Singapore, comes in the form of, among others, his Board Directorship at the National Research Foundation, Singapore International Chamber of Commerce, Temasek Management Services and Singapore Symphony Orchestra.

An international, research-active academic who publishes extensively, he consults widely for a number of organisations in Europe and Asia, including being a Member of the Board of Dassault Systemes.

On behalf of the Singapore Management University, I am pleased to announce the conferment on Professor Arnoud De Meyer the title of SMU University Professor. The SMU University Professorship is the highest appointment bestowed on a very select number of faculty to recognise significant accomplishments in research, eminent careers, and outstanding contributions to the university, the profession and the community.

University Professors are recognized nationally and internationally for the importance of their scholarly and/or professional achievements. They will also have demonstrated the breadth of interest characteristically encompassed by the traditional role of scholar, teacher, and public servant. In addition, they will have brought distinction to the University resulting from these activities.

Congratulations Professor De Meyer.