
Conference to discuss trends, challenges facing higher education

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SINGAPORE: The issues facing higher education are set to be the focus of a two-day conference organised by the Ministry of Education (MOE) and Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), it was announced on Tuesday (Oct 13).

Held from Oct 14 to 15, the OECD-Singapore Conference on Higher Education Futures will be structured around several themes, including the mapping and meeting of future demand for higher education; the rise of higher education in Asia and the impact on the global landscape; technology, disruption and the "unbundling" of higher education; and resource challenges faced by higher education.

It will involve approximately 500 local and overseas delegates, including ministers, senior education policymakers and industry leaders, said MOE and OECD.

Acting Minister for Education (Higher Education and Skills) Ong Ye Kung will give the opening address on the driving forces influencing the development of higher education, and Singapore's response to serving national objectives and meeting aspirations of individuals.

A second opening address, on the evolution of higher education from a nation-based, state controlled public service to a more dynamic "global higher education marketplace", will be delivered by OECD Deputy Secretary-General Stefan Kapferer.

As part of the conference, international delegates will visit local universities such as the Nanyang Technological University's (NTU) Learning Hub and the Singapore Institute of Technology@Singapore Polytechnic (SIT@SP).