

SMU ranked 17th among world's top law school buildings

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THE Singapore Management University (SMU) School of Law may be just seven years old, but it has beaten its counterparts at Yale, Stanford and Harvard – when it comes to having an impressive building.

SMU was ranked No. 17, ahead of these top universities, in a list of the world's top 50 law school buildings. It was the only Asian entry.

The rankings were compiled by Best Choice Schools, an online resource based in the United States which aims to help students find the best universities in the world.

Top of the list was the law school of Durham University in England, followed by the University of Northumbria at Newcastle in England and the Thomas Jefferson School of Law in California in the US.

Said Best Choice: “These architectural giants were chosen for their ingenuity, aesthetic beauty and commitment to creating an environment that honours the history and study of law.

“Many of these buildings house some of the world's most prestigious and selective law programmes, and a number of them set a precedent for green building standards and solutions.” Best Choice described SMU's Li Ka Shing Library, where its law school library is located, as “a modern



Singapore Management University's Li Ka Shing Library (above), where its law school library is located, was described by Best Choice Schools as “a modern masterpiece of glass and greenery”. ST PHOTO: DESMOND LIM

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SMU's Kwa Geok Choo Law Library, due to be completed in 2017, will be a “stunning accompaniment to a campus that stands as a bastion of modern architecture”, it added.

SMU law school dean Yeo Tiong Min said the Kwa Geok Choo Law Library, a key feature of the new School of Law being built, “will take on a distinct architectural form reminiscent of a pearl”.

SMU president Arnoud De Meyer said yesterday: “The SMU campus offers an open environment in the heart of Singapore. I am delighted that our efforts are being recognised.”

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