

# President's Message

## A PLACE WE CAN CALL HOME: EMBRACING OUR FUTURE AT PUNGGOL CAMPUS

As we mark another milestone year in SIT's journey, I am filled with pride and excitement. We have officially moved to our new Punggol Campus – a place where we can truly call *home*. This move represents more than a change of address; it traces our growth into a premier university of applied learning and our commitment to becoming OneSIT: The University for Industry.

## CONVERGING UNDER ONE ROOF: THE POWER OF UNITY

After years of operating across six campuses, bringing our entire SIT community together under one roof has been a big undertaking. But the transition has been worth every effort. Today, it is remarkable to see our new Punggol Campus standing as a vibrant hub where innovation thrives, partnerships flourish, and our signature applied learning pedagogy comes to life.

Strategically located within the Punggol Digital District (PDD), we find ourselves uniquely positioned as Singapore's first university located within an enterprise district, creating unprecedented opportunities for collaboration and impact. This strategic position has already begun to unlock transformative partnerships. A prime example is OCBC's multi-million-dollar strategic partnership with SIT, which combines industry expertise and academic excellence through the establishment of the Analytics and Innovation Lab. Equipped with Bloomberg terminals for hands-on financial analysis, shared facilities that foster real-world learning experiences, and bond-free scholarships for our students, this collaboration demonstrates how our Punggol Campus catalyses meaningful industry connections.

## ADVANCING APPLIED LEARNING THROUGH COMPETENCY-BASED EDUCATION

This deeper integration with industry partners has reinforced our commitment to ensuring our graduates are equipped with the skills that employers need. Building on our success in the Competency-based Stackable Micro-credential (CSM) pathway in Applied Computing launched in Academic Year 2023, we launched two new Engineering programmes via the CSM pathway – the **Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) in Electrical and Electronic Engineering (EEE)** and the **Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) in Infrastructure and Systems Engineering (ISE)** – emphasising practical mastery of key engineering competencies, ensuring students acquire skills directly applicable to industry.

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## PROFESSOR CHUA KEE CHAING

President



## RESEARCH THAT TRANSFORMS INDUSTRIES

The applied learning approach we have adopted in education naturally extends to our research. Our dedication to delivering industry-relevant solutions drives research that addresses the needs of our partners. This year, we received our first National Research Foundation Competitive Research Programme grant for converting CO<sub>2</sub> into valuable aromatics using renewable energy, which would pave the way for the future of chemical manufacturing.

Another notable achievement comes from our Construction Technology Innovation Laboratory (CTIL). Our team has successfully pioneered the use of high-strength steel sections as kingposts — the vertical structural supports that transfer loads from temporary structures to the foundation during construction — marking the first of its kind in Singapore's construction history. This breakthrough delivers substantial cost savings and a 40% reduction in steel usage while maintaining the same load-bearing capacity.

The successful deployment of these innovations represents SIT's ongoing commitment to address industry challenges through practical and relevant solutions. This track record of translating research into tangible impact has contributed to our research grants increasing over the past three years, reflecting the growing confidence that government agencies and industry partners place in our ability to deliver solutions that make a difference to real-world challenges.

## INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIP: THE HEART OF OUR SUCCESS

The success of our research and education initiatives is ultimately reflected in how well they serve industry needs and our students' careers. This close relationship between education and industry was showcased at IWSP: 10 Years On, a celebration of our signature Integrated Work Study Programme, which has supported over 11,000 SITizens over the past decade. Last academic year saw students from 30 degree programmes working with approximately 1,000 industry partners on IWSP opportunities. Alongside this event was the 10th edition of Career Nexus, held for the first time in our new Punggol Campus. It brought together 2,500 SITizens and more than 240 participating companies, providing an opportunity to introduce industry not just to our SITizens but to our new home.

## WELCOMING OUR COMMUNITY: FIRST OPEN HOUSE IN PUNGGOL CAMPUS

Beyond our industry partnerships, we've been equally committed to building relationships with the broader community. This year brought a particularly meaningful moment, as we opened the doors to Punggol Campus for the very first time, inviting prospective students, their families and the public to discover what makes SIT special. The enthusiasm and positive response from our visitors reaffirmed our commitment to remaining an accessible and welcoming institution that puts people at the heart of everything we do.

## STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY BONDS THROUGH STEM FOR SOCIAL IMPACT

We have also reached out to youth in the community, forging meaningful connections with close to 1,200 students across four Punggol secondary schools through sharing sessions and assembly talks. Our SITizens have stepped up to share their knowledge, passion and skills with the next generation through structured learning opportunities. Our hands-on workshops introduced about 130 secondary school students to 3D printing and AI, while more than 120 young learners from primary to junior college levels discovered their passion for STEM through our camps and hackathons. These hands-on opportunities have empowered our SITizens to apply their training to create meaningful impact, embodying our commitment to nurturing the next generation, and building lasting bonds with the larger Punggol community.

## LOOKING AHEAD: A BRIGHT FUTURE TOGETHER

As we settle into our new Punggol home, all these interconnected elements – our purpose-built campus, strengthened industry partnerships, innovative research, competency-based education, and community bonds – position us well for the future. Our Living Labs will catalyse authentic learning experiences, while our '*Learn for Life*' initiative, which allows our alumni to take up a complimentary module every five years, ensures they remain connected to their alma mater throughout their careers.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to our faculty, staff, and students for making this transition successful, and to the Punggol community for a warm welcome. To our partners, we invite you to visit, collaborate, and grow with us at our new campus. United as one community, we embody OneSIT: The University for Industry.