

NUS appoints new dean of Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

Ang Qing

He started as a teaching assistant in 1988 at the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS) at the National University of Singapore (NUS) and, come Oct 1, Professor

Lionel Wee will become its 18th dean.

The university yesterday said that Prof Wee will take over from Prof Robbie Goh, who is also co-dean of the College of Humanities and Sciences. During Prof Goh's four-year-plus tenure, he was key in the setting up of the college. It of-

fers an enhanced undergraduate experience for students of the FASS and Faculty of Science, starting from this month.

Prof Goh, 56, will be taking leave of absence from NUS as he takes on the role of provost at the Singapore University of Social Sciences from October.

Said Prof Goh: "It has been a privilege and honour to serve as dean of one of Singapore's largest and most historied faculties. I am grateful to my talented colleagues for all their hard work."

Prof Wee, 58, who is currently vice-dean of research and a professor of linguistics in the Department of English Language and Literature, has been a faculty member at the FASS since 1988. He headed the department from 2010 to 2014 before becoming vice-dean in 2014. In July 2017, he was also designated Provost's Chair Professor for his outstanding scholarly achievements.

Said the university's president, Professor Tan Eng Chye: "NUS is pleased that after a rigorous global search, Prof Lionel Wee has been selected to be the next dean."

A linguist, Prof Wee has published widely in international and local journals and will concurrently hold the position of co-dean of the College of Humanities and Sciences.

On his appointment, he said that having spent more than three decades at the FASS, both as a student and a faculty member, he has "experienced firsthand the selfless commitment" of his colleagues.

Said Prof Wee: "I am confident... we can continue to make significant contributions to society while enhancing our faculty's standing as one of the leading humanities and social sciences faculties in the world."

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National University of Singapore's Professor Robbie Goh (top) will be taking leave of absence as he takes on the role of provost at the Singapore University of Social Sciences. Prof Lionel Wee (above) will become the 18th dean of NUS' Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences on Oct 1.