

More Than Just a Cheque

At two recent appreciation events, our students and alumni meet donors who, on top of making gifts to support learning at SIT, were keen to find out more about them

The Singapore Ireland Fund Appreciation Lunch & Signing of Gift Agreement



Back row, from left to right: Mrs Noor Quek, Dr Amanda Connell, His Excellency Mr Joseph Hayes, Prof Tan Thiam Soon, Mrs Deirdre Hayes, Dr Stanley Quek and Dr Alan Wong
Front row, from left to right: Ms Jasmine Gui, Ms Nani Adilla Zailani, Ms Tui Sze Sze, Dr May Lim and Ms Shelby Tan

It was a meeting of minds and hearts, as representatives of The Singapore Ireland Fund (TSIF) and SITizens got to know one another over some local Peranakan food.

Held on 24 Jan 2014, The Singapore Ireland Fund Appreciation Lunch saw the signing of an agreement, with the Fund making an endowed gift toward the establishment of a grant to benefit, in perpetuity, SIT students so that they may gain valuable education experience from an Overseas Immersion Programme (OIP) in Ireland. The grant, which has been named the Singapore Ireland Fund OIP Grant in recognition of the gift, will help up to four SIT students each academic year to cover the costs of the OIP.

Founded in June 2009, The Singapore Ireland Fund is dedicated to facilitating and helping to fund projects which further develop and deepen the Singapore-Ireland relationship and deliver long-term benefits to the people of Singapore from their long established relationship with Ireland. The scope of these projects and development sectors include community relations, education, the arts, culture and sport.

His Excellency Mr Joseph Hayes, Ambassador of Ireland to Singapore and Dr Stanley Quek, Chairman of The Singapore Ireland Fund, graced the event, as did Mrs Deirdre Hayes, who sits on The Fund's Executive Committee and Mrs Noor Quek, a member of the Fund's Board of Directors/Trustees. They were treated to a presentation, by three alumni and a student from the two degree programmes from Trinity College Dublin who spoke about how the OIP experience had enriched their learning.

Thanking The Singapore Ireland Fund for this gift, Prof Tan Thiam Soon, President, SIT, said, "The opportunity to interact with mentors and fellow students in a learning environment far beyond Singapore, and to partake of Ireland's rich culture – these are benefits that will widen our student's horizons and experiences which will stay with them for life."

Yangzheng Foundation Appreciation Lunch

If you find that the name Yangzheng rings a bell, it is because it has been a significant name in Singapore education for more than 100 years. The Yangzheng legacy traces its roots back to 1905, when leaders of the local Cantonese community raised funds to set up the former Yeung Ching School in Chinatown to provide primary school education.

The present-day Yangzheng Foundation continues to exert a positive influence on education in Singapore through its far-sighted philanthropic giving – and SIT students are now among its beneficiaries.

On 7 Mar 2014, the Staff, Faculty and Students of SIT were pleased to have Mr Patrick Lee, President of Yangzheng Foundation, and his Committee Members, grace the Yangzheng Foundation Appreciation Lunch. Hosted by Prof Tan Thiam Soon, President, SIT, the event was held in recognition of the Foundation's generous gift to make possible the Yangzheng Foundation Bursary for financially disadvantaged students at SIT.

The Bursary will benefit up to three students each academic year, with special consideration given to eligible applicants with medical conditions or whose family members suffer from disabilities or serious illnesses.

Said Mr Patrick Lee, President, Yangzheng Foundation, "Yangzheng Foundation has always upheld its ideals in promoting education, nurturing talents and developing society. SIT's efforts, in pioneering a new path in applied university education to allow more students to go to university and at the same time nurture more talents for society, are in line with our beliefs. We are very happy to establish the Yangzheng Foundation Bursary at SIT to support students in financial need, so that they will be able to complete their education."



From left to right: Mr Woon Kok Meng, Prof Ting Seng Kiong, Mr Patrick Lee, Prof Tan Thiam Soon, Dr May Lim, Ms Dorita Ho, and Ms Judith Toh.