

Financial and Capital Management of REITs: A Strategic Perspective

The NUS Institute of Real Estate Studies (IRES) hosted an Industry Forum in the afternoon of 20th May, titled: “*Financial and Capital Management of REITs: A Strategic Perspective*”. This Forum is the 3rd in the series of an initiative driven by NUS Real Estate’s Research Focus Group. There was overwhelming response to the event which saw the diversified participation of well-respected industry leaders and representatives from the private and public sectors. The participation of leading scholars from the academia also added to the vibrancy of discussions at the event.



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Prof Deng Yongheng

Professor Deng Yongheng, Director of the Institute of Real Estate Studies and Head of the Department of Real Estate at NUS, delivered the opening address. He underscored the importance of fostering closer interaction between leading experts from the industry and the academia, where such forum platforms can be used to help build bridges so that innovative ideas may be enabled and frontier research which are relevant, practical and applicable to the business community can come to fruition.

Professor Timothy Riddiough, who holds the E.J. Plesko Chair and is a Professor in the Department of Real Estate and Urban Land Economics at the Wisconsin School of Business, delivered the keynote speech which framed the context of the panel discussion with a presentation that provided the business community with market insights and in-depth opinions on the US market and



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Prof Timothy Riddiough



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From left: A/Prof Sing Tien Foo, Ms Tsan Suang Eng, Mr Tan Ser Ping and Prof Timothy Riddiough

the lessons it holds for the local context.

The panel discussion which followed after comprised Prof Riddiough, Mr Tan Ser Ping (former CEO of Ascendas Funds Management (S) Ltd) and Ms Tsan Suang Eng (Managing Director and Regional Portfolio Manager of Northwood Securities). To leverage upon the industry panelists’ expertise and deep insights in the field, the context of discourse for this segment

was framed with the following theme: “*Practical Ramifications for REIT Managers and REIT Investors*”. This panel discussion was moderated by Associate Professor Sing Tien Foo (Deputy Director at the Institute of Real Estate Studies and Deputy Head of the Department of Real Estate at NUS). Following the discussion amongst the panelists, the session was opened up to the floor for questions.



From left: Prof Deng Yongheng, Mr Tan Ser Ping, Ms Tsan Suang Eng, Prof Timothy Riddiough and A/Prof Sing Tien Foo