



8 March 2022

Dear Colleagues,

I am very pleased to announce that **Prof Luke Ong**, an eminent Singaporean academic who is currently Professor of Computer Science at the University of Oxford, will be appointed as a **Distinguished University Professor** at NTU from 1 August 2022 and as **Vice President (Research)** from 1 January 2023.

I am also pleased to announce that **Prof Lam Khin Yong** will be appointed to the newly created role of **Vice President (Industry)**, from 1 January 2023, after his current appointment leading NTU's research portfolio for the last eight years concludes at the end of this year. We are delighted that Prof Lam will continue at NTU as a post-tenure faculty member, and that we will benefit from his significant experience in further deepening NTU's engagement with industry, one of the goals of the NTU 2025 strategic plan.

Prof Luke Ong

A [Distinguished University Professor](#) is the highest faculty appointment at NTU. The appointment was established by the Board of Trustees in 2017 to recognise exceptional scholarly and professional achievements. Prof Ong will join [six current NTU faculty members](#) who have been appointed to this university-wide professorship.

Prof Ong received his undergraduate degree from the University of Cambridge, achieving triple first-class honours in mathematics. He was a recipient of the President of the Republic of Singapore Scholarship and the Overseas Merit Scholarship from Singapore's Public Service Commission. He then strategically transitioned to the rapidly developing field of computer science and completed his postgraduate diploma and doctorate degree in Computer Science from the University of Cambridge and Imperial College London, respectively. He was recruited to the faculty in the Department of Computer Science at the University of Oxford in 1994 and was promoted to Professor of Computer Science in 2004.

Prof Ong previously served as the Head of the Research Theme in Programming Languages and as Director of Graduate Studies in the Department of Computer Science, and as Tutorial Fellow in Computation in Merton College at Oxford. He has held visiting appointments at the University of Cambridge, École Normale Supérieure in Paris, Bell Laboratories in New Jersey, and the National University of Singapore. In recognition of his outstanding contributions to the fields of logic and computation, Prof Ong was selected as a co-winner of the Alonzo Church Award from the Association for Computing Machinery and related professional organisations in 2017.

Prof Ong's considerable expertise and international experience in the areas of mathematics, informatics and computer science have benefitted Singapore's research ecosystem for more than 15 years. Since 2013, he has served as a Member of the Academic Research Council (ARC) that advises the Singapore Government on academic research policies and strategies in universities and on the allocation of research funding to Singaporean universities in line with international standards. I have had the pleasure of interacting with Prof Ong from 2014 to 2017, when I served with him as a member of the ARC. He chaired an expert panel on Mathematics and Informatics for ARC between 2006 and 2014.

Prof Lam Khin Yong

As part of NTU 2025's ambition to further strengthen our substantial and rapidly growing industry engagements to benefit research, education and innovation, a new senior leadership role, Vice President (Industry), has been created and unanimously approved by the NTU Board of Trustees.

Prof Lam Khin Yong will be the first holder of this senior leadership role, and we are very fortunate that he will take up this role after successfully leading NTU's research portfolio for the past eight years.

This new role will provide much-needed bandwidth and focus to expand our major industry connections. It will also help to better coordinate and connect the nearly 250 small, medium and large industry collaborations that currently exist at NTU, by shaping and streamlining our activities through such avenues as the newly established Global Alliance of Industries @ NTU (GAIN).

With the dedication and hard work of the NTU faculty and staff, directors of research centres and institutes, and the academic and administrative leadership team, NTU has seen a record research volume in each of the past five years during Prof Lam's tenure as head of the research ecosystem.

With this steady increase in peer-reviewed competitive research funding, there has been a significant increase in the number of university-wide research publications in top journals and in the intellectual property generated from cutting-edge research. Several new corporate laboratories with global industry leaders and a new Research Centre of Excellence have also been established at NTU in the past four years. I express my profound gratitude to Prof Lam for his many years of significant contributions to NTU.

The Vice President (Research), Vice President (Industry) and Vice President (Innovation and Entrepreneurship) positions at NTU are closely interconnected and synergistic roles. They provide significant strategic growth opportunities for NTU in the areas of research, on-campus and continuing education, innovation, entrepreneurship and industry interactions. All these positions will report to the President of NTU.

Please join me in welcoming Prof Ong to NTU in his new roles and in expressing our gratitude to Prof Lam as he transitions to a new leadership role. Along with the senior leadership team, I look forward to working with them as we further NTU's growth and momentum, for NTU 2025 and beyond.

With my warmest wishes,

Subra Suresh
President, NTU Singapore



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