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THE Singapore Institute of Technology's (SIT) founding president Tan Chin Tiong will step down on Jan 31 next year.

He will be replaced by Professor Tan Thiam Soon, who is vice-prov-

ost of education at the National University of Singapore. Prof Tan Thiam Soon will join SIT on Sept 1 as president-designate and take over as president on Feb 2 next year.

Under Prof Tan Chin Tiong, SIT, which offers degrees by overseas universities targeted at diploma holders, grew from 500 students in 10 programmes in 2009 to 1,000 students in 17 programmes.

Prof Tan Chin Tiong, who was seconded from the Singapore Management University, will return to it as adviser to the university president and a professor in its business school.