

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



## Dear SMU Community

We had put in place plans to hold our Commencement ceremonies for the Classes of 2020 and 2021 in a physical format, between 12-23 July 2021 and 26 July -6 August 2021 respectively. Graduates were also invited to pre-register their attendance for the in-person ceremonies, and we were heartened to know that many of them were looking forward to Commencement as much as we were.

However, in light of the current fluid and uncertain situation, and for the safety of graduates, parents, faculty and staff who will be involved in the Commencement ceremonies, we have made the difficult decision to not proceed with the physical Commencement ceremonies on the dates that were earlier communicated.

We will for now, celebrate this important milestone for the Class of 2021 with a virtual Commencement ceremony, which we are working to put together by the end of August 2021. This will be similar in spirit to the Virtual Graduation and Career Fair (VGF) we had organised for the Class of 2020 last year, which we are gratified, won 'Best Content Creation for a Virtual Event' (Silver); 'Best Event for a Targeted Community' (Bronze) and 'Best Government Sector/Non-Profit' (Bronze) at Marketing Events Awards 2020. We are working towards making this interim virtual celebration as successful as last year's, and will share more information in mid-June.

We hope to be able to hold the physical ceremonies for the Class of 2020 and Class 2021 in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of this year, but will have to observe how the situation unfolds.

I would like to express my thanks to colleagues who have been providing strong support in our preparation work, and I am certain that together, we will be able to put together a memorable experience for our graduates.

In the meantime, please do take care, stay safe and well.

Warmest regards

Professor Lily Kong

## President Singapore Management University

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