ICSD 2015 Guest of Honor

Mr Tharman Shanmugaratnam, DPM Singapore

DPM Tharman is the Guest of Honour for the ICSD 2015 Conference. He was appointed Deputy Prime Minister in the Singapore Cabinet in May 2011. He continues to serve as Minister for Finance since December 2007. DPM Tharman will address the participants at the Opening Ceremony.

ICSD 2015 Keynote Speakers

Dr Noeleen Heyzer, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations

Dr Heyzer is the Keynote Speaker on the theme: Transforming Society. She is currently Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and recently the UNSG’s Special Adviser of the Timor-Leste, working to support peace-building, state-building, and sustainable development.

She was the first woman to serve as the Executive Secretary of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific since its founding in 1947. Under her leadership, the commission focused on regional co-operation for a more resilient Asia-Pacific, founded on shared prosperity, social equity, and sustainable development. She was at the forefront of many innovations including for regional disaster preparedness, inclusive socio-economic policies, sustainable agriculture and urbanization, energy security and regional connectivity.

She was the first Executive Director from the south to lead the United Nations Development Fund for Women. She was widely recognized for the formulation and implementation of the landmark of Security Council Resolution 1425 on Women, Peace and Security.
Prof Sherraden is the George Warren Brown Distinguished University Professor, and founder and director of the Center for Social Development (CSD), Washington University in St. Louis. Sherraden’s research has received widespread recognition for testing innovations and impacts on public policy. He is a leading scholar in asset building, with books including *Assets and the Poor* and *Inclusion in the American Dream*. Sherraden has advised heads of state and policy leaders in the United States and many other countries. In 2010, *Time Magazine* named him among the 100 most influential people in the world. He earned his AB at Harvard University, and his MSW and PhD at University of Michigan. Prof Sherraden will take an international perspective on social investment with a focus on social development in Singapore, and ask questions about how much this might or might not be a useful example for other countries.

Mr Ang Hak Seng is Chief Executive Director of People’s Association and the chairman of the Singapore Quality Award management committee and former CEO of the Health Promotion Board, for which he was awarded the Singapore Human Resources Institute Leading CEO Award in 2012. The chairman of Police Co-op has also served in the Singapore Police Force for the past 20 years. Mr Ang has been invited to speak on Community Leadership in Singapore.
Mr Lawrence Wong will present the Daniel Sanders Peace and Justice Lecture. He was appointed the Minister overseeing the arts, sports, community and youth portfolios in 2012. Through the ministry, he champions efforts in cultural development, community building and social leadership. Mr Wong is also the Second Minister for the Ministry of Communications and Information, and a Board Member at the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS). He had co-founded a mentoring initiative called PromiseWorks to help youths fulfill their potential. He continues to be actively involved in youth development initiatives in his capacity as the Chairman of the National Youth Council. Mr Wong has a Master of Arts degree in Economics from the University of Michigan–Ann Arbor, and a Master of Public Administration degree from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. The Daniel Sanders Lecture will focus on how social leadership, vision and values, as well as, good governance propel societal transformation and nation building.
Dr David N Jones, Past President, IFSW

Dr Jones is the past president of International Federation of Social Workers and key board member of Commonwealth Organization for Social Work. He is an advocate for the Global Agenda – how it can transform society and what needs to get done? The Global Agenda for Social Work and Social Development is part of a long-term strategy designed explicitly to strengthen the profile and visibility of social work and social development, to boost the confidence of social workers, and to enable social workers, educators and social development specialists to make a stronger contribution to policy development. The presentation will the process, the findings of the first global report on social work and social development and explore the vision for the Global Observatory and the 2016 world conference.

Ms Ang Bee Lian, Director of Social Welfare, Singapore

Ms Ang is Director of Social Welfare, Ministry of Family and Social Development, Singapore. She will speak on social development through the lens of a city-state Singapore. Social development in Singapore is a tripartite relationship between people, private and public sectors. For it to continue to work, the various sectors refresh their role in the eco-system with more participation, involvement and perspectives.
Prof Vimla is Chairperson, Centre for Teaching-Learning Support to Network for Enhancing Social Work Education, School of Social Work, Tata Institute of Social Sciences. Her teaching and research focus is on health social work, community health and social work education. After heading the department of medical and psychiatric social work at TISS, she has served as founder Dean of the School of Social Work. She has also worked as the Secretary General of the Family Planning Association of India and is setting up a National Network of Schools of Social Work in India. She is the Vice-President of the Bombay Association of Trained Social Workers. Prof Vimla will speak on social work education and its contribution to social transformation.

Prof Leila Patel is the Chairperson and a Professor of Social Development Studies in the Department of Social Work of the University of Johannesburg. She is also an Executive Director of Liberty Group Limited. She was previously head of the Department of Social Work in University of Johannesburg, director-general of the national Department of Social Welfare and deputy vice-chancellor and vice principal of the University of the witwatersrand, Johannesburg. She played a leading role in the development of South Africa's welfare policy after apartheid. Her research interests are social welfare, social work, social policy, gender, social protection and social development and will speak on social development in relation to Africa.
Manohar Pawar, BA, MASW and PhD, is Professor of Social Work at the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Charles Sturt University, Australia and a member of the Institute for Land Water and Society. He has more than thirty years of experience in social work education, research and practice in Australia and India. Earlier he has taught at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences and La Trobe University. He is the lead chief investigator of research funded by the Australian Research Council’s Discovery Project, which focuses on virtues and social work practice. In addition to coordinating PhD and DSW programs, he teaches several subjects relating to social work and social policy, international social development and field education in international contexts, and undertakes research that integrates his teaching and practice interests. Prof Pawar will focus on ICSD and social development in the Asia Pacific region.

Mariko Kimura is a Professor of Social at Japan Women’s University and currently Regional President, International Federation of Social Workers Asia Pacific Region. She has been an active Member-at-Large of IFSW and Board member of Japanese Association of Psychiatric Social Workers and Chair of the International Committee of JAPSW, Policy Committee on Social Welfare of persons with disabilities of Kawasaki city as well as Board member of Stride Clubhouse in Tokyo. Mariko is on the editorial board of Japanese Journal on Psychiatric Rehabilitation and International Social Work Journal. Her publications include: Art therapy with immigrant children. Vancouver Art Therapy Institute; and “Psychiatric social workers in U.S., Canada, and U.K.,” In Mental Health Services in the World, Shinfuku and Asai (Eds.). Tokyo: Health Press. Professor Kimura will speak on the implications of the newly adopted Global Definition of Social Work Profession for social work practice.