Workshop: Illusive productivity and SMEs in Singapore

Organized by

Singapore Centre for Applied and Policy Economics (SCAPE)
Department of Economics

Date: 9 December 2013, Monday
Venue: The Shaw Foundation Building, Block AS7, level 1, Seminar Room B, 5 Arts Link, National University of Singapore, 117570

8:30am-9:00am: Registration
9:00am-9:15am: Opening Remarks by the Director of SCAPE and Head of Department of Economics
9:15am-10:30am: Productivity and SMEs in Singapore: Where is the Productivity? By Shandre M. Thangavelu, NUS
10:30am-11:00am: Tea Break
11:00am-11:45am: SME internationalization: drivers and strategies for Singapore and ASEAN. By Wong Marn Heong, LKY School of Public Policy, NUS
11:45am-12:45pm: Productivity and SME Policies that worked in Australia By Fiona Kerr, Business School, University of Adelaide
12:45pm-1:00pm: Closing Remarks by Director of SCAPE
1:00pm-2:00pm: Lunch
About the Speakers

Associate Professor Shandre Thangavelu is an active researcher on human capital development, technology transfer, foreign direct investment, trade, government infrastructure investment, productivity and economic growth. He has written extensively in technology transfer and economic growth and has published his research in major international journals. He is a Senior Consultant to the Ministry of Manpower. He was the Assistant Dean at the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences from Jan 2004 to May 2006. Recently, he was appointed as the Managing Editor for Asian Economic Journal. He is also a Senior Research Fellow at Leverhulme Centre for Research on Globalisation and Economic Policy (GEP), University of Nottingham and Faculty (Research) Associate at the Institute of Policy Studies, LKY School of Public Policy, NUS. Professor Thangavelu obtained his PhD from Queen’s University, Canada.

Wong Marn Heong is Assistant Professor at LKY School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore. Her research interest is in the areas of trade, investment, innovation and their impact on the productivity or competitiveness of firms and countries, with a focus on ASEAN and the Asia Pacific region. She collaborates with the ASEAN Business Advisory Council on an annual business survey of ASEAN’s competitiveness for trade and investments and was lead author of an ASEAN Competitiveness Report. She has also carried out studies on the contribution of firm dynamics to industry productivity growth in Australia, and was lead researcher in a pioneer Productivity Commission-Australian Bureau of Statistics project that explored the performance effects of Australian business innovations.

Fiona Kerr is visiting research fellow and an organisational and neural complexity specialist in the Entrepreneurship, Commercialisation and Innovation Centre of the University of Adelaide. She combines this with a business background spanning 27 years of experience in the areas of complex organisational strategy, review and transformation across the public, private and tertiary sectors including power generation, automotive manufacture, defence, pharmaceuticals, universities and state government, and has run a successful consulting business for many years. Fiona is an advisor to governments in Asia and Australia on fostering creativity and innovation, neuroleadership and futurising, and is currently writing a book on the social neuroscience of managing. She is a pracademic who combines her years of practical industry experience with academic research (qualifications in anthropology, psychology & engineering complexity theory), allowing her to incorporate both practitioner and academic perspectives into pragmatic and comprehensible concepts which are effective in practice.
Admission is free and all are welcome.

Registration is required for catering purposes. The deadline for registration is 4 December (Wed) 5 pm.

For Registration and enquiries, please contact:

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