

# **4th SMU ROSA Annual Symposium On Successful Ageing**

**Creating Age-friendly Environments:  
Fostering Successful Ageing**

**Programme Booklet**

22 October 2024, Tuesday  
9:00am - 1:00pm



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# Programme

## 22 October 2024, Tuesday

9:00am - 9:30am	Registration and breakfast
9:30am - 9:40am	Welcome address by <b>Prof Timothy Clark</b> , SMU Provost
9:40am - 9:50am	Guest of Honour's address by <b>Mr Tan Kiat How</b> , Senior Minister of State for Communication and Information & National Development
9:50am - 10:00am	Break
10:00am - 10:40am	<u>Ageing Well in Asia</u> <b>Dr Aiko Kikkawa</b> , Senior Economist, Asian Development Bank
10:40am - 11:10am	<u>Clue to Successful Ageing in Singapore</u> <b>Prof Paulin Straughan</b> , Director, Centre for Research on Successful Ageing
11:10am - 11:50am	<u>Panel Discussion</u> <b>Dr Aiko Kikkawa</b> , Senior Economist, Asian Development Bank <b>Prof Paulin Straughan</b> , Director, ROSA <b>Prof Ursula Staudinger</b> , Rector, Technische Universität Dresden Moderator <b>Assoc Prof William Tov</b> , Deputy Director, ROSA
11:50am - 1:00pm	Lunch
1:00pm	End

# Welcome Message from the Director



## **Professor Paulin Straughan**

Director, Centre for Research on Successful Ageing (ROSA)

A very warm welcome to the 4th ROSA Symposium on Successful Ageing.

In August 2023, Singapore announced the national programme Age Well SG to support seniors to age successfully within their homes and communities. This would require us to re-examine the physical and social needs and environments of our communities to ensure they are well-equipped to meet the needs of our older adults. In this light, we decided to focus on the theme of ageing in place for our symposium this year to better understand how we can support older adults to live independently within their community by drawing on both local and international research findings and strategies. For the symposium today, we are excited to have Dr Aiko Kikkawa from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) share with us the key challenges and strategies highlighted from studies across Asia in ensuring independence in older adults as they age in place; in particular, the resources necessary in a community to maintain the health and social well-being of older adults. For the second presentation, we will be presenting on how the research at the Centre of Research on Successful Ageing (ROSA) provides valuable insights into what communities can do to promote ageing in place.

I would like to express my gratitude to our guest of honour Mr Tan Kiat How, Senior Minister of State, for taking the time to grace our event today, as well as to our esteemed speakers and panellists for their valuable contributions to the symposium. I would also like to thank The Ngee Ann Kongsi for their generous support of ROSA, and to the Ministry of Education for supporting ageing research through the Tier 3 research grant “Dynamic and Holistic Monitoring of the Well-Being of Older Adults”. It is our privilege to be supported in our pursuit of such meaningful research. ROSA is also deeply grateful to SMU President Professor Lily Kong and SMU Provost Professor Timothy Clark for their guidance and support of the centre.

Last but not least, I would like to express my thanks to the ROSA team, SMU colleagues, students and dear friends from the Singapore Life Panel®, of whom this symposium would not be possible without.

Thank you for taking part in the 4th ROSA Annual Symposium. We look forward to hosting you again in the future. If you have any questions, or would like to collaborate with us, please drop us a note through our website [rosa.smu.edu.sg](https://rosa.smu.edu.sg).

# Welcome Address by SMU Provost



**Professor Timothy Clark**  
SMU Provost

Prof Clark has been Provost of SMU since 1 April 2019. During his time at SMU, Prof Clark has undertaken a range of initiatives aimed at enhancing the distinctive DNA of SMU's education and the impact of its research. These have included launching the College of Integrative Studies and its Individualised Major, launching the College of Integrative Studies and its Individualised Major, launching the College of Graduate Research Studies and its interdisciplinary courses, launching the Industry Practice Masters in SMU Academy, and the Masters of Sustainability. Under Prof. Clark's leadership the University has launched a series of significant research initiatives including its Centre on Research for Successful Ageing (ROSA) the Singapore Green Finance Centre, a collaboration with Imperial College London, and the Urban Institute.

# Guest of Honour's Address



## **Mr Tan Kiat How**

Senior Minister of State

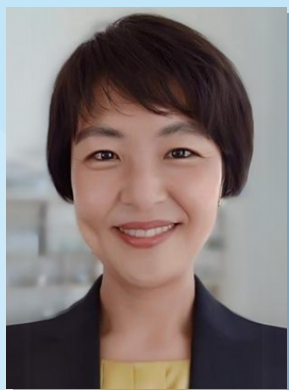
Ministry of Digital Development and Information & Ministry  
of National Development

Mr Tan is the Senior Minister of State in the Ministry of National Development and the Ministry of Communications and Information. Mr Tan is also Chairman of REACH, the lead agency in facilitating whole-of-government efforts to engage and connect with Singaporeans on national and social issues close to their hearts. Mr Tan had also previously served in the Prime Minister's Office as Minister of State.



# Ageing Well in Asia

*Speaker & Panellist*



## **Dr Aiko Kikkawa**

Senior Economist, Asian Development Bank

Dr. Aiko Kikkawa is senior economist in the ADB's Economic Research and Development Impact Department. Her research portfolio covers population aging and demographic change, international migration and remittances, and economic analyses of development projects. She is the lead author of the Asian Development Policy Report 2024: Aging Well in Asia, and the Asian Economic Integration Report 2019/2020: Demographic Change, Productivity and the Role of Technology. She currently leads ADB's technical assistance project supporting the introduction and implementation of aging and retirement surveys in Asia. Dr. Kikkawa obtained her Ph.D. in Development Economics from the National Graduate Institute of Policy Studies, Japan, and Master's degree from the University of Oxford, UK.

# Clue to Successful Ageing in Singapore

*Speaker & Panellist*



## **Professor Paulin Straughan**

Director, Centre for Research on Successful Ageing

Professor Straughan's research interests center around the sociology of family and medical sociology. She is the Director and Principal Investigator at the Centre for Research on Successful Ageing (ROSA). Separately, she leads a project investigating the environmental risk factors in childhood obesity. She was also the Principal Investigator of a recently concluded project on

Successful Ageing in Singapore, Seoul and Shanghai which involved multiple institutions and a multidisciplinary team. Professor Straughan serves as Consultant on numerous projects commissioned by various government agencies, including the Marriage and Parenthood Survey 2016 & 2012 commissioned by the National Population and Talent Division. She has published in both sociology and medical journals, like Social Science and Medicine, Cancer, and Cancer Causes and Control. Her books include Marriage Dissolution in Singapore: Revisiting Family Values and Ideology in Marriage, and Ultra-Low Fertility in Pacific Asia: Trends, Causes and Policy Issue (with Gavin Jones and Angelique Chan).

Professor Straughan was a Nominated Member of Parliament from 2009 to 2011, during which she argued for work-life balance and the nurture of a more pro-family social environment. Her community involvement includes serving on the Child and Youth Health Task Force, and the Infectious Disease Research Advisory Group (both at the Ministry of Health).

She is happily married to an Applied Mathematician, and they have 2 sons.



# Panel Discussion

## *Panellist*



### **Professor Ursula Staudinger**

Rector, Technische Universität Dresden

Professor Ursula M. Staudinger is a psychologist and ageing researcher. She is one of the world's leading lifespan psychologists known for her work on the positive plasticity of ageing and her research on resilience and on wisdom. Recently she has conducted groundbreaking studies to better understand the effects of work on ageing. She is the recipient of the

Braunschweig Research Award 2015 and of the Seneca Medal 2017. Since August 2020 she is President of Technical University Dresden and Professor of Interdisciplinary Aging Science. Before she was Robert N. Butler Professor of Sociomedical Sciences at Columbia University and Inaugural Director of the Columbia Aging Center. Earlier in her career, she was the Dean of the Jacobs Center on Lifelong Learning at Jacobs University Bremen and Vice President of the University and started as a Group Leader at the Max Planck Institute for Human Development in Berlin. She was Vice President and Foreign Secretary of the German National Academy of Sciences and is Chair of the Board of the German Institute of Population Research. She is a Fellow of the Gerontological Society of America (GSA), the American Psychological Association (APA), and the Association of Psychological Science (APS). She has been advising governments in different countries on questions of population ageing.

# Panel Discussion

*Moderator*



## **Associate Professor William Tov**

Deputy Director, Centre for Research on Successful Ageing

Dr William Tov is Associate Professor of Psychology at the Singapore Management University (SMU). He completed his doctorate in social and personality psychology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. His research focuses on the multilevel processes that underlie well-being. At the macro-level, he is interested in cultural similarities and differences in well-being, as well as the societal-level conditions associated with well-being. At the micro-level, he examines daily fluctuations in emotion, satisfaction, and meaning — and how these fluctuations are influenced by positive personality traits, memory, and social interactions. He also examines the expression of emotion on social media and the veracity of such expressions as indicators of well-being. At SMU, he has received recognition for his dedication to teaching excellence and was awarded an innovative teaching award. He has also been a recipient of the Lee Kong Chian Fellowship at SMU. His work has been published in the *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, *Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology*, and the *Journal of Personality*.

# Our Supporters



**Ministry of Education**  
SINGAPORE

The ROSA Annual Symposium series is made possible through the generous support of The Ngee Ann Kongsi.

The Ngee Ann Kongsi is a non-profit Teochew philanthropic organisation focused on educational, cultural, and charitable activities in Singapore, while placing a deep emphasis on preserving the Teochew heritage. The organisation is an active advocate in education. It was founded in 1845 by Teochew immigrants from China to provide welfare services for its members, and it was formally incorporated under the Ngee Ann Kongsi (Incorporation) Ordinance in 1933.

The research at ROSA is also supported by the Ministry of Education, Singapore, under its Academic Research Fund Tier 3 programme (Award reference number: MOE2019-T3-1-006).

# About ROSA



## Centre for Research on Successful Ageing

ROSA is a multidisciplinary research centre based in SMU. It was established with an MOE Tier 3 social sciences research grant, as well as the generous support of The Ngee Ann Kongsi.

Research at ROSA seeks to define and measure a holistic construct of well-being and to identify the factors that impact Singaporeans' well-being as they progress through the later phases of life. Through close collaboration with government and other partner agencies, ROSA also aims to translate research insights into policy innovations that advance the well-being of older adults holistically and promote successful ageing in Singapore. ROSA brings together a diverse team of leading international and local researchers in ageing and age-related issues from various disciplines. Through empirical evidence derived from a longitudinal methodological approach, the multidisciplinary and multi-institutional research team advances propositions that promote successful ageing in Singapore. The ROSA Annual Symposium series is made possible through the generous support of The Ngee Ann Kongsi.

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