

新任董事会主席高博德： 新大拟设新院着重推动跨学科应用研究

新大董事会主席高博德认为，学术和基础研究固然重要，但也应该探讨如何改变这个衡量研究员、教授与学校成功标准。因此，新大除了继续现有的基础研究工作，会专注于推进应用研究，希望借此为社会开创解决方案。

刘钰铃 报道
lyuling@sph.com.sg

新加坡管理大学接下来将着重推动应用研究工作，并计划在半年内设立新研究院，推进跨学科研究，探讨如何运用跨学科知识，解决社会面对的实际问题。

新大董事会主席高博德（Piyush Gupta）星期四（8月10日）接受媒体访问时，透露校方的主要发展计划。高博德也是星展集团总裁，他今年1月12日起从何光平手中接任新大董事会主席。

高博德说，过去100年来，对大学表现的评估往往着重于学校的基础研究、学术研究被引用的次数和学术期刊的出版量。

他认为，学术和基础研究固然重要，但也应该探讨如何改变这个衡量研究员、教授与学校成功标准。

因此，新大除了继续现有的基础研究工作，会专注于推进应用研究，希望借此为社会开创解决方案。

校方将在六个月内设立新研究院，着重于开展跨学科的应用

研究，以应对城市化转型在社会、管理和科技方面所面临的挑战。

为此，新大增设副教授长（战略研究合作）的职位，并委任卫生部高级顾问（卫生经济学）张伟博士担任，领导大学的研究工作。

他将同教职员合力加强新大与外界在研究方面的合作，并制定战略研究津贴提案，协助新大融入我国公共与研究机构的生态系统。

高博德说：“新大将继续善用它作为城市大学的优势，与社会、企业和区域有更多接触，培养有能力推动改革和发挥影响力的学生。”

他也希望新大成为“典范亚洲大学”（quintessential Asian university）。

年内泰国越南设海外中心
与本区域各界伙伴深化合作

为实现这个愿景，新大去年12月在印度尼西亚雅加达设立了第一所海外中心后，今年10月和11月将在泰国曼谷和越南胡志明



新大董事会主席高博德（右一）说，新大要加强跨学科教育，以培育能将跨领域知识融会贯通，有能力推动改革和发挥影响力的学生。（新大提供）

市，分别设立一所海外中心。

这类中心旨在让新大与本区域的学术界、教育界和业界伙伴深化合作，吸引更多人报读新大的课程，同时为学生和教职员提

供更多海外实习和研究等方面的机会，从而激励他们创建以亚洲为中心的解决方案。

高博德强调，校方要强化跨学科教育，以培育能将跨领域知

识融会贯通的学生。为此，新大将继续通过提升SMU-X选修课计划，以及为学生提供更多实习机会等，启发学生针对实际问题制定解决方案。

校方去年宣布成立新的综合学院，推出学士课程延期申报制度，并让学生自行决定专属主修课程。

高博德透露，这个新学院获得踊跃反应，在8月中开始的新学年录取了超过100名学生，而申请人数是学额的八倍。

在推动可持续发展教育方面，新大在新学年开办永续发展硕士课程，教导掌握可持续发展报告、系统思维和协力式治理等领域的关键技能。

校方也开办可持续社会第二主修课程，要让学生具备在不同行业和领域从事“绿色工作”的技能。

高博德认为，对于应对气候变化、人工智能等科技的迅速发展，以及复杂地缘政治环境带来的挑战等，大学可扮演重要角色。大学也须从“价格接受者”转变为“价格制定者”，积极地思考如何塑造和改变未来的世界。

谈及他为何选择加入新大，高博德说，他想找一个能发挥影响力的平台，也发现新大同新加坡及星展集团有着相似的特征。

“我们（的规模）足够大，有一定的分量、资源和影响力，但我们也够小，因此可以不受正统观念的影响。我们既灵活，适应力也强，能够有超强的发挥。”

By Low Yu Ling

Singapore Management University will continue to 'double down' on its focus on applied research. It also plans to set up a new research institute in the next six months to promote interdisciplinary research and explore using interdisciplinary knowledge to address real-world problems faced by society.

Speaking with the press on Thursday (August 10), SMU Board of Trustees Chairman, Mr Piyush Gupta, shared the key plans of the University. Mr Gupta is also the Group CEO of DBS. He took over from Ho Kwon Ping as SMU Chairman on January 12 this year.

Continue existing basic research while advancing applied research

In the last 100 years, performance assessment tends to focus on basic research, and the number of academic citations and journal publications, said Mr Gupta. He believes that while academic and basic research are important, we should also discuss how to change the rubric for what defines success for researchers, professors and universities.

Therefore, in addition to continuing the existing work on basic research, SMU will focus on advancing applied research, so as to create solutions for society. The University will set up a new research institute within six months, with a focus on interdisciplinary applied research to tackle social, management and technological challenges in urban transformation.

To this end, SMU has created the position of Vice Provost (Strategic Research Partnerships), and appointed Dr Cheong Wei Yang, who is also Senior Advisor (Health Economics) at the Ministry of Health. He will work with SMU faculty across the University to strengthen external research collaborations, and develop strategic research grant proposals to help SMU integrate into the local ecosystem of public agencies and research institutions.

Mr Gupta said, "SMU will continue to leverage its city university advantage to have more interactions with society, enterprises and the region, and develop students who are capable of driving change and making an impact.

Two more overseas centres to be set up; Becoming a quintessential Asian university

He also hopes that SMU will become a 'quintessential Asian university'.

To realise this vision, SMU established its first overseas centre in Jakarta, Indonesia, last December, and will set up two more in Bangkok, Thailand, and Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, in October and November respectively.

These centres serve to deepen the partnerships between SMU and its academic, educational and industry partners in the region, attract more people to take up SMU's courses, and provide students and faculty with more opportunities for overseas internships and research, and in doing so, drive the creation of more Asia-centric solutions.

Mr Gupta emphasised that the University must strengthen its interdisciplinary education in order to cultivate students who can integrate interdisciplinary knowledge. To this end, SMU will continue to inspire students to formulate solutions to practical problems by enhancing its SMU-X courses and providing students with more internship opportunities.

Last year, the University announced the establishment of a new College of Integrative Studies, and introduced a system where students can defer the declaration of their degrees as well as individualise their majors. Mr Gupta shared that the new College has received overwhelming response and was eight times oversubscribed. More than 100 students will join its inaugural intake and begin their academic year from mid-August.

Introducing new Master of Sustainability and 2nd Major in Sustainable Societies

Publication: Lianhe Zaobao, Pg 8

Date: 12 August 2023

Headline: SMU to set up research institute to advance interdisciplinary applied research 新任董事会主席高博德:

新大拟设新院着重推动跨学科应用研究

In terms of promoting sustainability education, SMU is introducing a new Master of Sustainability programme, which will inculcate crucial skills in the areas of sustainability reporting, systems thinking and collaborative governance. The University also offers a second major in Sustainable Societies, which aims to develop in students the skillsets for future 'green jobs' across industries and sectors.

Mr Gupta believes that universities can play an important role in the face of global challenges brought about by climate change, technological advances such as artificial intelligence, as well as the complex geopolitical environment. Universities must evolve from being 'price takers' to 'pace makers' and proactively think about how to shape the future world.

SMU's ability to create impact and strong adaptability are reasons why Gupta chose to join

Asked why he joined SMU, Mr Gupta said he had been looking for a platform for impact, and found in SMU the same defining characteristics as he did in Singapore and DBS.

"We're big enough to have some heft, some resources and some clout, but we're small enough to not be caught up with orthodoxies, so you can be nimble and adaptable and still can punch above your weight," he said.

Photo caption: Chairman of SMU Board of Trustees, Mr Piyush Gupta (first from the right), said that SMU will further strengthen interdisciplinary learning in order to nurture students who can integrate interdisciplinary knowledge and have the ability to make an impact. (Photo by SMU)

Source: The Straits Times @ Singapore Press Holdings Limited. Permission required for reproduction