

# Putting Love into Philanthropy

*The Khoo Chwee Neo Foundation, founded on a daughter's love for her mother, now nurtures SIT students with an endowed bursary fund*

The Khoo Chwee Neo Foundation has a mission that is beautifully but simply expressed: It aims to “put God’s love into action by creating lasting solutions to poverty and social injustice”. It was set up in 2014 by Ms Peggy Goh in honour of her late mother, Madam Khoo Chwee Neo.

On 16 Sept 2016, Ms Goh and Mr William Chua, the Foundation’s Executive Director, were treated to an appreciation lunch by the Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT) at the SIT@Dover campus. In his welcoming address, Prof Tan Thiam Soon, President, SIT, thanked the Foundation for its endowed gift of \$1 million to SIT to offer greater promise and more possibilities for SIT students.

This gift from the Foundation made possible the Khoo Chwee Neo Foundation Bursary, which has been awarded to six undergraduates this Academic Year (AY 2016/17). From AY 2017/18 onwards, the Bursary will be able to support up to 15 undergraduates each academic year. Valued at \$5,000 or \$10,000 each depending on student need, this is one of the more generous bursaries for financially disadvantaged students at SIT.

That afternoon, Ms Goh and Mr Chua also got to see an example of student volunteerism at SIT. Ms Suhaila binte Zainal Shah, a second-year undergraduate and President of SIT’s Project Cambodia, gave a short presentation on how she and her fellow SITizens had built a new function room cum library and renovated the kitchen at the Project Khmer (H.O.P.E.) Trang centre. The centre provides education and meals to more than 300 poor Cambodian children every year.

Ms Goh told SITizen, “My mother was always reminding me that I should give to the poor and needy and take care of them. This Foundation in her name has programmes to provide care for the physical and emotional needs of the elderly poor, and to provide access to education for underprivileged children and those with special needs.”

“We hope the Khoo Chwee Neo Foundation Bursary at SIT will level the playing field for undergraduates who need the financial support to complete their education, and make it possible for them to build a better future for themselves and their families,” she also said.



*(From left) Ms Peggy Goh, Chairman, Khoo Chwee Neo Foundation, and Prof Tan Thiam Soon, President, SIT sharing a lighthearted moment.*