George Yeo to be visiting scholar at LKY School

FORMER foreign minister George Yeo will be appointed a visiting scholar at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy for three years starting from Aug 1, the school said yesterday in response to media queries.

“His experience in government and politics will be invaluable to the current and aspiring leaders and policymakers who make up the student body of our school, and also to our faculty members who are conducting research on political leadership and policymaking,” it added.

Mr Yeo is the second retired Cabinet minister to take up an appointment at the school in as many months, after former prime minister Lee Kuan Yew was appointed a distinguished fellow on July 1.

In his new, unpaid role, Mr Yeo will not be teaching full course modules. Instead, he will hold dialogues with students from time to time.

Dialogues are the “best way” for him to share his insight with students, and are common practice for visiting scholars in other public policy programmes around the world, the school said.

The graduate school, which is part of the National University of Singapore, added that the title of visiting scholar is often awarded by schools of public policy around the world to accomplished individuals who may or may not be academics, but who can contribute greatly to the learning environment in the university.

There are currently no visiting scholars at the school.

The school said students and faculty members who have heard the news have reacted to it positively and enthusiastically.

It believes that others will too, as “Mr Yeo is a globally respected individual”.