PRESS RELEASE

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NUS Institute of Systems Science appoints Janet Ang as new Chairperson

Tech veteran succeeds Institute’s longest serving Chairman Professor Christopher Chia

Singapore, 31 March 2016 - The National University of Singapore’s (NUS) Institute of Systems Science (NUS-ISS) has appointed tech veteran Ms Janet Ang as the new Chairperson of its Management Board with effect from 15 April 2016. She will succeed Professor Christopher Chia, who has served as Chairman of NUS-ISS since 2004.

Ms Ang is currently Vice President, Industry Solutions, Systems of Engagement & Smarter Cities at IBM Asia Pacific. She has been a member of the NUS-ISS Management Board since 2012.

“NUS is pleased to appoint Janet as the new Chairperson of NUS-ISS. Her industry insights and vast experience in the technology sector and with one of the world’s leading IT companies will spur NUS-ISS to greater heights. The University would also like to express our appreciation to Chris for his commitment and service to NUS-ISS, placing it at the forefront of technology-enabled innovation through quality education, professional development and consultancy,” said Professor Tan Eng Chye, Deputy President (Academic Affairs) and Provost of NUS.

In her new role as Chairman NUS-ISS, Ms Ang hopes to leverage her industry experience to steer NUS-ISS to play a key role in shaping the future of the ICT industry. Ms Ang said, “NUS-ISS was established in 1981 through a partnership between NUS, the then National Computer Board and IBM, as part of our national strategy to transform Singapore into a knowledge economy. IBM has continued to be closely associated with NUS-ISS throughout the last 35 years with an IBM executive serving on the NUS-ISS Board. It is truly a privilege for me to be the first industry professional to be appointed as Chairman of NUS-ISS just as our country is en route to become a smart nation. I am very excited about working with NUS-ISS Board Members and staff, and NUS colleagues to engage the industry to build skills of the future to ensure that Singapore remains competitive. On a personal note, as an NUS alumnus, I am honoured that I have this chance to give back to both my alma mater and Singapore.”
Ms Ang has been with IBM for more than 30 years, holding various management positions that included Managing Director of IBM Singapore, Vice President of Strategic Services, as well as Vice President of Infrastructure Technology Services for IBM Greater China Group. She was with IBM for 23 years before joining Lenovo in 2005 when it acquired IBM’s personal computing business in 2005, leading the global transition leadership team as Head of Lenovo’s Global Desktop Business Unit. Ms Ang oversaw the successful turnaround of Lenovo’s global operations before returning to IBM in 2009.

Ms Ang serves on various boards in the community, including Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore, National Volunteer & Philanthropy Center and Caritas Singapore. She is also President of the International Women’s Forum Singapore and is a member of the National University of Singapore Alumni Advisory Board. She holds an Honours degree from the NUS Business School, and was recipient of the NUS Business School Eminent Alumni Award in 2014 and the NUS Distinguished Alumni Service Award in 2015.

Prof Chia is NUS-ISS’ longest-serving Chairman, having held three consecutive terms from 2004 to 2016. He is the main driving force behind the Institute’s Enterprise Social Business Centre of Excellence, which has catalysed a future-ready workforce through the use of social media platforms to improve productivity, innovation and collaboration, since its inception in 2011. Prof Chia has mooted key initiatives such as a series of Masters of Technology programmes, and repositioned NUS-ISS as a trusted educator for tomorrow’s IT leaders.

The Singapore e-Government Leadership Centre (eGL) was also established under Prof Chia’s leadership. eGL offers Singapore’s broad e-Government experience to other nations and governments through focused training and professional mentorship. Today, more than 130 countries have benefitted from the eGL programmes.

“Over the years, NUS-ISS has grown from strength to strength, gaining recognition for its well-structured and internationally oriented practice-based programmes. Today, our programmes have benefitted over 100,000 professionals and managers from more than 100 countries. With Janet’s international industry experience, I am confident that NUS-ISS will be able to stay on its course, achieve greater integration with the industry, and establish itself as a trusted global brand in IT leadership and education that is sought after by technology leaders,” said Prof Chia.

“As the Chairman of NUS-ISS, Chris has always been innovative in his world-view and transformative in his approach. He has harnessed his vast leadership experience in IT, library services and media sectors to provide direction to NUS-ISS. Under his guidance, we have significantly expanded our graduate programmes and executive education offerings. Our cumulative student enrolment has more than doubled over the past 12 years. On behalf of NUS-ISS, I would like to express our appreciation to Chris for guiding us through the years and we wish him every success. Janet has been a friend and supporter of NUS-ISS since our early days. She is well respected in the industry as a visionary with sharp business acumen. We look forward to working with her as NUS-ISS charts its course for an exciting next phase,” said Mr Khoong Chan Meng, Director and Chief Executive Officer of NUS-ISS.
Please refer to the Annex below for the biography of Ms Janet Ang.

For media enquiries, please contact:

Ms Lim Shy Yunn
Senior Executive
Institute of Systems Science
National University of Singapore
Tel: +65 6601-3722
Mobile: +65 9339-0558
E-mail: isslims@nus.edu.sg

About National University of Singapore

A leading global university centred in Asia, the National University of Singapore (NUS) is Singapore’s flagship university, which offers a global approach to education and research, with a focus on Asian perspectives and expertise.

NUS has 17 faculties and schools across three campuses. Its transformative education includes a broad-based curriculum underscored by multi-disciplinary courses and cross-faculty enrichment. Over 38,000 students from 100 countries enrich the community with their diverse social and cultural perspectives.

NUS has three Research Centres of Excellence (RCE) and 26 university-level research institutes and centres. It is also a partner in Singapore’s fifth RCE. NUS shares a close affiliation with 16 national-level research institutes and centres. Research activities are strategic and robust, and NUS is well-known for its research strengths in engineering, life sciences and biomedicine, social sciences and natural sciences. It also strives to create a supportive and innovative environment to promote creative enterprise within its community.

For more information on NUS, please visit www.nus.edu.sg.

About Institute of Systems Science at NUS

Established in 1981, the Institute of Systems Science at the National University of Singapore provides graduate education, professional development courses, consultancy and research services. Its objectives are to develop infocomm leaders, and drive business and organisation innovation. To date, over 100,000 infocomm professionals, 5,400 corporate customers and 4,700 post-graduate alumni members have benefitted from NUS-ISS’s suite of services. Its programmes are delivered by NUS-ISS staff with an average of more than 20 years of industry experience.

For more information on NUS-ISS, visit www.iss.nus.edu.sg
Annex: Biography of Ms Janet Ang

Ms Janet Ang (洪月霞)
Vice-President, Industry Solution Sales Team, IBM Asia Pacific
IBM Industry Academy Member

Ms Janet Ang is Vice-President, Industry Solutions Sales Team, IBM Asia Pacific covering Australia & New Zealand, India, ASEAN and Korea. She is also a Member of the IBM Industry Academy.

In her current role, Ms Ang is responsible for leading IBM’s industry value creation for its Asia Pacific clients across the key industries - Financial Services, Government & Healthcare, Industrial, Telco & Media, and Distribution - with Industry Solutions that bring together IBM’s portfolio of Cognitive Solutions, Cloud Platform Infra-structure and Systems of Engagement solutions as well as eco-system partner offerings. She also leads the charge for helping cities in Asia become smarter, cognitive cities.

Ms Ang was previously the Managing Director (MD) of IBM Singapore from July 2011 to May 2015, and earlier from May 2001 to December 2003. As MD, IBM Singapore, she was responsible for all of IBM’s business and operations in Singapore and was the chief IBM representative for all client and government relationships in Singapore.

She had been on two international assignments and had lived and worked overseas for more than ten years. Most recently, Ms Ang was based in Beijing for over eight years. She first moved to Beijing as Vice President, IBM Personal Computing (PC) Division, IBM Greater China, in 2004 and then moved to Lenovo in 2005 as Global Head of Operations, Desktop Business Unit when Lenovo acquired IBM’s PC business. In 2009, Ms Ang returned to IBM Greater China as Vice-President, IT Services and subsequently, took on the role of Vice President, Strategic Services, before returning home in 2011. Her earlier international assignment was to Tokyo, Japan, first as Director, Marketing, Small & Medium
Business, IBM Asia Pacific (1997-1999) and subsequently, as Director, Sales Operations, IBM Asia Pacific (1999-2001). She started her career with IBM Singapore in 1982 as a Systems Engineer supporting the Public Sector.

Ms Ang serves on various committees in the community. She is a board member of the Public Utilities Board, the Infocomm Development Authority, the National University of Singapore’s (NUS) Institute of Systems Science (NUS-ISS), the National Volunteer and Philanthropy Centre, and Singapore Press Holdings. She is Board Chair of Caritas Singapore (the social services arm of the Catholic Church) and President of the International Women’s Forum (Singapore chapter). Ms Ang also serves on the NUS Alumni Advisory Board and the Women’s Health Advisory Council (WHAC). She is a Senior Fellow of the Singapore Computer Society and a member of Business China. In 2014, Ms Ang was awarded the NUS Business School Eminent Alumni Award and in 2015, she received the NUS Distinguished Alumni Service Award.

Ms Ang graduated with a Business Administration (Honours) degree from NUS and is happily married with four daughters.