



# NIC CONFERENCE 2024 SINGAPORE

**Healthcare,  
Geopolitics and the  
Disruptors**

26 - 28 May 2024  
**Programme Booklet**

# NIC CONFERENCE 2024 SINGAPORE

## Healthcare, Geopolitics and the Disruptors

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# Conference Programme

Sunday, 26 May 2024

Time	Conference Agenda
6:00pm – 6:30pm	<b>Registration and Cocktail Reception</b>
6:30pm – 8:30pm	<b>Dinner Dialogue with Ambassador Frank LAVIN (Ret.)</b> <i>Visiting Fellow, Hoover Institution; Former US ambassador to Singapore and Under Secretary for International Trade at the US Department of Commerce, United States</i> (Hybrid participation)  On “ <b>America and the World 2024</b> ” – The United States will face two challenges this year: Presidential elections and the debate over US foreign policy. The elections suggest an unappealing choice, with some 70% of Americans holding a negative view of both major party candidates. Foreign policy represents a longer-term question: what is the proper international role for the US in the post-cold war world? These two challenges are related as the debate over US leadership and potential over-commitment is a central issue in the presidential campaign. Ambassador Lavin will provide an overview of the presidential race and discuss the various approaches to foreign policy we are likely to see after the election.  Moderator: <b>Mr Narinder SINGH</b> <i>Co-Founder and Director, Avina Holdings Pte Ltd, Singapore</i>

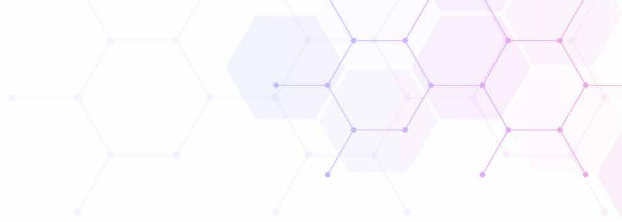
# Monday, 27 May 2024

Time	Conference Agenda
8:00am – 8:45am	<b>Registration</b>
8:45am – 10:00am	<b>Welcome Remarks by Mr Kishore MAHBUBANI</b> <i>Chairman, NUS Medicine International Council (NIC), Singapore</i>  <b>Opening Dialogue with Professor John J MEARSHEIMER</b> <i>R Wendell Harrison Distinguished Service Professor, University of Chicago, United States</i> (Hybrid Participation)  On “ <b>Why the West is in Deep Trouble</b> ” – It is clear from what is happening in Ukraine and Gaza that the West’s policies are failing. But the problems go beyond those two wars. Just consider the demise of the liberal international order, not to mention what is happening to liberalism inside the US and other Western countries. This talk will attempt to identify the root causes of the disastrous situation facing the West today.  Moderator: <b>Mr Kishore MAHBUBANI</b> <i>Chairman, NUS Medicine International Council (NIC)</i>
10:00am – 10:20am	<b>Tea Break</b>



## Monday, 27 May 2024

Time	Conference Agenda
10:20am – 11:20am	<p><b>Can China and India Live in Harmony?</b> by <b>Mr Kishore MAHBUBANI</b> <i>Chairman, NUS Medicine International Council (NIC)</i></p> <p>The China-India relationship is perhaps the most significant in the coming Asian 21<sup>st</sup> century. It is a relationship between countries which are home to the two largest populations in the world. By the end of this decade, China and India will be the world's 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> largest economies. Sometime in the next decade, China is likely to surpass the United States to become the world's largest economy. China and India also have the world's largest and second largest militaries, respectively. Unfortunately, tensions have been rising between the two Asian giants.</p> <p>Can China and India live in harmony? This question is particularly important for Southeast Asia, a region that has been influenced by the Sinic and Indic civilisations for millennia. This session will offer some insight on the possible state of play in the bilateral relationship, as well as some suggestions on how the relationship can be better managed.</p>
11:20am – 11:50am	<p><b>Update on NUS Medicine by Professor CHONG Yap Seng</b> <i>Dean, Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore (NUS Medicine)</i></p>
11:50am – 1:30pm	<p><b>Lunch Break</b></p>
1:30pm – 2:00pm	<p><b>NIC Members' Meeting</b></p>



Time	Conference Agenda
2:00pm – 3:00pm	<p data-bbox="339 293 706 320"><b>Dialogue with Mr Sael AL WAARY</b></p> <p data-bbox="339 325 927 379"><i>Group Chief Executive Officer, Arab Banking Corporation BSC (Bank ABC), Bahrain</i></p> <p data-bbox="339 416 964 507"><b>On “The Impact of Geopolitics, Fintech or Artificial Intelligence (AI) Disruption and Other Megatrends in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA)”</b></p> <ul data-bbox="339 512 964 858" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="339 512 964 603">• Increased geopolitical tensions impacting MENA and the impact on oil and gas trade and spill overs to regional economies;</li><li data-bbox="339 616 964 707">• Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) as a safe haven, regional business hub and the opening up of Saudi Arabia – the shift to less hydrocarbon dependent economies;</li><li data-bbox="339 719 754 746">• Strong MENA population dynamics;</li><li data-bbox="339 759 897 786">• Dollar pegs and multi-decade high interest rates;</li><li data-bbox="339 799 874 858">• The rise of digital banking, AI and disruption to traditional banking in the region.</li></ul> <p data-bbox="339 895 721 954">Moderator: <b>Mr Maher KADDOURA</b> <i>Entrepreneur, Jordan</i></p>



## Monday, 27 May 2024

Time	Conference Agenda
3:00pm – 4:00pm	<p><b>Digital Longevity Medicine</b> by <b>Professor Dean HO</b> <i>Provost's Chair Professor; Director of The Institute for Digital Medicine (WisDM) at NUS Medicine; Director of The N.1 Institute for Health (N.1); and Head of the Department of Biomedical Engineering at NUS, Singapore</i></p> <p>Our health is often managed by snapshots of information from standard blood tests, sometimes taken only once per year, or even less frequently.</p> <p>In reality, how our biology responds to fitness, food, and other interventions, is dynamic. Our interventions should also be dynamic, and monitored over time – as stories. In essence, we should be treated as Stories Over Snapshots. Each of our stories is unique and paves the way for true N-of-1 health.</p> <p>This empowers our ability to address numerous challenges in preventive health, from obesity to heart health, and healthy ageing to longevity medicine.</p> <p>Professor Ho will highlight a personal journey by harnessing The Regimen, a combination of interventions and digital platforms to realise N-of-1 health optimisation.</p>
4:00pm – 4:30pm	<b>Tea Break</b>



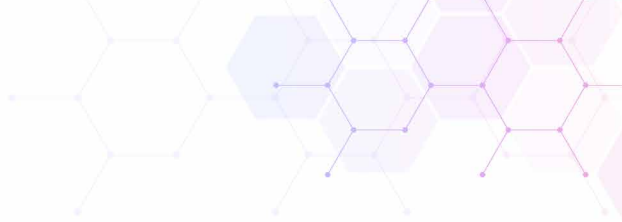
Time	Conference Agenda
4:30pm – 5:30pm	<p data-bbox="339 292 938 320"><b>Panel Discussion on “India, Democracy, and Elections”</b></p> <p data-bbox="339 357 900 448">As India holds its 18<sup>th</sup> general election, what are the implications for the world’s largest democracy and the world?</p> <p data-bbox="339 486 449 512">Panellists:</p> <ul data-bbox="339 518 964 671" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="339 518 964 603">• <b>Mr Kapil KOMIREDDI</b>, <i>Columnist, Essayist, and Author of “Malevolent Republic: A Short History of the New India”, India and United Kingdom</i></li><li data-bbox="339 614 964 671">• <b>Mr Girija PANDE</b>, <i>Director of Apex Advisors Pte Ltd, Former CEO of Tata Consultancy Services, Singapore</i></li></ul> <p data-bbox="339 710 871 767">Moderator: <b>Mr Krishnamurthy CHANDRAMOULI</b> <i>Managing Director, Rothschild Singapore</i></p>
5:30pm – 6:00pm	<b>Break - Free and Easy</b>
6:00pm – 6:30pm	<b>Cocktail Reception</b>
6:30pm – 8:30pm	<b>Conference Dinner (free seating)</b>





## Tuesday, 28 May 2024

Time	Conference Agenda
8:30am – 9:00am	<b>Registration</b>
9:00am – 10:00am	<b>Panel Discussion on “Hospital Application of AI Technologies”</b>  This session will showcase the latest in healthcare AI technology, including imaging AI, GenAI and multiple live AI tools on the ENDEAVOUR AI streaming platform. The panellists will also feature 4 <sup>th</sup> generation technologies such as holomedicine and cloud robotics in healthcare.  Panellists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Dr James LEE</b>, <i>Consultant, Department of Surgery; and Assistant Group Chief Technology Officer, National University Health System (NUHS), Singapore on “AI and Big Data in Healthcare”</i></li></ul> In an era where technology intersects seamlessly with healthcare, the potential for AI and big data to revolutionise patient outcomes, streamline operations, and facilitate medical research is unprecedented. This talk will explore the latest advancements in AI and big data in the healthcare sector, showcasing real-world applications that demonstrate significant improvements in diagnostic accuracy, treatment personalisation, and operational efficiency.



Time	Conference Agenda
9:00am – 10:00am <b>(continued)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="340 293 953 379">• <b>Dr GAO Yujia</b>, <i>Consultant Hepatobiliary Surgeon, National University Hospital (NUH); and Assistant Group Chief Technology Officer, NUHS</i></li></ul> <p data-bbox="367 395 956 804">This session will cover cutting edge AI systems and applications in healthcare. From the latest in augmented reality and mixed reality technology in the operating theatre and point-of-care applications, autonomous robots (Missi), automation using large language models, to the region's first deployment of an indoor enterprise grade 5G data network. Integrating a multi-layer data network leveraging on "on-prem" (on premises IT infrastructure hardware and software applications that exist on-site instead of in cloud) and cloud computing, together with Singapore's first healthcare supercomputer, the NUHS leverages these systems to enhance the productivity and quality of care across the Group.</p> <p data-bbox="340 839 938 951">Moderator: <b>Dr NGIAM Kee Yuan</b> <i>Associate Professor and Senior Consultant Thyroid and Endocrine Surgeon, NUH; and Group Chief Technology Officer, NUHS</i></p>
10:00am – 11:00am	<p data-bbox="340 979 934 1034"><b>Behavioural Insights for Addressing Global Challenges</b> by <b>Professor Ayelet GNEEZY</b></p> <p data-bbox="340 1040 964 1238"><i>Visiting Professor, Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore; Professor for Behavioral Sciences and Marketing, The Carol Lazier and Family Endowed Chair in Social Innovation and Impact, Co-founder and Director of the US-Israel Center on Innovation and Economic Sustainability, and Co-founder and Director, Initiative for Social Innovation and Impact, Rady School of Management, UC San Diego, United States</i></p> <p data-bbox="340 1273 960 1327">Moderator: <b>Dr Suhina SINGH</b> <i>Chief Executive Officer and Co-founder, Jonda Health, Singapore</i></p>
11:00am – 11:30am	<b>Tea Break</b>



## Tuesday, 28 May 2024

Time	Conference Agenda
11:30am – 12:30pm	<p data-bbox="385 292 902 320"><b>Innovation Showcase: Cutting Edge Technology</b></p> <p data-bbox="385 352 493 376">Panellists:</p> <ul data-bbox="385 384 1001 517" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="385 384 1001 517">• <b>Associate Professor Helen ZHOU Juan</b>, <i>Director of the Centre for Translational Magnetic Resonance Research, NUS Medicine</i> and <b>Associate Professor Thomas YEO</b>, <i>NUS Medicine, Singapore</i> on “<b>Foundation AI Models for Mind Reading and Personalised Brain Treatment</b>”</li></ul> <p data-bbox="415 549 1006 692">Advances in brain imaging technologies and artificial intelligence are providing an unprecedented opportunity to gain insights into the human mind. Here, Dr Zhou and Dr Yeo will showcase the use of MRI for mind reading and N-of-1 treatment of mental disorders.</p> <ul data-bbox="385 719 1009 772" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="385 719 1009 772">• <b>Dr Zachery YEO</b>, <i>Director, NUS Medicine Digital Accelerator Unit, Singapore</i> on “<b>Digital Accelerator in Academia</b>”</li></ul> <p data-bbox="415 804 964 916">Showcasing two novel ideas in digital health space that was borne out of a recently concluded health hackathon organised by NUS Medicine Accelerator Unit in January 2024.</p> <ul data-bbox="385 956 1014 1299" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="385 956 1014 1035">• <b>Mr Jeremy CHOONG</b>, <i>Founder and Chief Scientist, JayVoxx Holdings and JayVoxx Technologies, Singapore</i> on “<b>AI and the Future of Humanity</b>”<ul data-bbox="415 1038 975 1299" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="415 1038 729 1062">• The Latest Breakthroughs;</li><li data-bbox="415 1066 975 1090">• The impact this technology will have on your life;</li><li data-bbox="415 1093 880 1117">• Impact on job market shifts and society;</li><li data-bbox="415 1120 925 1144">• Possibilities and challenges that AI presents;</li><li data-bbox="415 1147 706 1171">• Real-world applications;</li><li data-bbox="415 1174 572 1198">• Healthcare;</li><li data-bbox="415 1201 561 1225">• Education;</li><li data-bbox="415 1228 706 1252">• Tackling climate change;</li><li data-bbox="415 1256 678 1279">• Boosting productivity.</li></ul></li></ul> <p data-bbox="385 1339 973 1469">Moderator: <b>Professor Dean HO</b> <i>Provost’s Chair Professor; Director of The Institute for Digital Medicine (WisDM) at NUS Medicine; Director of The N.1 Institute for Health (N.1); and Head of the Department of Biomedical Engineering at NUS, Singapore</i></p>



Time	Conference Agenda
11:30am – 12:30pm <b>(continued)</b>	Moderator: <b>Professor Dean HO</b> <i>Provost's Chair Professor; Director of The Institute for Digital Medicine (WisDM) at NUS Medicine; Director of The N.1 Institute for Health (N.1); and Head of the Department of Biomedical Engineering at NUS, Singapore</i>
12:30pm – 2:30pm	<p><b>Lunch Panel Discussion on “The Future of Southeast Asia: Balancing Regional Stability and Economic Growth in a Changing Global Landscape”</b></p> <p>This panel discussion will explore Indonesia’s political shift with President-elect Prabowo Subianto and its impact on Southeast Asia, delving into issues like how might Indonesia’s new leadership affect regional stability and economic development; and examining ASEAN’s strategic balancing act amidst US-China rivalry and the implications for regional dynamics. Together, the panellists will provide insights into the opportunities and challenges for Southeast Asia in fostering stability and growth in a complex geopolitical landscape.</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Mr Hans VRIENS</b>, <i>Managing Partner, Vriens &amp; Partners, Singapore</i></li><li>• <b>Mr Edward LEE</b>, <i>Former Singapore Ambassador to Brunei Darussalam, the Philippines, and Indonesia, Singapore</i></li></ul> <p>Moderator: <b>Mr Kishore MAHBUBANI</b> <i>Chairman, NUS Medicine International Council (NIC)</i></p>

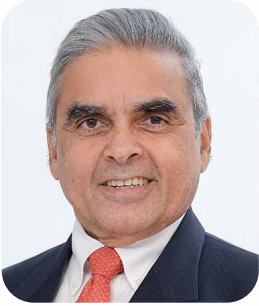




## **Speakers' and Moderators' Biographies**

# Mr Kishore MAHBUBANI

Chairman, NUS Medicine International Council (NIC), Singapore



Professor Kishore Mahbubani is a Distinguished Fellow at the Asia Research Institute (ARI), National University of Singapore (NUS).

Mr Mahbubani has been privileged to enjoy two distinct careers, in diplomacy (1971 to 2004) and in academia (2004 to 2019). He is a prolific writer who has spoken in many corners of the world.

In diplomacy, he was with the Singapore Foreign Service for 33 years (1971 to 2004). He had postings in Cambodia, Malaysia, Washington DC and New York, where he twice was Singapore's Ambassador to the UN and served as President of the UN Security Council in January 2001 and May 2002. He was Permanent Secretary at the Foreign Ministry from 1993 to 1998. As a result of his excellent performance in his diplomatic career, he was conferred the Public Administration Medal (Gold) by the Singapore Government in 1998.

Mr Mahbubani joined academia in 2004, when he was appointed the Founding Dean of the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy (LKY School), NUS. He was Dean from 2004 to 2017, and a Professor in the Practice of Public Policy from 2006 to 2019. In April 2019, he was elected as an honorary international member to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, which has honoured distinguished thinkers, including several of America's founding fathers, since 1780.

Mr Mahbubani was awarded the President's Scholarship in 1967. He graduated with a First Class Honours degree in Philosophy from the University of Singapore in 1971. From Dalhousie University, Canada, he received a Master's degree in Philosophy in 1976 and an honorary doctorate in 1995. He spent a year as a fellow at the Center for International Affairs at Harvard University from 1991 to 1992.

He has achieved several “firsts” in his two careers. He was the Founding Dean of the LKY School, the founding Director of the Civil Service College, the first Singapore Ambassador to serve on the UN Security Council, the first Singaporean to publish articles in globally renowned journals and newspapers like *Foreign Affairs*, *Foreign Policy*, *The New York Times* and the *Financial Times* and co-authored articles with distinguished global thought leaders like Kofi Annan, Klaus Schwab and Larry Summers. Mr Mahbubani has never shied away from taking on new challenges.

He has also been a prolific author, having published nine books: *Can Asians Think?*, *Beyond The Age Of Innocence*, *The New Asian Hemisphere*, *The Great Convergence*, *Can Singapore Survive*, *The ASEAN Miracle (co-authored with Jeffery Sng)*, *Has the West Lost It?*, *Has China Won?* and *The Asian 21<sup>st</sup> Century*.

Mr Mahbubani has received significant international recognition for his many accomplishments. The Foreign Policy Association Medal was awarded to him in New York in June 2004 with the following opening words in the citation: “A gifted diplomat, a student of history and philosophy, a provocative writer and an intuitive thinker”. He was listed as one of the top 100 public intellectuals in the world by *Foreign Policy* and *Prospect* magazines in September 2005, and included in the March 2009 *Financial Times* list of Top 50 individuals who would shape the debate on the future of capitalism. He was selected as one of *Foreign Policy*’s Top Global Thinkers in 2010 and 2011. In 2011, he was described as “the muse of the Asian century”. He was selected by *Prospect* magazine as one of the top 50 world thinkers for 2014.

# Professor Yap Seng CHONG

**Lien Ying Chow Professor in Medicine and Dean, Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore**



Professor Chong Yap Seng is the Dean of the National University of Singapore Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine (NUS Medicine), Singapore's first institute of higher learning and one of the leading medical schools in Asia. Since Professor Chong assumed the role of Dean in 2019, NUS Medicine has risen to rank 16<sup>th</sup> on the 2024 Times Higher Education World University rankings and 18<sup>th</sup> on the 2024 Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings for Medicine.

In his role as Deputy Chief Executive (Education and Research) of the National University Health System (NUHS), Professor Chong will be furthering NUHS' academic mission and augmenting the Academic Health System through his oversight of the academic and research development at all NUHS institutions.

As the former Executive Director (2015-2021) and now the Chief Clinical Officer at the Singapore Institute for Clinical Sciences, Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A\*STAR), Professor Chong oversees clinical programmes that seek to promote health and human capacity in Singapore and the world. These programmes include the Growing Up in Singapore Towards healthy Outcomes (GUSTO) and the Singapore Preconception Study of long-Term maternal and child Outcomes (S-PRESTO) longitudinal studies that examine how conditions in pregnancy and early childhood influence the health and development of women and children.



In addition to his special research interest in the developmental origins of health and disease, Professor Chong has co-authored more than 500 research publications in top journals including *The Lancet*, the *Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA)* and the *British Medical Journal (BMJ)*. He received the National Outstanding Clinician Scientist Award from Singapore's Ministry of Health in 2017 for his research efforts in early human development and nutrition, and was conferred the Public Administration Medal (Silver) at the 2022 Singapore National Day Awards.

For the past few years, his energies have been on helping develop national strategies to advance child and maternal health and well-being, promoting healthy living for families, and improving health resources equity in Singapore.

Professor Chong continues to care for mothers and babies in his role as a Senior Consultant in the Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology at the National University Hospital (NUH) under the NUHS and, till today, still looks forward to welcoming newborn babies into the world.

# Ambassador Frank LAVIN (Ret.)

**Visiting Fellow, Hoover Institution; Former US ambassador to Singapore and Under Secretary for International Trade at the US Department of Commerce, United States**



Ambassador Frank Lavin is a Visiting Fellow at the Hoover Institution where he works on Asia policy and trade issues. He writes a monthly column for Forbes Magazine.

Ambassador Lavin was Chairman of the NUS Medicine International Council (NIC) from 2016-2021 and is now an Honorary Member of the NIC.

Ambassador Lavin served as Under Secretary for International Trade at the US Department of Commerce in the Bush (43<sup>rd</sup> President) Administration. In that capacity, Ambassador Lavin served as lead trade negotiator for both China and India and was responsible for commercial policy, export promotion, and trade negotiations across the globe. Ambassador Lavin was previously US Ambassador to Singapore, where he helped negotiate the US-Singapore Free Trade Agreement.

In the private sector, Ambassador Lavin served in senior finance and management positions in Hong Kong and Singapore with Edelman, Bank of America, and Citibank.

Ambassador Lavin also served in the Bush (41<sup>st</sup> President) and Reagan Administrations, working in the Department of Commerce, Department of State, National Security Council, and White House.

Ambassador Lavin earned a Bachelor of Science from the School of Foreign Service and a Master of Science in Chinese Language and History (both Georgetown); a Master of Arts in International Relations and International Economics from the School of Advanced International Studies (Johns Hopkins); and a Master in Business Administration in Finance from Wharton (Pennsylvania).

He has been published in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Foreign Affairs*, *Foreign Policy*, and elsewhere.

Ambassador Lavin is the author of *“The Smart Business Guide to China E-Commerce”* (Penguin), co-author of *“Export Now”* (Wiley) on market entry strategies, and author of *“Home Front to Battlefield”* (Ohio University Press), a World War II history book.

Ambassador Lavin serves as a Trustee of The Asia Foundation and as a Director of the Asia Society of Northern California. He also serves on the Board of Directors of Advanced MedTech Holdings, a medical technologies company. He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, and on the Advisory Board of the European Centre for International Political Economy (ECIPE), a Brussels think-tank. Ambassador Lavin served as a Lieutenant Commander in the US Naval Reserves.

# Mr Narinder SINGH

**Co-founder and Director, Avina Holdings Pte Ltd, Singapore**



Mr Narinder Singh is an experienced technology entrepreneur and investor with a demonstrated history of founding start-ups and scaling them to global presence. His most recent successful exit was Utopia Global, Inc (USA), a worldwide leader in enterprise data management solutions. Mr Singh is passionate about working with founders who want to grow and scale their companies globally. As a co-founder and Chief Operating Officer (COO), he has deep expertise working across strategy, new markets expansion and global operations. In addition, he has a track record of successfully raising funds from private equity and growth investors.

In 2003, Mr Singh co-founded Utopia Global, Inc, where he was a Member of the Board and COO. Utopia became one of only 30 companies globally to become an SAP Software Solution Extension partner, and the firm's software was implemented by several Fortune 100 companies. As COO, Mr Singh expanded Utopia beyond North America to Europe, Middle East, India, Southeast Asia, and Australia and New Zealand (ANZ), and grew the firm to over 650 employees. Utopia was acquired in late 2020 by Prometheus Group, a portfolio company of Genstar Capital, a leading private equity firm with \$19 billion in assets under management (AUM).

Mr Singh is an active participant in the Singapore start-up eco system. He invests primarily in tech-oriented start-ups, and mentors founders in scaling up into regional and global markets.

Mr Singh has a deep and enduring commitment to philanthropy. At Utopia he spearheaded the annual Joy of Giving programme which supported causes in local communities. He currently leads his family's philanthropic programmes which are focused on improving access to high quality education for children from underprivileged families.

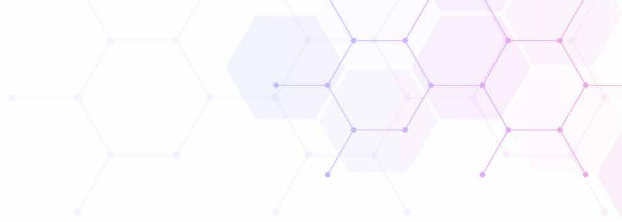
# Professor John J Mearsheimer

**R Wendell Harrison Distinguished Service Professor, University of Chicago, United States**



Professor John J Mearsheimer is the R Wendell Harrison Distinguished Service Professor of Political Science at the University of Chicago, where he has taught since 1982. He graduated from West Point in 1970 and then served five years as an officer in the US Air Force. He then started graduate school in political science at Cornell University in 1975. He received his PhD in 1980. He spent the 1979-1980 academic year as a research fellow at the Brookings Institution and was a post-doctoral fellow at Harvard University's Center for International Affairs from 1980 to 1982. During the 1998-1999 academic year, he was the Whitney H Shepardson Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations in New York.

Professor Mearsheimer has written extensively about security issues and international politics more generally. He has published seven books: *Conventional Deterrence* (1983), which won the Edgar S Furniss, Jr, Book Award; *Liddell Hart and the Weight of History* (1988); *The Tragedy of Great Power Politics* (2001, 2014), which won the Joseph Leggold Book Prize and has been translated into nine different languages; *The Israel Lobby and US Foreign Policy* (with Stephen M Walt, 2007), which made *The New York Times* best seller list and has been translated into 25 different languages; *Why Leaders Lie: The Truth about Lying in International Politics* (2011), which has been translated into 13 different languages; *The Great Delusion: Liberal Dreams and International Realities* (2018), which has been translated into nine different languages and was the recipient of the 2019 Best Book of the Year Award from the Valdai Discussion Conference, Moscow; and *How States Think: The Rationality of Foreign Policy* (with Sebastian Rosato, 2023).



He has also written many articles that have appeared in academic journals like *International Security*, and popular magazines like *Foreign Affairs*, *The Economist*, and *The London Review of Books*. Furthermore, he has written op-ed pieces for newspapers like *The New York Times* and *The Financial Times* dealing with topics like Bosnia, nuclear proliferation, US policy towards India, the failure of Arab-Israeli peace efforts, the folly of invading Iraq, the causes of the Ukrainian crisis, and the likelihood of Iran acquiring nuclear weapons.

Finally, Professor Mearsheimer has received several awards and honours. He received the Clark Award for Distinguished Teaching when he was a graduate student at Cornell in 1977, and he won the Quantrell Award for Distinguished Teaching at the University of Chicago in 1985. He was selected as a Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar for the 1993-1994 academic year. In that capacity, he gave a series of talks at eight colleges and universities. He received honorary doctorates from universities in China, Greece, and Romania; and in 2003, he was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. In 2020, he won the James Madison Award, which is given once every three years by the American Political Science Association to “an American political scientist who has made a distinguished scholarly contribution to political science.”



## Mr Sael AL WAARY

**Group Chief Executive Officer, Arab Banking Corporation BSC (Bank ABC), Bahrain**



Mr Sael Al Waary is the Group Chief Executive Officer of Bank ABC Group, headquartered in Bahrain, with operations in 15 countries. Mr Al Waary has more than 35 years of experience in Banking and Financial Services. He has held many senior roles in London and Bahrain from which he has gained a wealth of leadership and management experience. Most recently, he has overseen the merger of two major Banks in Egypt.

Mr Al Waary is currently driving digital innovation for the Bank ABC Group as well as being a major promoter of Fintech not only in Bahrain, but across the region. He is a results-driven seasoned banker and technologist, who is passionate about artificial intelligence (AI) and digital disruption, especially in the financial services sector. A highly driven and disciplined leader, he spearheaded the Bank ABC Group's global transformation programme.

Frequently contributing to articles and interviews on key industry trends and topics, he has published opinion pieces and interviews in a variety of leading magazines and online publications including *The Banker*, *Global Finance Magazine*, *The Fintech Times*, *Euromoney* and *Bloomberg*. He has also spoken at international conferences and events around the world on the positive impact of digital disruption and financial inclusion including the Singapore Fintech Festival, AWS, and Euromoney conferences, and is a recognised thought leader in this field.



Mr Al Waary also founded the MEA Fintech Forum, an exclusive invitation-only event bringing together global leaders to discuss and explore future trends. The latest conference was held virtually in 2020, and attended by over 2,000 delegates from around the world including senior dignitaries representing Central Banks from the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and North Africa region.

He currently holds several Executive Board roles, serving as Chairman of Bank ABC Jordan, Chairman of Arab Financial Services Company BSC, Chairman of the ila Bank Advisory Board (a digital, mobile-only, retail bank founded by Bank ABC), and Vice-Chairman of Bank ABC Egypt. Previously, he also served as a Director on the Board of Banco ABC Brasil SA and as Chairman of Blom Bank Egypt.

An active figure in the community, he served as Chairman of the Board of Governors of St Christopher's School, Bahrain, for over ten years from 2006 to 2017.

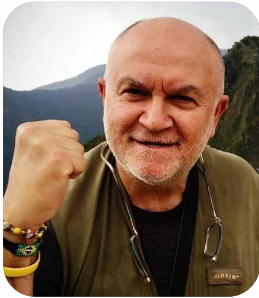
In 2017, 2020, and 2023 Bank ABC was awarded the Bahrain Bank of the Year Award by *The Banker* – a highly coveted industry prize. Bank ABC was most recently recognised in 2024 as the 'Best Trade Finance Provider in the Middle East' award for the second consecutive year by Global Finance at the Global Finance World's Best Trade Finance Awards.

He has a Bachelor of Science (Hons) degree in Computer Science from the University of Reading, United Kingdom. He also attended Executive Management courses at the Harvard Center for Middle East Studies and the London Business School.



# Mr Maher KADDOURA

## Entrepreneur, Jordan



Mr Maher Kaddoura is a management consultant, a serial entrepreneur, angel investor, social change maker, public speaker, adventurer, and book author:

**Entrepreneur and Angel Investor:** Upon retirement as Accenture Middle East managing partner, he established a number of professional services firms that became regional leaders in their relative sectors (strategy consulting, system integration and training).


He invests and serves on the board of a number of companies in the following sectors: knowledge economy, food and beverage, electro-mechanical, retail, microfinance and financial services. He has recently established Good Tech Nation as an Advisor-investor firm to invest and advise very early stage ventures in the Learn & Earn space.

**Social Change Maker:** Mr Kaddoura established Al-Jude NGO in 1999 and launched a number of social programmes focused on road safety, youth leadership, innovation and entrepreneurship. Mr Kaddoura is a visionary who believes in achieving more with less for many using his own theory named “The Falafel Theory”.

**Board Member:** Mr Kaddoura has served as a board member on a number of boards including research on ageing, youth development, entrepreneurship, micro-ventures, health services standards, International Baccalaureate (IB) school, investment fund, digital mobile only bank, financial services company.

**Thought Contributor:** Mr Kaddoura is a public speaker and storyteller. He shares his experience and thinking on social media using Snackable format of videos, digital books, and visual posts. King Abdullah II, Sheikh Mohammad Ben Rashid of Dubai, United Nations and Ernest & Young recognised him.

**Adventurer and World Traveller:** Mr Kaddoura is a street photographer, world traveller who travelled to more than 60 countries and 100 cities. He is an adventurer who trekked to Everest Base Camp, the Arctic, Alaska, the Jungles of Africa and the mountains of South America.



**Book Author:** Mr Kaddoura recently published a book titled “*The Art of Leapfrogging*” that tells how thirty other coauthors with him navigated new paths to achieve remarkable milestones in their lives. Mr Kaddoura intends to author a series of these books in the future.

### **Social Change Maker:**

He established a number of high impact social programmes including:

- **Hikmat Road Safety** - a programme to address Road Safety and reduce the percentage of road deaths and injuries in Jordan.
  - **Hikmat Culture** - a programme to support in sustaining and growing an art and culture district in Amman – Jordan.
  - **Playground** - Built 1200 football playgrounds in public schools with a national neighbourhood football championship involving 500 neighbourhoods.
  - **MeshMosta7eel** - a social TV show where every week participants present their innovative ideas to solve a specific national challenge and win a prize. The purpose of the programme is to fight complacency and plant the seeds of innovation in our culture.
  - **Hikmat Leaders** - a 4-month leadership programme for university students in their last year to sharpen their skills through carefully designed leadership simulation scenarios and experiences, so participants gain experience and knowledge through acting as leaders not lectured.
  - **Newthink Discover** - a 2-day new age learning event held to help organisations and professionals increase their effectiveness through attending training sessions delivered by experts in the field, and by developing their skills for a more productive workforce.
  - **Sherkitna** - a programme to plant the seeds of entrepreneurship among Jordanian students which now include 650 school companies.
  - **Meqdam** - a programme to plant the seeds of leadership in youth.
  - **Newthink** - programmes designed to inspire youth to unleash their potential. It includes a theatre, summer outdoor festival, and a learning institute. This initiative was awarded Arab Social Media Influencers Award in 2015.
  - **“Fikrezyon” On-line TV** - the first Arabic online TV focused on spreading hope and curiosity.
  - **Sonbola** - a social innovation incubator focused on young social entrepreneurs.
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# Professor Dean HO

**Provost's Chair Professor; Director of The Institute for Digital Medicine (WisDM) at NUS Medicine; Director of The N.1 Institute for Health (N.1); and Head of the Department of Biomedical Engineering at NUS, Singapore**



Professor Dean Ho is currently Provost's Chair Professor, Director of The Institute for Digital Medicine (WisDM) at the Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore (NUS Medicine); Director of The N.1 Institute for Health (N.1), and Head of the Department of Biomedical Engineering at the National University of Singapore (NUS).

Professor Ho and collaborators manage a portfolio of over 10 prospective, interventional human clinical trials. His team successfully developed and validated CURATE.AI, a powerful artificial intelligence (AI) platform that personalises human treatment for a broad spectrum of indications ranging from oncology, to digital therapeutics and infectious diseases, among others. His team also developed IDentif.AI to optimise combination therapy design against SARS-CoV-2 and to address antimicrobial resistance.

Professor Ho is an elected Fellow of the US National Academy of Inventors (NAI), American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering (AIMBE), and the Royal Society of Chemistry. He was also named to the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS) Future50 Class of 2021 for his internationally-recognised leadership in digital health. Professor Ho is also a Subgroup Lead in the World Health Organization (WHO) Working Group for the regulation of AI for Health, which was recently released globally.



Professor Ho is an author of the best-selling book, *Medicine Without Meds*, which has released internationally. The book serves as a blueprint for a broad community – from business leaders and venture capitalists to healthcare systems – on how to accelerate practice-changing innovation to patients and caregivers. All author proceeds from the book will be benefiting the WisDM Patient Impact Fund at NUS.

In popular and international media, Professor Ho has appeared on the *National Geographic* Channel Program “Known Universe,” and *Channel News Asia’s* “The Hidden Layer: Healthcare Trailblazers”. His discoveries have been featured on *CNN*, *The Economist*, *Straits Times*, *National Geographic*, *Forbes*, *Washington Post*, *NPR* and other international news outlets.

Professor Ho is a recipient of the Tech Heroes from Crisis Pathfinder Award from the Singapore Computer Society, NSF CAREER Award, Wallace H Coulter Foundation Translational Research Award, and V Foundation for Cancer Research Scholar Award, among others. He has also served as the President of the Board of Directors of the Society for Laboratory Automation and Screening (SLAS), a leading global drug development organisation.



## Mr Kapil KOMIREDDI

Columnist, Essayist, and Author of “*Malevolent Republic: A Short History of the New India*”, India and United Kingdom



Mr Kapil Komireddi is a columnist, essayist, and author. He was born in India, and educated there and in England. His first book, *Malevolent Republic: A Short History of the New India* – a compressed polemical history of India from Nehru to Narendra Modi – was published to critical and commercial acclaim in the United Kingdom (Hurst) and India (Westland) in 2019, and in the United States (Oxford University Press) in 2020. It was selected among the best books of the season by the Financial Times and the Times Literary

Supplement, and named Book of the Year by India Today and Business Standard. The Spectator praised Mr Komireddi as the “VS Naipaul of his generation”.

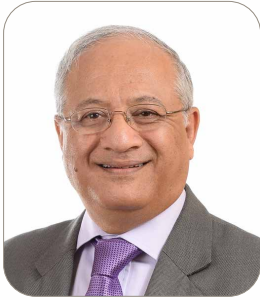
Mr Komireddi has written from numerous conflict zones – including Syria, Palestine, Sri Lanka, and Pakistan – and interviewed and profiled various world leaders. His commentary, criticism, and journalism – from South Asia, Europe, and the Middle East – appear, among other leading publications, in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Economist*, *The Indian Express*, *The Guardian*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *The Daily Mail*, *TIME*, *Foreign Policy*, the *Spectator*, and the *Jewish Chronicle*.

A highly sought-after speaker, Mr Komireddi has delivered talks at Yale, London, and Delhi. He has also advised and written speeches and drafted published commentary for a number of high-profile politicians in Europe.

Mr Komireddi is the international editor of *Modern Review*, a forthcoming global monthly magazine headquartered in London; an international affairs panellist on *Monocle24* radio; and he appears frequently on international media, including *ABC*, *CBC*, *BBC* and *CNN*, to discuss international affairs.

# Mr Girija PANDE

Chairman, Apex Advisors Pte Ltd, Singapore



Mr Girija Pande, based in Singapore is the Chairman of Apex Advisors Pte Ltd, Singapore, he is also the Non-Executive Chairman of Apex Avalon Consulting (Advisory Board) - a company which he co-founded with Avalon Consulting – which provides Management Consulting services to businesses in the fast-growing Asia Pacific (APAC) market. Mr Pande is ex-President of Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) Asia Pacific, a part of India's largest business conglomerate. He also chairs the APAC Board of Chain IQ Pte Ltd, Zurich – a

global sourcing and procurement firm. His current interests lie in technology, sustainability, and healthcare.

Mr Pande has over three decades of experience in senior positions in banking and financial services with a Citibank affiliate and subsequently ANZ Banking Group, and in IT with Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) Ltd. TCS is a global Tech giant valued at over US\$120 billion with over 600,000 Full Time Equivalent (FTE). Mr Pande set up TCS-APAC and under his Chairmanship the company grew to 11,000 associates in 14 countries. Mr Pande was also Vice Chairman of TCS' joint-venture with the Chinese Government & Microsoft, and was instrumental in building the business to over 2,500 associates in six cities in China.

He was council member for the Singapore Government's high-powered Manpower Council set up by the Infocom Development Authority and served on the Advisory Board of Singapore Management University (SMU), Nanyang Technological University (NTU) Business School, Institute of South Asian Studies – part of National University of Singapore (NUS) and Boards of National Council of Social Services, National Healthcare Group & Singapore International Chamber of Commerce. He currently serves on Boards of Global Technology Companies and serves as a Trustee of Singapore Indian Development Association (SINDA). He serves on the Advisory Board of a environmental, social, and governance (ESG) Fund as well and mentors deep tech start-ups. He has recently joined the High-Level Advisory Board of Brussels based Digital Goes Green Foundation working on sustainability issues of digitalisation. He also chairs the Global ESG Advisory Board of Chain IQ, Zurich.

**Awards:** He was awarded Public Service Medal by the Government of Singapore on National Day in 2021. He received the best CEO Award from Singapore Human Resource (HR) Institute and two Social Services Award by Ministry of Social and Family Development. He was conferred “The Distinguished Alumnus Award” in 2019 by Pan Indian Institutes of Management (IIM) Alumni in Singapore and “Lifetime Achievement Award” by the Tata Group.

Mr Pande holds an engineering degree and an MBA from India’s prestigious business school, Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Ahmedabad. He has extensive experience throughout Asia, as he held senior postings in Korea, Hong Kong, Bahrain, and India. He was the Executive Chairman of ANZ Grindlays Asset Management Company in India and served on Advisory Boards of private equity (PE) Funds focused on India or Technology.

Mr Pande is well known among business circles in Singapore, India and Asia and has wide ranging contacts in these countries. He has been a speaker at the World Economic and Boao Forum in China and has spoken in TEDX Connect on Sustainability. He frequently speaks on business and technology forums in Asia. He is frequently interviewed on International TV Channels like *CNBC*, *Bloomberg* and the international press for his views on Asian and global business trends. He has co-authored a successful book on building business in China and India “*The Silk Road Rediscovered*” published by John Wiley.

# Mr Krishnamurthy CHANDRAMOULI

Managing Director, Rothschild Singapore



Mr Krishnamurthy Chandramouli is an investment banker with the global financial advisory firm Rothschild. He is based in Singapore and is responsible for the firm's Asian power and utilities sector. Mr Chandramouli began his investment banking career in 1995, and has been with Rothschild for 25 years. In 2003, he relocated from Rothschild India to Singapore to assume a regional role.

Mr Chandramouli has advised on several high-profile cross-border mergers and acquisitions (M&A) transactions including advising Blackstone on its US\$1.2 billion exit from its power generation business in the Philippines, Edra Energy on the sale of its global power generation portfolio to China General Nuclear Power Corporation (CGN) for US\$2.3 billion, and the independent directors of CitySpring Infrastructure on its US\$3.0 billion combination with Keppel Infrastructure Trust. In addition to M&A, Mr Chandramouli has also advised on capital-raising and privatisations. Mr Chandramouli has a Master of Business Administration from BIM (India) and attended Madras University.



## Dr James LEE

**Consultant, Department of Surgery; and Assistant Group Chief Technology Officer, National University Health System, Singapore**



Dr Lee graduated from the Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore (NUS Medicine) in 2013 and was enrolled on the Dean's List for his performance in the final MBBS examination. He joined the General Surgery Residency Programme at the National University Health System (NUHS) in 2013 and obtained his Membership of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh in 2015, and the Master of Medicine (Surgery) from the National University of Singapore in 2019.

Upon completion of his Residency Training in 2020, he obtained his Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh and was accredited as a Specialist in General Surgery by the Singapore Specialist Accreditation Board.

Dr Lee has a sub-specialty interest in endocrine and minimally invasive surgery and joined the Department of Surgery in Alexandra Hospital (AH), as well as the Division of General Surgery (Endocrine & Thyroid Surgery) in 2022 in the Department of Surgery, National University Hospital (NUH). He has a keen interest in advancing minimally invasive surgical techniques for thyroid surgery.

Apart from clinical work, Dr Lee is extensively involved in both undergraduate medical education at NUS Medicine as well as post graduate medical education for the General Surgery Residency. He serves actively as the Phase III Surgery Posting Director, as well as part of the Final MBBS Assessment Committee for the Surgery Track. He also currently leads the Undergraduate Surgical Programme as well as the Post Graduate General Surgery Residency Programme at AH.

Dr Lee has a special interest in Healthcare Informatics and artificial intelligence (AI). He believes advancements in technology will optimise the interface between medicine and surgery for better outcomes, especially for complex cases. This not only allows doctors to make better decisions, but also improves their ability to focus on patient care.

He anchors the NEGMR GO-Live for the Department of Surgery in AH as well as spearheads multiple technology-related projects in the Group Technology Office with applications in the clinical and medical education spheres. He is currently the Assistant Group Chief Technology Officer for the Technology Office, NUHS.

## Dr GAO Yujia

**Assistant Group Chief Technology Officer, National University Health System, Singapore**



Dr Gao Yujia is a Consultant Surgeon in Liver, Pancreas, and Liver Transplant Surgery at the National University Hospital (NUH) in Singapore. As the Assistant Group Chief Technology Officer for the National University Health System (NUHS), Dr Gao is involved in the research and development of immersive technology and its application in clinical care and education. He works extensively with Mixed Reality (MR) technology, utilising MR devices to deliver cutting edge capabilities to clinicians including 3D holographic imaging, real-

time computer-vision based imaged analysis, and multisource data integration. He is also responsible for the integration and implementation of 5G wireless technology for hospital infrastructure development and building of secured high-speed integrated data networks. He also serves as the Vice-Chairman of the international Holomedicine Association.

## Dr NGIAM Kee Yuan

**Head-designate, Academic Informatics Office; Group Chief Technology Officer, National University Health System, Singapore**



Dr Ngiam Kee Yuan is Senior Consultant Thyroid and Endocrine Surgeon, and concurrently Group Chief Technology Officer at National University Health System, Singapore. He is also Associate Professor and Head of the Division of Biomedical Informatics, Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore (NUS Medicine).

Dr Ngiam received his medical degree from the Royal Free and University College Medical School, University College London in 2003 where he graduated with multiple distinctions and awards. He received his specialist certifications from the Royal College of Surgeons of Glasgow, and the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Edinburgh, and is accredited as a surgical specialist by the Specialist Accreditation Board, Ministry of Health (MOH) Singapore in 2012.

Associate Professor Ngiam is also passionate about educating future digital leaders. He is the founding Head of the Division of Biomedical Informatics at the NUS Medicine.

His professional interests focus on innovations in surgery and artificial intelligence (AI) in healthcare. He has founded numerous platforms and programmes, including the DISCOVERY AI, ENDEAVOUR AI and the NUHS Holomedicine programme. He is a recipient of multiple grants including the National Medical Research Council (NMRC) Clinician Innovator Development (CIDA) grant, and the Infocomm Media Development Authority (IMDA) 5G grants. He is also the holder of multiple patents in surgical innovations and AI technology.

# Professor Ayelet GNEEZY

**Visiting Professor, Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore; Professor for Behavioural Sciences and Marketing, The Carol Lazier and Family Endowed Chair in Social Innovation and Impact, Co-founder and Director of the US-Israel Center on Innovation and Economic Sustainability, and Co-founder and Director, Initiative for Social Innovation and Impact, Rady School of Management, UC San Diego, United States**



Professor Ayelet Gneezy's research has been published in leading academic journals, including *Science*, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America (PNAS)*, *the Journal of Marketing Research*, *Proceedings of the Royal Society B*, *Scientific Reports*, *Nature Communications*, *Marketing Science*, *the Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, and *the Journal of Consumer Research*. Her work was featured by top media outlets such as *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Times*, *Scientific American*, *The Huffington Post*, and *The Atlantic*.

Often collaborating with companies, organizations, and non-profits, Professor Gneezy's research explores individuals' choices and behaviours within the domains of health and well-being, environmental sustainability, end-of-life decisions, and charitable giving.

Professor Gneezy received her PhD from the Booth School of Business at the University of Chicago. Prior to her doctoral studies, she managed the strategic planning department at DataPro Proximity (a subsidiary of BBDO Worldwide).

# Dr Suhina SINGH

**Chief Executive Officer and Co-founder, Jonda Health, Singapore**



Dr Suhina Singh is a physician, chronic disease warrior, and former pharma medical director that has experienced the challenges of health data fragmentation first-hand from different points of view. She has not only lost a family member to cancer but suffers from autoimmune conditions herself.

Dr Singh is determined to help address these health data challenges through Jonda Health – a young health tech company she co-founded and leads. The company aims to unlock the power of real-world data to improve

health outcomes and advance medicine with privacy and security by default.

Having grown up in apartheid South Africa and studied medicine in Afrikaans (a language she could barely speak), Dr Singh is always up for a challenge and prides herself in being resilient in the toughest of times. Her curious nature has led to over 15 years of experience in different roles ranging from clinical practice, medical advisory, and operations to data-driven marketing and digital innovation.

In her spare time, Dr Singh is president of the INSEAD Alumni Emerging Markets Group which she helped to found in 2021 with fellow alumni, where she works closely with the INSEAD Emerging Markets Institute and other organisations, to facilitate the cross-pollination of knowledge across emerging markets. She is also a member of the NUS Medicine International Council (NIC) of the Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine at the National University of Singapore (NUS Medicine). NIC members are recognised for their service and scope of generosity to medical research and development and are actively engaged as NUS Medicine’s ambassadors to the wider world.

Dr Singh holds a Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery from the University of Stellenbosch, a Masters in Science in International Health Management from Imperial Business School, and an Executive Master of Business Administration from INSEAD. She also has a Lean Six Sigma Green belt, studied UX/UI and product management, and completed the INSEAD International Directors Programme with a certificate in corporate governance.

## Associate Professor Helen ZHOU Juan

Director of the Centre for Translational Magnetic Resonance Research,  
Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore



Dr Helen Zhou Juan is an Associate Professor and Director of the Centre for Translational Magnetic Resonance Research at the Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore (NUS Medicine). Her multidisciplinary laboratory leverages brain imaging and machine learning to study brain network phenotypes supporting cognition and mental health across the human lifespan, with a particular emphasis on ageing and dementia. Associate Professor Zhou earned her bachelor's degree and PhD from the College of Computing and Data Science, Nanyang Technological University (NTU). She then did her post-doctoral fellowship at the Memory and Aging Centre, Department of Neurology, University of California, San Francisco, and the Computational Biology Program at Singapore-MIT Alliance. After doing research in child and adolescent psychiatry at New York University, Associate Professor Zhou joined Duke-NUS Medical School as a faculty where she received the Academic Medicine Research Team Award (2019) and the Excellent Service Award (2017).

Associate Professor Zhou is internationally well-known for her pioneering work on predicting disease progression using brain connectome. Her work has received many recognitions including Highlight in Annual Meeting of American Academy of Neurology (2010) and consecutive Merit Abstract Awards at the Annual Meetings of the Organization of Human Brain Mapping (OHBM 2014-2022). Her team's recent innovative research in "mind-reading" via artificial intelligence received the Scholar Award at the Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS 2023) and has been featured in media including *NBC* and *The Telegraph*. Associate Professor Zhou is one of the world's top 2% most-cited researchers. She has served on the Council and Program Committee of the OHBM and sits on the advisory board of Cell Reports Medicine.

## Associate Professor Thomas YEO

Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore



Dr Thomas Yeo is an Associate Professor at the Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine at the National University of Singapore (NUS Medicine). He received his Bachelor of Science (BS) and Master of Science (MS) from Stanford University and PhD from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science. He then underwent neuroscience training at Harvard University and Duke-NUS Medical School. Dr Yeo's lab develops machine learning algorithms to generate scientific discoveries from population-level MRI data. Insights from these population-level studies are in turn used to develop N-of-1 mental disorder treatment in individuals.

Associate Professor Yeo has received many national and international awards, including the Medical Image Computing and Computer Assisted Interventions (MICCAI) Society Young Scientist Award (2007), the MICCAI Society Young Investigator Publication Impact Award (2011), the Singapore National Research Foundation Fellowship (2017), the Singapore Neuroscience Association Young Neuroscientist Award (2018) and the Organization for Human Brain Mapping (OHBM) Early Career Investigator Award (2019). He is a Fellow of OHBM (2024) and sits on its scientific advisory board. Associate Professor Yeo is the only scientist in Singapore listed as a Clarivate Highly Cited Researcher in the "Neuroscience and Behavior" category. This is an honour given to 0.1% of scientists in the world.

# Dr Zachery YEO

Director, NUS Medicine Digital Accelerator Unit, Singapore



In the modern era, the importance of digital empowerment is becoming increasingly evident. This extends also to healthcare, a traditional laggard in innovation due to the many regulatory hurdles and political sensitivity. Whilst there are many organisations and funds available downstream to incorporated medical technology companies, there is a current gap between ideas generated by end users, i.e. healthcare professionals (HCPs) and the creation of a viable product. NUS Medicine Digital Accelerator

Unit seeks to fill this gap by creating an accelerator pipeline to provide early-stage support, funding, and clinical validation for teams with viable digital solutions to proof of concept for further funding. In its recently concluded hackathon Health Hack 2024 that was run in January 2024, NUS Medicine attracted over 1,100 participants and 110 submissions from the region that sought to tackle the problem statements centred around Medical Education and Healthcare Sustainability. Within a month, teams were formed and crafted novel solutions that addressed pain points faced by everyday clinicians.



# Mr Jeremy CHOONG

**Founder and Chief Scientist, JayVoxx Holdings and JayVoxx Technologies, Singapore**



Mr Jeremy Choong is an experienced General Manager with a demonstrated history of working in the investment management industry, skilled in negotiation, budgeting, business planning, sales and distribution, strategic planning and artificial intelligence (AI) in industry. He is a Tech and Biotech professional with a Bachelor of Science (BSc) from National University of Singapore (NUS), and post graduate education focused in Science from NUS, and Nanyang Technological University (NTU).

He was awarded the prestigious Public Service Commission Scholarship in 1999, and served in various Singapore Government Ministries from 1999 to 2007, before leaving for the private sector.

He has worked as a Country Head and Regional Head of various fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) and IT companies, in the ASEAN 10-country region, with additional coverage of Japan, South Korea, Australia, and New Zealand markets.

He speaks nine languages and dialects, and is active in sports like basketball and soccer.

Mr Choong currently runs his own businesses in coffee, tea, cacao distribution; and bio-tech focused production of high-quality anaerobic fermentation coffees and cacao; and is Co-Founder and Chief Scientist of his own holding company JayVoxx Holdings, a science and tech-based intellectual property (IP) and advisory business.

## **Current Areas of Interest:**

- AI and the Future of Humanity
- Technology and Automation in Industry and Business
- Biotech in Food Science and Agronomy
- DNA Science and Genomics
- Organic Synthesis
- Quantum Physics and Quantum Chemistry

# Mr Hans VRIENS

Managing Partner, Vriens & Partners



Mr Hans Vriens is the founder and managing partner of Vriens & Partners, the leading government affairs, public policy, and political risk analysis firm around Southeast Asia. It is headquartered in Singapore and has more than 110 staff and 40 senior counsellors around the region. The firm has fully-staffed offices in Singapore, Indonesia, Vietnam, Myanmar, Thailand, Malaysia, the Philippines, Cambodia, and Washington, DC. Hans has lived and worked in Asia since 1990 – four generations of his family have lived in Indonesia and the Dutch East Indies. He is a regular commentator on regional issues. He also sits on the Board of Directors of Mandai Nature.

# Mr Edward LEE

## Chairman, Indofood Agri Resources, Singapore



In his 36 years in the diplomatic service, Mr Edward Lee served as High Commissioner to Brunei Darussalem, and Ambassador to the Philippines and Indonesia. For his services, he received the Public Administration Medal (Gold) and the Meritorious Service Medal from the Singapore Government. He was also bestowed the Order of Sikatuna, Rank of Datu (Grand Cross) by the Philippines and the Bintang Jasa Utama by Indonesia.

After his retirement from the diplomatic service, he has been on the boards of several listed and private companies in Singapore and Indonesia.

He is also a member of the Board of Trustees of the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS) – Yusuf Ishak Institute and Senior Advisor to the Brunswick Group.

He holds a Bachelor in Arts (Honours) from the University of Singapore (NUS) and a Master of Arts from Cornell University.

# Acknowledgements

The NUS Medicine International Council (NIC) wishes to thank all speakers, moderators, and discussants for taking part in the Singapore Conference 2024. The Council is also grateful to the many individuals who assisted in the planning and implementation of the conference.

## General Information

### DISCLAIMERS

**House Rule:** NUS Medicine International Council (NIC) events take place under the Chatham House Rule. However, photographs, images, and videos may be taken during the event and may be used on our social media, marketing and communications platforms under the NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine and the National University of Singapore (NUS) umbrella. You shall be deemed to have consented to our collection, use, and disclosure of the photographs, images and videos to third parties. You accept the abovementioned conditions by attending the event.

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All information provided in the programme is accurate at the time of printing and is subject to changes. The NIC will not be responsible for any changes in the programme due to external unforeseen circumstances and reserves the right to cancel, postpone, relocate or change any of the sessions.

# Useful Contacts

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CDG Zig App

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### SMRT Taxi

Hotline:

+65-6555 8888

### Trans Cab

Hotline:

+65 6555 3333

## Emergency

### Hotel Security

#### Department:

+65-6831 7180

### Front Office Desk:

+65-6831 7340

### Ambulance / Fire:

995

### Police:

999

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