It’s my pleasure to start this newsletter with some terrific news. LKCSB’s Master of Science in Wealth Management programme has been ranked second globally by the Financial Times. This accomplishment is a testament to the hard work of LKCSB faculty and staff over several years, and I’d like to especially recognise Prof Francis Koh’s contribution as academic director. To date, 399 individuals have successfully completed the Master of Science in Wealth Management. Read more about this achievement in the Issue Feature.

LKCSB faculty and students likewise have recently experienced much success in research areas and in competitions. You can read more about these in the School Highlights. And in our alumni column, we showcase some alumni who have shown much heart for volunteerism. Find out how they are giving back to society, even as they juggle their careers and family life.

I look forward to the new academic year, and the many accomplishments and milestones which we strive to achieve.

Professor Howard Thomas
Dean
LKCSB Chair in Strategic Management
Lee Kong Chian School of Business

ISSUE FEATURE:
Master of Science in Wealth Management is Ranked Second Globally

The Master of Science in Wealth Management programme has been ranked second globally by the Financial Times. The programme performed particularly well in the following areas: international exposure provided by the programme, percentage of students employed within three months after graduation, and students’ career progression three years after graduation.

>> Read More

SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

- Faculty Honours, Achievements and Promotions
- Dean Howard Thomas’ Recent Accolades
- LKCSB MOU with SGX
- LKCSB Advisory and Alumni Boards Updates
- Student Clubs & Students’ Achievements

>>More
Master of Science in Wealth Management is Ranked Second Globally

LKCSB’s Master of Science in Wealth Management programme has been ranked second in the world by the Financial Times (FT) in its Masters in Finance Post-experience Ranking 2013, making SMU the top institution in Asia to be ranked. The FT survey reviews masters-level programmes in finance of universities that have been running the programmes for at least four consecutive years, and which require graduates to have relevant work experience before enrolling in the programme. Ranked first in the survey was the London Business School, which has consistently topped the FT’s ranking. The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Florida International University and the University of Hong Kong were third, fourth and fifth respectively.

The FT survey evaluates areas such as providing students with international exposure, employment rate, faculty and student diversity, and current salaries of the alumni compared to their salaries pre-enrolment. Survey results revealed that MWM alumni earn an average of US$85,836 (adjusted for purchasing power parity) three years after graduation - an average increase of 58% after graduation. These results place them as the second-highest paid in the industry amongst the top five institutions in the ranking. The FT survey ranked the MWM programme first in ‘Careers’, ‘Placement Success’ and ‘International Course Experience’.

The MWM programme is currently headed by the academic director Professor Francis Koh. He is also a Professor of Finance at LKCSB. LKCSB welcomed its first batch of MWM students in 2004, and will be welcoming its 10th batch of students this year.

It is rewarding to know that the programme has done well, particularly in providing students with international exposure and preparing graduates for good careers. We are also proud to learn that, among the schools ranked, our graduates top the list in terms of career progression three years after graduation.

LKCSB Dean, Professor Howard Thomas

About the Masters of Science in Wealth Management (MWM) programme

SMU MWM is a pioneering and leading wealth management programme in Asia. This 12-month full-time programme was jointly designed by SMU, the Wealth Management Institute (WMI), Swiss Finance Institute (SFI), Yale University and key industry players. Its curriculum covers the value chain of wealth management, including asset management, investment and client advisory, and is designed to meet the needs of both aspiring and seasoned wealth managers who wish to deepen their skills, knowledge and expertise.

The modular structure allows professionals to pursue a master’s degree while working; those without wealth management experience can embark on an internship to enhance their employability. Designed in close consultation with the wealth management industry, the curriculum is regularly reviewed to reflect industry developments. There is a careful balance between the theory and practice of wealth management. The programme is taught by experienced faculty and competent industry professionals who share their knowledge and skills generously with the participants. Participants have ample opportunities to meet their peers and industry captains in seminars, talks, internships and site visits, and there is an overseas study block for participants to visit SFI and Yale to learn about Private Banking and Alternative Investments. Participants without wealth management experience are encouraged to take part in the internship programme to gain relevant experience and to enhance their employability.

Please visit www.smu.edu.sg/mwm for more information.
Faculty Honours, Achievements and Promotions

HONOURS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

LKCSB would like to congratulate:

Vice Provost Professor Francis Koh on receiving the Public Service Award (Silver) at this year’s National Day Awards.

Assistant Professor Wang Rong on being conferred the Sing Lun Fellowship.

FACULTY PROMOTIONS

LKCSB would like to congratulate the following faculty on their promotions:

Shyamala Deenathayalan
Senior Lecturer of Corporate Communication

Lieven Demeester
Associate Professor of Operations Management (Practice)

Lim Yun Fong
Associate Professor of Operations Management

HONOURS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

LKCSB would like to congratulate:

FACULTY PROMOTIONS

LKCSB would like to congratulate the following faculty on their promotions:

Associate Professor Gregor Halff
Associate Dean of General Management Programmes; Academic Director of MBA/EMBA

Associate Professor Mark Chong
Academic Director of MSc (Communication Management)

Professor Stephen Harney
Academic Director of MSc (Management)

Professor Thomas Menkhoff
Academic Director of MSc (Innovation)

Professor David Lee
Academic Director of the Global Master of Finance Dual Degree

Associate Professor Phoon Kok Fai
Academic Co-director of MSc (Applied Finance)

Senior Lecturer Chan Soon Huat
Academic Co-director of MSc (Applied Finance)

Assistant Professor Aurobindo Ghosh
Assistant Professor of Finance (Education)

Dean Howard Thomas’ Recent Accolades

Congratulations to Dean Howard Thomas on being conferred the Richard Whipp Lifetime Achievement Award by the British Academy of Management, his fourth Honorary Doctorate of Civil Law by Newcastle Business School of Northumbria University, UK, and his fifth Honorary Doctorate of Letters by Murdoch University, Australia.

These awards are testaments to his distinguished scholarship and outstanding contributions in the fields of education, business and management. The Richard Whipp Lifetime Award rewards an outstanding career within the Business and Management field. Receiving the award is based on nominations from colleagues and peers in the Business and Management community.

The honorary doctorate awarded to Dean Thomas by Murdoch University, Australia, is his fifth. In July, he was awarded his fourth honorary doctorate from Newcastle Business School of Northumbria University, UK. He received the third in 2011 by Grenoble School of Management in France, the second in 2008 by Swansea University, in Wales and his first in 2007 from University of Edinburgh.

NEW APPOINTMENTS

LKCSB would like to congratulate the following faculty on their new appointments:

Associate Professor Gregor Halff
Associate Dean of General Management Programmes; Academic Director of MBA/EMBA

Associate Professor Mark Chong
Academic Director of MSc (Communication Management)

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Assistant Professor Aurobindo Ghosh
Assistant Professor of Finance (Education)

LKCSB MOU with SGX

On Aug 21, 2013, Singapore Exchange (SGX) and LKCSB signed an MOU of partnership to enhance the investment knowledge of SMU students, investment professionals and the public. The investment and financial market-related contents from SGX’s own school, SGX Academy, and SGX’s investor resource portal, My Gateway, will be added to SMU’s business curriculum.

In October, SMU and SGX will also launch the SMU-SGX Quantitative Trading Course, a training programme open to students and the public. Designed and delivered by LKCSB faculty members in conjunction with industry partners, the course will give participants hands-on trading experience in SMU’s Simulated Trading Room.

LKCSB Advisory and Alumni Boards Updates

The notion of corporate relevance is deeply entrenched in the way LKCSB operates. The School safeguards its relevance as a business school by keeping in touch with business leaders and alumni formally through the School Advisory Board and the Alumni Board.

New and existing members have recently been appointed to a new three-year term. Click to see the composition of the Advisory Board and the Alumni Board.
Student Clubs & Students’ Achievements

ScotiaBank International Case Competition 2013 (1st runners-up) - Clarence Lee (BAcc & BBM), Ronald Tsui (BAcc & BBM), Ooi Chen Feng (BSc (Econ) & BBM), Garry Tan (BBM)

Royal Roads University International Case Competition 2013 (1st runners-up) - Wong Siew Yann Justin (BSc (Econ)), Vignesh Kumar Pathak (BBM), Chen Jinghan (BBM), Tay Yi Ling Daphne (BBM & BAcc)

Thammasat Undergraduate Business Challenge 2013 (1st runners-up) – Tay Yi Ling Daphne (BAcc & BBM), Vignesh Kumar Pathak (BBM), Faculty Advisor Ma Kheng Min, Ting Li Na (BBM & BSc (Econ))

Two teams from the Merchants’ Club emerged as the top Asian teams at the prestigious Chicago Mercantile Exchange Group Commodity Trading Challenge 2013.

Team Merchant 2, comprising Lim Tern Poh (leader), Akshat Kukreja, and Peh Ying Jie, ranked 4th in the preliminary round and 7th in the Championship round.

Team Merchant 1, comprising Alex Fong Jun Kang (leader), Song Jia Shun, Heng Jin Hau, Wee Wei Lee, and Tan Wei Li, ranked 12th in the preliminary round and 16th in the championship round.

UNIVERSITY STUDENT LIFE AWARDS

Congratulations to the following LKCSB faculty and students for being recognised at the recent University Student Life Award 2013.

Excellence Award
- Lim Zhi Yang Calvin (Individual – Sports & Adventure)
- E.y.E Investment Club (Group – Student Leadership / Community Integration)

Dean of Students Award (Student Leadership and Community Integration)
- Ananya Deshpande
- Goh Si Min Eugenia
- Ho Kian Hwee Kenneth
- Lee Ruijie Gary
- Loh Chang Yi
- Ooi Kang Sheng
- Yee Kuan Fu

Dean of Students Award (Arts)
- Foo Yuxi Lynette
- Koh Hong Ghee
- Lee Ke Lin Kenneth
- Leong Jing Yi
- Loo Wen Jie Sherrie
- Wong Ching Lai Arielle

Tan Tee Chee & Tsan Kah Ngooh Award
- Loh Wai Keong Eric (Sports and Adventure)

SMU Sports Award
- Sara Tan Li Ching

Dean of Students Award (Sports and Adventure)
- Lim Zongwei Alexi
- Ong Chin Yi Samuel
- Quek Li Jun Gwen
- Tan Hwee Ling Camelia Felicita
- Yeo Foo Ee Gary

Lee Foundation Student Life Scholarship
- Fung Cheah Ern Joy
- Lau Shernin Amanda

Outstanding Achievement Award
- Loe Wen Jie Sherrie (Arts)
- Goh Yujie Matthew (Sports and Adventure)
- Tan Wei Kiat Aaron (Sports and Adventure)
- Yeo Foo Ee Gary (Sports and Adventure)
- Sagar Hiren Desai (Student Leadership and Community Integration)

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Community service has been an integral part of the SMU curriculum as we seek to remind students to be responsible and civic-minded citizens. In this issue’s Alumni Column, we speak to alumni who continue their passion for volunteerism in their own ways.

Edmund Leow Zhen Wei (MAF Alumnus)

… works at PSA Corporation as a Deputy Manager and is currently volunteering at the Programme Advisory Committee for English Programmes (PACE).

“The opportunity to volunteer came by chance. After graduation in 2007, other than work I was looking for exposure in a different industry. A friend introduced me to the committee and I thought being able to volunteer and gain awareness of the local English media industry was a good idea. I was also interested to find out if it is possible to influence Mediacorp to improve their content on Channel 5.”

The highest of distinctions is service to others.

Tan Wei Lan (EMBA Alumnus)

… works at Great Eastern Life Assurance Company as Lead Strategist, The Next Practice, Customer Experience and is currently volunteering at Singapore Soka Association (SSA) as the Vice Chairman cum Vice Youth Chief.

“I was inspired by the President of Soka Gakkai International, Dr Daisaku Ikeda, who wrote in his book, “The Human Revolution”, that ‘a great human revolution in just a single individual will help achieve a change in the destiny of a nation, and further, can even enable a change in the destiny of all humankind’. I am happy and privileged to be able to help others, and to do my little part to contribute to peace, happiness and harmony of our community or society.

By expanding from a lesser self to the greater self, one can derive even greater joy and fulfillment in contributing to others’ happiness and to the betterment of the society.”

If you light a lantern for another, it will also brighten your way.

Koh Ming Zhen (BBM Alumnus)

… works at ExxonMobil Asia Pacific as a Strategic Alliance Manager and is currently volunteering at the Singapore Boccia Team under the Singapore Disability Sport Council (Boccia is a type of wheelchair sport).

“I started helping out because a fellow SMU classmate (who is an elite Boccia athlete who represented Singapore in the 2012 London Paralympics) invited me to her training as her team needed more volunteers. I got to know her when I was doing community service with the SMU Rotaract Club.

Volunteering is a lot easier than people think, and helping others can be as simple as giving one to two hours a month. I find those I help to be a happy group because it’s easy to make them happy with the small things in life - much less complicated than in the corporate world.”

No help is too little or too small.

MAF Celebrates 10 Years!

In celebration of the 10-year success of the MAF programme, a gala dinner will be thrown for our MAF students, alumni and distinguished guests. The event will commence with a professional forum followed by dinner and networking. The MAF Alumni Outreach Fund will be officially launched that night. Look out for emails with more information about this exciting event!

SAVE THE DATE!
Date: Friday, 25 October 2013
Time: 6:30pm till late
Venue: Carlton Hotel Grand Ballroom
Cost: S$38 for SMU alumni; S$88 for non-SMU alumni

We look forward to your participation and contributions to LKCSB! For LKCSB alumni who would like to participate in any of our activities or contribute ideas, please e-mail Mr Sean Wong (wongyeowsheong@hotmail.com), Chair of the LKCSB Alumni Board.