

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND OUR LITTLE BIG CAMPUS

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...Plus Reports on Our Award-Winning Students and More!

SITizen is a publication by the SIT Advancement & Alumni Division.  
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Dear SIT Alumni,

## Steady As It Goes...

*Full sail ahead as SIT unveils new degree offerings and initiatives to strengthen industry ties*

An air of excitement filled the SIT@Dover campus one January afternoon in 2015, as the students of Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT), along with its Senior Management, Staff and Faculty got prepared for a very important guest. Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong's first ever visit to Singapore's new Autonomous University saw him being updated on SIT's latest developments, touring the campus grounds and most memorably, engaging more than 40 student leaders (from both SIT and Overseas University Partners) in lively group discussions, much to their delight.

PM Lee's visit, no doubt the highlight of the New Year for SIT, came at a time as it continues to bolster its academic profile with five new applied degree programmes for Academic Year 2015/16:

- Master of Engineering Technology & Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) in Sustainable Infrastructure Engineering (Building Services)
- Bachelor of Engineering (with Honours) in Pharmaceutical Engineering
- Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) in Information and Communications Technology (Information Security)
- Bachelor of Hospitality Business (Honours) degree programmes
- Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) in Systems Engineering (ElectroMechanical Systems), a joint-degree programmed offered by SIT and DigiPen Institute of Technology

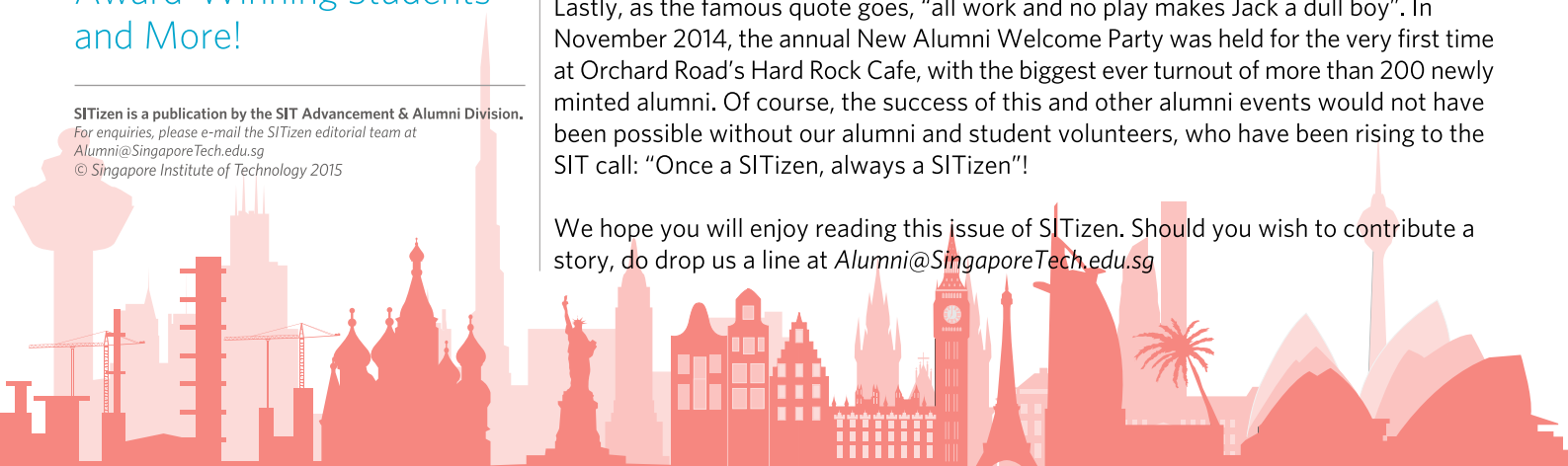
All five programmes place a strong emphasis on skills mastery through enhanced collaboration with industry partners, and feature the Integrated Work Study Programme (which ranges from eight to 12 months) as a core component of the curriculum.

SIT has also announced ambitious initiatives that further industry collaboration to enhance students' learning experiences, and as well as advance the development of innovative products and services within the industry. These come in the form of the new SIT Enterprise & Innovation Hub, and the signing of two Memorandums of Understanding, with the Association of Small and Medium Enterprises and the Singapore Manufacturing Federation.

As SIT makes headway and headlines, SITizens are doing their fair share too. In this issue, we bring you reports of Newcastle University students who won honours at the Security Awareness For Everyone Programme organised by the Ministry of Home Affairs. We are proud to feature University of Glasgow students who walked away with prizes from the Green Wave Environmental Care Competition organised by Sembcorp Marine.

Lastly, as the famous quote goes, "all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy". In November 2014, the annual New Alumni Welcome Party was held for the very first time at Orchard Road's Hard Rock Cafe, with the biggest ever turnout of more than 200 newly minted alumni. Of course, the success of this and other alumni events would not have been possible without our alumni and student volunteers, who have been rising to the SIT call: "Once a SITizen, always a SITizen"!

We hope you will enjoy reading 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)



# SIT Announces 5 New Degree Programmes

*New offerings place strong emphasis on skills mastery through enhanced collaboration with industry partners, with four of the five being the first of its kind by an Autonomous University in Singapore*



Full house for the talk on the Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) in Pharmaceutical Engineering degree programme, at the recent SIT Open House 2015.

The year 2015 promises to be an exciting one for the Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT), as it announces five new applied degree programmes, plus a slew of industry initiatives (see "SIT Open House 2015 Draws Thousands" on page 3 and "SIT Deepens Ties with Industry" on page 5).

These new programme offerings are: The Master of Engineering Technology & Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) in Sustainable Infrastructure Engineering (Building Services); Bachelor of Engineering (with Honours) in Pharmaceutical Engineering; Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) in Information and Communications Technology (Information Security); Bachelor of Hospitality Business (Honours) degree programmes and the Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) in Systems Engineering (ElectroMechanical Systems), a joint-degree programme offered by SIT and DigiPen Institute of Technology.

The first four are the first of its kind to be offered in an Autonomous University in Singapore. All five place a strong emphasis on skills mastery through enhanced collaboration with industry partners, and are aligned with the national SkillsFuture movement. All will also feature the Integrated Work Study Programme (IWSP) which ranges from eight to 12 months as a core component of the curriculum. The IWSP is customised for each degree programme according to industry needs, and encourages students to actively apply theoretical knowledge to solve problems in a real work environment.

Prof Tan Thiam Soon, President, SIT, said that as a pioneer university of applied learning in Singapore, SIT's goal is to develop innovation-driven students who can make real contributions to their industries, and have real impact on society as "best-in-class specialists". "The applied degree programmes are designed to prepare students for the workforce by bringing an innovative mind-set to the workplace. Thus, SIT's new applied degree programmes are closely linked to industry this demonstrates that we are pushing the envelope and reshaping Singapore's education landscape to one that is intertwined with industry," he also said.

Admissions for these programmes are open. The first intake will start classes in September 2015.



Potential students had the chance to speak with SIT's Programme Directors, such as Assoc Prof Jeanette Ng (left), to find out more about the degree programmes they were interested in.

# Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong Pays Inaugural Visit to SIT



Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT) hosted Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong during his inaugural visit to the University's SIT@Dover campus on 26 January 2015 where he was warmly welcomed by Senior Minister of State Indraneel Rajah, Ministry of Law and Ministry of Education (MOE), Prof Tan Thiam Soon, President, SIT, and members of the senior management from SIT and MOE.

The visit opened with a briefing by Prof Tan who updated PM Lee on developments within SIT including student enrolment and faculty hires, as well as the challenges faced by our distributed campus model. PM Lee went on to meet up with over 40 student leaders, comprising students from the Overseas University Partner programmes as well as SIT degree programmes, and engaged them in lively group discussions.

He was then taken on a short tour of the SIT@Dover campus, where he was shown

parts of the former Singapore University of Technology and Design facilities, which SIT will be taking over in February. PM Lee's visit culminated in a meet-and-greet session with more than 20 SIT faculty members at the Student Activities Centre.

Mr Ong Por Yee, who is reading SIT's Bachelor of Engineering with Honours in Information and Communications Technology (Software Engineering), found PM Lee "engaging". He said: "He definitely wanted to find out more about us. I feel that he is quite open and is definitely warmer in person compared to how he is usually portrayed in the media."

Mr Muhamad Fariz Bin Junaidi, who is reading a Bachelor of Arts with Honours

in Communication Design at The Glasgow School of Art Singapore, found PM Lee "down-to-earth and relatable". He added that he liked the way the Prime Minister injected humour into the sessions to make the students feel more at ease: "It was intimidating at first but he made it comfortable for us to approach him. His views were also helpful in clarifying whatever doubts we had."

During his visit, PM Lee was accompanied by a delegation comprising Ms Indraneel Rajah, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Law and Ministry of Education, and Ms Chan Lai Fung, Permanent Secretary (Education), MOE.

Continued from page 2:

# SIT Open House 2015 Draws Thousands



The SIT Open House 2015, held over the weekend of 17 to 18 January 2015 at Suntec Singapore Convention & Exhibition Centre, attracted more than 4,000 attendees who were keen to find out more about all 36 of SIT's various degree programme offering – especially the five new programmes that were being introduced for the Academic Year 2015/16 (see page 2, "5 New Degree Programmes for SIT").

One of them was Ms Nur Atiqah, who is pursuing a Diploma in Material Science at Singapore Polytechnic. She said, "I think this degree will add a lot of value to my skills," referring to the Bachelor of Engineering with Honours in Pharmaceutical Engineering programme.

Over the two days, there were not only Information Talks on the various degree programmes but also sharing sessions by the Career Services and Student Life Divisions. SITizens also had a chance to share their SIT experience and their involvement in



community projects. In the main exhibition area, alongside the booths, were performances by Muzeka, SIT's student band, and Soul Extreme, a student dance club. SIT's Aikido, Silat and Wushu practitioners also had the opportunity to showcase their talents.

Industry partners from the Centre for Strategic Infocomm Technologies, Jumbo Group of Restaurants, Keppel Offshore & Marine, MINDEF, MOH Holdings, and the Singapore Accountancy Commission were also present to share their scholarship and career opportunities.

SIT'S NEW OFFERING OF DEGREE PROGRAMMES			
Programme	Curriculum	Location	Industry Need
<b>MEngTech and BEng (Hons) Sustainable Infrastructure Engineering (Building Services)*</b>	Encompasses all necessary engineering disciplines required for the building services industries in Singapore. Programme will train graduates with specialisations in Efficient Energy Management, Heating, Ventilation and Air-Conditioning (HVAC), and Building Information Modelling (BIM).	SIT@Dover, SIT@SP Building	Need for manpower specialising in the integrated building management services, as Singapore targets to have 80% of all buildings Green Mark certified by 2030.
<b>BEng (Hons) Pharmaceutical Engineering*</b>	Interdisciplinary curriculum intersects engineering and science, with a strong industry focus. Aims to produce graduates competent in the development and manufacture of the two largest classes of pharmaceutical drugs – biologics and small molecule drugs, which are critically needed to support the growing pharmaceutical manufacturing sector in Singapore. Graduates can also contribute to other relevant industries such as chemicals, life science, nutraceutical (nutrition+pharmaceutical) and the flavours and fragrances sectors.	SIT@Dover	Sizeable number of new jobs in the pharmaceutical sector, a key pillar of the Singapore economy, which has set up nine world-class biologics manufacturing plants in Singapore.
<b>BEng (Hons) Information and Communications Technology (ICT) (Information Security)*</b>	It will allow students to make use of existing information security tools at a high level, and develop deep specialised knowledge and skills so that they can understand and appreciate the underlying working principles of information security tools, algorithms and technologies.	SIT@Dover	Growing demand for Information Security professionals to protect organisations from cyber threat, as more organisations rely on ICT to support their daily operations.
<b>B Hospitality Business (Hons)*</b>	Students will develop operational skills and be anchored in solid theoretical knowledge whilst acquiring strong cultural sensitivity and critical thinking skills required in the hospitality scene in Singapore. Students can expect to specialise in either of the following areas 'Hotels and Integrated Resorts'; 'MICE'; 'Sales and Marketing' or 'Financial Management and Real Estate Investment'.	SIT@RP Building	Major shortage in middle and upper-middle management employees in hospitality industry. Additional shortfall of about 3,000 such employees by 2017.
<b>BEng (Hons) in Systems Engineering (ElectroMechanical Systems) (SEEMS)</b>	A joint degree programme with DigiPen Institute of Technology (DigiPen), this is a multi-disciplinary programme which integrates Mechanical, Electrical/Electronic and Computer Engineering using Systems Engineering. The programme aims to develop Systems Engineers who are able to design and develop complex systems that can range from a mobile robot to a transportation system. It will tap on DigiPen's expertise in Computer Science and Computer Engineering, and SIT's expertise in various engineering domains.	SIT@Dover	Systems Engineers able to operate effectively in complex and interconnected environments needed, as Singapore develops more high value-added engineering activities.

\*The first such undergraduate programme in an Autonomous University in Singapore.

# Rite of Passage

Over 1,000 new graduates join the growing SIT Alumni family, a happy transition that is marked formally by the SIT Graduation Ceremony 2014



Graduates from Newcastle University show off their newly received SIT certificates.

Wednesday 26 November 2014 marked an important day for the Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT) – it being the day of the SIT Graduation Ceremony 2014 held specially for the cohort of more than 1,000 students from the following Overseas Universities (OU) partners: Trinity College Dublin, The University of Manchester, Wheelock College, The Glasgow School of Art, University of Glasgow, The Culinary Institute of America, Newcastle University, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Digipen Institute of Technology and Technical University of Munich.

Conducted over two sessions at Suntec Singapore Convention & Exhibition Centre, the graduands received their certificates and awards, in the presence of their friends and loved ones. The six graduate representatives at the morning and afternoon ceremonies

not only had the chance to address their own classmates, but also the students from the other OUs who attended the same ceremony.

One of them, Mr Saravanan Ngenasegaran, the Valedictorian from the University of Glasgow, spoke at the morning ceremony. “The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams,” he said, quoting Eleanor Roosevelt. “So as you step out to meet the world with your mind prepared and your skills tuned, I urge you to set your direction with a positive attitude and strong spirit,” he added.

Prof Tan Thiam Soon, President, SIT, who addressed both the morning and afternoon sessions, congratulated the newly-minted graduates and alumni and reminded them that they were all very much a part of the momentous occasion of SIT becoming Singapore’s new autonomous university in 2014, noting that “SIT is set to contribute to the transformation of Singapore and to her future” through a differentiated education pathway. He also urged them to continue to connect with and contribute back to SIT. “As a pioneer in SIT’s formative years, we value your feedback to improve on and build a bigger, better SIT for 2024,” he said.

Mr Ng Yat Chung, Chairman, Board of Trustees, SIT was the Guest-of-Honour for the morning ceremony, with Ms Rachel Eng Yaag Ngee, Member, Board of Trustees, SIT, gracing the afternoon ceremony as its Guest-of-Honour.



Hats off to all the award winners!

## List of Award Winners

### Choo Chiau Beng Outstanding Student Award in Naval Architecture

Chen Weida  
Newcastle University, Bachelor of Engineering with Honours in Naval Architecture

### Professor Wu Dao Quan (吴道全教授) Outstanding Engineering Student Award

Lee Zhang Pin  
University of Glasgow, Bachelor of Engineering with Honours in Mechanical Design Engineering

### Rykadan Hospitality Outstanding Student Award in Culinary Arts Management

Nazriah Abdul Latiff  
The Culinary Institute of America, Bachelor of Professional Studies in Culinary Arts Management

### Keppel Gold Medals

Tan Teck Hai Gabriel  
The Glasgow School of Art, Bachelor of Arts with Honours in Interior Design

Lee Zhang Pin  
University of Glasgow, Bachelor of Engineering with Honours in Mechanical Design Engineering

Wong Kok Leong  
University of Glasgow, Bachelor of Engineering with Honours in Mechatronics

See Chin Keong  
Newcastle University, Bachelor of Engineering with Honours in Mechanical Design and Manufacturing Engineering

Deddy Julyanto  
Newcastle University, Bachelor of Engineering with Honours in Marine Engineering

### Sembcorp Marine Gold Medal

John Ngiam Tee Xiong  
Newcastle University, Bachelor of Engineering with Honours in Offshore Engineering

### ST Engineering Gold Medal

Chen Weida  
Newcastle University, Bachelor of Engineering with Honours in Naval Architecture

### Conrad Centennial Singapore Book Prize in Contemporary Hospitality and Service Management

Lok Su Yi  
The Culinary Institute of America, Bachelor of Professional Studies in Culinary Arts Management

### Rotary Club of Jurong Town Book Prize in Care Pathways for Long-Term Conditions

Muhammad Izzulwan Bin Ahmad Salleh  
The University of Manchester, Bachelor of Science with Honours in Nursing Practice

### Sembcorp Marine Book Prizes Marine Engineering Design

Deddy Julyanto  
Newcastle University, Bachelor of Engineering with Honours in Marine Engineering

### Mathematical Modelling and Simulation 3N

Kho Hooi Liang Mikhail  
University of Glasgow, Bachelor of Engineering with Honours in Mechanical Design Engineering

### Naval Architecture II

Luong Kok Chong  
Newcastle University, Bachelor of Engineering with Honours in Offshore Engineering

### Project 4N

Tyfin Chng Zhi Kai  
University of Glasgow  
Bachelor of Engineering with Honours in Mechanical Design Engineering

### Ship Design

Chen Weida  
Newcastle University, Bachelor of Engineering with Honours in Naval Architecture

### Offshore Design

Ng Chee Aun  
Newcastle University, Bachelor of Engineering with Honours in Offshore Engineering

### Singapore Chemical Industry Council Book Prize Process Safety

Zhong Li Hao  
Newcastle University, Bachelor of Engineering with Honours in Chemical Engineering

# SIT Deepens Ties with Industry

*The new SIT Enterprise & Innovation Hub, and the signing of two Memorandums of Understanding - with the Association of Small and Medium Enterprises and the Singapore Manufacturing Federation - mark SIT's further collaboration with industry*

The Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT) has introduced ambitious initiatives designed to further industry collaboration to enhance the student's learning experience, and to advance the development of innovative products and services within the industry.

The newly-launched Enterprise & Innovation Hub (E&I Hub) will be the focal point for developing innovation-driven students, and it will serve as a partner in developing collaborative projects with the industry. A vibrant hub to engage directly with the industry, it is a place where students can develop critical learning skills to drive innovation in the work place.

The SIT E&I Hub will engage the industry to work on projects that enhance the value chain of relevant technology by drawing on the talent pool of students, faculty and professional officers to manage industry capstone projects, and projects arising from the Integrated Work Study Programme (IWSP), a unique feature of SIT degree programmes.

Two milestone Memorandums of Understanding have also been signed, with the Singapore Manufacturing Federation and the Association of Small and Medium Enterprises respectively (see side story "Working Hand in Hand with SMF and ASME").

Prof Tan Thiam Soon, President, SIT, said, "We are starting 2015 on a good note with five new applied degree programmes and many new, exciting industry initiatives. As we are still in our early years, this is an important time for us to build a solid foundation involving all our stakeholders - the students, industry, and the larger community. As our degree programmes are applied in nature, we are forging new collaborations to deepen our relationship with industry."



(From left) Mr Douglas Foo, SMF President, Mr Ng Cher Fong, Chief Executive of Singapore Workforce Development Agency and Prof Tan Thiam Soon, President, SIT at the SIT-SMF MOU Signing Ceremony in January 2015.

## Working Hand in Hand with SMF and ASME

On 30 January 2015, SIT signed a memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the **Singapore Manufacturing Federation (SMF)** to address the manufacturing industry's need to

overcome the existing manpower crunch, through the development of a sustainable workforce of innovation-driven graduates equipped to tackle productivity challenges.

Together, the two parties will identify gaps in national manpower skills in the manufacturing industry and to collaborate on productivity enhancement projects. SMF will also support SIT's IWSP by providing SIT students with IWSP opportunities in 10 companies under the SMF umbrella. In addition, SMF will offer 10 positions in its Business Immersion Programme for SIT students.

Prof Tan Thiam Soon, President, SIT, said, "SIT's partnership with SMF is a significant step for us to contribute towards Singapore's productivity needs and talent training," adding, "Our aim is not only to upgrade the knowledge and skills of our students and the manufacturing industry, but to also create a functioning ecosystem where SIT and industry can work symbiotically to achieve productivity gains and transform businesses. This is in line with the SkillsFuture national movement, which aims to develop an integrated system of education, training and career progression for all Singaporeans."

Mr Douglas Foo, SMF President, said SMF is pleased to play a part in the national SkillsFuture movement to train and develop talent for the manufacturing sector. He also said, "With a strong membership base, SMF can provide the necessary industry connection as well as experienced consultants and advisors who can work with the interns and the faculty members on projects in the companies. Through this MOU, we will facilitate better alignment of the supply of and demand for skills in the manufacturing sector, and will also help to draw in new talents to the industry."



(From left) Mr Kurt Wee, President, ASME, Mr Tan Kai Hoe, Chief Executive, SPRING Singapore, and Prof Tan Thiam Soon, President, SIT, at the landmark MOU signing ceremony between ASME and SIT in November 2014.

The MOU followed an earlier one signed in November 2014, with the **Association of Small and Medium Enterprises (ASME)**, to boost technology and management capabilities within Singapore's Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs).

This milestone agreement, Singapore's first broad university-industry partnership and part of SIT's inaugural Enterprise Nexus, will see the two parties working together on industry projects to create value to local SMEs through technology development and enterprise. SIT and ASME will also work closely to increase aptitude and skills training of SIT undergraduates and SME members. "SIT is privileged to work closely with ASME to boost productivity and create value innovatively within our local companies," said Prof Tan Thiam Soon. "There are great opportunities in Singapore's SMEs for us to tap on; whether it is to collaborate on the IWSP for our SIT students, or for SIT faculty and staff to advise on industry projects and develop training programmes for local companies."

Noting the significance of the MOU as ASME's first university-level collaboration in Singapore, Mr Kurt Wee, President of ASME, said, "I am glad that SIT is our first official tertiary partner to support the innovation for productivity improvements and business capabilities of local SMEs. SIT and ASME recognise the capabilities and resources that each party brings and our shared desire to work together in support of one another."

# Start of A New Journey

*With their new degrees in hand, students from SIT's Overseas University Partners NU and UNLV step out from their graduation ceremonies, all ready for the world*

**Newcastle University (NU)  
Congregation Ceremony  
7 November 2014**



*NU graduates at the Congregation Ceremony.*

The Newcastle University (NU) Congregation Ceremony took place on 7 November 2014 at the Nanyang Polytechnic Auditorium over two sessions. More than 26 awards were given out in addition to the degrees that were awarded to the 267 undergraduates.

The top awards presented at the ceremony were: the Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers Awards which went to Mr Deddy Julyanto (Top Overall Performance in Bachelor of Engineering (Hons) in Marine Engineering ), Mr John Ngiam Tee Xiong (Top Overall Performance in Bachelor of Engineering (Hons) in Offshore Engineering) and Mr Chen Weida (Top Overall Performance in Naval Architecture); the School of Chemical Engineering and Advanced Materials Prize which went to Mr Luke Li Qinghui (Top Overall Performance in Chemical Engineering Programme in Singapore); the Parsons Prize to Mr See Chin Keong from the Mechanical Design & Manufacturing Engineering programme, and the Best Student Performance Prize & Best Dissertation Prize went to Ms Yu Shaomei from the Food & Human Nutrition programme.

Mr Shaik Abdul Hafidz, who graduated from the Bachelor of Engineering (Hons) in Chemical Engineering programme, and Ms K Saraswathi, from the Bachelor of Science (Hons) in Food & Human Nutrition were the valedictorians for the morning and afternoon ceremony respectively.

"The journey we went through these two years has prepared us to overcome the challenges that we are going to face," said Mr Shaik Abdul Hafidz.

The Guest-of-Honour for the ceremony was Ms Judith Slater, Deputy High Commissioner and Director of Trade and Investment at British High Commission, Singapore, and the Presiding Officer was Prof Steve Homans, the Pro-Vice-Chancellor for the Faculty of Science, Agriculture and Engineering, NU.

**University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV)  
Commencement Ceremony 2015  
10 January 2015**



*Prof Stowe Shoemaker, Dean of William F. Harrah College of Hotel Administration, UNLV (middle), after the ceremony with two of the graduates.*

The University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) held its Commencement Ceremony 2015 for 286 graduands over two sessions at the Drama Centre of the National Library Building on 10 January 2015.

Prof Stowe Shoemaker, Dean of William F. Harrah College of Hotel Administration, UNLV, was the Guest-of Honour at the event.

Awards for Outstanding Graduates were presented in the morning ceremony to Mr Kelvin Ong, and Mr Pang Wei Rong who was also a Student Speaker for that session. Ms Rinawati, the Student Speaker for the afternoon ceremony and along with Mr Jayven Tan were acknowledged as Outstanding Graduates.

Mr Kelvin Ong, now a Management Associate with the Sentosa Leisure Group recalled how the Overseas Immersion Programme was a defining moment in his university life. He said of the five weeks spent in Las Vegas, "No amount of studies in class can truly equal the experiences that were gained during this period abroad."

# And Now, a Time for Thanks...

11 bursary recipients get to show their appreciation to donor Mr Choo Chong Ngen, at the first such event to be held on SIT's Dover home campus



**(Left)** Special Thanks: Bursary recipients with Mr Choo Chong Ngen, Chairman, Hotel 81, (sixth from right), his daughter Ms Carolyn Choo, Director, Hotel 81 (first from right), his son Mr Sean Choo, Deputy Director of Sales, Hotel 81 (seventh from right) and Prof Tan Thiam Soon, President, SIT (fifth from right). **(Top)** Heart To Hand: Bursary recipients Mr Wilson Tan (first from left) and Ms Kathleen Koh (second from right) presenting a hand-made token of appreciation from the students to Mr Choo Chong Ngen (second from left), as Prof Tan Thiam Soon looks on.

The SIT@Dover campus welcomed some rare guests on Wednesday 3 December 2014, when renowned hotelier Mr Choo Chong Ngen arrived with his family for a small but heartfelt appreciation event held in his honour.

Thanks to the endowed \$2 million gift that Mr Choo had made in late 2013 to make possible the **Hotel 81-Choo Chong Ngen Bursary** at the Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT), the University was able to award 12 bursaries to deserving students in financial need this academic year (AY 2014/15). From AY 2015/16 onwards, when the endowed Bursary fund reaches steady state, Mr Choo's generous gift will benefit as many as 30 students, annually and in perpetuity.

Prof Tan Thiam Soon, President, SIT, hosted the event along with SIT faculty and staff. Eleven of the Bursary's first 12 recipients were also present at the appreciation lunch.

Noting that Mr Choo's "transformative support" will be pivotal to the future success of many disadvantaged students at SIT, Prof Tan said, "To enable our students to transform their own future, and the future of their families and community through a quality university education that nurtures professionals as agents of change, this is what SIT believes in and works towards."

He added, "We wish to express our deepest appreciation to Mr Choo once again, for his trust and firm support, which will help SIT and its students realise this goal."

One of the Bursary recipients who spoke at the appreciation lunch was Mr Danial Azri Bin Ismail, a first year student from the Bachelor of Engineering with Honours in Mechatronics degree programme (University of Glasgow).

He said, "For myself and my fellow students who are present today, this Bursary has

freed us from constant financial worries so that we can concentrate on our studies."

He also shared that the Bursary was helping him in ways he would not have thought of. "Apart from the financial aid, it is also opening my eyes to the importance of giving back to the community, and what it means to help those who are in need of help. I deeply appreciate the support Mr Choo is giving me and I hope that, in the near future, I will be in a position to follow his example of supporting others in need, in any small way I can," he said.

**1)** Looking ahead: Prof Tan Thiam Soon takes Mr Choo Chong Ngen through our Dover campus - and SIT's endeavours to pioneer an applied learning pathway in higher education.

**2)** A Good Start: The appreciation event held at the Auditorium Foyer marked the first such event on the SIT@Dover campus.

**3)** Face to Face: Bursary recipient Mr Wilson Tan (left) with Mr Sean Choo.

**4)** Happy Visit: Prof Tan Thiam Soon (first from left) with Ms Carolyn Choo (middle) and Mr Choo Chong Ngen (right).





One thing's for sure, SiTizens never shy away from a photobooth.

# A Hard Night's Play

*SiTizens party the night away at the 2014 New Alumni Welcome Party, as the popular annual event makes its way to Hard Rock Cafe Singapore for the first time*

Two days after the SIT Graduation Ceremony 2014 on 26 November 2014, the graduates of the Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT) celebrated their newfound status as SIT alumni at the 2014 New Alumni Welcome Party, which was held on Friday, 28 November 2014 for the first time at Hard Rock Cafe (Orchard Road). The third and by far the biggest New Alumni Welcome Party so far, attracted over 200 newly-minted alumni, with SIT Senior Management, Faculty and Staff and representatives from the Overseas University Partners also gracing the exciting event.

Held every year in November, the annual party marks an important tradition in the life of a SiTizen – the transition from student to alumnus. Prof Tan Thiam Soon,

President, SIT, Mr Chan Wing Leong, Deputy President (Administration) and Chief Financial Officer, SIT, Prof Loh Han Tong, Vice-Provost, SIT, were also present to celebrate with the Class of 2014.

Prof Tan kicked off the evening with a toast to the alumni. Inviting them to the SIT@Dover campus, he also encouraged them to take an active part in the career, leisure and sports activities organised by three SIT Alumni Networks, through which they can build camaraderie and personal networks.

Among the highlights of the party were the various lucky draws conducted throughout the night and a show by Singapore's mentalist, Jeremy X, who wowed the crowd with his mind-boggling acts. The



3, 2, 1...Squeeze! One of the tricks from the mentalist had SiTizens playing Russian roulette with staple guns.

performances by three musical acts – the Hard Rock Cafe's Enigma, current members of Muzeka, the student band, as well as the alumni members of Muzeka (see story on The Alumni Music Makers of Muzeka) – all drew great cheers from the party-goers.

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1) Bottoms up! 2) Food and the company of friends – all these and more at the 2014 New Alumni Welcome Party. 3) The lucky winner who got to walk away with the much-coveted and awaited Apple iPhone6. 4) "Hey, we have a match!" One of the games had SiTizens find a matching half for the playing cards they received at the door.

## Presenting... the Alumni Music Makers of Muzeka!

In what has become an SIT tradition, alumni and student members of Muzeka, the SIT student club for musicians, would put up an annual performance at the New Alumni Welcome Party. The 2014 year-end party was no different.

That night, new graduates Ms Jessica Ng (second from left) and Mr Jeremy Ong (first from right) counted themselves among the six talented alumni music makers of the Muzeka band - which also included Mr Dominic Ho (The Glasgow School of Art, Communication Design) (first from left), Ms Deborah Fernando (University of Glasgow, Mechatronics) (second from right), Ms Ivoly Wan (The Glasgow School of Art, Communication Design) (not pictured) and Mr Lau Jun Liang (University of Glasgow, Mechanical Design Engineering) (not pictured) - who performed at the 2014 New Alumni Welcome Party.

Ms Ng and Mr Ong are among the pioneer members who formed Muzeka when they were students. Ms Ng was one of the



founders of the student club and its first President. She said, "I didn't want school to be just about studying; I wanted to gather together like-minded people who had a passion for music."

She started out on this musical journey with her classmates from The Glasgow School of Art, who were Communication Design Students like Mr Ong. What began as a group of less than 10 undergraduates grew to a recognised student club of about 35 students from the various degree programmes offered at SIT. They were subsequently split into six different smaller bands.

Said Mr Ong, "One of the most memorable moments for me was playing at AQUANOVA for the 2013 New Alumni Welcome Party. I think our hard work in the weeks leading up to the performance really paid off!" Ms Ng concurred, saying,

"It was a good experience to perform together, and it was nice to be praised by the in-house band at AQUANOVA."

Their last performance together at the 2014 New Alumni Welcome Party, too, received a rapturous reception from their fellow alumni.

Both Ms Ng and Mr Ong have since embarked on their respective careers. While they are finding it increasingly difficult to jam together with the other Muzeka alumni, they have plans to continue keeping music in their lives. Ms Ng uploads recordings to her Soundcloud (you can find her at <https://soundcloud.com/beeauteous>); while Mr Ng continues to play whenever he can, on his own time.

Play on, SIT alumni!

*Continued from page 8*

Ms Stephanie Poh, an alumnus from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, summed up the night as thus, "It was a fun-filled night with laughter, friends, great food, interesting activities and programme, as well as great prizes lined up throughout the night! My friends and I had so much fun and I believe the others enjoyed themselves as well!"



5) Dancing and rocking out to classic rock anthems. 6 & 7) Mr Aaron Tan (left) and Mr Cheong Jia Hui (right) were some of the alumni who took to the dance floor to show off their breaking moves much to the delight of their friends. 8) Tireless student volunteers for the night helped out at the registration desk and to distribute the Alumni cards.

# Engineering From the Ground Up

*Multiple award-winning NU alumnus Chen Weida tells what it's like to work in a shipyard as a Project Engineer*



“Very hot”, that is how Mr Chen Weida would describe his work environment in a nutshell. Mr Chen, 25, is a Project Engineer with Jurong Shipyard. He spends his

days co-ordinating the production of various structures at the shipyard.

A first-class honours graduate from Newcastle University's Bachelor of Engineering (Hons) in Naval Architecture, Mr Chen received three awards at the SIT Graduation Ceremony in November 2014 (see page 4, “Rite of Passage”): the Choo Chia Beng Outstanding Student Award

in Naval Architecture, the ST Engineering Gold Medal and the Sembcorp Marine Book Prize in Ship Design. “Receiving the awards was indeed a plus because I didn't think about actively pursuing them when I was studying,” he said.

Mr Chen felt after his ‘O’-Levels that a career in the sky or sea would be a challenge he was willing to take up. In the end, he decided to pursue a diploma in Marine & Offshore Technology which led him to pursue a degree at SIT as the two-year programme was very attractive to him.

Currently, as a Project Engineer, he is helping to produce living quarters – the crew's cabins, galley, mess room as well as the control room for the rig – on a Super Jackup rig used for offshore drilling. What's

most interesting for him is the challenge of encountering new things everyday such as problems at the work sites, or with ensuring that production schedules are kept to.

Mr Chen says of his new job, “The challenge is a very different one from school and it's much less stressful being a student. To me, it's a completely new experience and I have to learn many things from scratch.” He added, “My mentors are very helpful and willing to teach when I have questions.”

Even though Mr Chen's interest and training is in naval architecture, and he had planned to pursue a career in research and development in a ship design firm, he rethought this plan upon advice from his lecturer, Dr Arun Dev. “He told me that before I do any designing work, I should work in the production stage first so that when I am designing, I would have a better understanding of how the design elements would be fabricated.”

## Keeping Singapore SAFE!



Students from the Bachelor of Engineering (Hons) in Mechanical Design & Manufacturing Engineering from Newcastle University won Bronze and Merit prizes in the Security Awareness For Everyone (SAFE) Programme. Organised by the Ministry of Home Affairs, it is a competition where students submit ideas and innovations that address safety and security challenges in Singapore.

The Bronze prize-winning project was “Aerial Surveillance Autonomous Platform”, a quadcopter which aids enforcement work by surveying hard-to-reach forested or crowded areas. The team comprised Mr Kok Wai Geng, Mr Mohammad Izwan bin Ismail, Ms Surianah binte Sulaiman Sujai, Mr Philemon Chor and Mr Nadeen Abu Musawwir (pictured above from left to right, with one of their supervisors, Dr Ahmed Qureishi, third from left).

Receiving a Merit prize was the project “Mobile Screen for Traffic Operations”, a portable screen that can be assembled quickly to shield accident sites. The team comprised Ms Angelia Ang, Mr Koh Ih Chin, Mr Leong Wei Jian, Mr Ngu Jun Keat, and Ms Nurul Asyqah binte Roslan.

## Darting to the First 100 Days

As is tradition at The Glasgow School of Art (GSA), the first 100 days of an undergraduate's time is marked by an art give-away, and an art show. This year was no different with The Dart Show and The Dart Give-away, taking place on Friday 12 December 2014.

The give-away was held outside Plaza Singapura from as early as 7 am, with specially prepared artworks scattered for

the public to pick and keep. Later in the evening, the students' works were displayed at Canvas. Attendees were serenaded by GSA students who performed acoustic versions of the latest hits. Some also played tour guide, showing guests the art works on display, and explaining a bit more about the works, which were all done as part of their studies at the GSA.

Ms Jomanda Lau, who is pursuing a Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Communication Design degree, was one of those who had her work, entitled “Kahlo” on display. She said, “Having my work displayed at an art show was an honour for me. Moreover, it was a great deal to have buyers who wanted to purchase the work.”





## In Appreciation of Our Volunteers!

*Special dinner for students and alumni who help make SIT Alumni events a success*



*The volunteers with the SIT Alumni Team.*

The SIT Alumni Team played host to a very special group of people on Friday, 30 January 2015 at Cups N Canvas in Selegie Road. These were our alumni and graduating students whose volunteering has helped ensure the success of SIT Alumni events, such as the 2014 New Alumni Welcome Party and the various career, leisure and sports events organised by the respective SIT Alumni Networks over the past year.

The special dinner was held by the SIT Alumni Team as a gesture of appreciation for the volunteers – some of whom were actually

in the midst of completing their final-year projects.

The event also provided an opportunity for the 10 volunteers to get to know each other better, as some of them had not met before or had volunteered at different events. For example, Mr Stewart Lim, an alumnus who graduated in 2013 with BEng (Hons) Mechanical Design Engineering (University of Glasgow), got to meet with newer volunteers like Ms Kelly Han only at this dinner.

Ms Han, a graduating student from the Technical University of Munich's BSc Electrical Engineering & Information Technology degree programme, had helped out at the 2014 Alumni Welcome Party as well as the Alumni Booth at the SIT Graduation Ceremony. She said, "It a great experience having dinner with everyone at Cups N Canvas, and I definitely had a great time catching up with everyone!"



*Let's tuck in!*

Said Ms Ong Wen Hui, a graduating student from the BSc (Hons) Food & Human Nutrition (Newcastle University) degree programme, said, "I will strongly encourage my friends to volunteer at SIT alumni events!"

## SITizens Help Engineer the Green Wave



Students from the University of Glasgow (UoG) were part of the more than 1,000 participants of the Green Wave Environmental Care Competition organised by Sembcorp Marine, which is now in its 12th year.

Mr Lawrence Lau, from the Mechanical Design Engineering degree

programme, won the Second Prize for the Tertiary level, and was also awarded one of the prizes for "Best Presenter". His project, titled "Investigations of the effects of ultrasonic on midge larvae", focused on using ultrasonic technologies to halt the maturation of midge larvae, in order to find an environmentally friendly solution to control the midge larvae population.

A three-member team from UoG submitted a "Hybrid Power Bank" which received a Commendation Prize. The team was made up of Mr Divakar Umesh and Mr Ngo Qi Zhi (pictured above from left to right) from the Mechatronics programme and Mr Jeremy Seah, from the Mechanical Design Engineering programme. Mr Ngo also received an award for "Best Presenter". Their power bank would allow the user to make use of available solar energy, or to shake the electromagnetic generator to charge up the device.

## SIT Career Fair 2015



**Date:** Wednesday, 4 March 2015

**Time:** 12 – 6 pm

**Venue:** Suntec Convention & Exhibition Centre  
Level 3, Summit 1

The SIT Career Fair 2015 aims to help over 900 graduating students from the Engineering and Hospitality programmes to establish their presence amongst industry leaders. Students will have the opportunity to get first hand job information from potential employers.

Students can also gain insights into the industry culture and find out how industry professionals grow in their career through a sharing platform called 'Voices of Experience'.

To find out more, visit the website at [www.SingaporeTech.edu.sg/career-services/sit-career-fair](http://www.SingaporeTech.edu.sg/career-services/sit-career-fair)

Presented by:  
Advancement & Alumni Division



# AVENGERS

## AGE OF ULTRON

**Alumni Movie Night**  
Coming Soon In May 2015!

Presented by:  
Advancement & Alumni Division



# Tips on Managing Your Finances

Date: Saturday, 28 March 2015 • Venue: Hotel Jen (Orchardgateway) • Time: 10 am to 1 pm

Contact Us:  
SIT Advancement & Alumni Division  
6592 1137 / 6592 1094 • Alumni@SingaporeTech.edu.sg

10.00 am	Breakfast & Registration
10.30 am	Talk
11.30 am	Networking
1.00 pm	End of Event