

# BANK OF SINGAPORE PARTNERS WEALTH MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE AND NANYANG TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY TO LAUNCH AN ADVANCED DIPLOMA IN PRIVATE BANKING PROGRAMME

The Advanced Diploma in Private Banking Programme will be given the highest level of accreditation under the IBF Standards for Wealth Management.

Singapore, 24 May 2016 – Bank of Singapore (新加坡银行) today announced that it is partnering the Wealth Management Institute (WMI) (财富管理学院,新加坡) and Nanyang Technological University (NTU) (南洋理工大学,新加坡) to launch a new training and development programme – Advanced Diploma in Private Banking (私 人银行高级文凭) - for its private bankers. This partnership marks the first time that NTU, ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in the world<sup>1</sup> among universities that have been in existence for less than 50 years, is collaborating with a financial institution to award an advanced diploma in the field of private banking.

The programme will be accredited by the Institute of Banking and Finance Singapore (IBF) (新加坡银行与金融学院) as an IBF Standards Level 2/3 Programme in Wealth Management – Private Banking. This is the highest level of accreditation for this industry specialisation under the IBF Standards, which serve as a professional development roadmap for industry practitioners. IBF is the national accreditation and certification agency for the financial industry in Singapore.

WMI, Asia's first centre of excellence for wealth management education, plays the lead role in the curriculum design and delivery of this coveted programme including partnership with NTU.

With the launch of this new Advanced Diploma Programme, Bank of Singapore will rank among the few private banks based in Singapore to offer its bankers a holistic suite of training programmes that all meet the full spectrum of the IBF Standards (Level 1 to Level 2/3).

Commissioned by Bank of Singapore and awarded by NTU, the Advanced Diploma in Private Banking Programme is designed to equip Bank of Singapore private bankers not only with in-depth knowledge but hands-on experience across the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In 2015, NTU was ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in the world among universities below the age of 50 by Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) for the second consecutive year.

various aspects of wealth management such as wealth advisory, risk management and relationship building (see Annex A for the programme structure).

The inaugural cohort of Bank of Singapore private bankers will commence their programme at the end of June and graduate in November 2016.

Bank of Singapore Chief Executive Officer, Mr Bahren Shaari (博林, 新加坡银行首席执行官) said: "As Asia's Global Private Bank, it is important for us to set the highest professional standards of private banking in Asia. This requires us to continually deepen and sharpen the skills of our private bankers, not just in theory but also in complex analytical and application skills.

"Our aim is to help our private bankers to succeed. Now that we can offer them a robust training and development programme complementing what we already have - a sound business model and strong open-architecture product platform - our bankers need not look elsewhere to carve out fulfilling careers. They also need not sacrifice their own personal time to look for upgrading opportunities," he added.

With the Advanced Diploma Programme, Bank of Singapore bankers will receive tutelage from an established panel of lecturers specially convened by WMI and NTU, who are largely senior practitioners renowned for their knowledge and experience in the financial industry. They include Dr. Aaron Low, CFA, and Associate Professor Low Buen Sin, associate dean at NTU's Nanyang Business School.

Dr. Aaron Low (刘雄威博士, Lumen 咨询有限公司董事合伙人) is the first Singaporean to be elected as the Chair of the CFA Institute Board of Governors and served his term from 1st September 2014 to end August 2015 and continues to serve on the Board as Immediate Past Chair. He is currently a Principal of Lumen Advisors in San Francisco and Singapore, where he manages emerging markets macro long/short funds and oversees Lumen's operations in Asia. Associate Professor Low is the Associate Dean of Nanyang Executive Education and the Associate Professor of Finance (刘万燊博士,新加坡南洋理工大学南洋商学院副院长、及银行与金融系副教授) at the Nanyang Business School in NTU. He has won numerous teaching and research awards at NTU.

Mr Shaari explained, "The private banking industry is undergoing a period of radical change – with the global call for greater transparency, the evolving regulatory environment and the advancement of financial technology. Constant upgrades through training and development are one of the key ways we can equip our people to stay relevant and be able to serve our clients better. Our partnership with WMI and NTU is testament of our unwavering commitment to our people and ultimately our clients – we give our clients the best and most suitable talent to help manage their wealth.

"Investing in our people also benefits the company as we are effectively increasing our internal pool of talent to meet future expansion plans rather than just hiring from outside," he added.

#### Bank of Singapore's Commitment to Talent Development

Since the inception of Bank of Singapore in 2010, it has invested heavily in the development of its employees. To date, close to US\$30 million has been invested in human resource initiatives and programmes, focusing on five key areas – Talent management and leadership, employees' professional development, corporate values and practices, client experience and client education.

A wide variety of training courses is availed to staff including customised learning for each job function, training the next generation of leaders and lunchtime talks with industry leaders.

In 2015 alone, Bank of Singapore employees clocked in twice as many training hours as they did the year before. Client-facing employees averaged 90 hours of training.

## <u>Statement from Ms Foo Mee Har, Chief Executive Officer, Wealth Management</u> Institute (胡美霞, 新加坡财富管理学院总裁)

"We are deeply encouraged by Bank of Singapore's passion for education and substantial investment in the training and development of their people. This opportunity to develop a fully customised Advanced Diploma programme for Bank of Singapore's senior private bankers leverages our expertise in wealth management education for industry professionals as well as our strong network of faculty consisting of local and global thought leaders and distinguished industry practitioners. The programme will focus on deepening bankers' skills to provide total wealth advisory capabilities that meet the full spectrum of clients' investment and wealth planning needs. We are excited about this partnership with Bank of Singapore and NTU, forged with the singular aim of developing Asia's best wealth managers."

## <u>Statement from Professor Freddy Boey, Deputy President and Provost, Nanyang</u> <u>Technological University(梅彦昌 教授,副校长兼教务长,南洋理工大学,新加坡)</u>

"NTU is privileged to partner with the Bank of Singapore and the Wealth Management Institute in this endeavour. This specially-tailored programme is an excellent example of how NTU strongly advocates lifelong learning, and the important role we play in ensuring Singapore's workforce remains highly skilled and globally competitive. NTU's Nanyang Business School professors will be working closely with our partners to design a rigorous curriculum with global relevance. Participants will benefit from the latest thought leadership and best practices, gleaned from academia and skilled practitioners in the private banking world."

# <u>Statement from Ms Ong Puay See, Chief Executive Officer, Institute of Banking and</u> <u>Finance Singapore (王佩诗,首席执行官,新加坡银行与金融学院)</u>

"I congratulate Bank of Singapore, WMI and NTU on this key milestone to raise industry standards and drive professional excellence. The IBF Standards serve as a professional skills roadmap for the industry. By having training programmes accredited under the IBF Standards, training providers, IHLs and financial institutions demonstrate their commitment to enhance practitioners' capabilities so they can thrive in an industry facing fundamental transformation."

## SOCIAL MEDIA ASSETS

Official hashtags: #bankofsingapore #advanceddiploma, #training, #development, #ibfsg

Keywords: Bank of Singapore, Wealth Institute of Management, Nanyang Technological University, Training, Advanced Diploma, IBF Standards

Suggested tweet: Bank of Singapore partners WMI and @NTUsg to launch advanced diploma in private banking for its private bankers.

Suggested Facebook post: Bank of Singapore has partnered Wealth Management Institute, Asia's first centre of excellence for wealth management education, and Nanyang Technological University, the world's top young university, to launch an Advanced Diploma in Private Banking programme for its private bankers.

#### About Bank of Singapore

Bank of Singapore is the dedicated private banking subsidiary of OCBC Bank. It has a strong Aa1 credit rating from Moody's and offers a unique value proposition as a safe Singapore-registered private bank.

It operates on an open-architecture product platform and has strong research capabilities, especially in emerging market research, to help its clients make the right decisions for fixed income, equities and money market investments as well as portfolio management, trust and insurance services. Over the years, it has built Managed Investments capabilities and premium trust and advisory services, supported by one of the largest research teams in Asia. Beyond private banking services, clients of Bank of Singapore have access to personal and business banking services, as well as investment opportunities offered by OCBC Bank or its subsidiaries.

It is able to leverage OCBC Bank's commercial banking capabilities to extend its clients a broad array of consumer and corporate banking, corporate finance and treasury services across the OCBC Bank's regional and international network.

Bank of Singapore serves high net worth individuals and wealthy families in its key markets of Southeast Asia, Greater China, Singapore, Philippines, India Sub-Continent and other International markets. Headquartered in Singapore, Bank of Singapore has a branch in Hong Kong and representative offices in Manila and Dubai.

Its strong performance has won it industry recognition. It was named Outstanding Private Bank in Southeast Asia by Private Banker International in 2014. Since 2010, it has been consecutively named Best Private Wealth Management Bank in Southeast Asia and Singapore by Alpha South East Asia. Asian Private Banker has named it Best Private Bank in Singapore from 2011 to 2014 and Best Private Bank in the Philippines in 2015, for the second consecutive year. Bank of Singapore has also been consistently ranked among the top 3 private banks in Singapore by Asiamoney and FinanceAsia.

OCBC Bank is one of Asia's leading financial services groups and the second largest by assets in Southeast Asia. It is consistently ranked among the world's strongest and safest banks by leading market research firms and publications.

For more information, please visit <u>www.bankofsingapore.com</u>.

## About OCBC Bank

OCBC Bank is the longest established Singapore bank, formed in 1932 from the merger of three local banks, the oldest of which was founded in 1912. It is now the second largest financial services group in Southeast Asia by assets and one of the world's most highly-rated banks, with an Aa1 rating from Moody's. Recognised for its financial strength and stability, OCBC Bank has been ranked Asean's strongest bank and among the world's five strongest banks by Bloomberg Markets for five consecutive years since the ranking's inception in 2011.

OCBC Bank and its subsidiaries offer a broad array of commercial banking, specialist financial and wealth management services, ranging from consumer, corporate, investment, private and transaction banking to treasury, insurance, asset management and stockbroking services.

OCBC Bank's key markets are Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia and Greater China. It has over 620 branches and representative offices in 18 countries and regions. These include the more than 330 branches and offices in Indonesia under subsidiary Bank

OCBC NISP, and more than 90 branches and offices in Hong Kong, China and Macau under OCBC Wing Hang.

OCBC Bank's private banking services are provided by its wholly-owned subsidiary Bank of Singapore, which operates on a unique open-architecture product platform to source for the best-in-class products to meet its clients' goals.

OCBC Bank's insurance subsidiary, Great Eastern Holdings, is the oldest and most established life insurance group in Singapore and Malaysia. Its asset management subsidiary, Lion Global Investors, is one of the largest private sector asset management companies in Southeast Asia.

For more information, please visit <u>www.ocbc.com</u>.

#### About the Wealth Management Institute (WMI)

Wealth Management Institute (WMI), a member of Temasek Management Services (TMS) -- a fully-owned subsidiary of Temasek Holdings -- is Asia's first centre of excellence for wealth management education. Established in 2003 with the support of Temasek and GIC, WMI combines academic rigour with a practical focus to offer best-in-class wealth management training taught by a faculty of distinguished industry-based practitioners and thought leaders. Through partnerships formed with over 60 industry players, including private and consumer banks, asset and fund management companies, leading financial organisations and top business schools, WMI aims to help individuals raise their wealth management competencies and contribute to the growth of the industry in the region.

For more information, please visit <u>www.wmi.com.sg</u>

#### About Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

A research-intensive public university, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore (NTU Singapore) has 33,000 undergraduate and postgraduate students in the colleges of Engineering, Business, Science, Humanities, Arts, & Social Sciences, and its Interdisciplinary Graduate School. It has a joint medical school, the Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine, set up with Imperial College London.

NTU Singapore is also home to world-class autonomous institutes – the National Institute of Education, S Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Earth Observatory of Singapore, and Singapore Centre on Environmental Life Sciences Engineering – and various leading research centres such as the Nanyang Environment & Water Research Institute (NEWRI), Energy Research Institute @ NTU (ERI@N) and the Institute on Asian Consumer Insight (ACI). Ranked 13th in the world, NTU Singapore has also been ranked the world's top young university for the last two years running. The University's main campus has been named one of the Top 15 Most Beautiful in the World. NTU also has a campus in Novena, Singapore's medical district.

For more information, please visit <u>www.ntu.edu.sg</u>.

#### About the Institute of Banking and Finance Singapore

The Institute of Banking and Finance Singapore (IBF) was established in 1974 as a notfor-profit industry association to foster and develop the professional competencies of the financial sector. IBF represents the interests of close to 200 member financial institutions covering banks, insurance companies, securities brokerages and asset management firms.

In partnership with the financial industry and training providers, IBF is now dedicated to empowering practitioners with capabilities to support the growth of the Asian financial industry and to promote the Asian standard of excellence for practitioners in finance. IBF is currently the national accreditation and certification agency for financial industry competency in Singapore under the IBF Standards.

The IBF Standards represent a set of competency standards developed by the industry, for the industry. It provides a practice-oriented development roadmap for financial sector practitioners to attain the necessary training to excel in their respective job roles. Covering 13 industry segments spanning more than 50 specialisations, the IBF Standards offers a comprehensive suite of accredited training and assessment programmes to guide a financial sector practitioner from licensing examinations on through to professional certification. Working hand-in-hand with the individual practitioner and the industry, IBF aims to elevate individual competency whilst raising industry standards.

For more information, please visit <u>www.ibf.org.sg</u>

# <u>Annex A</u>

# Programme Structure

Course Number	Course Title	Description
Module I	Investment Products	Provides a deep understanding and application of traditional investment products and their role as the building blocks in a diversified client portfolio.
Module II	Alternative Investments	Characteristics and challenges of alternative investments and their contribution to the optimality of the client's portfolio are carefully examined.
Module III	Investment Advisory	A capstone session that transposes knowledge of investment products and alternative investments into practical investment advisory skills which participants can employ when constructing a portfolio and advising clients on asset allocation, portfolio risk management and performance management.
Module IV	International Wealth Planning	Wealth planning, through both an international and Asian perspective, will be carefully examined. Tools to uncover clients' succession, asset protection, philanthropic and financial needs will be explored, along with the understanding of family business governance and intergenerational wealth transfer.
Module V	Client Onboarding, Compliance, Risk and Crisis Management	Provides a practical approach to compliance and risk in light of the heightened regulatory environment. Skills for effective client management during a crisis will be covered through an extensive case study.
Module VI	Managing Successful Client Relationships	Covers critical skills necessary to establish, develop and sustain successful client relationships and provides a framework to understanding what constitutes an effective client management strategy.