

Tan Ngoh Tiong **Biographical Sketch**

Dr Tan Ngoh Tiong is Professor and former Dean, at the Singapore University of Social Sciences and former Associate Professor in the Department of Social Work and Psychology, National University of Singapore.



Professor Tan is Chair of the Global Institute of Social Work, was President of Singapore Association of Social Workers and Past Vice President of International Federation of Social Workers. He served as a social work educator, social worker, mediator and marriage and family therapist.

Dr Tan has authored books on Marriage, Family and Parenting, and edited: *Alternative Dispute Resolution, Social Work Around the World, Social Care in Asia, Transforming Society, Asian Tsunami and Social Work Practice*. His numerous publications include articles on social work, counselling, family therapy, conflict resolution and mediation. He had also served in many editorial boards such as: *Families in Society, APJSWD, JSWDR, AP Journal of Social Work and Development, China Social Work, etc.*

Dr Tan received his Ph.D. (Minnesota); MSW (Pennsylvania), and BA (Singapore). He was visiting scholar at Cambridge University, UC-Berkeley and Harvard University. Prof Tan has received awards: Pioneer Social Worker Award, International Consortium for Social Development Asia Pacific Presidential Award, and the Distinguished Leadership Award for Internationals, University of Minnesota.

Vision for IASSW

My vision is for a strong IASSW, financially stable and bold in professional leadership, to galvanize global social work educators and professionals, and to collaborate with other like-minded international organizations for greater impact of social work worldwide. Social work research, training and education must lead and complement social work practice, providing the necessary theories, strategies and scholarship to enhance professional practice.

Social work education forges new grounds and trains competent practitioners in advancing social policy, research and practice. IASSW has great potential for international social work leadership transforming social work in every nation and innovating new frontiers of practice, especially for the developing nations. IASSW's priority is to contribute to excellence in social work research and education and create a viable community of social work scholars, exchanging ideas and practice, through various platforms, leveraging on technology.

My background as a long time social work educator, and supporter of professional development of social work, and experience as a university administrator and founder of the Global Institute of Social Work, will be an asset for IASSW. Being the Treasurer of Asian and Pacific Association for Social Work Education, in its earlier years, and growing the International Federation of Social Workers as its Asia Pacific Regional President I hope to guide IASSW forward. I chaired the first social work registration

board in Singapore as the President of Singapore Association of Social Workers. I was on the advisory committee for the Minnesota Social Work Licencing Board and spearheaded a 4-nation, the Family And Survivors of Tsunami (FAST) Project, with multiple collaboration partners, reaching out to families in the aftermath of the Asian tsunami. I published more than 10 social work books and pioneered the Asian and Pacific Journal of Social Work and served in many editorial boards of journals and publishers.

A sustainable financial resource development strategy, to propel projects and capacity building for IASSW, is vital. My goals is to have consistent income flow not just from membership but other areas such as publication, research, consultancy, training and, our forte, education. We can leverage on modern communication and technology for training and providing consultation in the development of social work education. We should forge active links with universities, international bodies, such as the United Nations, international foundations and INGOs. In collaborating with others we maintain a global presence, and influence, and together effectively enhance global social wellbeing.