

8 DECEMBER 2017

For Immediate Release

Appointment of the 5th S R Nathan Fellow for the Study of Singapore

The **Institute of Policy Studies (IPS)** is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr Cheong Koon Hean, Chief Executive Officer of the Housing & Development Board, as its 5th S R Nathan Fellow for the Study of Singapore, for the period from 1 January – 31 May 2018.

As S R Nathan Fellow, Dr Cheong will pursue research related to public policy and governance in Singapore. She will also deliver a series of IPS-Nathan Lectures at the National University of Singapore (NUS). Thereafter, Dr Cheong's lectures will be compiled and published in 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 Dr Cheong's lectures will be published on the IPS website in due course.

Dr Cheong's CV 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.

.

enc.

Bio of Dr Cheong Koon Hean



Dr **CHEONG** Koon Hean is the CEO of the Housing and Development Board (HDB) overseeing the development and management of some 1 million public housing flats in 26 towns/estates. Since joining the HDB in 2010, she has introduced a new generation of public housing and large-scale sustainability initiatives for the development of HDB towns, as well as initiated the Smart HDB Town framework.

Dr Cheong was the CEO of the Urban Redevelopment Authority from 2004 to 2010, in charge of strategic land use planning, conservation of built heritage and the real estate market. She played a key role in the planning and development of major growth areas, such as Marina Bay as well as the Sino-Singapore Tianjin Eco City. She is also a nominating committee member of the Lee Kuan Yew World City Prize.

Dr Cheong is currently on the Boards of the HDB and the National University of Singapore, and is the Deputy President and Council member of the International Federation for Housing and Planning. She was formerly a Board member of URA, JTC, Jurong Port, NHB and the Civil Service College. She was appointed an honorary fellow of the Singapore Institute of Architects and the Institute of Planners; and as the Tan Swan Beng Endowed Professor in Nanyang Technological University. Active internationally, she served on various expert panels, including the World Economic Forum's Real Estate and Urbanisation Global Agenda Council and was a former Global Trustee of the Urban Land Institute. Amongst others, she was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal for outstanding public service, the University Gold Medal and Honorary Doctorate in Architecture, the 2010 Convocation Medal for professional excellence (University of Newcastle) as well as the IWF's 2011 Woman Who Make A Difference Award (Washington DC). In 2016, she became the first Asian to be conferred the JC Nichols Prize for Urban Visionaries by the Urban Land Institute (Washington DC) and the Lynn S Beedle Lifetime Achievement Award by the Council for Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat (Chicago).

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

Ariel Tan

Associate Director (Strategic Planning and Communications)

Email: ariel.tan@nus.edu.sg

Tel: +65 6516 8380