SMU establishes Yong Pung How Professorship in Law

By CHARMIAN KOK

SINGAPORE Management University (SMU) is to have a new chair, the Yong Pung How Professorship in Law, the university announced yesterday. The professorship aims to advance the research and teaching of law in SMU and whoever is appointed will lend his or her expertise to the development of the university’s undergraduate law curriculum.

Former chief justice Yong Pung How, who is chairman of the SMU School of Law’s advisory board, believes that the professorship will "propel the school quickly to international standing". Mr Yong said the appointed faculty will "provide much gravitas and substance to legal research and teaching, and will be an asset to grooming SMU’s new generation of law undergraduates".

The appointed faculty will contribute to the School of Law in research, teaching, faculty development, mentorship of younger law faculty and conducting an annual Yong Pung How distinguished lecture series.

The professorship was made possible by a $3 million endowed contribution by the Yong Shook Lin Trust, the largest ever donation to the SMU School of Law.

Book prizes have also been established in SMU’s School of Law to motivate students to achieve greater academic excellence. The David Marshall Prize for Top Student in Criminal Law was also established to recognise an outstanding full-time law undergraduate who tops the cohort in SMU’s Criminal Law course. The Wong Partnership Prize for the Most Outstanding Law Graduate recognises the most outstanding graduating student from the School of Law each year.

SMU’s new School of Law was established this January.