

29 June 2022

**For Immediate Release**

**Appointment of the 12th S R Nathan Fellow for the Study of Singapore**

The **Institute of Policy Studies (IPS)** is pleased to announce the appointment of **Professor Wang Gungwu**, University Professor at the National University of Singapore (Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences), as its 12th S R Nathan Fellow for the Study of Singapore, for the period from August 2022 to May 2023.

As an S R Nathan Fellow, Professor Wang will pursue research related to public policy and governance in Singapore. He will deliver his series of lectures at the National University of Singapore (NUS). Thereafter, his lectures will be compiled and published as a book.

The IPS-Nathan Lectures are free and open to all. Held at NUS, they enrich the vibrant intellectual and cultural life on campus, and advance understanding and discourse on issues of national interest among the general public. Details of Professor Wang's lectures will be published on the IPS website in due course.

A biographical note on Professor Wang is provided herewith.

**About the S R Nathan Fellowship for the Study of Singapore**

The S R Nathan Fellowship was announced in 2013 at IPS' 25th anniversary gala dinner. IPS wanted to recognise the unique contributions of Mr S R Nathan — Singapore's sixth and longest-serving President — to public service and the development of Singapore. With generous support from individual and corporate donors, the Institute raised around S\$5.9 million (including a matching government grant) to endow the fellowship.

The S R Nathan Fellowship for the Study of Singapore serves to further IPS' core mission: to research and analyse policy issues and challenges, build bridges between key thought leaders, and communicate the Institute's work to a wider audience.

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## About Professor WANG Gungwu



Professor Wang Gungwu has been University Professor at the National University of Singapore (NUS) since 2007, and Emeritus Professor at the Australian National University (ANU) since 1988. He is best known for his explorations of Chinese history in the long view, and for his writings on the Chinese diaspora.

Professor Wang began his teaching career at University of Malaya (UM), Singapore, in 1957 after completing his doctorate at University of London, School of Oriental and African Studies. He went on to become Dean of the Faculty of Arts at UM (1962-1963) and a Professor of History at the university (1963-1968). At ANU, Professor Wang headed the Department of Far Eastern History (1968-1975, 1980-1986) and was Director at the Research School of Pacific Studies (1975-1980). From 1986 to 1995, he was Vice-Chancellor of the University of Hong Kong. He later joined NUS in 1997 as a Professor (1997-2007) and Director of the East Asian Institute (1997-2007).

In Singapore, Professor Wang is currently serving as a Senior Fellow at the Diplomatic Academy at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and an Adviser to the Ministry of Education's (MOE) Social Science Research Council.

His previous notable appointments in Singapore include Chairman of the Panel of Advisers for the National Collection on China and the Chinese Diaspora from 1997 to 2000, Chairman of the National Library Board's Advisory Panel for Chinese Library Services from 2000 to 2003, and Chairman of the Expert Panel of MOE's Academic Research Fund from 2006 to 2012.

Professor Wang also holds several positions in various universities and organisations around the world, including Foreign Honorary Member of the American Academy of Arts and Science, Honorary Member of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and Fellow at the Australian Academy of the Humanities. He is also a Commander of the British Empire (CBE) and an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO).

Professor Wang was conferred various international awards, such as the International Academic Prize, Fukuoka Asian Cultural Prizes in 1994 and the Tang Prize in Sinology in 2020. He was also awarded the Distinguished Service Order in 2020 by the Government of Singapore.

## **About the Institute of Policy Studies**

The [Institute of Policy Studies \(IPS\)](#) was established in 1988 as an independent think-tank to study and generate public policy ideas in Singapore. Today, IPS is an autonomous research centre of the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy at the National University of Singapore. The Institute continues to advance its core mission: to analyse public policy; build bridges between thought leaders; and communicate research findings to a wide audience. IPS examines domestic policy challenges across a variety of fields and studies the attitudes of Singaporeans through surveys of public perception. It adopts a multi-disciplinary approach in its analysis and takes the long-term view in its strategic deliberation and research.

### **For media queries**

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