



## **Media Release**

### **SMU MBA ranked 6<sup>th</sup> in Asia and 43<sup>rd</sup> worldwide**

*QS 2024 Global MBA Rankings evaluates 315 programmes from 48 locations*

**Singapore, 26 October 2023 (Thursday)** – [Singapore Management University's](#) (SMU) [Lee Kong Chian School of Business](#) (LKCSB) has affirmed its standing as holding one of the world's best MBA programmes, according to the QS 2024 Global MBA Rankings. The School's MBA programme was ranked 6<sup>th</sup> in Asia and 43<sup>rd</sup> worldwide, amongst 315 MBA programmes from 48 locations around the globe.

The annual rankings, newly released by QS on 25 October 2023, are based on metrics evaluating each university's performance across weighted indicators. This is the first time that SMU LKCSB participated in the rankings, with the MBA programme performing within the top 13.7 per cent globally amongst more than 300 global peers.

Professor [Bert De Reyck](#), Dean of SMU's Lee Kong Chian School of Business, commented, "This achievement underscores the global stature of the SMU Lee Kong Chian School of Business and its MBA programme. Being relatively young by world standards, our MBA programme has nonetheless honed its edge through our continual effort to arm our graduates with pragmatic skills that are in demand by business and industry. Our strong performance within the global top 50 at this year's QS Rankings signals that we are making strides in our mission of nurturing diverse graduates for a world of work that is rapidly evolving."

#### *About the SMU MBA programme*

Started in 2009, the [SMU MBA](#) is well recognised as a programme that offers a purposefully planned curriculum with an Asian perspective, delivered by a strong faculty panel with extensive teaching and industry track record. THE SMU MBA offers flexibility in not only having two intakes a year, it also allows for its full-time MBA programme to be completed in 10 months or in 15 months, while the part-time MBA programme can be completed between 15 months or 18 months.

The programme comprises real-world learning from a blend of award-winning case studies on Asian and best practices of Western companies, interactive seminar-style pedagogy and exposure to an internationally diverse faculty. The curriculum is constantly updated to ensure that the programme keeps pace with the changes in its environment. The SMU MBA programme prepares our students to be digitally ready, analytics savvy and ESG conscious as well as being responsible economic citizens.

Students also benefit from the opportunities to engage with outstanding leaders from the business community, and an immersive and international learning experience comprising overseas exchanges and Overseas Immersion Programme (OIP). Post graduation, MBA students are offered the option of enrolling in complimentary MBA elective classes at SMU, to keep up with industry trends and take advantage of learning opportunities.

### *About the Ranking methodology*

SMU's MBA programme scored (out of 100) above the global average for four out of five indicators: thought leadership 88.5 (global average 51.8); return on investment 85.4 (global average 62.9); employability 64.7 (global average 45.7); and diversity 65.0 (global average 60.1).

The QS Thought Leadership metric comprises three elements. First, an Academic Reputation Index which evaluated responses from over 200,000 academics in 60 countries around the world; second, Research Impact which measures faculty productivity in specific academic fields; and third, PhD Faculty which refers to the percentage of the Business School faculty with PhDs. Thought Leadership reflects 15% of the total ranking score.

The QS Return on Investment metric reflects the average return on investment for specific business schools based on factors such as tuition levels, opportunity costs, salary growth, and expected career progression; as well as the time it would take for the graduate to pay back their investment. Return on Investment reflects 20% of the total ranking score.

The QS Employability metric, which has been running over the last five years, asks tens of thousands of global employers from which schools they prefer to hire business school graduates. It also assesses the percentage of graduates who accepted job offers three months post graduation. Employability reflects 40% of the total ranking score.

The QS Diversity metric reflects the gender balance and international mix, of faculty and the student body. Diversity reflects 10% of the total ranking score.

By consolidating insights from thousands of employers, graduates and academics, the QS Rankings give a glimpse at the global landscape for MBA degrees and help candidates make a more informed decision of a postgraduate programme. SMU LKCSB, which placed among the global top 50 here, is consistently ranked amongst the world's best, being one of the youngest business schools in the world and the only Singaporean business school to achieve ['Triple Crown' accreditation](#) in 2018. This distinction of being triple accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB), AMBA and European Quality Improvement System (EQUIS) is held by a select group of business schools around the world.

###

### **About SMU Lee Kong Chian School of Business (LKCSB)**

Singapore Management University (SMU) commenced its curriculum in 2000 with the School of Business, which welcomed its pioneer cohort of students in August 2000. In 2004, the Lee Foundation contributed S\$50 million to SMU in honour of the late Dr Lee Kong Chian, a well-known Southeast Asian businessman, philanthropist and community leader. In recognition of the Lee Foundation's generosity, SMU named in perpetuity the School of Business, the building and the university-wide scholars programme after Dr Lee Kong Chian.

Today, LKCSB is a dynamic Asian business school with more than 5,000 students and over a hundred full-time faculty members with doctorate degrees from renowned universities such as Cornell, Harvard, INSEAD, London Business School, Wharton, Oxford, Stanford and Yale. The school offers undergraduate, master's and doctoral programmes and is affiliated with a number of research centres such as the Sim Kee Boon Institute for Financial Economics, the Centre for Marketing Excellence and the Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship. [www.business.smu.edu.sg](http://www.business.smu.edu.sg)

### **About Singapore Management University**

Established in 2000, Singapore Management University (SMU) is recognised for its disciplinary and multi-disciplinary research that address issues of global relevance, impacting business, government, and society. Its distinctive education, incorporating innovative experiential learning, aims to nurture global citizens, entrepreneurs and change agents. With more than 12,000 students, SMU offers a wide range of bachelors, masters and PhD degree programmes in the disciplinary areas associated with six of its eight schools - Accountancy, Business, Computing, Economics, Law and Social Sciences. Its seventh school, the SMU College of Integrative Studies, offers degree programmes in deep, integrative interdisciplinary education. The College of Graduate Research Studies, SMU's eighth school, enhances integration and interdisciplinarity across the various SMU postgraduate research programmes that will enable our students to gain a holistic learning experience and well-grounded approach to their research. SMU also offers a growing number of executive development and continuing education programmes. Through its city campus, SMU focuses on making meaningful impact on Singapore and beyond through its partnerships with industry, policy makers and academic institutions. [www.smu.edu.sg](http://www.smu.edu.sg)