

**Asia-Pacific Association for International Education (APAIE)
Conference & Exhibition 2018**

**25 to 29 March 2018
Marina Bay Sands, Singapore**

Conference Theme

The Impact of the Fourth Industrial Revolution on Higher Education in the Asia Pacific

Lead Host

National University of Singapore

Co-Hosts

Nanyang Technological University
Singapore Management University
Singapore University of Technology and Design

CLOSING ADDRESS on 28 March, 3pm

By Associate Professor Anne Pakir

Associate Vice-President (University and Global Relations), NUS

Vice-President, APAIE

Professor Sarah Todd and fellow members of the APAIE Board of Directors

Presidents, Provosts and representatives of the Singapore universities co-hosting this event

Distinguished guests

Ladies and Gentlemen

Friends!

1. On the behalf of the Asia-Pacific Association for International Education, and the Singapore universities co-hosting this Conference – National University of Singapore, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore Management University and Singapore University of Technology and Design – I am delighted to thank you all again for supporting the APAIE 2018 Conference at the Marina Bay Sands Expo which is now just being completed. We hope to have delivered on our promise to give you, the 2200 participants, ‘the best APAIE ever’!

2. The closing of any event is also a time for reflection. As we look back on an eventful four days of this Conference, I hope that you have achieved the personal objectives that you have set for yourself. I hope as well that we, as organisers of the Conference, have met your expectations and given you a very good experience with our Singapore-style hospitality. I hope that you have enjoyed the key events – the pre-conference workshops, the Opening Ceremony and Lunch, the speeches by our GoH and our keynote speaker, as well as the many excellent panel presentations over the days. I hope the glow of last night's Gala Dinner will not fade away too soon. We did do our best to impress you with a Uniquely Singapore theme in offering you a halal Chinese menu and multicultural entertainment.

3. Personally, as I reflect on what we have achieved in hosting this Conference, I am glad that we have broken new ground for APAIE with the number of participants this year. Over 2,000 of you have travelled many miles and crossed time zones to be with us in Singapore. Plus our local participants of nearly 200, we have achieved a new record for participation at an APAIE Conference. We would not have been able to do as well as we did, without the active participation and support from each of you. I envision that APAIE conferences will continue to grow stronger in stature, and I am looking forward to many more new achievements for APAIE in the years to come.

4. Putting this Conference together has been a long journey on the road of hard work, firm commitment and strong teamwork. I would like to take this opportunity to thank my colleagues from the Local Conference Advisory Committee, comprising representatives from the four co-hosting universities. The theme of unity, and the idea of four institutions collaborating together as one, was a plus for me. Additionally, my appreciation goes out to the brilliant team from the lead-host, NUS, who have done a marvellous job of getting everything across the finish line. Let us give a round of applause in appreciation of all their effort. (Please stand, main committee members: Andrew, Victor, Foong Sin, Linda, TC, Orion, Krystin, Li Ling, Evelyn, Randall, Yong Min, Jacob, May, Hwee Nee; and all others who helped out, including Eleen and Razali). We also have to acknowledge our student volunteers from the four autonomous universities as well as our conference supporters, the MBS staff and the I-Promo team, led by Miko. Last but not least, our many

Closing Ceremony – Closing Address by Local Host (28 March 2018)

sponsors and exhibitors who thought it worth their while to lend their weight behind APAIE, a big Thank you too! And on behalf of the APAIE BOD and APAIE President, Sarah Todd, I say a big thank you to Louise Kinnaird, Director of the Secretariat for her invaluable input to making the APAIE 2018 conference a huge success. Louise, you have worked very well with our passionate and dedicated team from the Global Relations Office of NUS for no less than two years on this project.

5. Finally, in closing, I'd like to assure the next hosts of the APAIE Conferences coming up, UTM in 2019 on Malaysian soil, and Simon Fraser University in 2020 on Canada's Pacific shores, that we are looking forward to lending our support to you. We hope to be able to share our experiences with you so that you can continue the tradition of bring this Conference to greater heights.
6. Dear friends, I wish you a safe and pleasant journey home and happy memories of your stay with us in Singapore. Thank you, thank you, thank you, and I wish you all my very best until we meet again at APAIE 2019 in Malaysia, Truly Asia!