



Media Release

SMU Launches 9th Lee Kuan Yew Global Business Plan Competition to Discover Innovative Solutions for Smart City Living

Singapore, 20 March 2017 (Monday) — Singapore Management University (SMU) today announced the launch of the 9th edition of the [Lee Kuan Yew Global Business Plan Competition](#) (LKYGBPC). The theme this year is “Smart City”, in keeping with Singapore’s ambition to be the world’s first smart nation.

The biennial competition, named after Singapore’s founding Prime Minister, aims to draw inspiration from his indomitable spirit of innovation and ambition to bring together the brightest and most entrepreneurial minds from tertiary institutions around the world to tackle the challenges of the 21st century.

Participating teams have to propose innovative technology or data-centric products and services that address the opportunities and challenges a smart city faces in the areas of health, living, mobility and services.

“This competition is a platform for world class innovators, venture capitalists and young entrepreneurial talents to convene and discuss game changing ideas that can profoundly change our everyday lives,” said Hau Koh Foo, director of the Institute of Innovation & Entrepreneurship at the Singapore Management University. “We look forward to hosting the global innovation and entrepreneurship community in Singapore during the competition finals and showcase some of the most exciting ideas that will power the smart cities of tomorrow.”

Proposals have to be submitted by 16 June, 2017. The finals, including an awards presentation, will be held on 15 September, 2017 and will feature Michael Seibel, Chief Executive Officer of Y Combinator, a leading start-up incubator and accelerator in USA, as the keynote speaker. SMU expects to reach more than 2,000 universities worldwide and attract 500 teams. The shortlisted teams for the finals will have an all-expenses paid trip to Singapore during the

competition week. Teams will have the opportunity to participate in intensive startup workshops, attend events featuring prominent entrepreneurs and venture capitalists in Asia, have direct access to acclaimed mentors and visit key innovation hotspots in Singapore. Up to S\$1 million cash, investment and in-kind prizes stand to be won.

The competition's judges are Shirley Wong, managing partner of TNF Ventures and board member of the Infocomm Media Development Authority of Singapore; Professor Lui Pao Chuen, advisor at the National Research Foundation Singapore and Ministry of National Development and board member of Singapore Technologies Electronics; Justin Kan, founder of Zero-F, formerly from Y Combinator.

Participating teams will be evaluated on the innovativeness of business idea, commercial feasibility, impact of idea, and execution capability.

The Lee Kuan Yew Global Business Plan Competition is supported by Wilmar International Limited, with the Smart Nation Programme Office as Knowledge Partner.

For more information about the Lee Kuan Yew Global Business Plan Competition, please visit <http://smu.edu.sg/lky>.

END

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, postgraduate, executive and professional, full- and part-time students, SMU is comprised of 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

About Institute of Innovation & Entrepreneurship

The Institute of Innovation & Entrepreneurship anchors the SMU Innovation and Entrepreneurship Area of Excellence. IIE is a practice-oriented institute that provides support for innovation and entrepreneurship related activities across all the schools at SMU. Our activities range from events, competitions, networking sessions, workshops, training programmes, study missions and internships for entrepreneurs and budding entrepreneurs, as well as a full-fledged incubation programme which helps aspiring entrepreneurs take their ideas to market. <https://iie.smu.edu.sg/>

Media Contacts:

Amelia Chen
Community & Partnership, IIE
ameliachen@smu.edu.sg

Shaily Shah George
Redhill Communications - Official PR Partner
shaily@redhill.asia

Tanya Pillay
Redhill Communications - Official PR Partner
tanya@redhill.asia