

## WHAT'S HAPPENING around our little big campus

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Winning Big by Skill and Design

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Dear SIT Alumni,

## Sweet Taste of Success

How can SiTizens build an invincible career in the era of Artificial Intelligence? This important question was the theme of the panel discussion at SIT's Annual Alumni Beanfeast, held in July this year at the Marina Mandarin Singapore. Created last year for the pioneer Accountancy graduates, the Beanfeast grew into a special occasion for current and future alumni from various programmes this year, drawing a record number of nearly 300 attendees. SiTizens were excited to interact with the distinguished panellists, as well as SIT's philanthropic and industry partners who have supported their education in various ways.

For SIT's students, such support is growing – the university's donors have recently made possible four non-bonded scholarships to nurture academically promising students at SIT. Three of these scholarships are permanent as they are supported by endowed gifts. Students at SIT who receive scholarships are also getting more opportunities to meet their donors. For example, 21 of SIT's students and alumni who received the KKH Scholarship and Wilmar Scholarship got to meet Mr Kuok Khoon Hong, Chairman and CEO of Wilmar International, at an appreciation tea on 8 August to benefit from his shared experience and insights. (Two of the earliest non-bonded scholarships to be established at SIT, the KKH Scholarship and Wilmar Scholarship have nurtured 84 students to date.)

In this issue, we also catch up with Ms Denise Tong, a Sustainable Infrastructure Engineering (Land) alumnus, who looks back at the immensely educational experience she had as a student while working for SETSCO Services Pte Ltd, one of SIT's Integrated Work Study Programme partners.

It is no wonder that more SiTizens are finding success in their endeavours with such wide-ranging support. Mr Lee Liming and Mr Teo Tze Hau, both graduates from the Interior Design programme, were lauded at the Singapore Interior Design Awards. Undergraduates from SIT's Sustainable Infrastructure Engineering programmes became the first varsity students to win bronze in the Rapid Transit Systems category at WorldSkills Singapore. Other students, guided by SIT faculty, are coming up with innovations to help the elderly, such as the uArm and the Smart Walker (the latter won "Best Smart Care Technology – Product" at the 6<sup>th</sup> APAC Eldercare Innovation Awards 2018).

At the same time, SiTizens continue to serve the community. Since November last year, Health and Social Sciences students have been out in Punggol giving physiotherapy advice to residents, and more recently in June, they conducted a population health survey among Punggol residents.

We hope you will enjoy reading these reports and more in this issue of SiTizen. Should you wish to contribute a story, do drop us a line at [Alumni@SingaporeTech.edu.sg](mailto:Alumni@SingaporeTech.edu.sg).



# Singapore Gets First Shared Facility for Small Batch Food Production

*To be operated by SIT, JTC Food Hub @ Senoko will help food companies reduce capital and operating costs*

JTC officially opened its Food Hub @ Senoko, a purpose-built facility that will be home to an ecosystem of players in the food industry. Mr Chee Hong Tat, Senior Minister of State for Trade and Industry, and Education, graced the official opening ceremony held on 31 July 2018. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between Enterprise Singapore, JTC and the Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT) to set up the shared facility for small batch production to support innovation in the industry.

Jointly conceptualised with the Singapore Food Manufacturers' Association (SFMA) and Singapore Manufacturing Federation (SMF), JTC Food Hub @ Senoko is designed to help food companies reduce capital and operating costs. A key feature is an integrated cold room and warehouse facility (CWF) that tenants can tap on a pay-per-use basis. The shared CWF is operated by StorBest @ Senoko Pte Ltd, which also offers distribution services that tenants can use instead of investing in their own delivery fleets.

Targeted to be operational in end-2019, the facility aims to help food manufacturers overcome challenges – such as lack of facilities, costly equipment and high minimum order requirements from outsourced manufacturers when

commercialising new products after research and development – in the development and scalable manufacture of new food products.

The facility is an initiative under FoodInnovate, a multi-agency workgroup that looks at catalysing co-innovation and knowledge exchange among stakeholders in the food manufacturing industry.



Witnesses (standing, from left): Mr David Tan, President of Singapore Food Manufacturers' Association; Senior Minister of State Mr Chee Hong Tat; Mr Ng Lang, CEO of JTC; Mr Douglas Foo, President of Singapore Manufacturing Federation. Signatories (seated from left): Ms Chew Mok Lee, ACEO of Enterprise Singapore; Associate Professor Ivan Lee, Vice President (Industry & Community), SIT; Mr Alvin Tan, ACEO of JTC.

## Strengthening Food Innovation

To be operated by SIT, the 1,130 sqm Food Hub @ Senoko will make available production rooms and food processing equipment (e.g. spray dryers<sup>1</sup>, extruders<sup>2</sup> and advanced equipment such as Microwave Assisted Thermal Sterilisation (MATS)<sup>3</sup> and Pulsed Electric Field (PEF) equipment<sup>4</sup>) for companies on a pay-per-use basis. This will allow food manufacturers, especially start-ups and SMEs, to validate new products after research and development and test their commercial viability before leaping into full-scale production.

There will also be workplace training courses and seminars at Food Hub for industry players to deepen technical capabilities, such as those in emerging food technologies, through the Food Skills Development Programme (FSDP), a programme that is supported by SkillsFuture Singapore and developed with Enterprise Singapore.

<sup>1</sup> Spray drying: Technology to convert liquid into dry powder form via rapid drying with hot gas. Supports innovation of powder-form products that are more exportable and cost competitive.

<sup>2</sup> Extrusion – Technology widely used in the production of pasta, ready-to-eat cereals, snacks, pet food and textured vegetable protein.

<sup>3</sup> Microwave assisted thermal sterilisation: Advanced technology that kills bacteria.

<sup>4</sup> Pulsed Electric Field – Advanced non-thermal technology that uses high bursts of electrical pulses to inactivate bacteria in food. It is suitable for liquid food products that MATS and retort cannot handle.

## Disruption, Competition, and Accounting



On 28 June 2018 at the SIT@Dover campus, 44 students from seven ASEAN universities participated in data analytics training and competed in a business simulation competition. The budding accountants played the role of a C-suite executive, made real-time business decisions, strategised and managed their own P&L statements. The team from Ateneo de Naga University, Philippines, emerged champions at this simulation competition – the first to be incorporated at the ASEAN Accounting Education Workshop (AAEW) meeting that was organised and hosted by SIT.

Apart from the competition and the meeting, the two-day event also included the SIT Symposium on Application of Technologies in Accounting Education.

The symposium was attended by 150 participants from various ASEAN universities, as well as accounting professional bodies, industry practitioners and education publishers. Among other topics, the symposium discussed how future accountants will need to hone their expertise through digital education in the face of technological disruption, as well as how ASEAN and the profession can embrace technology amidst the current wave of digital transformation.

# SITizens Spread Healthy Living Message in Punggol

*Residents get some help from SIT's Health Sciences students to embrace a healthy lifestyle*

On the first weekend of June 2018, Nursing students from SIT's Health and Social Sciences (HSS) Cluster conducted a population health survey in digital health literacy with the residents at Edgefield Plains in Punggol. Students also distributed health promotion messages at block parties at Punggol Link, Sunrise and Damai estates that were co-organised with grassroots organisations.

With student-produced health posters, games, skits, videos and talks, they touched on a variety of topics such as binge drinking, diabetes, antenatal care, pneumococcal vaccination, colorectal cancer screening and depression. MP for Pasir Ris-Punggol GRC, Dr Janil Puthuchery, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Transport & Ministry of Communications and Information, graced the event.

"Thanks to the physical fitness screening by the students, I now realise my level of fitness. Since then, I have heeded the advice on regular physical activities, and I felt my life transformed!" said Ms Lam Lee Choo, a grassroots participant.

SIT's Allied Health students have also been actively collaborating with grassroots organisations to promote healthy living habits in Punggol – which will be home to SIT's permanent campus in a few years.

Last November, a group of 15 second-year students reading the joint SIT-TCD Physiotherapy degree programme put their training into practice in the Punggol community. As part of their curriculum, students organised a 'Let's Get Active' day where they gave professional physiotherapy advice to residents of Edgefield Plains.

Said Mr Chong Koh You, Chairman, Punggol Coast Community Sports Club, People's Association, "Although this collaboration gives SIT Physiotherapy students a chance to practise their skills, it also serves as a platform for residents to bond over this meaningful activity and foster a warm *kampung* spirit."



Residents getting active thanks to tips from SIT's physiotherapy students.

Divided into four stations, residents had an opportunity to test their strength, flexibility, balance and endurance, with guidance and demonstrations from students.

"This exercise shows me that dealing with people may not be so straightforward, and that it requires skills, especially in the area of advising them on change in lifestyle habits to attain a healthier body," said Mr Chiang Ji Long.

His classmate, Ms Lee Pei Shan, echoed a similar sentiment, "We are very happy that we can give back to the community this way. This experience has taught me how to be skilful in giving advice, especially to the elderly who may not understand English."

## Nightingales in the Community

*Community healthcare, the theme of Nurses' Day 2018 celebrations at SIT@Dover*

On 3 August 2018, more than 150 nurses (including eight SIT alumni) from across the various healthcare sectors in Singapore gathered at SIT@Dover for Nurses' Day 2018.

Organised by the Bachelor of Science in Nursing with Honours degree programme (jointly offered by the Singapore Institute of Technology and University of Glasgow) for the second year running, the day's programme featured talks by Guest-of-Honour Professor Lee Chien Earn, CEO, Changi General Hospital (CGH) and Deputy Group CEO (Regional Health System), SingHealth, as well as Ms Paulin Koh, Chief Nurse, CGH and Deputy Group Chief Nurse, SingHealth.

Prof Lee, who spoke on the topic "Beyond Hospital to the Community", said SIT was right on target to have a "community" theme for this year's celebration, adding that CGH's mission is "partnering communities to keep well, get well and age well."

Speaking on "Community Nursing Development in CGH", Ms Koh said the focus on person-centred, holistic care meant that nurses had evolved to embrace new roles – from preventive care, to acute and chronic care, and intermediate and

long-term care services. Nurses had been making inroads into preventive care within communities through health education programmes based on promoting healthy living and preventing health problems.

A third highlight of the day was "Community Nursing in Glasgow", a presentation by some students who shared their takeaways from their four-week Overseas Immersion Programme at their home campus in Glasgow, where they learnt how patients were transitioned from hospital care to community care.

Said nursing student Ms Evangeline Tan Si Hui (Khoo Teck Puat Hospital, National Healthcare Group), "In Glasgow, practitioners seem to have more autonomy. Patients are happy and content on consulting nurses. Although in Singapore, it will take more time for patients to adopt this mindset, there has been lots of progress made. Nurses now have greater clinical accountability and more authority to make decisions. There are nurse-led clinics where the nurses perform tasks normally done by doctors, such as monitoring adverse drug reactions and issuing repeat prescriptions for medication."

There was also a poster presentation by students on the expanded roles of nurses in Singapore, and on their health innovation and informatics projects.



The students recited the Singapore Nursing Board Nurse's Pledge to reaffirm their dedication to caring for the sick, regardless of race, religion or status.

# Taking Their Next Step

From May to July 2018, more than 270 students at SIT received their degrees in Early Childhood Education, Communication Design, Interior Design, Electrical Engineering & Information Technology and Chemical Engineering

## Wheelock College Commencement 2018

30 May 2018



Performing "Let It Shine", the graduating class was joined by Ms Beth C. Fredericks, Executive Director, Wheelock College-Singapore.

The Wheelock College Commencement 2018 that took place on 30 May 2018 marked the graduation of the final batch of 64 students from the Bachelor of Early Childhood Education degree programme at SIT.

Ms Esther Chua and Ms Faith Yee were lauded as valedictorians of the graduating class while both Ms Tan Xiao Xian Lydia and Mr Muhammad Hadi Bin Kamal received the Most Significant Contribution to the Program Award.

Ms Yee said she never imagined herself graduating as valedictorian. "The professors have taught me that an educator's job is not just to teach. I learned that it is more important to help your students cultivate a love for learning and make them feel valued," she added.

Attending the ceremony at SIT@Dover were Prof Tan Thiam Soon, President, SIT, Mr Chan Wing Leong, Deputy President & Chief Financial Officer, SIT as well as President David J. Chard of Wheelock College and Ms Beth C. Fredericks, Executive Director, Wheelock College-Singapore.

In a ceremony steeped in tradition and complete with a bagpiper, 65 Communication Design and 47 Interior Design students received their degrees from The Glasgow School of Art. Held at the SIT@Dover Auditorium, the ceremony was also attended by Mr Tsoi Mun Heng, Vice President (Planning), SIT, Professor Frank Coton, Vice Principal (Academic and Educational Innovation), University of Glasgow, and Mr Chris Hand, Programme Director, The Glasgow School of Art, Singapore.

Receiving the Best Overall Academic Achievement for Communication Design was Ms Adelia Lim Jia Yi, while Ms Charmayne Aw Xue Qi and Mr Ng Jin Hao Damien were recipients of the same award for the Interior Design Programme. Ms Edith Ng Tse Pei and Ms Nurul Nadia Binte Ahmad received the Leap Award for the Communication Design and Interior Design programmes respectively. The Outstanding Contribution to Student Life Award went to Mr Liew Wee Peng, Arthur (Communication Design) and Mr Wee Liang Foo (Interior Design).

This year, Ms Radhiah Binte Anis from the Communication Design programme was the co-recipient for the Highest Achievement in Design History and Theory for the School of Design in both GSA Glasgow and GSA Singapore. She said, "The award was unexpected and I'm very thankful to my lecturers as they were the ones who got me through my dissertation when I was very doubtful about myself and my work." Currently interning at a graphic design studio and working as a part-time research assistant, she plans to develop her creative work further.

## The Glasgow School of Art Graduation Ceremony

25 June 2018



With degree scrolls in hand, it's time for these graduates to celebrate after two intense years of hard work.

At the graduation ceremony for the Technical University of Munich, held at the SIT@Dover Auditorium, 39 graduands from the Electrical Engineering and Information Technology programme and 56 graduands from the Chemical Engineering programme received their degree scrolls.

The Guest of Honour for the ceremony was Dr Heinrich Hubbe, from the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany to Singapore. Prof Tan Thiam Soon, President, SIT, Mr Chan Wing Leong, Deputy President & CFO, as well as Dr Markus Waechter, Managing Director, TUM-Asia, also attended the ceremony.

Mr Ang Jing Kai and Mr Ashley Teo Hsien Yang were the valedictorians and received the Best Student Award for the Chemical Engineering and the Electrical Engineering and Information Technology programmes respectively.

Also receiving awards at the ceremony were Ms Chua Beverly Julia and Mr Wan Kiat Hwee for the Best Thesis in the Electrical Engineering and Information Technology, and the Chemical Engineering programmes respectively.

## Technical University of Munich

19 July 2018



The award winners, together with SIT Senior Management and guests at the graduation ceremony.

# SIT Team Wins Eldercare 'Oscar'

*SITizens make their mark at 6<sup>th</sup> Eldercare Innovation Awards with innovations to rehabilitate mobility*

Two SIT teams made a splash with their entries at the 6<sup>th</sup> Eldercare Innovation Awards, held in conjunction with the 9<sup>th</sup> International Ageing Asia Innovation Forum (AAIF) 2018 in May. Touted as the 'Oscars of the Eldercare Industry', the awards are the only one of its kind in the Asia Pacific region that recognise the best in innovative eldercare product and service delivery.

Accepting the award for 'Best Smart Care Technology – Product' was Assoc Prof Patrick Chua. His team, consisting of Assoc Prof Zheng Jianxin, Mr Tan Hong Yong, Professional Officer at SIT, and Ms Koh Min Merissa, who is currently pursuing a Mechatronics degree from University of Glasgow (UofG), produced the Smart Walker for Gait Rehabilitation with Local Positioning System, an innovative smart walker that independently aids patients undergoing rehabilitation. This was part of a continued multidisciplinary collaboration with Kwong Wai Shiu Hospital (KWSH).

Assoc Prof Chua was thankful for the opportunity to train and lead final-year students in venturing beyond the classroom environment. "This is indeed a prestigious award and a very proud moment for SIT and our industry partner, KWSH, as we managed to come out tops amongst other esteemed organisations from the Asia Pacific region," he said.

Making it to the top five finalists for the same category was the team led by Asst Prof Agnes Xue, with their entry "υArm" (pronounced as "New Arm"). In collaboration with Metta Day Rehabilitation Centre for the Elderly, Asst Prof Xue, together with Assoc Prof Alfred Tan and students from the Engineering, Health and Social Sciences, and Design and Specialised Businesses Clusters in SIT designed an arm-skate device for post-stroke patients to regain upper limb mobility. "Being awarded top five is a major milestone," said Asst Prof Xue. "It gives me and my team confidence that our design is well-suited to improve the quality of life for our patients."

The student team consisted of Mr Lim Pei Jin, Interior Design, Mr Kong Zhong Rong, Mechanical Design Engineering, Ms Megan Lau Si En and Ms Ong Xin Ying, Occupational Therapy. Ms Lau felt particularly inspired by this project, saying, "What fascinated me the most was seeing how the various aspects like game design, innovation and therapy came together seamlessly. Making the prototype and user-testing allowed me to practise my skills in patient care and improve from one patient to another."

## How These Work

### Smart Walker for Gait Rehabilitation with Local Positioning System

With this device, a patient would not need the constant physical support of physiotherapists.

Therapists would instead be able to manage and monitor the patient remotely using the smart walker app from a laptop. The system would record walking activities as well as locate the position of the patient using the smart walker.

This is particularly useful in countries with limited and over-populated rehabilitation facilities, as it provides an innovative solution to the manpower shortage faced by the healthcare industry.

### υArm

This device aims to ease the process of rehabilitation by making use of a non-immersive virtual reality (VR) game. Post-stroke patients are provided with rewarding, goal-directed tasks, which are performed on a table using the υArm arm-skate to motivate them to use their arm, therefore engaging them in fun rehabilitation therapy.

The project is now ready for deployment and clinical trials at various Intermediate and Long-Term Care (ILTC) organisations for their community and group therapy initiatives.



Assoc Prof Patrick Chua demonstrating how patients can use the Smart Walker.



Ms Ong Xin Ying (left) and Ms Megan Lau (right) explain how to use the υArm.

# A Second Round of Beers with Peers!

Alumni come together with SIT's industry and philanthropic partners for a memorable night at this year's Annual Alumni Beanfeast



The evening's panel discussion on the future of work in the artificial intelligence era was moderated by Prof Ng Siu Choon, Associate Provost (Students), SIT (far left) and student moderator, Mr Ang Guo Gen (far right). The speakers were (from left) Mr Mark Lee, Chief Executive Officer, Sing Lun Holdings Pte Ltd; Ms Angela Wu, First Vice President, Information Security & T&O Assurance, Group Technology & Operations, United Overseas Bank; Mr Wan Kwong Weng, Group Chief Corporate Officer and Group General Counsel, Mapletree Investments Pte Ltd; Mr Sim Guan Seng, Managing Partner, Baker Tilly TFW LLP; and Mr Julian Tan, Chief of Digital Business, Singapore Press Holdings.

SITizens can never get enough of spending time with their peers, so it was only natural that Beers with Peers: Annual Alumni Beanfeast, held on 20 July 2018 at the Marina Mandarin, would turn out to be one of the most exciting nights of the year for SIT alumni.

During the evening's networking sessions, alumni mingled with their former professors, SIT Senior Management, current students as well as industry professionals who attended the event. Some 300 attendees also celebrated the graduation of SIT's first-ever graduates from the Sustainable Infrastructure Engineering (Land), and Information and Communications Technology degree programmes (Class of 2018).

This year's industry discussion panel explored the future of work through the topic, "How to Build an Invincible Career in the Artificial Intelligence (AI) Era?" The speakers were Mr Mark Lee, Chief Executive Officer, Sing Lun Holdings Pte

Ltd; Ms Angela Wu, First Vice President, Information Security & T&O Assurance, Group Technology & Operations, United Overseas Bank; Mr Wan Kwong Weng, Group Chief Corporate Officer and Group General Counsel, Mapletree Investments Pte Ltd; Mr Sim Guan Seng, Managing Partner, Baker Tilly TFW LLP; and Mr Julian Tan, Chief of Digital Business, Singapore Press Holdings.

With years of experience leading in diverse fields such as accountancy, property development, information security, digital media and apparel investment and manufacturing, they offered multi-faceted insights into how AI is transforming their respective industries and how it could affect young professionals. Adaptability and openness to changing one's method of work, for instance, would be key in a world where AI is able to change daily processes on a frequent basis. The ability to analyse complex patterns would also grow in importance, since AI is typically only able to deal with standard patterns or models of behaviour that it has been coded with.



Attendance for Beers with Peers 2018 more than doubled compared to last year's event.

Class of 2016 Aerospace Systems alumnus, Mr Wong Kai Xian, appreciated the chance to spend time with close friends and peers. "I think the event was a really great opportunity for the graduating students and alumni to come back and reconnect with the school, their peers and lecturers, and also to meet the leaders of their industries," he said. Kai Xian is currently working at Pratt & Whitney.

Year 3 Accountancy student, Ms Anne Wee, particularly enjoyed the panel discussion. "I liked networking with my seniors a lot, as well as learning more from the panellists and their considerations of where we as up-and-coming professionals are headed in the years to come," she said.



Mr Lim Wei Wei (left), Partner, Baker Tilly TFW LLP with Mr Matthew Teng, Executive Director, The Silent Foundation.



Mrs Margaret Lui (left), SIT Board of Trustees and Mr Sam Pang, Assistant General Manager at Samwoh Corporation before the start of the panel discussion.



Enjoying the lively panel discussion together were (from right) Mr Lim Peng Hun, Past President, Rotary Club of Bugis Junction (RCBJ); Ms Vanisa Lee; Dr Reto Callegari, Treasurer, RCBJ; and Class of 2016 alumnus and Rotary Club of Bugis Junction Outstanding Student Award recipient, Mr Wong Kai Xian.



Prof Tan Thiam Soon (left), President, SIT, thanking the guest speakers for sharing their valuable experience and insights.



(From left) Prof Tan Thiam Soon, President, SIT, chatting with Mr Soo Ye Wah, Executive Chairman, Dou Yee Enterprises (S) Pte Ltd, and Mr Su-Shiqin, Deputy General Manager, Dou Yee Technologies Pte Ltd.



Peers gathering around an international selection of beer, food and wine.



Alumni from the SIT Class of 2018 received a memento capturing memories of their journey together through the years.



Assoc Prof Malcolm Low Yoke Hean (third from left), Programme Director, SIT, catching up with former students.

# Bringing Up Excellence

Four new scholarships for academically promising students at SIT from Academic Year 2018/19, thanks to generous donors



Prof Tan Thiam Soon, President, SIT (fourth from right), and Dr Jeyatharan Kumarasamy, President, TUCSS (third from right), along with the Committee Members from TUCSS and SIT Senior Management at the signing ceremony and appreciation lunch for TUCSS.

Starting from this new Academic Year, students with good academic results can look forward to four new bond-free scholarships. All are non-bonded scholarships that have been made possible by generous gifts from SIT's donors – three of which are permanent scholarships as they are supported by endowed gifts.

Together, these four scholarships will support students from the full range of programmes at SIT, and can be used to cover their educational expenses, including their tuition fees and expenses for international programmes like regional study trips or Overseas Immersion Programmes.

The endowed **Mr & Mrs Ko Seng Gie Scholarship** will support three talented Singaporean students (with a preference for those from financially disadvantaged households) enrolled in any degree programme offered at SIT, each year and in perpetuity. The scholarship was made possible by Mr Ko Oen Tjiang in honour of his parents, the late Mr & Mrs Ko Seng Gie, and with the hope that the scholarship will have a positive impact on aspiring students from lower-income backgrounds.

The **Seagift Scholarship** is applicable to academically outstanding Singaporean students pursuing either a Chemical Engineering, Food Technology, or an

Accountancy degree. At least three scholarships will be awarded annually and in perpetuity. This scholarship has been made possible by an endowed gift from Seagift Food Pte Ltd, a frozen seafood business, which sources and supplies quality food products to various market segments.

Engineering students can also look forward to vying for the **TUCSS Engineering Scholarship**, made possible with an endowed gift by the Tunnelling and Underground Construction Society Singapore (TUCSS). This scholarship will support students pursuing a Civil Engineering or Sustainable Infrastructure Engineering (Land) degree programme at SIT. TUCSS was formed in 1998 to advance the standards of tunnelling and underground construction practice. The gift from TUCSS will support at least one scholarship each academic year (and two scholarships every alternate year) and in perpetuity.

Thanks to a term gift from Feng Ming Construction Pte Ltd, a civil engineering expert with nearly 30 years of experience in completing technically challenging projects, the **Feng Ming Scholarship** has been established at SIT. Applicable to first-year students, this scholarship will be awarded each academic year to nurture the next generation of leaders in the industry.



KKH and Wilmar scholars welcoming Mr Kuok Khoon Hong.



From left: Mr Tay Thiam Peng, Head, Special Projects, Wilmar International; Prof Tan Thiam Soon, President, SIT and Mr Kuok enjoying a lively chat together with the scholarship recipients.

# 84 Seeds for Change

*21 of SIT's 84 Wilmar and KKH Scholars get to meet the donor who made possible the scholarships that have changed their lives*

The KKH Scholarship and Wilmar Scholarship, two of the earliest non-bonded scholarships to be made available at SIT, have positively impacted a long line of SIT students from as far back as 2011.

In appreciation of the many doors the scholarships have opened for 84 scholarship recipients, SIT held an appreciation tea for the donors, Wilmar International and Mr Kuok Khoon Hong, on 8 August 2018 at the SIT@Dover Campus. The tea was hosted by Prof Tan Thiam Soon, President, SIT, and the afternoon's programme included a tour of the campus for the guests. Also present were 21 of the 84 KKH and Wilmar Scholars who received the scholarships from 2011 to 2017.

During the session, recipients met Mr Kuok, who is Chairman and CEO of Wilmar International, and thanked him for the support that had enabled them to pursue their aspirations. Several of the recipients are now working in occupations ranging from mechanical engineering and robotics to research in fields such as artificial intelligence, health sciences and food technology.

Mr Kuok in turn shared with them a wealth of insights gleaned from his years as an agribusiness leader. Chiefly, he advised them to use their free time in their youth to study topics in depth, as they would not have such ample time as they grew older. Using his in-depth understanding of grains, soybeans, and agriculture as illustrations, Mr Kuok explained how gaining deep knowledge and knowing realities of work done in factories and fields would give a person the "five per cent higher level of quality" that would give them an edge over competitors. He also encouraged the recipients to think about how their products or services could provide the widest commercial value to consumers.

Among the scholars at the appreciation was Class of 2017 alumnus, Mr Chew Kia Yong (Food & Human Nutrition programme, Newcastle University). A recipient of the KKH Scholarship, he went on to join Wilmar International as a Technical Service Executive after graduation. He said, "Mr Kuok conveyed to us the importance of seizing the right opportunity when we are presented with it. He recounted how, during a time when he was heavily involved in the wheat trade, he took the opportunity to do extensive hands-on work and grasp the industry know-how he possesses today."

Ms Michelle Tan, a Wilmar Scholar who is also from the Class of 2017, is now a Programme Coordinator at Singapore General Hospital who works on a research programme involving pre-diabetes patients. She said what stuck with her most was Mr Kuok's lifelong journey of continual innovation and of constantly finding ways to meet the needs of his consumers. "I felt privileged and honoured to be at the session and to hear him tell his story," she added.



KKH Scholarship and Wilmar Scholarship recipients, together with Prof Tan, Mr Kuok, Mr Tay, and SIT faculty and staff.

# Learning in a (Non) Destructive Environment

*A Sustainable Infrastructure Engineering (Land) student shares her IWSP experience in the Aerospace NDT industry*

Ms Denise Tong, 28, found a great start to an engineering career when she spent a year at SETSCO Services Pte Ltd as part of her Integrated Work Study Programme (IWSP). The company is one of Singapore's largest conducting aerospace Non-Destructive Testing (NDT) and inspection of aircraft components.

Denise's main duties were to assist NDT personnel in material testing methods, such as Penetrant Testing (PT), Magnetic Particle Testing (MT), and Radiography Testing (RT). "Some people feel that working in NDT means harsh working conditions, but I don't agree," says Denise. "There are always new things to learn as the procedures, components and environment change to suit requirements and specifications. Being able to constantly learn new things and challenge myself to do better the next day was what made it interesting for me."

Denise became a leader when she volunteered to guide polytechnic interns at SETSCO. She said it was tough at first, as she had to experiment with different teaching methods to adjust to the interns' different learning styles. "Plus, most of them started around the same time as me, so they didn't respect me much as a leader. It was only through doing tasks hands-on with them and even discussing their future with them, that I started to earn their respect," she added.

Her advice for juniors going for their IWSP? "Have initiative," Denise says. "Supervisors like it when you take initiative to contribute."

In my case, guiding the polytechnic interns wasn't part of my job at first, but I volunteered and it eventually became a regular thing." She added, "Don't be afraid to make mistakes. The important thing is admitting to your mistakes, and this way you show that you can be trusted. There was an incident where I knocked a dent into a part, so I had to tell my supervisor and ask for suggestions on how to mitigate the issue. If I'd covered up my mistake and the dented part had been sent to a customer, there would have been bigger consequences."

Having completed her Bachelor's Degree, Denise has returned to work full-time at SETSCO while pursuing a Master of Engineering Technology in Sustainable Infrastructure Engineering (Land) part-time.



Ms Denise Tong (centre) together with her colleagues at SETSCO. She now works in a different department in an effort to pick up new skills.

## Winning Big by Skill and Design

*Interior Design alumni and SIE students clinch multiple awards at prestigious competitions*



Design for 'MBC Buffet Lunch and Bar' by Mr Lee Liming (inset).

### Stellar Wins at Singapore Interior Design Awards

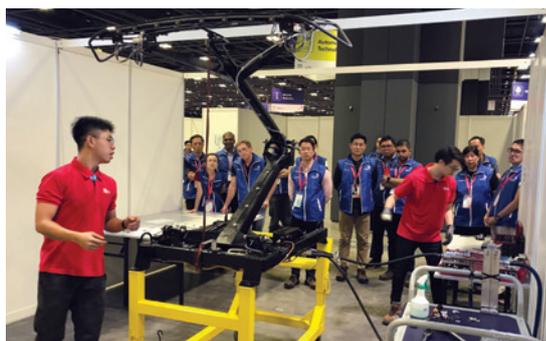
Two SIT-GSA alumni were among 33 designers honoured for their impressive entries at the second Singapore Interior Design Awards (SIDA) 2017, held in conjunction with Design Week 2018 earlier this year. Mr Lee Liming, 26, bagged a total of eight awards in multiple categories, including the SIDA concept 2017 Best of Best Award, given to "the most promising interior designer of the year." Sharing the spotlight was Mr Teo Tze Hau, 25, winning two awards for his futuristic residential design.

"Challenges are often opportunities to become better," said Mr Lee who is currently a designer at Orb Associates. "It was a surreal experience to hear the news of winning multiple awards."

### Celebrating Skills Mastery

First-year Sustainable Infrastructure Engineering students, Mr Lewis Tan and Mr Toh Shu Han, made SIT history when they became the first and only university students to take home a medal from the WorldSkills Singapore (WSS) 2018 competition. Competing with close to 250 participants from ITE, polytechnics and autonomous universities, the duo managed to win bronze in the Rapid Transit Systems category after an intensive 3-day competition, where they had to complete several tasks in three domain areas of maintenance works in rapid transit, namely Rolling Stock, Traction Power Supply and Signalling.

"The WSS experience has given me a better understanding of how railway engineering works, and fuelled my interest to join this sector," said Mr Tan. "It was also an excellent networking opportunity to get to know the people in this industry."



Mr Lewis Tan (left) and Mr Toh Shu Han (right), both in red shirts, working on the pantograph, an apparatus mounted on the roof of an electric train to collect power through contact with an overhead line. They found this to be the most challenging task during the competition.

# Building Life, the 'Cent-sible' way

SIT alumni beef up on family financial planning knowledge at a recent workshop organised by the SIT Alumni Career Network



Alumni enjoying an informative yet light-hearted financial planning session.

Keen on knowing more about their next phase of life together, SIT alumni and their partners attended the Financial Literacy Workshop: Starting a Family, held at Mecure Singapore Bugis hotel on 9 June 2018.

The workshop delved into indispensable knowledge on planning finances as a couple, budgeting for a first home, reviewing insurance plans and expenses related to having one's first child. It also went into details of key policies such as HDB housing grants, baby bonus schemes and different types of tax relief. It was organised by the SIT Alumni Career Network and facilitated by Ms Khor Ling Ling, an

experienced practitioner and advisor in the area of Compensations and Employee Benefits.

Ms Quan Yuan Ling, an alumna from the Bachelor in Science (Occupational Therapy) degree programme (Trinity College Dublin), attended the workshop with her fiancé, Mr Alan Leong.

"We are in the process of getting a house, getting married and setting up a family, hence this talk was timely," she shared. "The most useful takeaway was that it opened our communication channels to discuss our financial management as a couple and how to do it in a more organised manner."



Participants left armed with greater knowledge of financially sound planning for their future families.

## SIT Alumni Card Benefits

### BATTLESTRIKE

- 10% discount
- Additional 5% off if the session is conducted within SIT permitted premises
- Website: [www.battlestrike.com.sg](http://www.battlestrike.com.sg)
- Valid until 30 September 2018

### Crunchie Cookies

- \$2 off every \$30 spent for cookies
- Participating outlets: 321 Alexandra Road, Unit #01-01 Alexandra Central, Singapore 159971
- Valid until 1 October 2018

### Ethan Men

- 20% off total bill for regular-priced items
- Participating outlets: 333 Kreta Ayer Road #02-32 S (080333)
- Valid until 31 December 2019

### Floral Garage Singapore

- 10% off total bill at [www.floralgaragesg.com](http://www.floralgaragesg.com)
- Key in the code 'SIT010'

### Foodline

- \$30 cash rewards w/min spend of \$300 (All catering orders) with promo code "SITFL30"

- \$10 cash rewards on all cakes w/min spend of \$50 with promo code "SITFLC10"
- Order at [www.foodline.sg](http://www.foodline.sg)
- Valid until 30 June 2019

### Gifts Less Ordinary

- Key in the code 'SITU' at checkout to get 5% off total bill
- Order at [www.giftslessordinary.com/](http://www.giftslessordinary.com/)
- Valid until 31 October 2018

### Kitchen Capers

- 10% off bakeware tools/packaging needs/books/DVDs
- 5% off food/ingredients

### ShopBack

- \$10 Benefit
- Up to 18% cashback when shopping with selected partners
- Visit [www.shopback.sg/](http://www.shopback.sg/) for more details

### The Braces Practice Pte Ltd

- Promotional prices for different types of dental braces



- 1 consultation; 1 set of clean retainers; and pre/post-treatment X-rays, photographs and study models included at no additional cost
- Participating outlets: The Braces Practice [12A Lorong Mambong Holland Village (S277676)]
- Valid until 31 October 2018

\*Please present your SIT Alumni Card prior to making payment. Terms and conditions apply. Please refer to <http://sl.singaporetech.edu.sg/Welfare/SITreats.aspx> for detailed terms and conditions.

Presented by:  
Advancement & Alumni Division

The graphic features the year '2018' in large red numbers. The '0' is replaced by a golden disco ball, and the '2' has a black graduation cap on top. Below the year, the text 'New Alumni Welcome PARTY' is written in a mix of red and black fonts. 'New Alumni' is in red, 'Welcome' is in black, and 'PARTY' is in a very large, bold, black font.

# 2018 New Alumni Welcome PARTY

**Date:** Friday, 9 November 2018 | **Time:** 7.00 pm to 11.00 pm  
**Location:** Hard Rock Cafe (Orchard Rd)  
**Dresscode:** Smart Casual  
**Cost:** \$18 incl. GST (Dinner & beverages - soft drinks, beer, wine & spirits)

Contact Us:  
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