

Educating not just students, but delegates too

Students from all around the world enroll in the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy for an education in good governance and effective policy-making. But the LKY School is also a favourite destination for foreign government officials, who visit the campus to learn about Singapore and its exemplary approach to public sector operations.

Recently, four delegations from around the region paid a visit to the LKY School to find out more about the school's administration and programmes, and to better understand the Singapore model of governance.

The first group, consisting of Members of Parliament, technical staff and a journalist from Timor Leste, were given a brief introduction to the LKY School and its programmes. They then took a tour of the campus before sitting down to an hour-long lecture by Associate Professor Kenneth Paul Tan, Vice Dean (Academic Affairs), on the topic of "Good governance and lessons from Singapore". Associate Prof Tan welcomed questions from the delegates throughout the session, which resulted in a lively discussion.

Another group of delegates from Timor Leste also visited the LKY School a few days later. This group – which included several high-ranking representatives from Timor Leste's Civil Service Commission, Prime Minister's Office, Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Social Solidarity – were received by Ms Ann Yom Steel, Director, Executive Education and Special Duties at the LKY School and similarly took a tour of the campus. They also met with the school's dean, Professor Kishore Mahbubani, as well as other staff and faculty members of the LKY School.

The LKY School also hosted a contingent from a university in Thailand to find out more about the school's administrative operations and corporate services. Dr Chan Mun Kitt, director of Corporate Services, received the visitors, while the Corporate Services department gave them a presentation on the school's risk management practices and its human resources management, in particular how to handle staff conflicts. The department also shared information about the LKY School's knowledge management, including the new customer relationship management system that the school will be implementing soon.

Meanwhile, a delegation from the Royal University of Bhutan also visited the LKY School for an exchange on academic affairs. Assistant Dean (Academic Affairs) Dr Wong Marn Heong and Associate Professor Dr Heng Yee Kuang met with the delegates to discuss a variety of matters, including the importance of incorporating mental wellness and mindfulness as part of public policy.

These delegation visits underscore the LKY School's reputation as one of the foremost centres of learning for matters of governance and public policy, offering not just top-rated graduate programmes but also a model for public policy education and an inroad into understanding Singapore's methods of government.