

WHAT'S HAPPENING around our little big campus

Groundbreaking for SIT's Future Campus in Punggol

New Energy Efficiency Technology Centre at SIT

Graduations Galore

SIT Graduates Continue to be in Demand by Industry

Bursaries and Grants to Nurture SiTizens

Honouring Donors, Recognising Excellence

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Time Out for Futsal and Quality Leather Crafting

Always a Good Thai-ming for CheerSiT

Yaaam Seng to the Class of 2019

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For enquiries, please e-mail us at

Alumni@SingaporeTech.edu.sg

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Dear SIT Alumni,

"5+5" Good Years, and Many More to Come



The year 2019 was full of milestones for the Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT). We marked our '5+5' celebrations – celebrating the fifth year since becoming an Autonomous University (AU) in 2014, and also our first five years as an institute of higher learning.

The fifth Recognition of Excellence was also held this year on 30 October 2019 when performance awards and scholarships supported by SIT's philanthropic partners were presented to over 240 students in front of their loved ones. Most memorably, the students had the opportunity to thank and interact with their donors who had made possible the scholarships and awards.

Earlier in September, Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong officiated the groundbreaking ceremony of SIT's future campus in Punggol. Situated in the heart of the new Punggol Digital District, the campus (which is expected to be completed in 2023) will be integrated with industry and community to provide a vibrant applied learning environment for SIT students.

This year, SIT graduated a record number of more than 1,800 alumni including those in pioneer cohorts of 13 SIT-conferred and SIT-joint degree programmes. These new graduates join the ranks of what is now a 10,000-strong alumni family. They marked this rite of passage with a night at the New Alumni Welcome Party held on 1 November 2019.

SiTizens can not only look forward to good job prospects – as indicated in the latest results for the Graduate Employment Survey – but also mentoring opportunities with SIT's donors and friends. The second run of The SiTuation Room on 28 August 2019 provided a platform for Engineering alumni and students to have insightful conversations with experienced industry practitioners in a casual setting, prior to smaller group mentoring sessions.

SIT's alumni work hard but they also know how to play hard – together and at activities run by SIT Alumni Networks – at Futsal games, at the latest run of CheerS IT's Thursday (CheerSiT) and while learning a new skill at the Leather Craft Workshop that was fully subscribed within hours of registration opening. So do also look out for a whole slew of new workshops in the coming months!

As always, we hope you will enjoy reading this issue of SiTizen. Should you wish to contribute a story, please drop us a line at Alumni@SingaporeTech.edu.sg



SIT is Building a New Home!



SIT representatives explaining the key features of the future SIT campus to Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong (sixth from left), Singapore Cabinet ministers, and guests.

The Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT) kicked off the commencement of construction works for its centralised campus in Punggol with a groundbreaking ceremony on 10 September 2019, officiated by Guest of Honour, Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong. The campus, situated in the Punggol Digital District (PDD), will strengthen SIT's position as an industry-focused university of applied learning with close ties to the community.

Borderless and integrated with the surrounding community and industry, the centralised campus in Punggol will provide a vibrant learning environment which underpins SIT's applied learning pedagogy. Its location within the PDD,



Officiating the groundbreaking (from left): SIT alumnus Ms Ong Wen Hui; Prof Chua Kee Chaing, Senior Minister Teo Chee Hean; Mr Ng Yat Chung, Chairman, SIT; Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong; Prof Tan Thiam Soon; Minister Ong Ye Kung; Minister Ng Eng Hen; Senior Minister of State Janil Puthuchery; and SIT student Mr Muhammad Firdaus Bin Ayub.



PM Lee and Prof Tan together with student helpers and performers for the ceremony.

which is set to be a vibrant district housing key growth industries of the digital economy, will support students in finding authentic learning opportunities in industry spaces located within and beyond the campus, fostering exchange of ideas with industry professionals. The campus is envisioned as a 'living lab' that integrates applied research and innovation for SIT and its partners.

In his welcoming remarks, PM Lee spoke about the strong growth SIT had undergone in the past 10 years, and how it "offers a focused, applied, high quality education, directly relevant, and opening clear paths for further development." He said that its niche

SIT marked the next step towards its future campus in the Punggol district with a groundbreaking ceremony on 10 September 2019

offerings in areas such as sustainable infrastructure engineering, intelligent transportation engineering, and allied health were meeting industry needs for high skilled operational talent.

He also affirmed the important role that the upcoming campus would have in the future: "This new campus, in the heart of the Punggol Digital District, will strengthen the close nexus that SIT already has with industry. We hope to support an ecosystem for digital and tech companies here, to trial new concepts to work, study and live, before scaling them up nationally. By being co-located here, SIT faculty and students collaborate with industry professionals on projects and test-bedding opportunities."

During the ceremony, Prof Tan Thiam Soon, President, SIT, reiterated the university's mission: "SIT's role is to provide an applied learning pathway for young Singaporeans, in particular polytechnic graduates, to harness their aspirations. At steady state, SIT will have an annual intake of over 3,000 undergraduates and will play a key role in meeting the government's target of 40 per cent cohort participation rate by 2020."



Foreground, from left: Mr Choo Chong Ngen, Chairman, Worldwide Hotels and Dr Chua Thian Poh, Chairman & CEO, Ho Bee Land; accompanied by Prof Loh Han Tong, Deputy President (Technical Development), SIT for a tour of the model of the future SIT campus in Punggol.



Prof Tan (in red polo shirt) with (from left): Mr Philip Khoo, Managing Director, Kimly Construction; Dr Ho Nyok Yong, Chief Operating Officer, Samwoh Corporation; and Mr Eric Soh, Chief Executive Officer, Samwoh Corporation.



Mrs Pearlyn Chong, Managing Partner, Lo Hock Ling & Co (left); and Mr Chew Ghim Bok, Past District Governor, Rotary Club of Bugis Junction.



(From left): Prof Yaacob Ibrahim, Advisor, Office of the President, SIT, introduces Mr Patrick Lee, President, Yangzheng Foundation to Mr Rodger Kimpton, Past President, Rotary Club of Jurong Town.

Engineering the SITUation

SITizens get great career advice from industry veterans at The SITUation Room: Dialogue with Leaders for Engineering Professionals

On 28 August 2019, The SITUation Room returned for its second run, this time to spark a discussion between SITizens and Engineering professionals. Alumni and students from the Engineering cluster gathered at the SIT@Dover campus for a networking and dialogue session, speaking on the topic "Trends & Challenges in Engineering."

The main speakers for the evening were Mr Ivan Lim, General Manager (Specialised Vessels), Keppel Offshore & Marine and **Dr Kelvin Lee, Senior Technical Manager, Samwoh Innovation Centre Pte Ltd.** Climate change and



Besides advice on working in the industry, the panellists for the evening (from right), Dr Kelvin Lee and Mr Ivan Lim, also discussed issues such as climate change and sustainable construction. The dialogue was moderated by Prof Ng Siu Choon, Associate Provost (Students), SIT (left).

sustainability in the Engineering industry, and how to come up with solutions that resonate with people in the workplace were some of the issues that were discussed by the panel, with the other mentors also chiming in with their own perspectives.

For Year 2 Telematics (Intelligent Transportation Systems Engineering) student, Mr Soon Zeng Fu, a key takeaway was having to find the passion to keep you going throughout your career and how to constantly keep up with the times and skills to stay relevant. He said, "The discussion also made me think about the kind of values I would want to look out for in a company so that I can grow with the organisation."

The participants also had the valuable opportunity of networking with industry leaders and professionals from Applied Materials South East Asia Pte Ltd, CEI Limited, Changi Airport Group (Singapore) Pte Ltd, Dou Yee International Pte Ltd, GEO Energy Group, Land Transport Authority, and Rohde & Schwarz Asia Pte Ltd. Ms Jasmine Wee, who



SITizens took turns interacting with industry mentors in small groups before the dialogue session.



(From left) Dr Kelvin Goh, Deputy Director, Commuter & Road Infrastructure, Land Transport Authority; Mr Tung Kum Hon, CEO/Director, GEO Energy Group; Prof Ng Siu Choon, Associate Provost (Students), SIT; Mr Ivan Lim, General Manager (Specialised Vessels), Keppel Offshore & Marine; Prof Chua Kee Chaing, Deputy President (Academic) & Provost, SIT; Mr Ivan Lim, Senior Director (Systems), Rohde & Schwarz Asia Pte Ltd; Mr Soo Ye Wah, Group Executive Chairman, Dou Yee International Pte Ltd; **Dr Kelvin Lee, Senior Technical Manager, Samwoh Innovation Centre Pte Ltd**; Mr Koh Ming Sue, Managing Director, Engineering & Development, Changi Airport Group (Singapore) Pte Ltd; Ms Yvonne Lee, Senior Director, Global Manufacturing Operations, Applied Materials South East Asia Pte Ltd; Assoc Prof Lee Kwee Hiong, Cluster Director (Engineering), SIT.

is pursuing her Master of Engineering Technology in Sustainable Infrastructure Engineering (Building Services), said, "It is comforting to be able to get career advice and pose questions to experienced engineers that I would not be able to ask my own bosses." These seasoned industry practitioners are also part of a mentorship programme and they continued to mentor SITizens in sessions that took place in October and November. Mr Agus Tioman, Year 3 Civil Engineering student, joined two groups, mentored by Dr Kelvin Goh, Deputy Director of Commuter & Road Infrastructure at Land Transport Authority, and Er Wong Keam Tong, Director of Engineering at Woh Hup (Private) Ltd, respectively. "For undergraduates like me, there are a lot of concerns about job prospects and further education," he said. "Er Wong shared with us that there are still a lot of job opportunities out there, and as long as we have the right mindset, we don't need to worry."

Mr Malcom Kee, a Year 2 Systems Engineering (ElectroMechanical Systems) student, felt that the

setting allowed them to have a genuine and insightful conversation with their mentor about their experiences in Engineering. He is part of a group mentored by Mr Ivan Lim, Senior Director (Systems) at Rohde & Schwarz Asia Pte Ltd. "Mr Lim shared with us junior engineers his diverse experience in multiple Engineering fields. His Engineering story was inspiring and enlightening for us," he said.



Participants asked the panel many questions about working in the industry, such as how to stay relevant and keep the passion going throughout a long-term career.

Alumni and students enjoyed fruitful follow-up sessions where mentors such as Mr Ivan Lim (above photo, centre) and Er Wong Keam Tong (below photo, centre) shared their experiences and perspectives.