



How a talent is made

Lim Gui Hao Brenda, 24, wants to a winner — whether in her studies or in Ultimate Frisbee

A powerful education

After obtaining my Diploma in Electrical and Electronics Engineering, I was contemplating a switch to a business-related field for my degree. But after serious thought, I opted for the Newcastle University's Electrical Power Engineering degree at Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT), Singapore's fifth public university. I chose to specialise in this field because it was closely related to my previous diploma studies.

The industry-focused programmes run by SIT are attractive because they have been specially developed to meet the needs of the economy. They provide students with the knowledge and skills we need on the job.

SIT aims to develop best-in-class specialists, and its graduates enjoy good job prospects, according to the results of a recent graduate employment survey conducted by the school.

The institute offers its own degrees, as well as those from its overseas partners. It offers a viable path for polytechnic upgraders like myself to obtain our degrees. Students with relevant qualifications can fast-track their degree at SIT, and complete it in about two years.

Green power

Electricity consumption and generation often come at a cost to the environment.

I want to help the power industry in Singapore and around the world increase their productivity and efficiency while consuming fewer resources, and I believe the degree would give me the technical skills to do it.

My areas of interest include renewable energy and high-voltage direct current (HVDC) technology, which involves the safe and efficient generation, transmission and distribution of electricity.

SIT also offers rewarding experiences beyond the classroom, and I got to spend a month at Newcastle University last July. It was a period of self-discovery for me, and I would like to go back there if I get another chance.

A new passion

I tried Ultimate Frisbee for the first time at SIT, and it took only a couple of training sessions for me to get hooked.

The senior players were very welcoming, and willing to share training and competition tips. My team-mates at SIT Ultimate Frisbee Club, or SIT Ultimate, are unbelievable, and they have always been there for me. Life at SIT just would not be the same without them. We even won the UtySports Division 1 Tournament, an annual Ultimate Frisbee team event last year.

I am an SIT Ultimate sub-committee member, and together with the other committee members, we organised an Ultimate Frisbee event for approximately 300 participants at SIT last year.

Putting together the whole affair was no mean feat, and it took close to seven months of meticulous planning. We had to juggle meetings, lessons, student commitments like overseas immersion programmes, and training.

highly sought after. Competition was tough, but I thought I should give myself a shot at it.

I still remember what was written in the letter of recommendation from one of my instructors: "Brenda has the capabilities to participate in and out of class with valuable contributions." That gave me some faith in my abilities and achievements, and I was delighted to land the scholarship last year.

Tinkering to improve

SIT is a close-knit family. Students help each other improve — and not only academically.

Our friendly and approachable lecturers do their part too. Their lessons imbue us with the SIT DNA: Thinking Tinkerers, Able to Learn, Unlearn & Relearn, Catalysts for Transformation and Grounded in the Community.



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Pursuing a degree while balancing SIT Ultimate commitments and classes hasn't been easy. When the Singapore University Games (SUniG) approaches, the training schedule can get tough. Perseverance and consistency have helped me stay on top of things. Of course, time management is crucial as well.

Valuable contributions

The bond-free SIT Final Year Scholarship aims to nurture student leaders, and is

Scholarship

SIT Final Year Scholarship

Course

Bachelor of Engineering with Honours in Electrical Power Engineering, awarded by Newcastle University, UK

Institution

Singapore Institute of Technology