

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

TURNING LEARNING INTO MEANINGFUL CONTRIBUTION

This past year, SUSS focused on translating its mission and purpose into tangible impact across learning, workforce development, and community engagement.

Across the University, we strengthened the systems, partnerships, and learning environments needed to support more flexible, applied, and inclusive forms of education at scale. As learner needs continue to evolve, our focus is on ensuring that education remains accessible, relevant, and closely connected to real-world practice.

Increasingly, this means creating learning experiences that extend beyond the classroom and equip learners to navigate changing workplaces, technologies, and social needs with confidence.

Learning Through Real-World Experience

Over the past year, we strengthened pathways such as the SkillsFuture Work-Study Degree Pathway, with greater emphasis on demonstrable workplace capability, industry relevance, and work-integrated learning.

Through partnerships with organisations such as the Ministry of Social and Family Development, we continued expanding opportunities for learners to engage directly with professional practice while supporting workforce capability development in emerging fields.

These partnerships also allow SUSS to contribute more broadly to workforce capability development across different sectors. For example, our collaboration with the Singapore National Employers Federation on flexible work arrangements helped organisations better translate policy intent into workplace practice more effectively.

Some of the most meaningful learning happens when students engage with real people, organisations, and challenges across community, industry, and global contexts.

This can be seen in initiatives such as the inaugural SUSS Sustainability Hackathon, where interdisciplinary student teams worked directly with logistics companies to address operational sustainability challenges using data-driven and AI-enabled approaches.

Student-led initiatives such as Project MINDSCraft also demonstrated how learning can strengthen practical skills while remaining grounded in empathy and service. Over multiple sessions, students worked closely with clients from the MINDS Satellite Hub, building relationships and applying their learning in meaningful ways.

For many learners, experiences like this shape not only professional confidence, but also how they see their role in contributing to society.

Designing Learning for a More Diverse Community

As our learner community becomes more diverse, SUSS is also rethinking how education is designed and delivered to support different needs, backgrounds, and life circumstances.

Technology, including AI, is helping us create more accessible and responsive learning experiences at scale.

Our Learning Technology and Services team undertook an initiative to address the challenges faced by students with Special Educational Needs in adopting Generative AI for learning. Recognising that many emerging digital tools are not designed with diverse learning profiles in mind, the initiative focused on identifying and recommending more accessible and inclusive AI tools that can better support different cognitive, sensory, and learning needs.

Together with broader faculty development efforts, these initiatives reflect our ongoing commitment to creating learning environments that support diverse learners while preserving meaningful engagement and academic rigour.

Advancing Research for Social Impact

SUSS strengthened its research ecosystem in 2025 with the establishment of the University Research Office, enabling more impactful and interdisciplinary research aligned with institutional priorities.

Our research initiatives continue to address key social challenges, from supporting ageing well through the SUSS-DBS Regional Reminiscence Hub Programme and strengthening social mobility through the evaluation of the ComLink+ Progress Package, to enhancing workforce resilience through Continuing Education and Training research and advancing regional understanding through the Understanding the State of ASEAN Families study.

Building the Future of SUSS

As workforce expectations and learner needs continue to evolve, universities must also continue evolving the environments in which learning takes place.

This is why progress towards our future city campus in Rochor is significant. More than a change in location, it reflects our intention to create a university that is more accessible, more connected to the communities we serve, and better positioned to support collaboration and real-world engagement.

Being closer to the heart of Singapore will also create more opportunities for our learners to engage with industry and community partners, and contribute ideas and skills in meaningful settings.

What encourages me most is seeing how our learners, faculty, and partners continue adapting and growing amidst change while remaining committed to creating positive impact in society.

I am deeply grateful to our faculty, staff, learners, alumni, and partners whose commitment continues to shape SUSS.

The transformation we are working towards is already visible in the lives of our learners, the work of our partners, and the communities we serve. I am confident SUSS will continue deepening partnerships, advancing innovation in learning, and expanding our impact in the years ahead.

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