



11 December 2017

Professor Kishore Mahbubani
Dean, LKY School of Public Policy
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Dear Kishore

As you step down as the founding Dean of the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy after 13 years, I want to thank you for your significant contributions to the School.

When you were appointed as Dean of the School in August 2004, you drew from your extensive experience in the diplomatic service to build the School up. Your international standing as a leading expert on Asian and international affairs - you were named as one of *Foreign Policy's* Top Global Thinkers in 2010 and 2011 – helped to establish the new school's standing.

You built up the School with dedication and foresight. In 2005, the School started with less than fifty students and a budget of S\$5 million. Today, the School has close to 400 students and a total equity of over S\$570 million.

You laid a solid academic and institutional foundation for the School. The School's postgraduate and executive education programmes are among the strongest in the world. Today, the School has a diverse mix of scholars, academics, and prominent public policy practitioners to conduct research and provide real-world insights in its classes. The School has more than 2,600 graduate alumni in 89 countries. It has also trained more than 15,000 professionals around the world through its executive education programmes. In 2017, the School received more than 1,300 applications for its Masters programmes – a record in the history of the School and evidence of the School's standing as an academic institution.

The School has leveraged your network of experienced public policy practitioners in Singapore and the world. It has attracted global luminaries like Nobel Laureates Elinor Ostrom, Amartya Sen, Muhammad Yunus; former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, US Federal Reserve Chairman Paul Volcker, former UK Prime Ministers Tony Blair and David Cameron, former Australia Prime Minister Kevin Rudd, and Pulitzer prize-winning author Thomas Friedman to speak at the School. The late Mr Lee Kuan Yew did too.

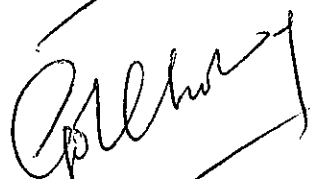
The School has come a long way. It has firmly established a strong reputation as Asia's leading public policy school and a thought leader in key areas of public policy, such as global governance, water and environment policy and competitiveness in Asia. Today, the School has four internationally recognised research centres, namely, Asia Competitiveness Institute, Centre on Asia and Globalisation, Institute of Policy Studies, and Institute of Water Policy.

The School has become a highly respected globally public policy school. It was able to forge strong collaborations and partnerships with institutions like the Harvard Kennedy School. It has also made strategic linkages as a member of the Association of Professional School of International Affairs (APSIA) and the Global Public Policy Network (GPPN). The School has served on the APSIA's Executive Committee and remains the only institution in Singapore which is incorporated as a full member of the APSIA. In 2006, the School became the first Asian school to be invited to join the GPPN network established by Columbia School of International and Public Affairs, London School of Economics and Political Science, and Sciences Po. The affiliation with the GPPN network testified to the School's standing as a thought leader in global public policy education.

The School and NUS have benefitted greatly from your Midas touch in fundraising. With your persuasiveness, LKYSPP has become the third best endowed public policy school in the world, in a short span of 13 years. The School continues to enjoy strong support from its donors, many of whom are driven by the mission of the School to inspire leaders, improve governance and transform Asia. This has enabled the School to generously provide for many from the region and beyond to study public policy in Singapore.

As you embark on the next phase of your life, you leave behind a strong legacy and a firm foundation for your successors to build on. On behalf of the LKY School Governing Board, I thank you for your years of impactful and dedicated service to the School. I wish you every success in your future endeavours.

Yours sincerely



GOH CHOK TONG
Chairman of the Governing Board
Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy