

## WHAT'S HAPPENING around our little big campus

Awards at BES 13<sup>th</sup> Scientific Meeting

SIT's New Through-Train Initiative for Polytechnic Students

Dragonboat Team Makes SIT Proud at the Prime Minister's Cup

Class of 2019 Graduates from GSofA and TUM

Encouraging STEM Interest through YouthMaker Programme

Hands-On Learning with Hands-Free Vehicle

First Gift for SIT's Future Punggol Campus

Thomson Shin Min Foundation's Steadfast Support for SIT Students

SITizens Journey with Rotary Club of Jurong Town

Faculty and Staff Change Lives with Giving

Alumni Pursue Passions with Support from SIT

Alumni Get Together at CheerS IT's Thursday... and Jump for the Captain's Ball

SITizen is a publication by the SIT Advancement & Alumni Division. For enquiries, please e-mail us at [Alumni@SingaporeTech.edu.sg](mailto:Alumni@SingaporeTech.edu.sg)  
© Singapore Institute of Technology 2019

Dear SIT Alumni,

## Onwards and Upwards!



Since our last issue, there has been a number of exciting updates at SIT. The university has received the very first gift in support of its new campus in Punggol, thanks to Ho Bee Land. In recognition of this philanthropic commitment, SIT has named its auditorium in Punggol (and at its interim campus in SIT@Dover) the Ho Bee Auditorium, which was unveiled in a naming ceremony on 1 July 2019.

Such acts of giving are helping to write the SIT story and shape the lives of its students. SIT's very own faculty and staff too are steadfastly supporting the SIT Bursary through the Faculty & Staff Giving (FSG) initiative. For the first time this year, FSG is also providing faculty and staff donors with a second option of supporting AdventureLearn, a holistic learning platform for students that is being developed.

In the meantime, SIT alumni are staying connected with one another and their alma mater, in a variety of settings – from making their own lip balm and scrubs in a workshop led by fellow SiTizen Ms Chew Jia Tian, to coming back to campus to play captain's ball, to kicking back and making new friends at CheerS IT's Thursday!

With a little support from SIT, alumni are also pursuing their passions. Ms Joey Lee presented her paper at the APacCHRIE & EuroCHRIE Joint Conference in Hong Kong. Together with some SIT students, two pairs of alumni did SIT proud at the Singapore National Tertiary Dance Championship and the World Inter-University Dance Challenge. Also flying the SIT flag high are undergraduates who bagged five awards between them at the Biomedical Engineering Society 13<sup>th</sup> Scientific Meeting.

All of these add to what is a very special year for SIT, which was honoured with a visit from President Halimah Yacob on 28 June 2019. She said in a Facebook post, "The students were motivated and enthusiastic, driven by their desire to create something that can improve people's lives. I am glad that the curriculum in SIT has enabled them to translate their knowledge and skills into tangible solutions to help our society and industries."

We hope you will enjoy reading this issue of SiTizen and do look out for the next issue, for reports on SIT's "5+5" celebrations. Should you wish to contribute a story, please drop us a line at [Alumni@SingaporeTech.edu.sg](mailto:Alumni@SingaporeTech.edu.sg).



Students from the Sustainable Infrastructure Engineering (Land) programme explaining how their Light Track Inspection Vehicle works to President Halimah Yacob (extreme right) and Prof Tan Thiam Soon, President, SIT (second from right). (Photo credit: Ministry of Communications and Information)



# SITizens Make their Mark at Biomedical Engineering Society 13<sup>th</sup> Scientific Meeting with Wins

*SIT students bag the Gold Award and Merit Award wins in the undergraduate category, along with the Silver and Bronze Awards for the IES Innovation Challenge for the Community*

On 18 May 2019, the Biomedical Engineering Society (BES) 13<sup>th</sup> Scientific Meeting was held in conjunction with IES Innovation Challenge for the Community at the Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT). Facilitating the sharing of biomedical engineering knowledge, the BES Scientific Meeting provides a platform for tertiary students to interact and learn from professionals and academics in the biomedical engineering industry.

Year 4 Food Technology undergraduate Ms Esther Ong clinched the Gold Award in the undergraduate category,

while Ms Isabel Ang from the Mechanical Design Engineering programme received the Silver Award in the IES Innovation Challenge for the Community, as well as a Merit award in the undergraduate category.

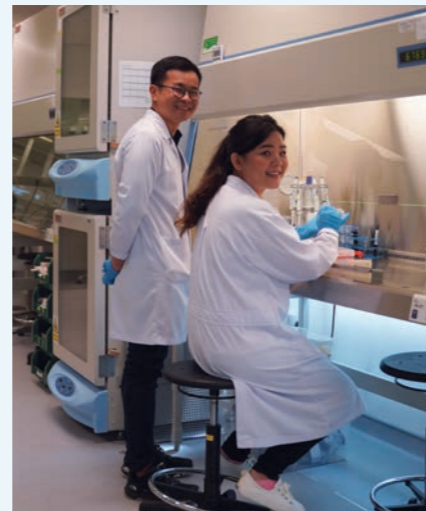
Receiving the Merit award in the undergraduate category as well as a Bronze in the IES Innovation Challenge for the Community is the team consisting of Ms Loh Hui Lin, Ms Seah Xin Hui, Ms Tan Kai Chin, Ms Cassandra Toh, and Ms Vivian Chua, all from the Food Technology programme.

## Gold for Bee Glue

A natural resinous mixture produced by honey bees, bee propolis acts as a sealant for the beehive, and functions as a protective barrier against external invaders, weathering threats, as well as viral and bacterial infection. Ms Esther Ong's curiosity about the antimicrobial capability of propolis led her to test out her hypothesis on a final-year project that aims to address the problem caused by rapid emergence of antibiotic resistant bacteria.

She screened a variety of commercial propolis from different geographical origins for their functionalities, and lab test results showed that all propolis samples possess antimicrobial potency. Ms Ong also discovered that Brazil propolis has the potential to complement or even replace conventional gold-standard antibiotics, paving the way for the application of propolis as a natural antibacterial agent.

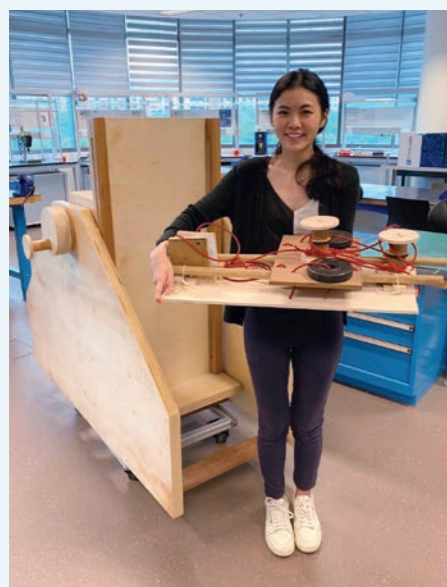
"The BES competition was an eye-opening experience as I had no biomedical background. It made me realise the importance of biomedical engineering in our lives and it should not stop here. We should look at leveraging natural resources such as propolis as healthcare remedies," she said.



With guidance from Asst Prof Lim Kaiyang, SIT (left), Ms Esther Ong won the Gold Award and \$150 cash prize for the undergraduate category at the BES 13<sup>th</sup> Scientific Meeting.

## Sustainable Innovation Wins Silver

Final-year Mechanical Design Engineering student Ms Isabel Ang impressed the judges with her purposeful and cost-effective solution to the challenges faced by a physiotherapy clinic serving children with cerebral palsy in a remote Cambodian village, due to a lack of funding and difficulty in acquiring high-tech treatment machines.



Devoid of motorised gadgetry, Ms Isabel Ang's tilt table is made with sustainable resources and aids blood circulation and improves overall bone density in cerebral palsy patients.

Ms Ang herself had seen how cerebral palsy patients struggle with everyday motor skills. "That spurred me on to find a potential solution that is accessible to remote villages in developing countries," she said.

She devised a tilt table design utilising sustainable resources like wood and bamboo poles to help blood circulation and improve overall bone density in cerebral palsy patients. She was guided by her Engineering professor and faculty from the Health and Social Sciences cluster, who shared with her valuable expertise on treatment and care pathways for cerebral palsy patients.

Despite the absence of motorised framework gadgetry usually found in tilt tables, her design does not compromise on the therapy required by cerebral palsy patients. Instead, it features a rotational crank which rotates the tilt table upright from a horizontal plane with the patient in a supine position, an additional set of structure to prevent overturning when a patient is placed on it, and a pulley system as a counterweight to prevent the machine from toppling over.

Said Assoc Prof Alfred Tan, Programme Director, SIT, "We are currently assessing if Isabel's prototype can be further refined and potentially replicated for implementation in Cambodia."

## 3D Printed Chicken Rice, Anyone?

For their final-year Product Development project, a team of Food Technology undergraduates, Ms Loh Hui Lin, Ms Seah Xin Hui, Ms Tan Kai Chin, Ms Cassandra Toh and Ms Vivian Chua came up with the idea to 3D print pureed chicken rice to improve the meal experience of seniors with chewing difficulties or dysphagia. With this, they hope to address complications that arise from dysphagia such as reduced food intake and lack of food variety and nutrients leading to loss of bone and muscle mass.

The project gave the students the experience of a comprehensive food product design process from surveying the needs of the elderly to generating product design as well as special packaging for the product. The purees and condiment are stored in a single perforated packaging which can be used as a refillable piping bag for the 3D printer cartridges. They even conducted sensory testing with the elderly in Fei Yue Retirees Centre to better understand their acceptance of this new idea.

Ms Loh said that the team is happy that their 3D printed chicken rice received positive feedback,



SITizens received the Merit award in the undergraduate category and the Bronze Award for the IES Innovation Challenge for the Community with their 3D Food Printing for the Elderly project.

especially when elderly with dysphagia do not experience the same joy that eating fundamentally brings to most people. "While we are excited to have come up with an innovative solution, what really matters is that we are potentially improving the nutrition and the eating experience for our seniors," she added.

## SIT's New Through-Train Initiative with Temasek Polytechnic

*The new integrated SkillsFuture Work-Study Degree pathway reflect SIT's commitment to nurture and develop industry-ready graduates*

Announced by Minister for Education Ong Ye Kung at a work-learn carnival at Nanyang Polytechnic on 12 July 2019, this new pathway is the first such programme that gives diploma students a guaranteed route to a degree, allowing them to achieve both their diploma and degree in a shorter time.

This tie-up by Temasek Polytechnic with the Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT) and Singapore University of Social Sciences aims to provide polytechnic students with an early exposure to university curriculum. Students will also embark on a longer period of engagement with companies, allowing them to contribute more effectively

to their workplace, and gain deeper industry knowledge in their chosen specialisations.

The pilot roll-out of this initiative in April 2020 will open to existing students of Temasek Polytechnic's Diploma in Mechatronics, who are keen to pursue the joint SIT-Newcastle University BEng (Hons) in Mechanical Design and Manufacturing Engineering programme.

Students will be selected for this scheme based on their academic performance and through interviews with the respective university and employer. They must also maintain an academic grade point average during their studies, to continue in the programme.



*Congratulations to Team SIT for achieving third place in the PM Cup!*

## Fighting To The Finish Line

***Dragonboat athletes make SIT proud at the Prime Minister's Cup, held in conjunction with the Singapore Dragon Boat Festival***

The Singapore Dragon Boat Festival (SDBF) was held on 13 and 14 July this year, where SIT's Dragonboat team participated in the Prime Minister's (PM) Cup 2019. This is the second year that SIT Dragonboat has participated in the PM Cup, and the Men's and Women's team managed to clinch 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> place respectively.

The PM Cup pits university teams against each other in a 1,000m race to the finish line, with this year's race being held at Bedok Reservoir. The team prepared for the race through land trainings at the Dover campus and Nanyang Polytechnic stadium, along with water trainings at Bedok Reservoir over the weekend. They alternated their trainings timeslots between morning and night.

Women's team captain Ms Rebecca Lee felt that the journey was made easier thanks to the dedication of the team. "We had an awesome group of ladies willing to sacrifice personal time, school work and family commitments to come down every training. It was an assurance to know that many of us are so motivated to fight in this team," she said. The women's team also participated in the SDBF 500m race and managed to clinch 3<sup>rd</sup> place, which has motivated them to work harder to achieve a podium finish for the PM Cup next year.

The men's team hit a milestone with their third place finish. "The feeling was so surreal, finally being on the podium able



*Besides the PM Cup 22-crew race, the women's team also participated in the Singapore Dragon Boat Festival's 12-crew women's race and managed to clinch third place.*



*The proud guys and gals of SIT Dragonboat plan to come back stronger and faster for the next race.*

to hold our school flag up high, making a name for ourselves," said men's team captain Mr Avery Joseph Goh. "It was a bittersweet moment knowing that we did it, but it was only third. But knowing that every individual in my team did their very best, that was enough for me."

# Ready For The Next Chapter

From June to July 2019, 216 students at SIT received their degrees in Communication Design, Interior Design, Chemical Engineering and Electrical Engineering & Information Technology

## The Glasgow School of Art Graduation Ceremony

24 June 2019



Two years of hard work culminate in this moment for the graduates, as they walk across the stage to be doffed by the cap and presented with the hood.

Sixty-eight Communication Design and 37 Interior Design students were presented with their degrees from The Glasgow School of Art (GSofA) in true Glaswegian tradition, complete with a ceremonial procession of academics to the dais led by Dr Matthias Hillner, Director of Programmes, GSofA Singapore, who was also the ceremonial mace-bearer. Held at SIT@Dover, the ceremony was attended by Mr Tsoi Mun Heng, Vice President (Planning), SIT.

Mr Tan Norman received the Best Overall Academic Achievement for Communication Design and Mr Marcus Choo Jun Fei was pleasantly surprised to hear that he had received the same award for the Interior Design Programme. "I only knew about it during the announcement of the award. Knowing that all my hard work and effort had finally paid off felt great, I hoped to make my family and friends proud. More importantly, I hope to prove that hard work and determination are the keys to success and I believe that my award is a testament to that," said Mr Choo.

The Leap Award went to Mr Don Anthony Torres and Mr Kingsley Koh Hao Jun from the Communication Design and Interior Design programme respectively. Mr Yeo Yu Xin (Communication Design) and Ms Chia Shu Hui Ferlyna (Interior Design) both received the Outstanding Contribution to Student Life Award.



Waving their degree scrolls in the air, these graduates are pumped to celebrate!

## Technical University of Munich Graduation 16 July 2019

The Technical University of Munich Graduation Ceremony 2019 took place at The Star Theatre, The Star Performing Arts Centre, marking the end of a chapter for 111 graduands from the Chemical Engineering (CE) and Electrical Engineering & Information Technology (EEIT) degree programmes.

The Guest of Honour for the ceremony was Prof Wolfgang A. Herrmann, President of Technical University of Munich (TUM). Prof Tan Thiam Soon, President, SIT, and Prof Loh Han Tong, Deputy President (Academic) & Provost, SIT, along with other SIT senior management also attended the ceremony.

Mr Sean Han Siwen was lauded as the valedictorian of the graduating class and was also the Best Student from the Chemical Engineering programme. "I'm elated that the effort placed on my studies has borne fruit, and I would like to thank my lecturers and fellow coursemates for making the journey a delightful one," he said.

Also receiving awards at the ceremony were Mr Ng Kai Xuan for the Best Student Award from the EEIT programme, and Mr Chua Wei Jun and Mr Nagamuthu Vignesh for Best Thesis Award from the CE and EEIT degree programmes respectively.



Valedictorian and Best Student Mr Sean Han Siwen, from the Chemical Engineering programme takes the stage to share how with perseverance, he and his university mates overcame the troubles faced during the course of their studies.



TUM graduates gather for a photo to commemorate this moment.



Student participants from Greendale Secondary School receiving their YouthMaker certificates from SIT.

## Bringing Out the Maker in a Student

*SIT's collaborative efforts with Greendale Secondary School encourage interest in STEM through the Youthmaker Programme*

As part of SIT's Punggol community outreach initiative, SIT has developed an eight-week long Youthmaker Programme in collaboration with Greendale Secondary School. The programme aims to engage and provide youth with the know-how to design and build prototypes of their designs at SIT's makerspace, SkillsCraft, located at Punggol 21 Community Club.

Since its inaugural workshop in April 2018, SkillsCraft has been a popular gathering place for Punggol residents to get creative by turning their ideas into reality, through tinkering and building tools that fulfil their specific needs.

The YouthMaker Programme leverages on SkillsCraft and is designed for aspiring youths who see themselves as change-makers with a sense of community purpose. In February 2019, 16 students from Greendale Secondary School attended the pilot programme that comprised workshops on 3D printing

and design thinking. Conducted by SIT faculty and mentored by SIT undergraduates, the secondary school students learnt new skills that enabled them to redesign everyday items.

These students were able to pitch the results of their learnings to the 7<sup>th</sup> International 3D Printing Competition organised by the Singapore Centre for 3D Printing (SC3DP). The student team redesigned an ordinary stationery holder and transformed it into a unique puzzle.

"Even though our submissions did not end up with any wins, the applied learning journey gave us an opportunity to explore and further our interest in science, technology, engineering and mathematics in a fun and engaging way beyond classroom settings," said Secondary Four student participant, Mr Javier Lee. "It allows me to work with different people who I don't usually work with."



The participants learn about 3D modelling at SkillsCraft, SIT's makerspace located at Punggol 21 Community Club.



The "Shuffle Puzzle" is a functional and decorative three-tier modular penholder, redesigned from an ordinary stationery holder by the Greendale Secondary student team.

# Hands-On Learning with a Hands-Free Vehicle

*The SIT Electronic Autonomous Driving (S.E.A.D.) Car is now used in lab sessions for Telematics (ITS Engineering) programme students*



*The S.E.A.D. car in action at the SIT@Dover campus.*

Students from the Telematics (Intelligent Transportation Systems Engineering) programme can now take advantage of a hands-on learning technology with the deployment of The SIT Electronic Autonomous Driving Car (or The S.E.A.D. Car in short) in the SIT@Dover campus from May 2019. This is the first such electronic autonomous vehicle (EAV) to be developed by SIT, in collaboration with SingPilot, a start-up focusing on autonomous driving system development.

What makes The S.E.A.D. Car especially unique is that SIT students also contributed to its development. Among these were Mr Alvin Lim, from the Systems Engineering (ElectroMechanical Systems) programme and Mr Boris Khoo from the Telematics programme who joined SingPilot during their Integrated Work Study Programme (IWSP). Both students helped to create a modular design for the EAV's vehicular controls. In addition, Ms Wang Xin from the Mechanical Design Engineering programme and Mr Benjamin Chu from the Mechatronics programme also worked with SingPilot for their Final Year Projects.

Mr Lim, who will graduate this year, even took the initiative to extend his time at SingPilot for another month because of his interest in the project. Joining the team as an Associate Engineer during his IWSP, Mr Lim helped to develop the prototype for vehicular controls and brake functions that was eventually

used in the actual design. "Instead of being treated like a normal student, I was viewed as an important team member, who was given the important responsibility of making a decisions in some of the design and technology selection for the prototype. This was a challenging yet inspiring experience for me," he said.

The S.E.A.D. Car is used in modules which focus on system and software, sensors and control, inter-car connectivity, automotive electronics, and other intelligent automotive systems-related subjects, thus enhancing students' understanding and capabilities in the autonomous driving domain.



*Mr Dan Chia, Senior Lecturer, SIT, gives a briefing to Telematics students about the EAV functions.*

# SIT's Future Punggol Campus Gets its First Gift

Generous giving from Ho Bee Land also supports a scholarship



Dr Chua Thian Poh, Chairman & CEO, Ho Bee Land, (third from right) mingles with guests before the ceremony begins.

Ho Bee Land has made endowed gifts of \$3.25 million to the Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT), marking the very first time the University has received philanthropic support for its future campus in Punggol. In recognition of this commitment, SIT has named the auditorium at its future campus in Punggol, as well as its interim campus in SIT@Dover, the Ho Bee Auditorium.

The Ho Bee Auditorium at SIT@Dover was unveiled at a naming ceremony for the auditorium and appreciation lunch for Ho Bee Land. Held on 1 July 2019, it was attended by Dr Chua Thian Poh, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Ho Bee Land, and Guest-of-Honour, Mr Ong Ye Kung, Minister for Education.

Expressing his appreciation, Prof Tan Thiam Soon, President, SIT, said, "SIT is honoured by the firm support from Ho Bee Land – a Singaporean company with a global outlook, and a name that is associated with both quality and sustainability – the very same outcomes that we are also keen to achieve. Thank you for taking the lead to support SIT and our students at this point of our journey, as our young university leaps forward into its second decade."

Headquartered in Singapore, Ho Bee Land is a real estate development and investment company with a portfolio that covers many quality residential, commercial and high-tech industrial projects since its establishment in 1987.

In his remarks, Dr Chua said that the approach taken by SIT as Singapore's university of applied learning resonates with Ho Bee Land. He added, "We believe a good education helps open doors to many opportunities. It helps nurture the next generation of leaders and professionals. We also hope that it will help impart to them the good values of giving back to the community."

Ho Bee Land's philanthropy has also made possible the Ho Bee Scholarship to nurture academically promising undergraduates from nine degree programmes at SIT (ranging from Engineering to Information and Communications Technology to Interior Design).

Mr Tan Kah Wei is one of the first to receive the Ho Bee Scholarship at SIT. The second-year student from the Information and Communications Technology (Information Security) programme said the Ho Bee Scholarship has allowed him to better envision his future. He added, "I hope to be able to use my professional IT knowledge to mentor the young as well as help the elderly who are less tech-savvy, so that they know how to protect themselves from data breaches and security threats."

Located in a standalone building by the waterfront, the Ho Bee Auditorium will be

part of the teaching facilities in the Punggol campus, with function areas that enjoy unobstructed views of Serangoon Reservoir and Coney Island. It will also have the capacity to host key national and university events. SIT's Punggol campus will be part of the nation's new Punggol Digital District.



(From left) Ms Low Yen Ling, Senior Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Education & Ministry of Manpower; Dr Chua Thian Poh, Chairman & CEO, Ho Bee Land; Prof Tan Thiam Soon, President, SIT; Mr Sam Tan, Minister of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Ministry of Social and Family Development; Mr Nicholas Chua, Deputy CEO, Ho Bee Land; Mr Seow Choke Meng, Independent Director, Ho Bee Land; and Mr Ng Yat Chung, Chairman, Board of Trustees, SIT.



Speaking off the cuff, Mr Ong Ye Kung, Minister for Education, thanked Dr Chua Thian Poh and Ho Bee Land for this leadership gift that supports SIT's future campus in Punggol and its students. He made a light-hearted appeal to guests at the appreciation lunch to also support SIT.



The event took place at the foyer of the auditorium at SIT@Dover.



Ho Bee Land's Board of Directors together with (second from left) Senior Parliamentary Secretary Low Yen Ling, Prof Tan Thiam Soon, Mrs Doris Chua, Dr Chua Thian Poh, Minister Ong Ye Kung, Mr Ng Yat Chung and Minister of State Sam Tan.



Mr Ng Yat Chung, Chairman, Board of Trustees, SIT, (left) presents a token of appreciation from SIT to Dr Chua Thian Poh, Chairman & CEO, Ho Bee Land.



An energetic performance from SIT's Wushu Club greeted guests at the start of the ceremony.



Ho Bee Scholarship recipients, Mr Tan Kah Wei (left) and Ms Lau En Bei, who was on her compulsory Overseas Immersion Programme in Glasgow, expressed their thanks to Ho Bee Land in their own special way. Ms Lau sketched and built a model of the future auditorium whereas Mr Tan designed an interactive platform which can be displayed at the future auditorium.

## Steadfast Philanthropic Support from the Thomson Shin Min Foundation

Since 2015, the Thomson Shin Min Foundation has been supporting students at SIT with annual donations to build up an endowed bursary fund. This year, the Foundation made an additional endowed gift, which will allow a greater number of students to be empowered by the Thomson Shin Min Foundation Bursary in the years ahead and in perpetuity.

One of the first-ever recipients of the Bursary is Academic Year 2018/19 recipient Mr Chua Chiang Yuen, a Bachelor of Accountancy with Honours student. Mr Chua feels grateful that the Bursary has helped lift his financial burden. "I am honoured to have received the Bursary as it has lessened my difficulties in paying for my tuition fees," he said, adding that it also gave him more time to focus on studies and participate in co-curricular activities. Fellow recipient and Bachelor of Engineering with Honours in Telematics (Intelligent Transportation Systems Engineering) student Ms Nurhidayah Bte Abdul Rashid said, "Being awarded this Bursary

has allowed me to pursue my education in SIT with ease. I consider myself lucky as it alleviates my financial worries and allows me to fully focus on my academics."



Dr Leong Horn Kee (right), Advisor, Thomson Shin Min Foundation, presenting a cheque for the gift to Ms Soh Pe Wen, Assistant Manager, Advancement and Alumni, SIT. Behind them are Mr Lim Lam Heng, Director, (left) and Mr Philip Tan, Executive Director, Thomson Shin Min Foundation.

## SITizens Journeying Together with RCJT



SIT staff and SITizens with members of the Rotary Club of Jurong Town, Singapore.

On 23 July 2019, two alumni and a graduand from SIT's nursing degree programmes met with members of the Rotary Club of Jurong Town, Singapore (RCJT) for a lunch and catch-up session. RCJT has strongly supported nursing programmes in SIT since 2014, first with a term gift for the Rotary Club of Jurong Town Book Prize in Care Pathways for Long-Term Conditions, and later with the endowed Rotary Club of Jurong Town Book Prize in Intermediate & Long Term Care and the endowed Rotary Club of Jurong Town Bursary.

The award recipients each shared how RCJT's philanthropy had positively impacted their lives over the years. Mr Muhd Izzulwan Bin Ahmad Salleh, who received an RCJT book prize in Academic Year (AY) 2014/15, spoke

of his work in Changi General Hospital's high dependency and acute stroke unit, and how he was now getting more involved in meaningful projects at the hospital. AY 2017/18 Bursary recipient, Ms Evelyn Chua, talked about her recently completed graduation thesis on burnout and compassion fatigue among nurses.

Ms An Xin Yun, an AY 2018/19 Bursary recipient and graduate, recounted her tough start at SIT. "I'm actually working as a nurse and I'm proud to say that it's been my dream job since I was young. During my days in SIT Nursing, I actually had to work three part-time jobs to pay for my school fees. Although I did work for a year in a government hospital to save funds, it still wasn't enough," she said, sharing that she had to give up CCAs, community service and personal time in order to cope. Receiving the Bursary however, helped her to find balance in her life. "It lessened my load in the sense that I didn't have to focus on financial issues and could continue to do what I like, and on top of that, striving and helping others meet their needs." She concluded by thanking RCJT for enabling her to make a difference in others' lives through her dream job today.





SIT Bursary recipients came down to thank faculty and staff and share how the bursary has helped them in their academic journey in SIT.



Participants were treated to coconut ice cream, as well as Ramly burgers and iced coffee.

## Changing Lives with the Act of Giving

Last year, employees at the Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT) raised more than \$73,000 through the Faculty & Staff Giving (FSG) initiative, which allows faculty and staff to offer financial support to students and student-centric initiatives at SIT. Together, their collective giving made possible 24 SIT Bursaries for Academic Year 2018/19, which were awarded to financially disadvantaged students at SIT.

To celebrate the impact of this giving, the FSG Roadshow was held on 20 June 2019 at SIT@Dover campus. Participants enjoyed a light lunch of Ramly burgers, coconut ice cream and iced coffee. They also had a chance to chat with SIT Bursary recipients, who were there to share more on what receiving the Bursary meant to them.

This year, SIT employees have a new option to direct their contributions to the AdventureLearn development fund. Introduced at the FSG Roadshow, AdventureLearn is a new holistic student development platform that, once completed, will enable students to learn better by helping them understand their personal learning style and characteristics.

Mr Lim Shao Ming from SIT's Human Resources Division gave to both the SIT Bursary and AdventureLearn. He hopes his gift will play a small part in aiding the development of students. "Having been a full-time student myself, I know the tremendous pressure students can feel from examinations or project deadlines. The last thing they would want is to add on to their stress with financial worries. I hope the SIT Bursary and AdventureLearn would seamlessly complement each other in helping to provide a supportive, fun-filled learning environment for our students."

*SIT employees come together at the Faculty & Staff Giving Roadshow to celebrate the value of giving, and support the new AdventureLearn programme*

SIT Bursary recipient and Food Technology student, Mr Quek Xing Yu said the bursary is "a great blessing" as his father is suffering from multiple myeloma and cannot work for extended periods. "The bursary helps greatly in allowing me to focus on taking care of my father and finishing my assignments. I am truly grateful to those who have contributed, and have helped change my life with that act of giving," he said.



Assoc Prof Ivan Lee (far left), Vice President (Industry & Community), SIT; Assoc Prof May Lim (first row, second from right), Director, CoLEAD, SIT; and staff from CoLEAD. The CoLEAD team spent the afternoon spreading the word about AdventureLearn, a new holistic student development platform that is attracting support from SIT's faculty and staff.



Faculty and staff from across SIT gave a strong show of support at the Faculty & Staff Giving roadshow. Left photo: SIT staff getting to know the SIT Bursary recipients.



The CoLEAD team explains the features of AdventureLearn to faculty and staff.

# A Little Support Goes a Long Way

*The saying 'Once a SITizen, Always a SITizen' holds true. Alumni pursue their interests with a bit of help from their alma mater*

## Representing SIT Beyond Our Shores

When Ms Joey Lee, a Hospitality Business alumnus, heard about the 2019 APacCHRIE & EuroCHRIE Joint Conference happening in Hong Kong in May 2019, her interest was piqued. Ms Lee hungered to learn from educators and industry practitioners from the hospitality, food service and tourism fields in Asia Pacific, and she wanted to attend the conference to gain exposure and meet new people in the process.



Ms Joey Lee presented her capstone topic "Millennial Retention in MICE Companies" under the Employee Retention; Hospitality Internship segment at the 2019 APacCHRIE & EuroCHRIE Joint Conference.



Ms Joey Lee (right) and fellow Hospitality Business alumnus, Ms Eon Yang, were both representing SIT at The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, where the conference was held.

"My professor told me to reach out to SIT's Advancement & Alumni Division for funding, so I thought I would try to get some assistance," said Ms Lee. With SIT supporting her trip, she submitted her paper for the conference and she was both happy and excited when she found out that her paper on "Millennial Retention in MICE Companies" was selected for the stand-up presentation. She even managed to squeeze in a spot of sight-seeing at Victoria Harbour!

## Dancing as One SIT Ballroom

As a student, Hospitality Business alumnus Mr Skye Tan was a founder of the student club SIT Ballroom, and he also lent a hand at alumni events. These two passions came together when he decided to take part in the Singapore National Tertiary Dance Championship (SNTDC) and World Inter-University Dance Challenge (WIUDC) 2019 that took place in April 2019 as an alumnus. Having been motivated by the camaraderie he experienced at SIT Ballroom as a student, he wanted to continue being a part of SIT Ballroom and – together with students and other alumni – improve SIT's overall ranking in the competition to bring home the championship title.

He then recalled SIT's Advancement & Alumni Division's initiatives to keep alumni connected, and reached out to SIT through the division for assistance to help cover the competition fees for two alumni dance couples in the competitions.



(From left) Ms Joanne Teh and Mr Skye Tan represented SIT in individual couple categories, team match as well as show dance, making the finals in two out of three events at SNTDC and WIUDC 2019.



Fellow alumni dance couple Mr Han Myo Thaw (left) and Ms Chong Qi also represented SIT Ballroom in the Open One Dance category for waltz and tango.

Alumni participation gave SIT Ballroom equal footing against the alumni teams of other institutes. With the financial strain reduced, the dancers could focus on training sessions and classes that they had further invested on.

"Facilitating our entries for the alumni team to compete made us feel that our efforts to represent the Institute was valued, even after graduation," said Mr Tan.

SIT Ballroom emerged overall as 1<sup>st</sup> Runner Up, a step above from last year's standing as 2<sup>nd</sup> Runner Up.



SITizens registering their attendance for SIT Alumni Leisure Network's Cheers IT's Thursday and ready to unwind after a hard day's work.



Alumni gleefully dishing delectable portions onto their plates.

# Cheers IT's Thursday!

*SITizens gather for a social event for a relaxing evening, sans the pressures of formal networking*

On 30 May 2019, 52 alumni turned up for Alumni Leisure Network's very first Cheers IT's Thursday (CheersSIT) gathering at Japanese gastrobar Kuro Izakaya. It provided them with the opportunity to reconnect with fellow alumni and to get to know new friends from different clusters over a buffet dinner and drinks in a cosy environment.

Ms Jolene Tan, who graduated from the Physiotherapy programme (Trinity College Dublin), came together with her university friend and now colleague after work. They took the opportunity to catch up as they seldom meet during work. When asked what was the highlight of the evening was, Ms Tan said, "Getting to know other people with unique careers and interests! I found out how a game designer has to do physics one day and work on animations the next." For Hospitality Business alum Mr Roy Lim, the key takeaway from the night was "Food, drinks and people – the only three things you need for a great event!"



Having a good time with old friends and new over a good meal.



Early birds settle down and pore over courses available via SITLearn that they can utilise their SITizens Learning Credits on.



(From left) Pioneer batchmates of SIT's Hospitality Business programme Mr Roy Lim, Ms Denise Lim and Mr Keith Tan huddle together for a quick photo.

# Hydrate & Exfoliate The Natural Way

SITizens learn how to treat their skin right with natural ingredients at the Lip Balm & Salt Scrub Workshop organised by the SIT Alumni Leisure Network



## Step 1

Melt down the ingredients before pouring them into small containers to form the lip balms!



## Step 2

Choose from a variety of natural ingredients and additives to concoct your personalised products. Some of the ingredients seen here are turmeric powder, mint leaves, and oats.



## Step 3

Customise your packaging with brightly-patterned strings and washi tape to make it look cute and pretty!

On Saturday, 29 July 2019, room2F at Esplanade Mall was filled with strong citrusy scents as SIT alumni chose from a range of essential oils to customise their own personalised products at the Lip Balm & Salt Scrub Workshop. The workshop was led by Ms Chew Jia Tian, a Nursing Practice programme alumnus and founder of Rough Beauty, which produces handcrafted bath and body products. She had also previously led a soap-crafting workshop for alumni in June 2017.

The participants began making their own lip balm by melting cocoa butter and beeswax in a pot, then added a few drops of olive oil infused with alkanet root for some natural red colouring. They could also take their pick from a variety of essential oils to produce scents such as lavender, peppermint and grapefruit.

Next, they mixed Australian sea salt with a variety of ingredients to produce a natural salt scrub, which can be used for exfoliation of your skin on your face and body. These included natural additives such as charcoal powder, French green clay, spirulina, and even turmeric powder.

Mr Jason Chan, who graduated from University of Glasgow's Aerospace Engineering programme, has been using the lip balm he made himself. "I enjoyed the hands-on experience of making lip balm. It's not something I would normally use or purchase, but I feel it helps with dry or cracked lips," he said.

Ms Zoey Tan, who graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Education and now works as a childcare teacher, intends to share the experience together with her students. "Our school has a charity carnival where the children sell items they have made to guests, and the profits will go to an elderly home," she explained. "I will be making lip balms and bath salts with them to sell at the carnival."



Happy alumni after a fun and exhilarating game, together with SIT staff.

# Jump to the Captain's Ball!

Alumni let off some steam with a fun and friendly game, the first of many sports sessions to come



Energies are on high as the game gets into full swing.



The players pause in anticipation as they watch a crucial moment between catcher and defender.

Twenty-one alumni gathered at the Sports Hall at the SIT@Dover campus on Saturday, 1 June, splitting into teams of eight to play a friendly game of Captain's Ball. This was the first of a series of upcoming sports sessions, organised by the SIT Alumni Sports Network.

Ms Evania Wong, an alumna from the Food and Human Nutrition programme felt the session was the perfect opportunity to play a sport she has loved since young. "It was fun and engaging, and brought back memories from when I used to play," she said. "It was also a chance for a good workout, and we got to meet with other SIT alumni." Mr Lionel Ng, who graduated from the Mechanical Design and Manufacturing Engineering programme, is looking forward to more sessions in the future. "I definitely won't mind sports like bowling or rock climbing," he said.

The SIT Alumni Sports Network will be organising more of such games of various sports, so keep your eyes peeled for upcoming sessions!

## SIT Alumni Card Benefits



Scan for the latest merchant discounts available!



# 2019 New Alumni Welcome PARTY

**Date:** Friday, 1 November 2019  
**Time:** 6pm to 11pm  
**Venue:** Hard Rock Cafe (Orchard Road)  
**Dresscode:** Smart Casual

**Cost:** \$18 incl. GST  
(Dinner & Free flow of beverages  
- soft drinks, beer, wine & spirits)

Contact Us: [Alumni@SingaporeTech.edu.sg](mailto:Alumni@SingaporeTech.edu.sg)  
Tel: 6592 3314 | 6592 2129

Presented by:  
Advancement & Alumni Division



ALUMNI  
CAREER  
NETWORK

# LinkedIn 101



*Learn the basics that every  
working professional  
needs to know...*

Coming to SIT Alumni in December 2019!

Contact Us: [Alumni@SingaporeTech.edu.sg](mailto:Alumni@SingaporeTech.edu.sg) | Tel: 6592 2129 | 6592 2114

Presented by:  
Advancement & Alumni Division



ALUMNI  
LEISURE  
NETWORK

# LEATHER CRAFT WORKSHOP

FULLY SUBSCRIBED  
Look out for 2nd round!

**Date:** Saturday, 28 September 2019  
**Venue:** Bynd Artisan, Holland Village  
**Time:** 1.30pm to 5.00pm

Contact us: [Alumni@SingaporeTech.edu.sg](mailto:Alumni@SingaporeTech.edu.sg)  
6592 3314 / 6592 2129