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Professor Lily Kong, currently the vice-provost of academic personnel at the National University of Singapore (NUS), has been appointed the new provost of Singapore Management University. Her appointment will make her the first female university provost in Singapore. -- PHOTO: NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE

By Pearl Lee

SINGAPORE - The Singapore Management University (SMU) has appointed Professor Lily Kong, currently the vice-provost of academic personnel at the National University of Singapore (NUS), as its new provost.

Prof Kong, 50, will officially join SMU in September, after serving 24 years at NUS. The appointment also makes her the first female university provost here.

Prof Kong's research interests include geography, heritage and conservation and religion. She was also instrumental in setting up the Yale-NUS college.

At SMU, she will hold the Lee Kong Chian Chair Professorship of Social Sciences.