



## **Media Release**

### **SMU Lee Kong Chian School of Business recognised as one of the top three in the Financial Times Masters in Finance Rankings 2017**

- *3<sup>rd</sup> in the world and 1<sup>st</sup> in Asia for its MSc in Wealth Management (Post-experience Ranking)*
- *4<sup>th</sup> among Asian Business Schools for its MSc in Applied Finance (Pre-experience Ranking)*

**Singapore, 19 June 2017 (Monday)** – The Singapore Management University’s (SMU) Lee Kong Chian School of Business (LKCSB) is pleased to report that the MSc in Wealth Management (MWM) has been recognised for the third consecutive year as one of the top three finance Masters programmes in the world by the *Financial Times (FT) Masters in Finance Post-experience Ranking 2017*.

SMU LKCSB remains the only institution in Asia to make it to the ranking, placed just after London Business School and University of Cambridge’s Judge Business School.

The MWM programme has much to be proud of. Alumni of the programme reported a salary of US\$ 104,992, a 15% increase compared to the salary reported in last year’s ranking. LKCSB is also ranked top in careers services support, a recognition of the effectiveness in areas like career counselling, personal development, networking events, and recruitment.

In addition, SMU LKCSB ranked 4<sup>th</sup> among Asian business schools and 44<sup>th</sup> in the world in the *FT Masters in Finance Pre-experience Ranking 2017* for its Master of Science in Applied Finance (MAF).

It is also the only institution in Singapore and South-Asia to be ranked; this is the third time that LKCSB is featured in both the Pre- and Post-experience rankings.

“We are pleased to be ranked well again this year as it validates our comprehensive efforts in making LKCSB the best Asian business school and strengthens our reputation globally. This ranking reflects our strong emphasis on academic excellence, strong career services and an engaging post-graduate student experience. It also provides us with data that will support our ongoing efforts of improvement as well as reflects areas of development. SMU’s focus remains on delivering top quality education and world-class research, as we strive to transform students and create a positive impact on Singapore and the region,” said Professor Gerard George, Dean of SMU’s Lee Kong Chian School of Business, and Professor of Innovation and Entrepreneurship.

### **About SMU LKCSB MSc in Wealth Management**

The SMU MWM started in 2004 as Asia's first and only full-time master's programme in wealth management, and the first specialised one in the world. It comprises a rigorous curriculum that is designed in consultation with industry professionals and academics collectively. It anchors on the strengths of institutions across Asia, Europe and USA. It is a recognised postgraduate programme associated with the CFA Institute and CAIA. The Client Advisory and Competency Standards (CACS) Assessment has been recently incorporated, to equip individuals with competencies required to be certified for private banking in Singapore.

Participants interact with wealth management professionals across three continents, through vast learning opportunities including exposure and immersion in global investing. Regularly reviewed to reflect industry developments, the MWM programme has a careful balance between theory and practice. Graduates obtain deep mastery of wealth management and are fully trained and job-ready. The modular structure allows professionals to pursue the master's degree while working, and those without wealth management experience can embark on an internship to enhance their employability. Graduates receive the MWM degree from SMU and certificates from eminent universities in Switzerland and USA in just 12 months. The programme has trained more than 500 wealth managers to date and will be welcoming its 14<sup>th</sup> batch in July 2017.

### **About SMU LKCSB MSc in Applied Finance**

Launched in 2002 as SMU's first postgraduate programme, the SMU MAF is a 12-month full-time or 18-month part-time programme. Its industry-relevant curriculum prepares students to pursue the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) designation. It provides a strong foundation in the principles, practices and operations of international and domestic financial markets, focusing on applying updated and relevant knowledge in real-world situations. The programme has grown over the years – in 2008, the MAF (China) programme was established in partnership with Xiamen University in China; in 2013, SMU also partnered Washington University's Olin Business School to offer the [Global Master of Finance Dual Degree](#) programme, which provides students with an exceptionally enriching learning experience in two continents. To date, SMU has graduated over 1,000 students in total under the various MAF tracks.

### **About the ranking**

This is FT's seventh survey and annual ranking. To be eligible in the Pre- and Post-experience rankings, schools must be internationally accredited and the programmes must have run for at least four consecutive years. The ranking considers the features of the institutions and their programmes, and is based on two questionnaires – one completed by alumni who have been in the workplace for three years since graduation, and another by the business schools themselves.

Separately, in the *FT Executive MBA Ranking 2016*, LKCSB's [EMBA programme](#) was 32<sup>nd</sup> in the world and 9<sup>th</sup> among Asian business schools. It was the highest-ranked new entrant in 2015 at 36<sup>th</sup> in the world.

For full results and more details about FT Masters in Finance Rankings 2017, please refer to the following:

- FT Masters in Finance Post-experience 2017:  
<http://rankings.ft.com/businessschoolrankings/masters-in-finance-post-experience-2017>
- FT Masters in Finance Pre-experience 2017:

<http://rankings.ft.com/businessschoolrankings/masters-in-finance-pre-experience-2017>

- FT Masters in Finance Ranking Methodology 2017:  
<https://www.ft.com/content/cc8d1484-49da-11e7-919a-1e14ce4af89b?mhq5j=e2>

For information about the ranked SMU postgraduate programmes:

- [Master of Science in Wealth Management \(MWM\)](#)
- [Master of Science in Applied Finance \(MAF\)](#)

Enclosure:

- Image of SMU LKCSB

### **About SMU Lee Kong Chian School of Business (LKCSB)**

SMU commenced its curriculum in 2000 with the School of Business, which welcomed its pioneer cohort of students in August 2000. In 2004, the Lee Foundation contributed S\$50 million to SMU in honour of the late Dr Lee Kong Chian, a well-known Southeast Asian businessman, philanthropist and community leader. In recognition of the Lee Foundation's generosity, SMU named in perpetuity the School of Business, the building and the university-wide scholars programme after Dr Lee Kong Chian.

Today, Lee Kong Chian School of Business (LKCSB) is a dynamic Asian business school with about 3,500 students and over a hundred full-time faculty members with postgraduate degrees from renowned universities such as Cornell, Harvard, INSEAD, Oxford, Stanford and Yale. The school offers undergraduate, master's and doctoral programmes and is affiliated with a number of research centres, such as the Sim Kee Boon Institute for Financial Economics, the Centre for Marketing Excellence and the Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship.

In 2016, LKCSB earned re-accreditation by AACSB (Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business) and EQUIS (European Quality Improvement System) for another five years, after it first achieved accreditation in 2011. In June 2012, LKCSB also joined the ranks of other internationally renowned business schools by becoming a member of the EMBA Council. The School is currently ranked third in Asia and 40<sup>th</sup> worldwide in the University of Texas, Dallas Top 100 Business School Research Rankings, based on research contributions for the period 2012 – 2016.

[www.business.smu.edu.sg](http://www.business.smu.edu.sg)

### **About Singapore Management University**

A premier university in Asia, the Singapore Management University (SMU) is internationally recognised for its world-class research and distinguished teaching. Established in 2000, SMU's mission is to generate leading-edge research with global impact and produce broad-based, creative and entrepreneurial leaders for the knowledge-based economy. SMU education is known for its highly interactive, collaborative and project-based approach to learning, and for its technologically enabled pedagogy of seminar-style teaching in small class sizes.

Home to around 10,000 undergraduate and postgraduate students, SMU comprises six schools: School of Accountancy, Lee Kong Chian School of Business, School of Economics, School of Information Systems, School of Law, and School of Social Sciences. SMU offers a wide range of bachelors, masters and PhD degree programmes in the disciplinary areas associated with the six schools, as well as in interdisciplinary combinations of these areas.

SMU has an emphasis on generating rigorous, high-impact, and relevant multi-disciplinary research that addresses Asian issues of global relevance. SMU faculty members collaborate with leading international researchers and universities from USA, Europe, China and India, as well as with partners in the business community and public sector, through its research institutes, centres and labs. SMU's city campus is a state-of-the art facility located in the heart of downtown Singapore, fostering strategic linkages with business, government and the wider community. [www.smu.edu.sg](http://www.smu.edu.sg)

---

**Media Contact:**

Corinne Kang

Assistant Director, Corporate Communications

Singapore Management University

DID: +65 68085238

Email: [corinnekang@smu.edu.sg](mailto:corinnekang@smu.edu.sg)