



## **Media Release**

### **Mapletree Real Estate Programme at SMU enhanced with S\$2.5 million contribution**

**Singapore, 23 November (Tuesday), 2021** - The Mapletree Real Estate Programme (“Programme”) at Singapore Management University (“SMU”) has been enhanced by a contribution of S\$2.5 million from Mapletree Investments (“Mapletree” or “the Group”). The additional funding will go towards the expansion of the Programme which will now include the undergraduate scholarships, postgraduate scholarships, postgraduate overseas study trip, and support for Research Fellows at SMU over a period of 10 years.

Following the success of the programme which was launched in the year 2018, the expanded programme aims to equip a wider group of students with the necessary knowledge and cross-disciplinary skills to build a bigger pool of talent for leadership roles in the real estate sector in Singapore and globally. It also establishes thought leadership in real estate finance and investment, as well as develops increased capacity for knowledge creation, dissemination and application.

#### **Mapletree Scholarship**

Two undergraduate scholarships will be awarded each year to deserving students enrolled in the Real Estate track at SMU. The scholarship aims to motivate outstanding undergraduates to achieve academic excellence and accomplishments. Each scholarship is valued at S\$10,000 annually (S\$20,000 in total for two undergraduates) and will support the recipient’s third and fourth years of study. A total of 20 Mapletree Scholarships are expected to be disbursed over a period of ten years.

#### **Mapletree Postgraduate Scholarship**

Three postgraduate scholarships will be awarded each year to deserving students pursuing the Real Estate track within the SMU Master of Science in Applied Finance programme. Each scholarship is valued at S\$25,000. A total of 30 Mapletree Postgraduate Scholarships are expected to be disbursed over the agreed funding period.

#### **Mapletree Overseas Study Trip Fund**

The Mapletree Overseas Study Trip Fund aims to enable students to visit major players, as well as garner regional and global exposure within the real estate sector and related government bodies in the international markets. They will have opportunity to gain project-based learning experiences, understand international real estate investing, and develop an appreciation of the macro factors that influence the performance of real estate markets across countries. The Mapletree Overseas Study Trip Fund is open to

students enrolled in the Master of Science in Applied Finance, Real Estate Track and is an expansion of the well-received Mapletree Real Estate Business Study Trip Grant for students enrolled in the undergraduate Real Estate Track.

### **Mapletree Research Fellows**

Outstanding postdoctoral researchers within the real estate sector will be appointed Mapletree Research Fellows. The Fellows will contribute to academic and industry relevant research, curriculum development, teaching and public seminars.

**SMU President, Professor Lily Kong** said, “SMU regularly engages key industry players such as Mapletree, in Singapore and the region, so our researchers can leverage a first-hand understanding of the needs of the industry and innovate in our approach. This significant gift from Mapletree Investments affirms the quality and rigour of SMU’s education and research within the sector, and the impact that it creates.

Recognising also the need to develop talent that deliver both strategic and economic value, our close collaboration with Mapletree ensures that our curriculum remains industry relevant and we continue to establish a strong position of leadership in real estate education and knowledge creation.

Together, SMU aims to work closely with Mapletree Investments to explore further opportunities for development and expansion of both academic and research activities in the real estate sector. We are grateful for the continued support and partnership of Mapletree Investments and we continue to look ahead towards our collective vision of growth.”

**Mr Hiew Yoon Khong, Mapletree’s Group Chief Executive Officer** said, “The real estate sector today requires its executives and leaders to possess a well-rounded, global understanding of the industry. Thus, providing this enhanced gift is a gesture of Mapletree’s commitment to expand the real estate programme which will provide students with skills that speak to the industry’s current needs. Ultimately, we hope the programme will equip the students with leadership skills and real estate knowledge to eventually manage, lead and grow the real estate sector in Singapore.”

“We are also happy to celebrate the commencement of the new Real Estate Track under SMU’s Master of Science in Applied Finance. It is our hope that this will grow into a Master’s programme of its own in the near future,” Mr Hiew added.

In September 2021, the maiden Mapletree Scholarships were awarded to two undergraduate students, Teo Jia Rui, Jerry and Donovan Teo Kai Siang, enrolled in the Bachelor of Science (Economics) and Bachelor of Business Management (Finance) respectively. The first Mapletree Postgraduate Scholarships were given out to three students – Jerrod Tan, Brandon Yeo Wen Yuan and Lee Hong Hui.

The enhanced contribution follows an amount of S\$3 million previously endowed to SMU when the Programme was established in 2018. The existing programme comprises the Mapletree Professorship in Real Estate, Mapletree Awards, Mapletree Real Estate Business Study Trip Grant for undergraduates and

Mapletree Speaker Events.

A ceremony was held at SMU on 22 November, in appreciation of the enhanced funding from Mapletree. It also provided scholarship recipients an opportunity to meet and get to know the leadership teams from SMU and Mapletree.

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Enclosures:

Photos of Appreciation Ceremony

Quotes from Scholarship Recipients

**About SMU Undergraduate Real Estate Track**

Launched in Academic Year 2018, the undergraduate Real Estate Track is open to all SMU undergraduates who are majoring (first or second major) in Finance or Economics. Designed with industrial inputs, the course content leverages their firm foundation in finance and economics, and further equips undergraduates with specialised knowledge and multi-disciplinary expertise which are essential to tap the real estate market for investments in the region and beyond. The curriculum is cross-disciplinary, comprising compulsory modules such as real estate economics, real estate investments & finance and real estate law; and other modules such as valuation and taxation, project financing, analytics in finance and real estate, urban economics and policy, and real estate development. Academic courses are complemented with exposure to real-world business practices, case studies and experiential learning opportunities, such as speaker events, local and overseas internships, as well as local and overseas study trips, giving them the opportunity to apply their classroom knowledge in real life corporate case studies and access to mentors and resources. The Real Estate Track will prepare students for diverse roles including real estate investment and development, advisory, leasing, financing; real estate investment trusts (REITs) management; investment banking; consulting and agency management. Graduates will be well-placed to take up positions in commercial and private banks, real estate consulting companies, real estate developers and REITs.

**About SMU Post Graduate Real Estate Track**

A new Real Estate Track will be established within SMU's accredited Master of Science in Applied Finance ("MAF") programme this year, to encourage continuity in the development of a talent pipeline for the industry.

The SMU MAF 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 curriculum also prepares students to pursue the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) designation. The

SMU MAF aims to raise the standard of practitioners' knowledge and skills in applied finance which has been identified as an area of critical training by the Economic Review Committee and the finance industry. MAF graduates can expect to be equipped with the 'hard' critical analytical and problem-solving skills and the 'soft' people and communication skills necessary to advance their careers in the fund management, banking and finance industries.

With the introduction of Real Estate as a Specialisation-specific Elective Module in the MAF programme, it now offers three elective modules which also includes Fintech and Analytics on top of 13 Core Modules.

### **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 to produce broad-based, creative and entrepreneurial leaders for the knowledge-based economy. SMU's education is known for its highly interactive, collaborative and project-based approach to learning.

Home to over 11,000 students across undergraduate, postgraduate professional and post-graduate research programmes, SMU, is comprised of six schools: School of Accountancy, Lee Kong Chian School of Business, School of Economics, School of Computing and 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 multidisciplinary combinations of these areas.

SMU emphasises rigorous, high-impact, multi- and interdisciplinary research that addresses Asian issues of global relevance. SMU faculty members collaborate with leading international researchers and universities around the world, as well as with partners in the business community and public sector. SMU's city campus is a modern 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)

### **About Mapletree**

Mapletree is a leading real estate development, investment, capital and property management company headquartered in Singapore. Its strategic focus is to invest in markets and real estate sectors with good growth potential. By combining its key strengths, the Group has established a track record of award-winning projects, and delivers consistent and high returns across real estate asset classes.

As at 31 March 2021, Mapletree owns and manages S\$66.3 billion of office, retail, logistics, industrial, data centre, residential, and lodging properties. The Group manages four Singapore-listed real estate investment trusts ("REITs") and six private equity real estate funds, which hold a diverse portfolio of assets in Asia Pacific, Europe, the United Kingdom ("UK") and the United States ("US").

The Group's assets are located across 13 markets globally, namely Singapore, Australia, Canada, China, Europe, Hong Kong SAR, India, Japan, Malaysia, South Korea, the UK, the US and Vietnam. To support its global operations, Mapletree has established an extensive network of offices in these countries.

For more information, please visit [www.mapletree.com.sg](http://www.mapletree.com.sg)

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