EA Management Committee Members – 2024 to 2026 Term

President



Ms Sandra Theseira Former Banker

With over 50 years of banking experience, Sandra spent 28 years at HSBC Trustee (Singapore) Ltd, before transitioning to private banking, serving high net-worth clients in various institutions such as Merrill Lynch International Bank Ltd, Commerz Bank (SEA) Ltd, LGT Bank in Leichtenstein (Singapore) Ltd, and Credit Suisse AG, Singapore.

She started volunteering with EA in 2008 and served as Treasurer from 2020, before being elected EA President in 2022. As President, she drew on her extensive background in Trust, Corporate and Private Banking to review and enhance EA's financial framework, to ensure its sustainability and strong governance. Sandra represents EA on boards such as the Board of Directors for Self-Help Groups Student Care Ltd, the Racial & Religious Harmony Board under the Ministry of Culture, Community & Youth, and on the Big Heart Investment Committee.

Sandra has also been going to South India for many years to support underprivileged families, providing essentials such as food, books and uniforms for children, and providing sewing machines to empower women to support their families.

1st Vice-President



Mr Christopher Gordon Director (People and Government Engagement Division) People's Association

Chris is a civil servant by profession. He currently serves as Director (People & Government Engagement Division) in the People's Association.

Chris received the Public Service Commission's Overseas Merit Scholarship (Foreign Service) in 2002, and obtained a BA and Masters in Engineering from Christ's College, Cambridge University. He started his career in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), before serving stints in the Ministry of Manpower (MOM), Prime Minister's Office (Communications Group) and Ministry of Communications and Information (MCI).

Over the years, Chris has served on a number of national bodies including the National Youth Council and South West Community Development Council. Currently, besides the EA, he is actively serving on OnePeople.sg as Secretary to the Management Committee. Some of the topics that Chris actively champions as a youth advocate include enhancing inter-racial and inter-faith harmony; and promoting mentoring and youth mental well-being.

2nd Vice-President



Ms Yvonne Pereira Former Administrator / Secretary & Sportswoman

Yvonne was an Administrator/Secretary in multinational companies until her retirement in 2008. She has volunteered for 59 years since 1964, starting with sports at the Girls' Sports Club and Singapore Recreation Club, holding leadership roles including Hockey Convenor and Balut Convenor, and chairing the Women's Wing from the mid-1980s.

In 1989, Yvonne joined the EA as a Song & Dance Troupe member and chaired EA's then-Social Circle. She became a Management Committee member in 2008 and EA's first lady 2nd Vice-President since 2012, spearheading EA's Community Development to unite people from various backgrounds. She was instrumental in the setting up of the Balut Section and the Toastmasters Club, and represented EA in various external committees, organising joint multi-racial activities. She fosters cultural exchange within the Eurasian community and Self-Help Groups in Singapore, and abroad.

In 2022, Yvonne received the 'Friends of MCCY' award, for her dedicated years of community service.

Honorary Secretary



Ms Angelina Fernandez
Group Director,
Corporate
Communications
A*STAR

Angelina has been the Group Director of the Corporate Communications Division at A*STAR since March 2014. In this role, she steers integrated communications strategies comprising media, digital platforms, marketing communications, and events and engagement initiatives, to showcase impact and outcomes of public sector investments in research, innovation, and enterprise. Prior to joining A*STAR, she spent over 10 years at the Monetary Authority of Singapore as Director, Communications.

Angelina has been a volunteer with the EA since 2010, lending her expertise in areas such as publicity and events management. She became an MC member in 2012, and took on the role of Honorary Secretary in 2016. Angelina recently stepped down from the Board of Boys' Town, where she served for 11 years, supporting the charity in publicity, fundraising, and HR matters. She graduated from the University of Cambridge, with a Bachelor of Arts in Social & Political Science.

Assistant Honorary Secretary



Mr Jason Dendroff Lawyer, JP Dendroff & Co

Jason is a lawyer of 29 years standing in private practice where he runs his own law firm. He is married with 3 grown up children.

He served as Honorary Secretary at EA from 2010-2012, then as Assistant Honorary Secretary from 2022. He joined to contribute to making the Eurasian community vibrant, relevant and to stand out as a unique section of Singapore's diverse and rich history, and strongly believes that we all can contribute our time to make a difference in our busy lives.

Outside the EA, Jason has contributed to the community for over two decades. He was awarded the Legal Assistance for Capital Offences (LASCO) Long Service Award in 2023, for lawyers who have served 25 years or more representing accused persons charged with capital offences at trial and on appeal. He also volunteers at various legal clinics, and gives legal advice to constituents in Ang Mo Kio GRC.

Honorary Treasurer



Mr Martin Marini Consultant, Singapore Organisation of Seamen (SOS)

Martin's friend Victor Olsen first introduced him to EA in the 1990s. He joined Timothy de Souza's team in 1995 serving as Honorary Secretary. He then continued serving:

- a. On the EA volunteer legal panel,
- b. In the late Boris Theseira's team to formalise the definition of Eurasians for the EA constitution, which was accepted by the Government, and
- c. As EA Treasurer from 2016-2020/21, and again since April 2022.

In Martin's 7 years as EA treasurer, EA's funds grew steadily, thanks to strong Government support, EA benefactors and donors, and working Eurasians contributing monthly through CPF.

Martin is also a board member or Trustee in 3 other registered charities / non-profits.

He is a retired lawyer and is a marine consultant with the seamen's union, LWP.SG Consultants, the Transport Safety Investigation Bureau (Ministry of Transport), and an Adjunct Fellow at the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore Academy (MPAA).

Committee Member



Mr Edmund Rodrigues Former Teacher

Edmund was educated in St. Patrick's School from 1947 to 1957, and later returned as a teacher from 1961 until 2000.

He was part of the EA's 'revival' committee from 1989, headed by Victor Olsen and later, Timothy de Souza, that ignited renewed drive among the Eurasian community that they held a stake in Singaporean life and on the national level, and that the Eurasian community, while small, was passionate enough to speak up for the greater good. Edmund was also part of the first Eurasian National Day dance troupe which performed in front of the City Hall steps for the first time in 1990.

Edmund first served in the EA's Education Sub-Committee, then in the Family Support Services (FSS) Sub-Committee for 13 years, with 10 years as chair. His lifelong dedication exemplifies the spirit of service that has left a lasting impact on the Eurasian community in Singapore.

Committee Member



Ms Melanie Rodrigues Smith Former Banker

Melanie spent 37 years as a foreign exchange trader and private banker with ABN AMRO Bank N.V.. She then spent her time volunteering for charitable causes including The Breakfast Club at a church from 2010-2011, Willing Hearts Soup Kitchen from 2011-2015, and the Eurasian Association since 2015.

As an EA Management Committee member since 2018, encouraging Active Ageing, she set up Jingkli Nonas (a singing group), and runs yarn@EA (a crafting group) and ukulele@EA. She is a Eurasian Heritage Gallery docent as well as an oral history interviewer, recording stories from Eurasians in the community. Melanie also represented the EA Singapore at the Malacca Portuguese-Eurasian Association's San Pedro Festival in 2023. Since 2024, she has been a Eurasian Community Oral History Committee member, working with the National Archives of Singapore to identify interviewees, and is the EA representative for REACH Advisory Panel with the Ministry of Communications and Information.

Committee Member



Mr Percival Shepherdson Former Chef

Percival has been a volunteer with the EA for the last 24 years. He volunteered with the Family Support Services and is now the Chairman of the EA Heritage Committee. He oversees the Heritage Gallery and the docents. He also played Santa Claus at the EA's Children's Christmas Party and Father Time at the EA's Annual Dinner and Dance.

He said, "Heritage is the key element of EA and we need to ensure that the origin of the Eurasian culture, tradition and customs are impressed onto the present and future generations of Singapore."

He loves to collect books on Singapore history, culture and food and also loves visiting local and overseas museums. He has also volunteered with the Singapore Prison Services, SACA and SANA for the past 55 years.

Committee Member



Mr Ion Danker Vice-President, Marketing & Communications Singapore Exchange Limited

Ion is an experienced communications professional with over 20 years of experience in the field of journalism (Yahoo! Singapore), and various private (element14, Singapore Exchange) and public sectors (Tan Tock Seng Hospital, Sport Singapore, Ministry of Health). Ion has volunteered with the EA for the past 12 years and has leveraged his expertise to support the Corporate Communications Sub-Committee which he has chaired for the past 4 years, including offering strategic advice on the EA's publications such as the quarterly New Eurasian and Annual Report.

Apart from this role, Ion has also chaired the EA Football Camp with Self-Help Groups, initiated in 2022 and he is the lead organiser for the inaugural Joint Self-Help Groups Football Camp 2024. Ion is also an active member of the EA Football Team. Ion is also currently part of the SAFRA Brand & Communications Management Committee and the SAFRA Energy One Gym Management Committee.

Committee Member



Mr Paul Rodrigues Former Head of Quality and Sustainability Keppel Infrastructure Holdings Pte Ltd

Paul began his career as a marine engineer. After furthering his studies, he became a manufacturing engineer and a power plant engineering consultant. He spent 27 years at Keppel Infrastructure before retiring in 2022, working overseas for more than 6 years in countries including Brasil, Ecuador and the UK. Positions held included Marketing Manager, Senior Engineering Manager, Assistant General Manager, General Manager (Brasil), Head of Health, Safety & Environment, Plant Manager at the NEWater plant and Head of Quality & Sustainability.

Paul has been an EA member for more than 35 years. He represented the EA as part of the first Eurasian contingent at the National Day Parade in 1990 and at the following Chingay Procession. In 2008, he joined the Family Support Services (FSS) committee to support less fortunate Eurasians, and organised activities and events including Family Day and Christmas lunches. He recently joined the EA ukulele class.