



January 14, 2008

Dear APRU Presidents,

As Chair of APRU I am writing to inform you that effective December 2008, Professor Shih Choon Fong will be stepping down as President of the National University of Singapore after serving in that capacity since 2000. Professor Shih has been selected to serve as the founding President of King Abdullah University of Science & Technology near Thuwal on Saudi Arabia's Red sea coast. The Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the National University of Singapore has also announced that the next President of NUS will be Professor Tan Chorh Chuan who is currently the Senior Deputy President of the National University of Singapore.

As you all know, Professor Shih and the National University of Singapore have been enthusiastic supporters of APRU. He has ably served as Chair and Chair Emeritus of APRU and he has greatly contributed to building the strength and success of the alliance. He is also responsible for having legally constituted APRU in Singapore in 2004 and for providing direct support from the National University of Singapore for the establishment of a world-class secretariat located at NUS. Professor Shih has assured me that he continues to be fully supportive of APRU and its mission.

Hence on your behalf, I wish Professor Shih every success in his new role and to thank him for his uncompromising support of APRU's vision, objectives and activities. Needless to say, we look forward to continuing our working relationship with him on APRU related issues. I would also like to express our congratulations to Professor Tan on his forthcoming appointment as President of NUS. My colleague Presidents and I look forward to working with him to further the inspiration and promise of the Association of Pacific Rim Universities.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Gavin Brown'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'G'.

Professor Gavin Brown AO FAA CorrFRSE  
Chairman, Association of Pacific Rim Universities  
Vice-Chancellor and Principal, The University of Sydney

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