

# Nurturing Talents, the SME Way

*With a growing awareness of the intrinsic value in SIT students, SMEs are building the future of our undergraduates through non-bonded scholarships and bursaries to level the playing field for them*



*The future is limitless for these new SIT students who are just starting university – and philanthropic support from Singapore's SME sector for scholarships, bursaries and study grants is helping to ensure that they can maximise their greatest potential.*

Thanks to the far-sighted philanthropy of several small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in Singapore, the Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT) has recently been able to establish one new named scholarship, seven named bursaries and one named study grant to benefit its undergraduates.

All nine are non-bonded (see box). Some are open to all eligible SIT students, while others designate support for students in specified academic disciplines. The new scholarship and bursaries go some way in covering the recipient's tuition fees. Some of these bursaries also cover other types of academic expenses, such as the costs of going on compulsory Overseas Immersion Programmes. (The bursaries and study grant are valued at \$5,000 each. Safety Systems Engineering Scholarship, the new scholarship made possible by Safety Systems Engineering Pte Ltd to recognise outstanding students in pursuing degrees in Mechanical Design Engineering and Manufacturing Engineering, is valued at \$6,500 each.)

One of the new bursaries, Home-Fix Bursary supported by Home-Fix DIY Pte Ltd, further offers recipients the opportunity to apply to work part time for the donor company, with a paid allowance for an agreed period of work.

Said Mr Low Cheong Kee, Managing Director, Home-Fix DIY Pte Ltd, "We hope

that with the bursary, it would motivate the students to work hard to realise their educational potential to be the best that they can be. And upon graduation, use their time or resources to contribute positively back to society. "

Prof Tan Thiam Soon, President, SIT, said, "As the new university of applied learning, the unique SIT model is to integrate learning, industry and community in its pedagogy. The industry is where our students can learn to integrate theory with hands-on application in real-life work environments. The larger community is where we encourage our students to contribute back to, with their talents and passion."

"This is why we are so excited and appreciative that the SMEs are supporting our students in such an active and meaningful way, through their philanthropic giving. These SME-supported bursaries allow our students to concentrate on their education at SIT without having to worry about finances, and also provide our students with compelling first-hand examples of how successful enterprises and business owners are giving back to community," Prof Tan added.

Mr Sam Chee Wah, General Manager of FEINMETALL Singapore Pte Ltd, which has made possible the FEINMETALL Bursary for SIT students, has this to say, "Establishing the FEINMETALL Bursary with

SIT not only inspires our team to look beyond our vision. Importantly, it lets us know that someone out there believes in us. When you believe in us, our goals are naturally aligned."

Mr John Pan, Managing Director of Safety Systems Engineering Pte Ltd said, "I find it meaningful to support SIT and its students through the Safety Systems Engineering Scholarship because, in my mind, a strong nation is one with engineering prowess central to its nation building strategy. Hence a strong nation is home of many excellent and clever engineers, passionate about their engineering 'calling' or mission to collectively build a better homeland for all."

He added, "I think a clever nation is also one whose leaders give similar recognition to engineers as with scientists, bankers, doctors and lawyers, with regard to their contributions and also their remuneration. It is my hope that over time, more SIT students would respond to their engineering calling and then perhaps, as we walk pass the hallways or eateries, we would hear the conversations of budding undergraduates being peppered with engineering dreams and solutions to create a better world that has never been."

## New Scholarships, Bursaries/Study Grant at SIT made possible by the SME Sector

- Drilmaco Bursary
- FEINMETALL Bursary
- Home-Fix Bursary
- JCS-Echigo Study Grant
- Kevin Liang Bursary
- Mun Siong Bursary
- Safety Systems Engineering Scholarship
- Tech Metal Bursary
- Perfect Team Engineering Bursary