



BSI Conference 2013

Population Matters: Purpose, Priorities & Perceptions

7 March 2013
Orchard Hotel



**BEHAVIOURAL
SCIENCES INSTITUTE**
SINGAPORE MANAGEMENT UNIVERSITY

DIRECTOR'S WELCOME

Dear Participants

Welcome to BSI Conference 2013. The theme of our conference is *Population Matters: Purpose, Priorities and Perceptions*.

We all agree that we need to pay serious attention to population matters. This is because population matters. The outcomes and consequences of population policies affect all areas of Singaporeans' lives. At stake is the quality of our lives in physical dimensions such as space and infrastructure support, economic dimensions such as jobs and taxes, and social dimensions such as inter-group relations and commitment to Singapore.

In the Population White Paper released in late January 2013, the Government sets out the key considerations and roadmap for policies to address our population challenges. The White Paper provides a useful framework. But population challenges cannot be addressed in a top-down manner and by the Government alone. A "whole-of-society" approach is needed if we want public discourse to be genuine and to make a positive difference to the outcome. This conference is an effort to contribute towards this goal. The conference provides a forum for the constructive exchange of ideas as the speakers and panelists share their insights and engage with you to deliberate on Singapore's population challenges from diverse perspectives.

A lot has been said in public discussions on Singapore's population issues. The usefulness of these conversations is dependent on whether they adequately capture the concerns of Singaporeans and the challenges we face. The population debate has rightly focused on issues of economic implications, liveability and quality of life due to the mismatch between population growth and infrastructure support. But we need to give more attention to other equally important issues associated with changing population profiles. Many of these issues are social and psychological in nature, inextricably tied to how people think, feel and act in the changing socio-political contexts through which population matters evolve. This means that policy design and execution needs to seriously take into account the science of cognition, emotion and behaviour. This applies to all aspects of population policies including their purpose, priorities and perceptions.

I am confident that this conference will provide you with valuable perspectives, an increased understanding of issues related to Singapore's population challenge and many potential applications to reflect on.

DAVID CHAN

Director, Behavioural Sciences Institute
Professor of Psychology
Singapore Management University

PROGRAMME

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| 8.15 - 8.50 am | REGISTRATION <i>All participants to be seated in the ballroom by 8:50am.</i> |
| 9.00 - 9.10 am | WELCOME REMARKS Arnoud De Meyer <i>President, Singapore Management University</i> |
| 9.15 - 9.45 am | POPULATION MATTERS: CONTRIBUTIONS FROM BEHAVIOURAL SCIENCES David Chan <i>Director, Behavioural Sciences Institute</i> |
| 9.45 - 10.15 am | ISSUES IN SOCIAL STRATIFICATION Tan Ern Ser <i>Associate Professor of Sociology, National University of Singapore</i> |
| 10.15 - 10.35 am | <i>Tea Break</i> |
| 10.35 - 11.05 am | ISSUES IN SOCIAL INTEGRATION Mathew Mathews <i>Research Fellow, Institute of Policy Studies</i> |
| 11.05 - 11.55 am | PANEL DISCUSSION I Prof David Chan Assoc Prof Tan Ern Ser Dr Mathew Mathews (Moderator: Mr Tan Kian Hoon) |
| 12.00 - 1.15 pm | <i>Lunch</i> |
| 1.15 - 1.40 pm | AGEING POPULATION: THE SINGAPORE CONTEXT Charlotte Beck <i>Senior Director (Elderly & Disability), Ministry of Social and Family Development</i> |
| 1.40 - 2.05 pm | AGEING & ELDERLY ISSUES: SOCIAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVES John Elliott <i>Associate Professor of Psychology, National University of Singapore</i> |
| 2.05 - 2.30 pm | MARRIAGE AND PARENTHOOD Paulin Straughan <i>Associate Professor of Sociology, National University of Singapore</i> |
| 2.30 - 3.05 pm | PANEL DISCUSSION II Ms Charlotte Beck Assoc Prof John Elliott Assoc Prof Paulin Straughan (Moderator: Dr Jeremy Lim) |
| 3.10 - 3.30 pm | <i>Tea Break</i> |
| 3.35 - 4.50 pm | CLOSING PANEL DISCUSSION: Population Matters: Purpose, Priorities & Perceptions Prof David Chan <i>Director, Behavioural Sciences Institute</i> Mr Janadas Devan <i>Director, Institute of Policy Studies</i> Dr Jeremy Lim <i>Principal Consultant, Insights Health Associates</i> Ms Debra Soon <i>Managing Director, Channel NewsAsia</i> Mrs Mildred Tan <i>Managing Director, Ernst & Young Associates Pte Ltd</i> |
| 4.50 - 5.00 pm | CLOSING REMARKS Prof David Chan |

SPEAKERS & PANELISTS



ARNOUD DE MEYER
President
Singapore Management University

Arnaud is President of the Singapore Management University. Previously, he was Director of Judge Business School at the University of Cambridge. He has held various positions at INSEAD including the founding Dean of INSEAD's Asia Campus in Singapore. He publishes widely in academic journals and books and has been consultant to several organisations in Europe and Asia. Arnaud is also a board member on various organisations in Singapore.



CHARLOTTE BECK
Senior Director (Elderly & Disability)
Ministry of Social and Family Development

Charlotte is Senior Director of Elderly and Disability Group at the Ministry of Social and Family Development. In her current portfolio, she oversees issues in disability as well as social programmes and support services for the elderly. Previously, she has served in various ministries including the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Public Service Division. Charlotte has also served as the Director of the Secretariat to the Public Service Commission.



JOHN ELLIOTT
Associate Professor of Psychology
National University of Singapore

John is Associate Professor of Psychology at the National University of Singapore. His research is focused on lifespan development. He served as a Research Fellow for the Bioethics Advisory Committee from 2005 to 2011. John has served as a member on various committees including the National Medical Ethics Committee, Executive Committee of the Singapore Children's Society and resource panel for the Singapore Police Force's psychological unit.



MATHEW MATHEWS
Research Fellow
Institute of Policy Studies

Mathew is a Research Fellow at the Institute of Policy Studies. Previously, he was a faculty member at the Department of Sociology at the National University of Singapore. His research includes social issues related to family, religion and professional communities. He has served as consultant for several research projects in government agencies. Mathew is active in community service and a member of the advisory board for Marriage Central.



PAULIN STRAUGHAN
Associate Professor of Sociology
National University of Singapore

Paulin is Associate Professor of Sociology and Vice-Dean (Undergraduate Studies) for Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences at the National University of Singapore. Her research includes issues related to marriage, family and medical sociology. She has served as consultant for several projects in government agencies including national surveys on marriage and parenthood. Paulin served as a Nominated Member of Parliament from 2009 to 2012.



TAN ERN SER
Associate Professor of Sociology
National University of Singapore

Ern Ser is Associate Professor of Sociology at the National University of Singapore and Faculty Associate at the Institute of Policy Studies. His research includes issues in social stratification and ethnic relations. He was consultant to several surveys on senior citizens and national orientations of Singaporeans. Ern Ser serves as a member on several advisory panels and chairs the REACH's policy study workgroup on integration.

SPEAKERS & PANELISTS

**DAVID CHAN**

*Professor of Psychology & Director, Behavioural Sciences Institute
Singapore Management University*

David is Director of the Behavioural Sciences Institute at the Singapore Management University. His research includes issues in well-being and research methods. He serves as consultant and board member to several organisations in Singapore and United States. He has received numerous international awards including the Distinguished Early Career Contributions Award in Industrial and Organisational Psychology. David is a Fellow of several psychological associations.

**JANADAS DEVAN**

*Director
Institute of Policy Studies*

Janadas is Director of the Institute of Policy Studies and concurrently the Government's Chief of Communications at the Ministry of Communication and Information. Previously, he was a journalist for The Straits Times and became the newspaper's Associate Editor in 2008. He has previously taught at various institutions in Singapore and the United States. Janadas was a recipient of the Clark Distinguished Teaching Award from Cornell University.

**JEREMY LIM**

*Principal Consultant
Insights Health Associates*

Jeremy is Principal Consultant at Insights Health Associates. He has held different senior positions in the public and private sectors in Singapore including being CEO of Fortis Colorectal Hospital, Senior Consultant in the Ministry of Health and Director of Research and Education in SingHealth. Jeremy is an adjunct faculty at National University of Singapore and Duke-NUS Graduate Medical School where he teaches health policy and management.

**DEBRA SOON**

*Managing Director
Channel NewsAsia*

Debra is Managing Director of Channel NewsAsia. She started her journalism career as a broadcast journalist and became Executive Editor and then Chief Editor of MediaCorp News. In 2005, she served as President SR Nathan's Press Secretary during the Presidential Elections. Debra has served as a member on several national councils and committees including the National Council on Problem Gambling and the Singapore Institute of International Affairs.

**MILDRED TAN**

*Managing Director
Ernst & Young Associates Pte Ltd*

Mildred is Managing Director of Ernst & Young Pte Ltd. She has extensive experience in business advisory. She is active in community service and has served on several national councils and boards including being Chairperson of the Businesses for Families Council and Chairperson of the Films Appeal Committee. She was awarded the Public Service Medal in 2007. Mildred served as a Nominated Member of Parliament in 2009.

**TAN KIAN HOON**

*Managing Director
Chesterton Suntec International Pte Ltd*

Kian Hoon is Managing Director of Chesterton Suntec International Pte Ltd. He has extensive experience in international real estate consultancy. He is active in community service and has served as a member on several national councils and committees. He has been Chairman of the National Crime Prevention Council since 2002. Kian Hoon was awarded the Public Service Medal in 2002 and Public Service Star in 2006.

BSI Director

PROFESSOR DAVID CHAN
Singapore Management University

BSI Business Advisory Board

The BSI Business Advisory Board consists of 7 members from the public sector, private sector and SMU. The role of the Board is to provide advice in areas of strategic directions for the Institute, public policies, developments in business and industry, and prioritization of issues in research, training and outreach.

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| PROFESSOR ARNOUD DE MEYER <i>President Singapore Management University</i> | DR JEREMY LIM <i>Principal Consultant Insights Health Associates</i> | MS DEBRA SOON <i>Managing Director Channel NewsAsia</i> |
| MR KWEK MEAN LUCK <i>Dean & CEO, Civil Service College Deputy Secretary, Public Service Division</i> | PROFESSOR PHANG SOCK YONG <i>Professor of Economics Singapore Management University</i> | MR TAN KIAN HOON <i>Managing Director Chesterton Suntec International Pte Ltd</i> |
| | | PROFESSOR JAMES TANG <i>Dean, School of Social Sciences Singapore Management University</i> |

BSI International Scientific Advisory Panel

The BSI International Scientific Advisory Panel consists of 10 top scholars from different countries, in diverse disciplinary areas such as economics, management, organizational behaviour, public policy, psychology and sociology. The role of the Panel is to provide scientific advice in areas of strategic research directions for the Institute and, where appropriate, the design, validity and applications of specific research studies undertaken by the Institute.

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| GORDON CHEUNG <i>Professor of Management Chinese University of Hong Kong China</i> | PETER HEDSTRÖM <i>Professor of Sociology University of Oxford United Kingdom</i> | NEAL SCHMITT <i>Emeritus Professor of Psychology and Management Michigan State University United States</i> |
| INCHEOL CHOI <i>Professor of Psychology Seoul National University Korea</i> | YOSHIHISA KASHIMA <i>Professor of Psychology University of Melbourne Australia</i> | PAUL TESLUK <i>Professor of Organizational Behavior University at Buffalo, The State University of New York United States</i> |
| ANDREW CLARK <i>Research Professor Paris School of Economics France</i> | KWOK LEUNG <i>Professor of Management City University of Hong Kong China</i> | |
| JAMES FARR <i>Professor of Psychology Pennsylvania State University United States</i> | DENISE ROUSSEAU <i>Professor of Organizational Behavior and Public Policy Carnegie Mellon University United States</i> | |

