

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

VALUES AND PURPOSE AS OUR COMPASS IN A CHANGING WORLD



The world today is defined by profound transformation. Geopolitical uncertainties, economic shifts, rapid digitalisation, and the accelerating adoption of artificial intelligence are reshaping the way we live, work, and learn. While change has become the new constant, one thing remains enduring: the need for institutions that are guided by purpose and committed to creating a better future for society.

At the Singapore University of Social Sciences (SUSS), our mission has never been more relevant. We believe that education is not merely about acquiring knowledge or preparing learners for their current and next employment; it is about nurturing individuals who are equipped to contribute meaningfully to their communities and to the nation.

Our graduates are not only future professionals but also responsible citizens, learners for life, and changemakers who understand that success is measured by the positive impact they create. This spirit is reflected in alumni such as Kevin See, who transitioned from a career in business marketing to become a community worker with Beyond Social Services. Motivated by a desire to support vulnerable children and families, he later pursued a Master of Social Work at SUSS to deepen his expertise and better serve the communities around him. His journey shows how education can help individuals redirect their skills and experience towards serving others and strengthening communities.

This collective aspiration unites our diverse community of students, faculty, staff, alumni, partners, and supporters. It inspires us to face emerging realities with confidence rather than fear, to see challenges as opportunities for innovation, and to build resilience in ourselves and those around us.

As technology transforms industries and artificial intelligence redefines the future of work, SUSS remains steadfast in preparing learners with capabilities that go beyond technical expertise. Critical thinking, ethical leadership, empathy, adaptability, and collaboration will become increasingly valuable human qualities. These are the attributes that enable individuals to navigate uncertainty while remaining grounded in values and committed to the common good.

Our strength lies in the partnerships we have cultivated across government, industry, community organisations, and the social sector. Together, we are creating learning experiences that are relevant, inclusive, and responsive to the evolving needs of Singapore and the region. Through these collaborations, education extends beyond the seminar rooms and lecture theatres and becomes a catalyst for innovation and community transformation.

At the heart of SUSS is a simple but powerful belief: every individual has the potential to make a difference. Every learner we empower, every community we engage, and every partnership we forge contributes to a more inclusive, compassionate, and forward-looking society.

This commitment to social good continues to guide our growth as a university. The establishment of the School of Social Work and Social Development is one manifestation of this vision, strengthening a vital area of national need while reinforcing our wider role in applied, lifelong, and socially responsive education.

As we look ahead, we will continue to innovate with courage while remaining anchored in our mission. We will embrace new technologies while preserving our humanity, pursue excellence while serving society, and prepare our students not only for the jobs of tomorrow but also for the responsibilities of citizenship and leadership.

In an increasingly complex world, purpose gives us direction, values give us strength, and community gives us hope. Together, we will shape a future where learning is lifelong, opportunity is inclusive, resilience is shared, and progress is measured not only by what we achieve, but by the lives we uplift and the society we build.

This is the enduring promise of SUSS – to be a university that educates with purpose, leads with values, and serves with heart.

Mrs Mildred Tan
Chairman
Singapore University of Social Sciences