

SP Alliance & Network

SP Alumni eNews

Nov 2023



**ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT:
MAKING HER MARK WITH
DESIGNS ON THE FUTURE**



Chua Xin Qian

Designer, Fellow Design

Diploma in Visual Communications and Media Design, 2016

CREATING ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES

A talented designer with a successful career in the creative industry, Chua Xin Qian is living her dream life today. Even as she continues to grow professionally, she never forgets the valuable lessons she gleaned from her days as a student in SP.

The Creative Spark

“I really wanted to make people cry or be mind-blown by the underlying message of an ad.”

An unusual quote from this young SP alumna, but it was the impetus for Xin Qian to begin her journey into the exciting world of advertising and design. At a young age, she found herself fascinated by emotionally charged films and impactful advertisements. Drawn to the power of storytelling, Xin Qian wondered if she could capture people’s attention and evoke strong emotions in just 30 seconds.

This desire to make an impact through her creations was what led her to take up SP’s Diploma in Visual Communications and Media Design.

“What caught my eye in the SP brochures were the words ‘Visual Communications’. I felt that the opportunity to convey my thoughts through a visual medium was very interesting and that it might lead to something I have always wanted to do, like designing advertising posters, or making videos.”

Honing Her Craft

During her time at SP, Xin Qian had the opportunity to travel to Hong Kong with the rest of her advertising class to work on a project. The project involved a collaboration with Greenpeace Hong Kong to address rising temperatures in the country. Xin Qian appreciated how the project allowed her to think like a local, brainstorm concepts, and pitch ideas like an actual creative agency. It was a challenging yet rewarding experience that expanded her horizons.

“Being able to visit a prestigious advertising agency overseas and see how they worked was very refreshing and inspiring. And pitching to a real client was scary but it was also very exciting.”

In addition to such memorable experiences, SP also taught Xin Qian crucial skills in creative thinking and problem-solving. She highlights the role of her lecturer, Jovan, in guiding and inspiring her. Jovan’s keen understanding

of the industry and emphasis on tackling creative briefs with a strong insight had a lasting impact on Xin Qian’s approach to her work, even to this day.

SP’s focus on group work and presentation skills further equipped her with the ability to articulate and map out her thoughts effectively.

“SP has this module called General Education, where we had to collaborate with schoolmates from different backgrounds on group work. This meant that students from the different schools, like Engineering, Sciences and us, all came together to work. For me, being able to lead my group projects, while still having fun in the process, really built up my confidence.”

After completing her diploma at SP, Xin Qian pursued a Bachelor’s degree in Design Communication Design at LASALLE. She found that SP had prepared her well for the transition, as she had already developed strong critical thinking skills and a structured approach to her work.

“All in all, SP helped me build a solid foundation right from the very beginning as a young creative honing my skills. It was what I relied on when I got into university, and what guided me when I entered the workforce.”

Designer by Design

Today, Xin Qian is realising her ambitions in the creative industry in her role as a Designer at Fellow Design. The job has its share of challenges, such as clients who are unwilling to take risks on work that is bold and different. But she is determined that she can eventually change that mindset someday, and doesn’t regret her career choice.

“Basically, it’s catching people’s eyeballs and playing with their emotions. Whether it’s a poster, a 15-second ad, or a website, when I know that it has engaged my audience, it sparks joy. The possibilities are endless.”

Visualising Success

Xin Qian advises future SP alumni in creative courses to embrace discomfort, challenge themselves, and prioritise personal growth by running self-initiated projects and creating their own opportunities. She also encourages them to seek inspiration beyond Pinterest, as it can often be found in various sources, including books, films, and conversations with people.

In the future, Xin Qian hopes to contribute to her alma mater by mentoring young creatives, conducting talks, or even teaching. She wants to share her experiences and inspire the next generation of designers.

When asked about her definition of success, Xin Qian offered an original quote: “Success is having the appetite to fail as many times as you can. It’s not a destination. So the more you fail, the closer you are to getting things right.”

With her inspiring attitude, natural confidence, and boundless creativity, there is no doubt that Xin Qian will be making a name for herself in the industry very soon.





SP Class of 1969 alumnus inspires with his love of lifelong learning

Tan Tiang Wang, 73, a Singapore Polytechnic alumnus who obtained his Diploma in Maritime Studies at SP in 1969, is now the Singapore University of Social Studies' (SUSS) oldest graduate, having graduated with a Bachelor in General Studies. Mr Tan shared that he realised he would have a lot of time on his hands after retiring, and thus decided to go back to the classroom. "All five of my children have university degrees, so this was a chance to continue learning," he said. After receiving his professional Diploma in Business from Temasek Polytechnic, he went on to pursue his bachelor's degree at SUSS. This proponent of lifelong learning is currently studying for his Graduate Diploma in Gerontology at SUSS, inspiring everyone with his story, and proving that no one is ever too old to learn something new.

Source: Shin Min Daily News, 10 Oct 2023

New centre aims to help students find employment

SP and the Singapore National Employers Federation (SNEF) are establishing a centre to help polytechnic and ITE students who are seeking employment opportunities. Set to launch by May 2024, the centre will offer exposure in 16 sectors, including manufacturing, precision engineering, and maritime. Minister of Education, Chan Chun Sing, witnessed the signing of the memorandum of understanding and launched SP's 70th-anniversary commemorative book. Minister Chan expressed his wish for more trade associations and chambers to establish offices in the polytechnics and ITEs, fostering deeper collaboration between industry and academia.



Source: Lianhe Zaobao, 31 Oct 2023

Singapore Polytechnic marks 70th anniversary with commemorative book

SP has launched a commemorative book to celebrate its 70th anniversary, titled "For All Ages, Singapore Polytechnic At Seventy." The book reflects SP's evolution over the past decade, emphasising its expanded role in training not only school-leavers but also working adults seeking reskilling. Within five years, SP has tripled the number of lecturers catering to adult learners, with 73% conducting lessons for them in 2021, up from 25% in 2016. The training hours for continuing education and training (CET) participants has also more than doubled to 2.13 million in 2021. SP Principal Soh Wai Wah noted the "major transformation" happening, as institutions of higher learning shifted towards serving working adults. Anticipating increased adult participation, he cited government support for Singaporeans holding publicly funded diplomas or higher qualification who are seeking help to obtain another subsidised diploma. SP also signed a memorandum of understanding with the Singapore National Employers Federation (SNEF) to set up the SP-SNEF centre in 2024, which aims to connect students, as well as mid-career switchers, with employers.



Source: The Straits Times, 31 Oct 2023



Lots of smiles and laughter when Applied Chemistry alumni got back together.

Applied Chemistry & Chemical Engineering Alumni Homecoming 2023

It was a joyful occasion when 119 alumni from Applied Chemistry and Chemical Engineering came back to campus for an evening to reminisce about their journey at SP together. In addition to catching up with each other, the alumni were also brought up to date with an organised tour of the facilities, the latest plans for current students, industry updates, as well as an insight to the opportunities they could explore with their alma mater. Based on the positive feedback, the School of Chemistry and Life Sciences is looking forward to organising more of such events next year, in conjunction with SP's 70th Anniversary.

Sustainability for Practitioners: Carbon Management and Strategies in Driving Net Zero



Class photo to commemorate the first-run of the course

The School of Chemical and Life Sciences had its first run of a new two-day short course on carbon management and strategies on 12th October 2023. Funded by SkillsFuture Singapore (SSG), this Continuing Education & Training (CET) certificate course is tailored for professionals who have an interest in topics such as greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory, and are looking to apply the knowledge to their own companies or organisations. The course provides valuable insights into the latest Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) developments, with a specific focus on GHG Scope classifications, as well as a look at Singapore's Green Economy initiative.

SP Alumni, Kent Lim, who is an Account Manager of Hewlett Packard Enterprise Singapore, said, "The comprehensive learning experience has deepened my understanding of carbon reporting and the vital importance of staying updated in this dynamic landscape."

If you are interested in taking part in the next session, please click [here](#) to register:

To sign up for the course &/or work with the School of Chemical & Life Sciences in areas such as student internship placement or projects (consultancy or student project), please write to CLS_alumni@sp.edu.sg.

The course provides a closer look at Singapore's Green Economy initiative.

On-Campus Privileges



SPORTS FACILITIES

Alumni access hours:

GYM@POOL

Weekdays : 12pm - 4pm | 6pm - 9pm

Saturday : 9am - 7pm

SWIMMING POOL

Weekdays : 9am - 4pm

Saturday : 4pm - 7pm

Please note your SP Alumni e-card and any form of identification is required for verification purposes. SP Sports Facilities may be closed due to curriculum or events without prior notice.



SP LIBRARY

SP Alumni eCard holder is entitled to 20% off annual library membership fees.

Library membership is required to enter SP Library.

[Click here](#) to find out more.

OPENING HOURS:

[Click here](#) for more information.



Let's Keep in Touch!

Stay notified on the latest alumni events by updating your particulars on the **SP Alumni Portal**.

[Click Here](#)

Off-Campus Privileges



ARTEA

10% discount

Terms and conditions apply



SINGAPORE POLYTECHNIC GRADUATES' GUILD

10% discount for ala-carte menu at SPGG F&B outlets (SPGG Coffee Hub & The Restaurant)

Terms and conditions apply



TUAN YUAN PORK RIBS SOUP

5% discount when you spend above \$50 before GST

Terms and conditions apply



CRISAL SEAFOOD

15% off on LACTOSEAFOOD

Terms and conditions apply



LOCKDOWN

10% off the usual retail price
1 pass for 1 gameroom discount

Terms and conditions apply



THE ESCAPE ARTIST

10% discount for the entire bill

Terms and conditions apply



THE KETTLE GOURMET

5% discount when you quote "HAPPY5"

Terms and conditions apply

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NEW AFFILIATED CLUB ✨ ✨ ✨

Orchid Country Club

📍 1 ORCHID CLUB ROAD, SINGAPORE 769162

SPGG
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CONNECT WITH US

Education & Career Pathways | Industry Insights | Career Coaching

Email us at ecg@sp.edu.sg for an appointment



SINGAPORE POLYTECHNIC

NEED SOMEONE TO TALK TO?


Just graduated from SP < 6 months ago and feeling like life's thrown you a curved ball?

Contact our friendly SP counsellors for short-term counselling support if you need.

Email SP: contactus@sp.edu.sg with subject 'Requesting for Counselling'



Journeying with you beyond SP

 Stay Connected @SPANalumni

Interested to partner SPAN? Reach out to us at SPAN@sp.edu.sg.

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