Annex 4: Signals of Tomorrow Conference

Signals of Tomorrow
ArtScience Museum
Saturday, 17 October 2015, 10am – 7pm (Free, only 140 seats available on a first-come, first-serve basis)

What is a Smart Nation, and what does it mean to be a smart citizen? How are the artists, designers, futurists and civic innovators playing with the technology that is weaving itself into the fabric of our cities, economies and infrastructure? What can citizens expect from a Smart Nation, and where are the developing spaces to explore this in civic innovation, maker spaces, business and education?

Working from the Smart Nation principles of 'Everyone, Everything, Everywhere, All the time', the conference will span grassroots urban projects, the city as a forum for play and exploration, how governments can become smarter side by side with citizens, and how narratives and design prototypes can help us imagine the future we want.

Uniting leading voices from Singapore with selected experts from around the world, FutureEverything Singapore - Signals of Tomorrow will act as a forum for knowledge sharing across disciplines, expertise and communities. It will look at how Singapore reached this new horizon and what is next, and seeks to cross boundaries of art, design, technology and society.

As a way of initiating discussion around themes of the Smart Nation, citizens and networked society, each speaker will select an object to centre their presentation on. Researching Singapore's innovation, experimentation and production, these objects will act as provocations and stimuli for the audience, while marking the importance of their impact on the future of the Smart Nation.
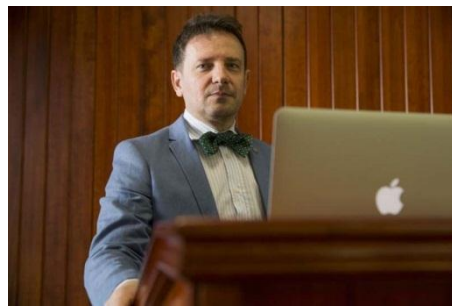
Dr Vivian Balakrishnan, Minister-in-charge of the Smart Nation initiative, will deliver the keynote address.

Speakers' Listing

Futurist **Scott Smith** is the founder of Changeist, a lab and research consultancy created to identify and make sense of weak signals of change. Before founding Changeist, Scott served as director of research applications and futurist at Social Technologies, a futures and innovation company whose clients include Nokia, Ford, Motorola, Nissan, BP and Cadbury. Smith's unique insight on the many potential futures we are creating stems from 20 years' experience making sense of social, cultural and economic trends. Using narrative design and storytelling to explore the unanticipated and unseen consequences of connected objects, big data, the sharing economy and foresight, Scott works with designers, artists, and writers worldwide to fabricate potential scenarios.

Dan Hill is Executive Director of Futures at the UK's Future Cities Catapult. A designer and urbanist, he has previously held leadership positions at Fabrica, SITRA, Arup and the BBC. He writes regularly for the likes of Dezeen, Domus and Volume, as well as the renowned blog City of Sound. Throughout a career focused on integrating design, technology, cities, media and people, Hill has been responsible for shaping many innovative, popular and critically acclaimed products, services, places, strategies and teams. Previously, he was CEO of Fabrica, a communications research centre and transdisciplinary studio based in Treviso, Italy, and part of the Benetton Group.

Sara M. Watson is a technology critic and a research fellow at the Tow Center for Digital Journalism at Columbia and an affiliate with the Berkman Center for Internet and Society at Harvard. Her work explores how we are learning to live with, understand, and interpret our personal data and the algorithms that shape our experiences. She investigates the ways that corporations, governments, and individuals use data from wearable sensors, the internet of things, and other digitally processed systems. Her writing has appeared in The Atlantic, Al Jazeera America, Wired, Gizmodo, Harvard Business Review, and Slate. She tweets @smwat.

Nick R. Smith is a scholar of urban transformation, policy, and planning and is currently an Assistant Professor of Urban Studies at Yale-NUS College. Using a combination of ethnography, spatial analysis, and archival research, Smith's work explores processes of rapid socio-spatial transformation. By investigating contexts of instability and liminality, he seeks to destabilise common assumptions about urbanisation and produce new tools and theories for reflexive practice in international and community development. His current research includes an investigation of the role of data science in the practice of urban planning and policy.

Usman Haque is founding partner of Umbrellium and Thingful, a search engine for the Internet of Things. Earlier, he launched the Internet of Things data infrastructure and community platform Pachube.com, which was acquired by LogMeIn in 2011. Trained as an architect, he has created responsive environments, interactive installations, digital interface devices and dozens of mass-participation initiatives throughout the world. His skills include the design and engineering of both physical spaces and the software and systems that bring them to life. As well as directing the work of Haque Design + Research, he was until 2005 a teacher in the Interactive Architecture Workshop at the Bartlett School of Architecture, London. He received the 2008 Design of the Year Award (interactive) from the Design Museum, UK, a 2009 World Technology Award (art), the Japan Media Arts Festival Excellence prize and the Asia Digital Art Award Grand Prize.

Andrea Nanetti is a historian by training (Medieval and Renaissance studies). His main research interest is in innovation and change in heritage interpretation processes. As a scholar, he applies interdisciplinary and trans-disciplinary methods to the study of regional man-heritage-landscape systems, national art-heritage-politics relationships, and global histories of intercontinental heritage networks. Andrea Nanetti now teaches as Associate Professor at the Nanyang Technological University and is Deputy-Director (International Relations) of the International Research Centre for Architectural Heritage Conservation at Shanghai Jiao Tong University.

Alexandra Deschamps-Sonsino is an interaction designer, product designer, entrepreneur and international speaker focused on the Internet of Things. She was named 2nd in Top 100 Internet of Things Thought Leaders (Onalytica, 2014) and included in the Top 100 Influential Tech Women on Twitter (Business Insider, 2014) and Top 10 IOT Influencers you need to know about (Dataconomy, 2015). She was co-founder and CEO of Tinker London, a smart product design studio. Her work has been exhibited at the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the Victoria & Albert Museum in London and galleries around the world. Alexandra's work with connected objects has sought to bring human connection to the forefront of design, with projects like Goodnight Lamp, a simple means for loved ones to stay in touch from miles away. As a leading voice in enabling connected innovation, Alexandra has been uniting the design and engineering community and has contributed to the national growth of grassroots innovation.
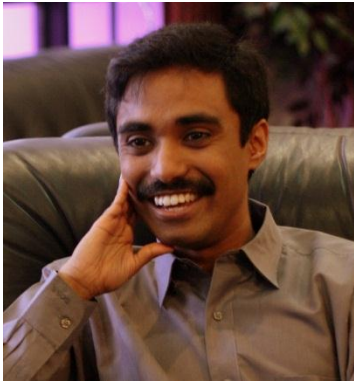
Ayesha Khanna is an education, technology and urbanisation expert with over 15 years of experience at the leading edge of innovation from smart city development to brand strategy. She is the CEO and Co-Founder of The Keys Academy, an innovative enrichment hub whose unique model of "externships" with leading companies provides secondary school students the opportunity to apply their skills to critical 21st century industries. Ayesha is Chairman of Applied Skills, a provider of digital platforms and e-learning content for corporations. The company's flagship platform SmartWork provides cloud-based vocational training curricula. Ayesha previously co-founded the Hybrid Reality Institute, a research and advisory group established to analyse emerging technologies and their social, economic and political implications. Ayesha is the Founder of 21C GIRLS, which provides free coding and robotics classes for girls in Singapore. She is on the Board of Advisors for Humanity+, a Fellow at the Institute for Ethics and Emerging Technologies and a Non-Resident Senior Fellow at the Strategic Foresight Initiative at Atlantic Council.

PAN Studio is an experience-production studio that consists of a group of designers, developers and engineers with interests and skills in two overlapping fields: creating stimulating experience events and installations, and designing user-centric products, systems and services that are intuitive, effective and rewarding to interact with. The studio's leaning towards playful civic engagement came with the success of its collaborative Hello Lamp Post project, the winner of the inaugural Playable City Award, an initiative that aims to reward creative ideas for public space.

Tong Yee started out teaching General Paper at Nanyang Junior College. In 2007, after setting up a community outreach programme to provide tuition for repeat students in Singapore, he co-founded School of Thought to continue to promote innovation in education and civic learning in both the private and public sectors. Tong Yee dreams of driving social innovation through civic learning to nurture the next generation of thought leaders and youth change-makers. School of Thought has since evolved to become The Thought Collective. With a growing group of 5 social enterprises, they are reputed for building social and emotional capital and are at the forefront of social innovation in Singapore.

	Cheryl Chung is the Deputy Director of Strategic Planning for the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy. She has led foresight and strategy activities across several areas of the Government of Singapore for the past decade. Initially with the Policy Planning and Land Policy Divisions, she was then appointed in 2007 as a strategist in The Futures Group of the Government of Singapore – this plays an upstream policy role in facilitating the long-term strategic direction for the Ministry of Trade and Industry and its statutory boards. Chung's research focused on technology as a driver of economic policy. In 2011, Chung became lead strategist at the Strategic Policy Office in Singapore and since 2013 she has had a similar role in the Futures Division of the Ministry of Transport. In addition to her government responsibilities, Chung is also co-curator of TEDx Singapore.
	Aaron Maniam is a Singapore government official, having served in the country's Foreign Service, the Prime Minister's Office Centre for Strategic Futures and the Institute for Public Sector Leadership at the Civil Service College. Maniam was the founding Chairman of the National Youth Council Academy's Advisory Panel, served as President of Mendaki Club, a group of young Muslim professionals, and was Chairman of the Singapore Indian Development Association (SINDA) Youth Club. He is an adjunct faculty member of both the National University of Singapore's Scholars' Programme and the Singapore Management University School of Social Sciences. Maniam is an award-winning poet, trained facilitator of interfaith dialogue, active volunteer in international schools debating circles and a board member of various social enterprises in Singapore.