



*Dr Leong Horn Kee, Adviser to the Thomson Shin Min Foundation (left) and Mr Ng San Tiong Roland, the foundation's Executive Director (right), present an endowed gift to establish the Thomson Shin Min Foundation Bursary to support students at SIT, at the Foundation's Presentation of Education and Charity Fund Ceremony held in May 2015.*

# It Takes a Community!

## *Four organisations in Singapore step forth to nurture SIT students with gifts to support bursaries*

It takes more than parents and the Government to raise up the next generation; in fact, it takes an entire community to do the job – and four organisations with deep roots in the community have put this belief into action by making gifts to level the playing field for financially disadvantaged students at the Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT).

Thanks to Kwan Im Thong Hood Cho Temple, Char Yong (Dabu) Foundation, Singapore Leong Khay Huay Kuan, and Thomson Shin Min Foundation, at least 18 bursaries have been made available annually over the next three years for these students.

The historic temple in Waterloo Street was the first of these four donors to make

possible a non-bonded bursary, the Kwan Im Thong Hood Cho Temple Bursary, at SIT. Char Yong (Dabu) Foundation chose to support the SIT Bursary, the university bursary fund that pools together unnamed gifts from various donors who wish to provide direct support to financially hamstrung SIT students in the year the gift is made. Singapore Leong Khay Huay Kuan, a Hokkien clan association, is nurturing SIT students of Hokkien descent with the Singapore Leong Khay Huay Kuan Bursary.

As for the Thomson Shin Min Foundation, it recently made an endowed gift to support the establishment of the Thomson Shin Min Foundation Bursary at SIT, so as to benefit SIT students in perpetuity.

These bursaries are open for application to eligible students who come from households with a per capita income that satisfies SIT's criteria for financial assistance through bursaries. Valued from \$3,000 to \$5,000 each per annum, they go some way in helping to cover the recipients' annual academic costs of at least about \$14,000, depending on the degree programme.

Mr Tan Wei Chiang, who graduated earlier this year with a Bachelor of Science (Hons) in Food & Human Nutrition degree (Newcastle University), received a Kwan Im Thong Hood Cho Temple Bursary while he was a student. "The Bursary really helped me a lot, especially in helping to cover my travelling costs to school, and other personal expenses while I was at SIT," said Mr Tan, who is now a Nutritionist with St Luke's Eldercare.

Said Prof Tan Thiam Soon, President, SIT, said the University is very encouraged by the philanthropic commitment from these donors to nurture its deserving students.

He added, "We hope that such exemplary giving will inspire even more donors to also support SIT students who need financial aid. Community support will make all the difference to these promising young people, who will then be able to complete their studies and to realise their fullest potential without being set back academically by financial disadvantages."

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Prof Tan Thiam Soon  
President, SIT