APPLY FOR YOUR SP ALUMNI CARD
Become a cardholder and enjoy special benefits and privileges.
JOIN NOW!
YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS

In this issue, we feature three young SP alumni who have taken the road less travelled. They have proven that age is but a number. What is more important is the attitude and aptitude that can bring one closer to success.

KEITH TAN QUAN LAI
DIPLOMA IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (2009)
CO-FOUNDER, WONDETECH PTE LTD

KEITH

My Motto:
I ENJOY THE ABILITY TO CONTROL MY OWN DESTINY.

KURIAKIN ZENG
DIPLOMA IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING (2009)
CO-FOUNDER, WONDETECH PTE LTD

KURIAKIN

My Motto:
STRIVE FOR PROGRESS.

Keith Tan is the co-founder of Start Now, a site that offers a full suite of tools for social enterprises. After selling Start Now to local company Goodtizen for S$530,000, he is currently working on his next startup, Wondertech, with fellow SP graduate Kuriakin Zeng.

Wondertech aims to help start-ups set up, text and validate their products within a very short time. Their clients include publishers and content owners.

Wondertech is proud to be accepted into the SPH Plug and Play Accelerator Programme, a technology startups seed-stage funding programme. This notoriously stringent programme only selects eight teams from a total of 350 international applicants!
If you are interested to hear the personal story of Keith, then sign up for the Let’s Talk About Career seminar to be held on 9 July 2016 in SP. WHAT DOESN’T KILL YOU MAKES YOU STRONGER
KEITH: Our Indonesian vendor who supported us for four years suddenly pulled out from the project. The crisis forced us to make important decisions. We had to quickly recruit our own team and appoint an Indonesia CEO to manage the new team as well as introducing some profit-sharing incentives.

WORKING AS A TEAM
KEITH: Working as a team is important for any startup. You must also plan ahead and make decisions. These decisions made will impact your team and the business.

ON ENTREPRENEURSHIP:
Entrepreneurship must be in your blood as not all are born to be entrepreneurs. The popular saying “If you do not like to follow rules, then you should be your own boss.” You must be self-driven, motivated and have strong perseverance. As business owners, you will need to be good in management skills and ensure profitability.

Harvard gave me a very well-rounded education. And it has given me many options. But entrepreneurship is a different ballgame. You need business acumen and intuition. If you think that you have both, you can take that leap of faith. Build something that is important and can sell!

KURIAKIN

INTERESTED?
If you are interested to hear the personal story of Keith, then sign up for the Let’s Talk About Career seminar to be held on 9 July 2016 in SP.

OUR MOTIVATION FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP
KEITH: I enjoy the freedom – I am able to pursue my dreams and manage my schedule.

KURIAKIN: After my graduation from Harvard, I was looking for opportunities to start a company. I knew that both of us will make a good team as we have done project work together in SP before.

SP EQUIPPED ME FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP
KEITH: In SP, we were exposed to business skills, presentation skills and have to analyse financial reports. The curriculum also allowed me to run my own business for six months. I started printing T-shirts and corporate gifts back then.

KURIAKIN: I was involved in community service projects and that built up my soft skills like leadership, teamwork and business acumen.

KuriaKin on Entrepreneurship:
Entrepreneurship must be in your blood as not all are born to be entrepreneurs. The popular saying “If you do not like to follow rules, then you should be your own boss.” You must be self-driven, motivated and have strong perseverance. As business owners, you will need to be good in management skills and ensure profitability.

KEITH

KuriaKin:
After my graduation from Harvard, I was looking for opportunities to start a company. I knew that both of us will make a good team as we have done project work together in SP before.

SP Equipped Me for Entrepreneurship
KEITH: In SP, we were exposed to business skills, presentation skills and have to analyse financial reports. The curriculum also allowed me to run my own business for six months. I started printing T-shirts and corporate gifts back then.

KuriaKin: I was involved in community service projects and that built up my soft skills like leadership, teamwork and business acumen.
After his graduation from Singapore Polytechnic, Jian Rong wanted to continue giving back to the youth community and help aspiring entrepreneurs. He gathered the Presidents from the various polytechnics and universities to share his vision with ACE* and garnered their support. The Non-Profit Organisation, EDGE** was formed and became the Official Youth Arm of ACE. Elected as their first President, his aim is to provide mentorship, advice and evaluate startups who are pursuing ACE Startup Grant. EDGE aims to be the go-to community for youth entrepreneurs in Singapore, by creating an effective ecosystem which empowers and nurtures youths to become entrepreneurs.

His own journey to entrepreneurship began after his O levels. He worked as a part-time service crew and sales coordinator. That was when he decided that he wanted to do much more and create value for others. He wanted to become an entrepreneur and started providing design, printing, web development, events management and entrepreneurship education services during his polytechnic days!

He continued to grow his businesses and started Codesurance, a Solution Architect-as-a-Service startup designed to help SMEs and Startups. The venture achieved Top 10 Startups for DBS Pre-Accelerator 2015 and received pre-seed funding from DBS Innovation Group.

*Action Community for Entrepreneurship  
**Empower, Develop and Groom Entrepreneurs

** STARTING YOUNG  
I always have a sense of engaging in some trading to earn extra pocket money. During my primary school days, I was trading card games. Then at 16 years old, I started providing Apparel & Gifts designing and printing services for schools and corporate. A sense of satisfaction when customers wear on my "hand-printed" and personally designed t-shirts.

** SP EQUIPPED ME FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP  
SP education has equipped me for entrepreneurship as the modules like programming skills, accounting and financial knowledge are useful and relevant. SP Student Entrepreneurs Club provided me with networking opportunities. I also read a lot of biographies on how the successful people helped others.

** MY MOST ACCOMPLISHED ACHIEVEMENT  
My greatest accomplishment is to connect all the young entrepreneurs from various institutes of higher learning (IHLs). That was how Edge was formed, with a mission to empower, develop and to groom entrepreneurs. I am delighted that subsequent Presidents of SP Entrepreneurs Club, Pavan (Year 2015-2016) and Yong Hui (Year 2016-2017) have joined EDGE. This will be an ideal platform for them for their next phase of Entrepreneurial Journey.
One day, Papa Bee was driving, along with Mama Bee and Baby Bee. They were on their way from Jurong to Changi Airport. During the journey, they were stopped by a snail who was waving desperately and needed a lift. So the bee family was kind to take in the snail along.

However, half-way through the journey, their car gave problem. Papa Bee checked and realised that the car had run out of petrol. So he pee onto the petrol tank and the car started moving. After some time, their car stopped, again due to no petrol, so this time Mama Bee pee and the car started moving. The third time, Baby Bear pee and it started moving too.

The snail felt bad that everyone contributed to the petrol tank by peeing and he also wanted to offer to pee when their car stopped again. However, the snail was stopped by the Papa Bee who told him not to pee into the petrol tank as their car can only feed on “Bee Pee” (BP) and not any other brands.

P/S: The snail has a shell and thus signifies Shell petrol.

Lay Kheng
SP Business School (Diploma with Merit), 2010
SP School of Chemical & Life Sciences (Specialist Diploma), 2014

We are often too busy to reflect and be thankful for the simple things that we have in our life! Here’s your chance to do a reflection and pen down the things that you feel grateful for. Then, share your thoughts with your SP friends!

Receive a memento from us when you submit your entry before 29 July 2016. Note that we will only publish selected entries.

• Your contribution should be previously unpublished
• Note that we cannot return submissions
• We will not give feedback or acknowledge receipt of the submission
• All submissions become our property in the Alumni@SP E-newsletter. We reserve the right to edit and publish submissions.

If the only prayer you ever say in your life is thank you, it will be enough
— Meister Eckhart

Gratitude

If the only prayer you ever say in your life is thank you, it will be enough.
— Meister Eckhart

Click here to submit your entry now!
When Giving Back is a Mission

Mr Jack Goh
Diploma in Production Engineering (1982)
Managing Director,
SICK Product Center Asia Pte Ltd

Mr Jack Goh has been serving in the Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering (MAE) Advisory Committee for the past year. He takes pride in his Singapore Polytechnic (SP) education and almost makes it his personal mission to take in SP students for their internship programmes.

What is your role in the advisory committee of MAE?
My role within the Advisory Committee in MAE started in 2015. I reviewed the curriculum and proposed additional curriculum to ensure the modules are relevant to the industry and that the students are well-prepared for the workforce.

How long has your company been involved in the Internship Programme (ITP)?
SICK Asia started the ITP in 2014 and took in 14 students from Mechanical Engineering and System Engineering. We have 21 students to date and another 7 this September 2016 for their ITP at SICK. The students received hands-on experiences being part of a project team, supporting R&D as well as involvement in Jigs & Fixture. Such internship programmes will give the students a real taste of the industry and enhance their interests in engineering.

Tell us more about your company and area of specialisation?
SICK Product is Europe’s market leader in the full-range of sensor intelligence products. The HQ is in Germany. The company has been in Asia for seven years with a factory in Johor Bahru. Our clients include factories, airports, logistics companies and companies from the oil and gas industry.

What are the challenges you face in this industry?
It is difficult to find experienced Electronics Engineers and Optical Engineers in Singapore and Malaysia. Therefore, SICK offers study scholarship for SP graduates to further their studies in Germany and local universities. So far, we have offered 4 overseas scholarship & 4 local scholarship to SP graduates.

Any inspiring words for SP students?
Treasure and make the best of your studies in SP as the education is relevant to the workforce. SP has equipped its students with industry-specific knowledge and ITP experiences. Remember that there is no limits to what you can achieve. You must be willing to learn, have the right attitude and an open mindset to learn new things.
Mr Rizal has been working in Tate & Lyle Jurong Island plant for more than 10 years. Encouraged by the SkillsFuture Scheme, he enrolled in an upgrading course at SP Pace Academy. He felt that the course would be good and insightful. Here, he shares his experience and aspirations after successfully completing the 3-month course.

Tell us more about your role in Tate & Lyle.
I am currently assigned as an Area Coordinator in Tate & Lyle and I provide day-to-day technical trouble-shooting support to Operations for timely resolution of issues pertaining to work process or system equipment. There is a fair bit of coordinating of responsibilities among the different departments and liaising with engineers, operations personnel and technicians. I also develop and execute the local Standard Work Procedures of process areas.

With more than 10 years experience in engineering, what interests you to take up the WSQ Advanced Workplace Safety & Health?
While I have sound knowledge and accreditation in safety procedures, I have never attended any comprehensive safety courses before. I also have the intention of doing a career-switch to the safety industry in the future.

Has the course been relevant and helpful to your current job?
Yes, it has helped me to better understand safety issues that I encountered at work. And it has enabled me to ensure that the company’s safety procedures are on par with the latest safety requirements.

Do you encourage others to take up this course?
Definitely. It would be especially helpful for oil and gas industry veterans who have not attended any comprehensive safety courses before. It will help them to identify any safety deviation that they encounter at their workplaces. This course will be an additional asset for their career advancement as well.

How do you think your experience in continuous learning can be an inspiration or model for others?
The world is changing rapidly, be it in education, technology, environment or economics and we should always upgrade and equip ourselves to face new challenges ahead.

Can you share with us one memorable experience during the course?
The best experience during the course would be listening and exchanging safety encounters with lecturers and classmates alike. I especially enjoyed Mr Ngiam Tong Pong’s class which was engaging and interesting.
Advanced Business Analytics ............................................................29 - 30 Sep '16
Big Data Analytics: A Primer and Practicum ........................................3 - 24 Sep '16
Business and Science of Coffee ..........................................................18 Jul - 8 Aug '16
Class 1 Boiler Attendant Course ............................................................9 Jul - 13 Aug '16
Clay Creation New! .............................................................................30 Aug '16
Diploma in Warehouse Services ..........................................................11 Jul '16 - 28 Jul '17
Diploma in Freight and Transport Services ..............................................15 Aug '16 - 3 Aug '17
Fundamentals of Plastics Technology ......................................................2 - 3 Aug '16
InfoComm Security for Non-IT Professionals .........................................7 - 8 Sep '16
Intermediate Quantitative Data Analysis and Modelling New! ..............4 - 5 Aug '16
Introduction to Geometric Dimensioning & Tolerancing ......................6 - 29 Sep '16
Introduction to Statistics and Quantitative Data Analysis ......................14 - 15 Jul '16
Introduction to Survey Methodology: Sampling and Factor Analysis ....8 - 9 Sep '16
Jig and Fixture Design ........................................................................5 - 19 Sep '16
Local BOOST Programme ....................................................................26 Sep '16 - 30 Nov '16
Perform Design and Installation of Photovoltaic (PV) Systems ..............10 Oct - 5 Nov '16
Perform Maintenance of Photovoltaic (PV) Systems .........................7 Nov - 3 Dec '16
Provide Advice on Wine ....................................................................16 - 25 Aug '16
Project Management Professional Training ..........................................3 Sep - 1 Oct '16
Real Estate Valuation ..........................................................................21 - 22 Sep '16
Rethinking Marketing Strategies – For An Omni-Channel Retail Landscape to Enhance Productivity New! ..........................................................15 - 16 Sep '16
Social Media Marketing for Your Business New! .................................20 - 21 Sep '16
Student Care Programme ...................................................................15 Aug - 3 Sep '16
Part-Time Diploma October '16 Intake ..................................................5 Sep - 1 Oct '16
The Effective Report Writing Course New! ...........................................21 - 22 Sep '16

* PACE Academy course schedules, course trainer, course fees and course availability are subject to change without prior notice
Come join us and be inspired with stories of how fellow SP alumni achieve success in their careers!

It’s a session where you can share your career concerns with professionals and get them answered.

Click here to read more about the profile of speakers

9 July 2016 (Sat)
10am–3pm
LT12A (View Map)

Organised By
SP
DEPARTMENT OF
STUDENT DEVELOPMENT
& ALUMNI RELATIONS

Supported By
Dear Alumni,

The annual Poly 50 Campus Relay is back on 27 July 2016! Gather & form your team with your fellow alumni friends & join in the race this year!

Closing date for registration is on 1 July 2016 or when registration slots are full [maximum of 15 teams for alumni]; whichever is earlier. Please register your teams here.

Please read the rules and regulations carefully before signing up for the race.

For any queries pertaining to the race, please email the race organiser at poly50litty@gmail.com. We look forward to seeing you at the race this year!
Thanks for indicating your interest to make a difference in the community.

You are invited to this briefing which will provide you with a deeper understanding on Alumni@SP and community work.

At the end of the briefing, you will be required to work with your SP Alumni friends to spearhead and ensure sustainability of the community projects.

Do not hesitate to ask your alumni friends along for this briefing.

Click here to register now!
Ms Lim Xin Chelsea, a SP Visual Communications and Media Design student, took 10 days to design the National Day Parade (NDP) 2016 logo. Her efforts paid off when her design—a geometric heart with four shades of red to represent Singapore’s diversity in terms of different races and religions living together in harmony, with the number ‘51’ written in bold brushstrokes—beat some 250 entries to be used as the NDP 2016 logo. With the two pairs of NDP tickets that she won, she plans to take her grandparents to watch the NDP live.
Singapore Polytechnic team of five Year Two students from the Diploma in Architecture won top prize at the finals of Building and Construction Authority (BCA) – City Developments Limited (CDL) Green Sparks Competition 2015/16 held on 8 April 2016 at BCA Academy. The winning entry ‘Stack’d up @ City Square Mall’ stood out from the other entries with their compelling design - one that creates a sustainable community space with green design features at City Square Mall’s existing Sky Park and converts that space into an energy-efficient, multi-functional facility for family and community bonding activities.

SP’re School of Chemical & Life Sciences has developed at least eight functional food products suitable for people with various health conditions. These include the low glycaemic index (GI) banana chocolate cupcake and a low-GI brownie which are currently available at The Diabetic Shop. SP students and lecturers have also recently developed healthier versions of snacks such as a layered jam cake and kueh bahulu in various flavours for diabetics, athletes as well as health-conscious consumers.
Two teams from SP were crowned as the Games and Innovation champions at the recent Microsoft Imagine Cup Singapore 2016. Centred upon the theme “Creating with Code”, this year’s Imagine Cup competition saw a total of 65 project entries from 150 tertiary students in Singapore. For the Games category, SP’s Diploma in Information Technology (DIT) alumni Russell Loh and Isaac Lim, as well as, final-year students Aldo Chu and Delon Lim created a role-playing fantasy game titled ‘Imagine’. For the Innovation category, SP’s DIT final-year students David Choo, Azeem, Ian Soo and Lau Che Hoe created a customisable chatbot-driven platform set to transform event planning and end-to-end customer care.

Team Natural Conquistadors (NYX) - from left Ian Soo, David Choo, Azeem Arshad, Valamisita and Lau Che Hoe

Team Holy Trinity (Imagine) - from left Russell Loh, Aldo Chu, Delon Lim and Isaac Lim

In November 2015, students from The Student Agency (TSA) at the SP Design School were approached by the representatives of the Ministry of Finance (MOF) to create an original design that could best represent the Singapore Budget 2016. The two mentoring lecturers, Yanza Pang and Jovan Peh, coached and worked with a group of students at TSA to submit a total of 10 designs to MOF. The final logo, created by second-year student, Toh Ping Huang, was chosen as the official logo to represent the Singapore Budget 2016. The students at TSA celebrated the shortlisted logo design and rejoiced over how this chosen design has been used to represent the national budget and Singapore as a united country. The rationale of the chosen logo design emphasises the importance of family. With the position of various symbolic icons representing family, it reminds everyone in the nation that our families and friends will always be at the heart of what we do, as we progress far and strongly as a nation.

Team Holy Trinity (Imagine) - from left Russell Loh, Aldo Chu, Delon Lim and Isaac Lim

Image by Kennic Tan
Singapore Polytechnic (SP) welcomes some of its newest vendors who have introduced interesting food and beverage options to the institution. Let’s take a look at how these new vendors add variety in meal and drink choices for SP!

**NEW F&B OPTIONS IN SP**

**Mini Wok @ Foodcourt 3**

Mini Wok started its operations in April 2016 in Singapore Polytechnic and since then it’s been good business for them. They have at least 500 customers per day. Mini Wok prides itself on own made sauces for their dishes and its philosophy is to ‘not leave any food overnight’! So, you can be assured that you are eating freshly prepared dishes from their stall.

A popular item at Mini Wok is their salted egg chicken rice. Remember to try this dish when you are there!

**Utopia Drinks (Outside Social Hub; @ Foodcourt 4 Cafeteria)**

Utopia is a bubble tea brand from Australia that is well-known for its range of bubble tea concocted from premium tea leaves and natural fruits. The first outlet in Singapore is at Waterway Point, while the second outlet was opened at SP in April. Utopia uses unique and healthy sago which has no added preservatives so that you can savour it without much worry.

One of the must-try items is Utopia Milk tea, with special blend of aromatic tea leaves. Other favourites are Salted Caramel Cheese Latte and Mixed Berries Tea.

Download Perx App now to enjoy free toppings or regular drinks when you redeem your chops at Utopia. Note that Terms & Conditions apply.

**King Kong Curry @ Foodcourt 1**

Mr. Zhang started operating King Kong Curry in SP since January 2016 and to date, he receives an average of 300 food orders per day. Prior to setting up this stall in SP, Mr. Zhang had nine years of experience working as a chef in hotels and restaurants in Singapore.

Why King Kong Curry? This is a common question for Mr. Zhang. He smiles as he answers, “Here we offer a healthier version of Japanese curry, with a total of eight types of vegetables and fruits whipped into the curry broth. Most importantly, we do not add any coconut milk. We hope that our patrons can enjoy curry dishes healthily and be as fit as a King Kong.”

According to Mr. Zhang, a must-try at the food stall is the Chicken Katsu Curry dish, with the option of adding a-la-carte items such as cheese omelette.
ONE STROKE, ONE HEART

SP Alumni at DBS MR2016 participating in Premier Open, 12-crew, Mix, with Jia Chen, their captain, on the drums. Photo credit: Right Exposure Photography

DBS MR2016, Premier Open, 22-crew, Men, with SP Alumni coming in 1st for Minor Finals. Photo credit: Right Exposure Photography

SP Alumni at SAVA Premier Open, 22-crew, Men, came in 3rd place for Grand Finals.

onE stroKE, onE hEart formed in the late 1980s, Singapore Polytechnic (SP) Dragon boat team is an elite sports club that strives for excellence – both physically and mentally. Their motto: One Stroke, One Heart. This year, a group of passionate alumni set out to bring the graduates back to paddle together and relive old memories, hence SP Alumni Dragon Boat Team was formed.

The sport, dragon boat, has greater meaning for alumni beyond winning medals. Not forgetting their humble beginnings, they seek to create an environment where graduates can return to relive old memories, as well as work closely together to mould the future generations of Singapore Polytechnic graduates.

SP Alumni Dragon Boat Team participated in the recent DBS Marina Regatta event, going up against national and international teams, in open category. They advanced to minor finals for both Premier Opens (Men) and (Mix) category. "It was indeed heartening to be paddling on the same waters as our school team. encouraging our juniors as they walked towards the pontoon and as they returned to their tent upon completing the race – each and every set was intense and filled with exhilaration," said Jia Chen, captain of the SP Alumni Dragon Boat Team.

SP Alumni Dragon Boat Team caters to both competitive and recreational paddlers. Together as a team, they hope to contribute meaningfully to the community. SP Alumni Dragon Boat is committed to growing stronger and better, bringing greater glory to their alma mater and the team.

Email spalumnidragonboat@hotmail.com if you are interested to join them in their activities.
CPT ALUMNI HOMECOMING EVENT

More than 20 SP alumni, who had graduated in Year 1976 with their Diploma in Chemical Process Technology (CPT) - Polymer & Food Option, gathered once again at the Singapore Polytechnic Graduates’ Guild (SPGG) on the evening of 15 April 2016. It was a homecoming event organised by the School of Chemical & Life Sciences (CLS) staff to celebrate 40 years of friendship amongst the CPT Cohort 1976.

The lecturers were heartened to learn that many of their ex-students are now very successful in their respective careers. A handful of them shared that they are into retirement while some shed light on reaching their special milestone – grandparenthood. Both current and former SP lecturers, as well as, technical support officers such as Mr Nee Pai How, Mr Lau Hua Huat, Mr Ho Thiam Aik, Mrs Ong Kim Lian, Mr Ng Kam Fong, Mr Moey Hoan Keat, Mr Victor Tan and Mr Tan Peng Saw also celebrated at the wonderful homecoming event. Everyone certainly had lots of fun reminiscing the good old days spent in polytechnic. “I am definitely glad to meet everyone after 40 years but I hope to see them more often,” said Long Miau who yearns for regular gatherings with his fellow SP friends.

FAMILY LIFE FIRST (FLF) FIESTA 2016

11 June 2016 marks the first time that Singapore Polytechnic (SP) co-organised an event with a registered charity, Family Life First (FLF) to bond SP alumni and their families. The event, opened to general public, was organised to celebrate family life and promote harmony within family units. Besides that, the event advocated for a charitable cause – proceeds from the sale of carnival coupons will be used to fund FLF’s social welfare projects.

More than 60 SP alumni and their families immersed themselves in the fun at the food bazaars and game stalls which were set up at SP Eleven Square. There were also close to 20 SP alumni volunteers who managed two of the game stations. The alumni volunteers, who recently completed an overseas community service programme in Vietnam, replicated those games that were used to engage the Vietnamese children.

Besides food and games, the participants were treated to a series of music and live performances, which included those by Singapore Polytechnic Chinese Orchestra, SP DanceSport and SP Japanese Daiko Drummers alumni (SEN). Married couples also found it particularly meaningful to be able to renew their wedding vows, reaffirming their commitment to each other after years of marriage.

Click here to view more photos of the event.
SPOT-THE-DIFFERENCE

Recall this familiar place? Yes, it’s our SP Plaza! We welcome you to spot the differences between the two photos. Email the total number of differences that you can find between the two photos to Jessica_wong@sp.edu.sg by 29 July 2016. Stand a chance to win prizes if you get the correct answer!