我国第一所市区大学诞生了

（大纪元记者郑阳新加坡报道）7月31日中午，新加坡管理大学（SMU）的数百名师生与工作人员进行了“迁址仪式”，车队与步行队伍浩浩荡荡地从武吉知马旧校园前往位于史丹福路的新校园。这是我国第一所在市区内

新加坡管理大学成立于2000年1月12日。在5年半的时间里，学生由当初的300多人增加到目前的3,800多人。教职员则超过200人。上午8点10分，新大总裁华德・亨特教授在武吉知马旧校园致词时说，大家等了这么多年，终于等到了这历史性的一刻，心情的激动和兴奋可想而知。进入新校园后，新大师生将积极参加社区活动，为促进该地区的商业繁荣和社会服务做出贡献。他非常感谢为“迁址仪式”付出

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On the morning of 31 July 2005, hundreds of faculty, staff and students of the Singapore Management University (SMU) formed a contingent and carried out their symbolic move from the old Bukit Timah campus to the new city campus on Stamford Road. SMU is the first university in Singapore to occupy a city campus.

SMU was established on 12 January 2000. In five years, the student population has increased from an initial 300 to over 3,800 today. There is more than 200 faculty members. At eight in the morning, Professor Howard Hunter, President of SMU, said at a speech at the Bukit Timah campus that everybody had been waiting for this momentous day of the move and he could imagine the joy and excitement. After setting foot into the city, SMU faculty and students will be very active in various community activities to contribute to surrounding financial and business districts. Professor Hunter was very grateful for participants and organizers of the symbolic move who had put in a lot of hard work.

Alumna Ms Nurhana binte Mohamad Taip said in her speech that during her university selection, she was in a dilemma on whether to choose SMU or other universities with longer histories and more comprehensive facilities. Eventually she chose SMU after a long consideration. She was firm that she had no regrets because she made many good friends in SMU and she had many lovely memories of school life in SMU.

Mr Robert Andrew Schlesinger, Director of SMU’s Advancement and Alumni, said that he was extremely happy to have joined SMU. He was proud of the high quality of professors and students there. He said that SMU is a unique privately-run institution where students have a lot of room for autonomy and freedom to scope their university life. He added that in a few years’ time, a new MRT near the university will be ready. Traffic will be more convenient then.

Another alumna Ms Tan Hai Lih who is now working in Far East Organisation said that one of her key considerations for choosing to study in SMU was the attractive system here where students are free to choose their subjects and extra-curricular activities.

A flag lowering ceremony followed all the speeches. The SMU flag was lowered to the strains of an elegant piece of music. Four lions from the lion dance troupe revved up the atmosphere thereafter.

At nine in the morning, the university body boarded double-decker buses and headed to the new city campus in high spirits. Students garbed in various ethnic costumes proclaimed SMU’s name from the vehicles, drumming up the mood of passer bys and drawing smiles and waves from pedestrians. The contingent held colourful balloons in their parade to the city.

An hour later, the parade reached the new city campus. After the flag raising ceremony, Chairman Mr Ho Kwon Ping made some welcome remarks. Multi-colour balloons were released to the sky while a band plays, dotting the blue sky beautifully.