

**SPEECH BY NUSS PRESIDENT, MR EDDIE LEE
AT THE NUSS COMMENTARY DIALOGUE – SGP 4.0: AN AGENDA
29 MAY 2019, WEDNESDAY
7PM AT KENT RIDGE GUILD HOUSE**

1. Address the audience

Good evening distinguished guests, fellow NUSS members and friends.

Welcome to NUSS, the National University of Singapore Society and if you are for the first time, a very warm welcome to you.

Thank you for taking the time to join us this evening for our Commentary Dialogue.

2. About the Commentary Dialogue session

NUSS organises Dialogue sessions as a means to encourage intellectual discourse among our members for the development of Singapore.

The Commentary Dialogue is part of the series of such Dialogue sessions. However, unlike traditional Dialogue sessions, its distinctive factor is that it seeks to bring to life the views shared by esteemed opinion experts in our annual journal, the *Commentary* and in doing so, promote a healthy discussion of issues that are significant and relevant to Singapore's current and future political, social, environmental and economic landscape.

This evening, we will be discussing the latest publication in the *Commentary* series, *Commentary Volume 27 - SGP 4.0: An Agenda*.

As Singapore undergoes an era of change with the political transition to 4G leaders, a term coined by Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, it is also subject to the shifting global order and technological disruptions which is happening worldwide. These changes threaten to reshape the nature of work, determine the decline and rise of business sectors, overhaul industry landscapes and redefine social and political affiliations.

We will be discussing the possible challenges and opportunities these 4G leaders might face, and some guiding philosophies and considerations which we think our leaders could take into consideration to navigate the nation through its political transition.

3. Introduce the session

For tonight's panel, we have four topic experts who have contributed to the *Commentary Volume 27*.

First, we have **Mr Han Fook Kwang**, who wrote the article "The 4G Question: Whither Exceptional Singapore";

Dr Laavanya Kathiravelu who contributed “SGP 4.0: Re-thinking Approaches to Diversity and Social Inclusion”;

Dr Leong Ching contributed the article, “Iron Trees and Cheap Water: Environmental Identities in Singapore”; and last but not least

Mr Laurence Liew, who shared his thoughts on the importance of being technologically updated as a nation in “SGP 4.0 – Singapore in the Artificial Intelligence Era”.

4. Thank the Dr Koh and panellists

Please allow me to take this opportunity to thank editor of Commentary Volume 27, Dr Gillian Koh, who has also kindly taken up the role of the moderator for this evening’s session. Dr Koh is the Deputy Director (Research) at the Institute of Policy Studies in NUS, where civil society and its development is one of her research interests. She is an NUS alumnus and a member of NUSS. She was awarded NUSS’ Outstanding Member Award this year for her significant contributions towards NUSS, NUS and the wider community.

Also, I would like to extend my appreciation to our distinguished panel of speakers, Mr Han, Dr Kathiravelu, Dr Leong and Mr Liew, for agreeing to speak at this evening’s session.

In addition, I would like to thank of the contributors for their hard work in putting together this publication, as the *Commentary Volume 27* would not have been possible without their expertise and insight.

I am confident that all of us will benefit greatly from the Dialogue session and I will like to wish you all a pleasant and stimulating evening ahead.

Thank you.