SPear
Made-in-SP music ready to rock your ears!

What If...
You were the Principal? What would you change in the school?

Be A Good Sport
SP students overcome challenges to become sporting champions!

Wake Up Freshies!
Get Indispensable Tips For Thriving In The Poly Habitat!
The scenery was breathtaking. The hospitality was heart warming. Twenty-four SP students leapt into the mountainous country of Nepal to share their love and warmth with the Nepalese. Singapore style no less. For building classrooms, teaching English and sharing little gifts, they received the most beautiful smiles in return. Priceless!

The LEAP Advanced Nepal trip was organised under the SP LEAP Programme that aims to develop students’ leadership potential through guided mastery and Practiced Leadership. Interested? Check with the Department of Student Development for coming trips.

08. Cover Story
Tips on how to survive the most established poly in Singapore!

SunSPEC 3 Solar Car at World Solar Challenge
SP-engineered solar car ready to race to the top in world solar challenge.

Korea, India, United States and Vietnam. What are SP students doing in these faraway lands?

Overseas Trips

18. Overseas Trips

Meet Jeremy Ko, SP Business School alumnus, undergraduate and businessman all-in-one.

Alumni Entrepreneurs

Sporting Successes

CCAs and sports programmes in SP groom shining sports talents.

SP On The Web
SP media students create youth-oriented lifestyle website.

Artistic Endeavours

Out-of-the-classroom learning: Design students invade Ann Siang Hill.

36. Alumni Entrepreneurs

ALL PHOTOS BY LEE JIAN WEI, DIPLOMA IN ELECTRICAL & ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING

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A CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Now that we have survived the doomsday predicted by the Mayans at the start of the year, escaped various strains of bird flu and masked our way through hazy skies, we believe it is time for some life affirmation as our creative heads come together to breathe a collective sigh of sweet relief...

In the vigour of youth, we often neglect to take a step back, stop and appreciate the beauty that life holds. This year, in celebration of our survival in this ever-changing world, we would like to invite you to join us as we unravel the threads of this beautiful tapestry we call life... Appreciating the beauty, love, pain and suffering... all that makes us alive.

We’ve picked out some of the best art, photographs, workshops and performances that our SP artists have to offer to bring you a smorgasbord of activities for your enjoyment. Feast your eyes on our ‘ROJAK’ photography collection by SP Photographers, write your aspirations on our ‘Before I Die’ wall, sing along to Vocal Talent’s love songs, risk being turned into a frog by our Magicians as they pull wonderful tricks from their magic hats and learn a few cool moves to impress at your next dance party with a workshop by Singapore’s first Boys “Radikal Force”.

Come join the fun and celebrate Life!
The SP Brand of Music

SP is the first educational institution in Singapore to own a music label. Called SPEAR, the first-of-its-kind initiative will groom students to become artists or music producers. The label was officially launched at a concert held at The Coliseum, Resorts World Sentosa, and attended by more than 1,000 music lovers.

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Celebrated veteran performer with several shows under her belt. Under the glow of the concert featured four bands formed by current students and graduates: Celestia, a composer and solo vocalist; Formalisms, a band playing post-experimental music; V’Bel, a talented singer and violinist; and Victoria Street, a versatile pop and alt rock band.

The show opened with surreal, melancholy singing from Celestia, an already haunting blue light, and ever-so-slightly swaying, she sang smooth, evocative tales about lost hope, wishes, and glimmers of a better, freer life.

Formalisms came on next, deepening the soulful, heavy mood set by Celestia with a fluttering, sweet flute solo that rang out through the air. This led into a series of sharp-edged, dark and rock-influenced music that injected adrenaline into the atmosphere.

V’Bel came up next with a sensational, explosive electric violin solo. Her impassioned playing and dramatic flair built up the core of excitement and energy in the concert. The finale saw Victoria Street playing a series of smooth, easy-listening pop rock songs infused with grinning charm and a man-on-the-street reliability.

Local indie outfit, The Sam Willows, also appeared specially as a guest band and performed to the ecstatic crowd, regaling them with soulful harmonies and infectious tunes.

Music performed during the launch is available on iTunes, Amazon and Spotify. The bands recorded their songs in a brand new SP album: SPear, The Launch. For those of you who couldn’t attend, here are interviews with the bands and photos of the incredible night:

Celestia, tell us about some of your favourite musicians.

Some of my favourites are Joe Hisaishi, Kaori Yuki, Yoko Kanno and Taro Iwashiro.

What genres do you explore in your own songs?

I have an eclectic taste in music and listen to (and therefore explore) a diverse range of genres. Some of them include world music, folk music, electronica, techno, opera, neoclassical and orchestral music.

What impact do you hope your songs will have on listeners?

I want my music to take them on a journey. It is meant to create a surreal world for the listener where their own interpretation is key. They are allowed to interpret whatever they want out of the story in my song. I usually prefer to write in a descriptive but representative manner as a result.

How did it feel to be back together with old friends / lecturers at SPEAR?

Very nostalgic, to be honest. I had a relatively healthy rapport with my lecturers and working with them again reminded me of my days back in poly. There were marked differences though. This time I felt a little “less young”, since the students I happened to be working with were current students! (laughs). They behaved in a mature and professional manner though and I am very proud of them as a senior.

Complete the following sentence, “For people, music is essential because . . . .”

It is the essence of the human spirit, something that utilitarian essentials in life will never be able to fulfil or possess. It is the very proof of what kind of person you are.”

What kind of impact do you hope your music will have on people?

It is good enough for us if others like it, because it’s rather “far out”. I think our goal will be accomplished if we not only make unconventional music but encourage other people to think outside the box as well.

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How does the team draw inspiration for their music?

We’ve been labelled as “progressive dark music”. I would say there are elements of melancholy and elusiveness about our music. At the same time we do have a happy, feel-good tune with an ethereal tinge to it.

Describe the mood or feel of the music you play.

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Sound & Passion

V’Bel, we heard you prefer not to define your music by genres. Can you describe what types of music influence it, then?

Whether or not the music is defined by genre, tempo, or dynamics, I would play it with inputs of the colours of my life. I don’t define; I play however I feel close to it. As for influences, I think it is the influence of music I listen to or get captivated with at that moment: R&B, hip hop, pop, smooth jazz, reggae and whatever has something called “groove”!

What would you say you aim to achieve through the music you create?

I want to spread unsaid words through my violin, and words with more depth through my vocals. I hope to spread the message about the power of noble love, optimism, passion, tenderness, and kindness because they do live in us but are just forgotten and slowly being buried in this fast-moving world. Life is beautiful beneath its mask.

Is there any particular impact that you hope your music will have on listeners?

I hope they will feel the passion I have towards life. I hope they can see and embrace the beauty I see in life.

Complete the following sentence, “Music is ______.”

Music is contagious. Music is evoking. Music is what reminds us that we’re alive and tender inside.

Band Members:

Deborah Joan Lee (lead vocalist), Darren Tan, Nigel Peh, Joshua Low, Spencer Teo (DMAT, Class of 2013)

Musical genre: Pop or alternative rock

Name some of the bands that inspire you.

Deb: We all listen to pretty different bands and music, but those that we do share a common liking for would be namely Paramore, Yellowcard, and other bands like Anberlin.

Describe the mood or feel of the music you play.

Nigel: I guess our music goes more along the lines of melancholy, sadness or frustration. It’s mostly moody and sometimes angsty. Our songs are mainly “story songs” meaning that our songs generally aren’t the party type or the bouncy, happy type. Each song has a story behind it and we hope to reach out to people who’ve had the same experience or felt the same emotions.

What kind of impact do you hope your music will have on people?

Josh: It’s when you hear a song on the radio and think, “That’s me right now.” It gives the listeners the words they were looking for to express themselves, or when you sometimes hear people say “This song helped me through a tough time.” That is how we want our music to impact people.

How did you come up with your band name?

Deb: It started when Darren and Nigel actually got a bunch of us to go jam together at a freshmen welcome thingy. The night before our first jam, it stormed pretty badly – trees on the floor, stuff flying all over the place— so when we were walking to the jamming studio the day after, we saw a “Victoria Street” road sign lying on the floor, so we thought, “Hey that’s pretty cool. Let’s take a photo with it!” So we did… though it was not until later when we were trying to decide on a band name that that photo came in handy. I mean, it looked like an album cover for one, but it also served as a “sign”. Haha, punny eh? But that’s how we got our name! :)

Real Name: Wong Ay Shyuan (DMAT, Class of 2013)
Musical genre: Classical crossover

Violinist and vocalist V’Bel passed the grade eight violin exam with flying colours because of her skills and years of intense training.

Victoria Street’s lead singer, Deborah Jean Lee. Victoria Street doesn’t play covers, and instead plays its own original creations.

Victoria Street: Guest Band, The Sam Willows
Dear Year 1s, are you slightly thrown off and unsure about this wild, unpredictable thing called poly life? Don’t worry, most of us felt that way when we first came in! As it’s a very big leap forward with more freedom, responsibilities and independence, it might be a culture shock to some of you.

With new people (new classmates!) and endless supplies of food (KFC, Subway, Starbucks!), you have to learn to take care of yourself and get rid of distractions.

- Remember deadlines and give yourself small goals to work towards. Don’t leave things until the last minute!
- With laptops made compulsory (some lucky ones use Macs), you’ll definitely need to learn how to refuse the calls of Facebook, Twitter and Tumblr when you’re halfway through lessons.
- Disconnect from the internet during class.
- Sit in the first row (we know some lecturers like to call those sitting behind).

First things first, time management is very important in poly.

By Angie Pay, Evon Kuo and Nicholas Lam. Recent Graduates, Diploma in Creative Writing for TV and New Media (DTVM).
**TRY TO ACCOMPLISH THE FOLLOWING DURING THE INITIAL STAGES OF THE DISCUSSION:**

- Have an agenda, plan your discussions.
- Set deadlines, emphasise on urgency.
- Keep to work schedules.
- Distribute work fairly. Acknowledge strengths and weaknesses of each member.

**OTHER POINTS TO NOTE:**

- Identify the better speakers in the group. Use them to deliver presentations.
- Know your stuff. It's advisable to write important notes on cue cards before presenting.
- Rehearse and rehearse. Practice makes perfect. Rehearse until everyone is familiar with what is needed to be done during a presentation (in case the presenter faints).

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**TIPS TO PRODUCE A GOOD POWERPOINT PRESENTATION**

- Understand your project. Set the theme. Choose a layout that will complement your project.
- Choose appropriate fonts. Go to www.dafont.com and you’ll find a fully categorised list of fonts.
- Backgrounds. Websites like www.deviantart.com and www.flickr.com will provide you with artsy photographs that will do great as slide show backgrounds.
- KISS (keep it short & sweet). Keep your presentation slide text short and sweet. No one wants to sit through a lengthy presentation.

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**Guide to Surviving Projects**

A majority of us have experienced project work and realised how tough it is to work with others. Identify uncooperative ones or those with undesirable characteristics. If you can’t change them, tell your lecturers.

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**How to stay awake during lectures**

If you’re constantly falling asleep during class, read this.

- Sweets are your best friend. Always keep enough supply (preferably minty ones). Tried and tested sweets are Hacks and Fisherman’s Friend.
- Get a good night’s rest. Getting sufficient sleep is the key to staying awake during lectures. A solid eight hours is recommended; avoid drinking coffee and tea prior to sleeping time.
- Take notes. Better if you can write fast by creating your own short forms.
- Keep yourself occupied. For example, try something like counting the number of times your lecturer says, “Understand?”
- Get a friend to pinch you. It hurts but it works and lasts for approximately 10 seconds.
- Lift your heavy eyelids! Inspired by Tom in Tom and Jerry, this method works to a certain extent. Tape your eyelids with Scotch tape or masking tape. Plasters and double eyelid stickers work too.
Dealing with Poly People: Classmates

You'll meet different people in poly. Here are some of them.

**THE SLACKER**
Probably born without a backbone or source of willpower, they are very distinguishable with their unique slouch.

**THE A-SCORER**
A species on their own; these human variants have adapted well to the school habitat. Catch one to be your study buddy!

**CLASS REP**
Leaders of the natural world, they send mass SMSes and act like the extensions of teachers, just younger.

**THE QUIET KIDS**
Living, breathing wallpaper. They’re called quiet kids but they’re just shy. Don’t ignore them; they make good listeners.

**THE ALPHA STUDENTS**
They are the campus stars. Common traits include being incredibly handsome or beautiful. Most times, they’re not as evil as we are led to believe.

**THE CLASS CLOWN**
Born comedians, always on a natural high. They always crack a joke to brighten the mood and keep the class in high spirits. Don’t take them too seriously.

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**THE JUJU HOG**
This is your ideal mate. Every time your eyes meet, you suffer from butterflies. What better place to confess than poly? SP has many gardens.
Dealing with Poly People: Lecturers

THE ANGRY BIRD LECTURERS
They bestow impossible deadlines and give you a hard time. But truly, these lecturers want to help you and if they can do that, they don’t mind being hated.

I-AM-YOUR-MOTHER LECTURERS
These motherly beings instinctively know when something is bothering you and will always try their best to help you. Just tell them.

THE ELUSIVE LECTURER-FRIEND
These lecturers really want to be your friend! They’re young, hip and they’ll cut you some slack if you really need it. If you find one, don’t let him go!

MR NO COMMENT
The natural enemy of questions, they ignore your raised hand only because they want to focus on the whole class before seeing you one-on-one.

MR CYBORG
Part-man part-answering machine. They have two default settings: Boring and Sweet Dreams. But underneath, they house a flood of knowledge. So listen up and he’ll teach you something.

MR FRIENDLY
He sits beside you in the food court and starts talking to you. He’s not your lecturer. Don’t panic, he’s just our friendly Principal.

FC 2
Best known as the home of the first but now relocated McDonald’s outlet in SP. Besides having awesome Malay rice and yong tau foo stalls, this FC also contains Ya Kun and a sundry shop where you can buy magazines and sweets.

FC 3
Long queues form for the sizzling platters of Korean food at FC3. There is also a fruits and juice stall that sells sweet chunks of papaya and watermelon in cups at $1.00 each! FC3 is also a home to royalty. Burger King, that is.

FC 4
Managed by Koufu, this FC is one of two air-conditioned food courts. They serve standard food court fare with exceptionally good ban mian and Indonesian food.

FC 5
The convergence of fast food joints Subway, Starbucks and KFC. There is also Bang Deli, Cheers and Popular bookshop. With many power sockets available, this FC is a hotspot for studying. Located next to the pool, it’s perfect for catching the dragon boat hunk and SP swimmers on hot summer days.

FC 6
Located on top of the hill, this FC serves the students from School of Communication, Arts and Social Sciences, School of Digital Media and Infocomm Technology and SP Business School. Students from the other schools don’t usually visit this FC because of the climb up the hill. But if you happen to be here, the chicken rice is a must-try.

FC1 (BET YOU WERE WONDERING.)
First-time visitors to SP may be confused to find that there is a Food Court 2 but no Food Court 1! This is because FC1 has been demolished recently for campus redevelopment.

Rumour has it that SP is a food haven. We believe food will make brains work smarter. There are five food courts (FCs), Subway, McDonald’s, KFC, Starbucks, Burger King, Bang Deli, Hot Shot Cafe, School of Coffee@Inno Village, Moberly Cafe and Food Haven Restaurant on campus. Believe it or not, you can end up not eating the same food throughout the year.
Knowing When to Chill

Some of you are single pointers. Waahhh… so smart! Some of you are very capable of managing stress and there are some who are just perfectionists. Now that’s all right and good, but three years is a long time. You need to know when to take a break and when to jia you ler!... It means add oil!

When your brain slows down or worse, shuts completely, take that 15-minute break, read a book, play a game of Candy Crush Saga or check your Facebook account. You’ll be more productive once you get back to work. Remember, even your brain needs a break once in a while.

How to Get Lost in School / Exploring the Campus:

Bring along an equally blur friend on your exploration.
Walk randomly with your eyes closed.
Go up and down different flights of stairs. The more isolated the place is, the higher the level of your exploration.

Getting lost in campus may sound horrible, but if you have lots of free time to kill, it can be quite fun. Like, do you know that perched on a hill behind the main library is a Lego-like place called InnoVillage? There’s a Polar Cafe and cool study tables and chairs. And the girls from business and media courses!

After-School Activities

School doesn’t actually end when lessons end. In SP, it’s not compulsory (remember, SP treats you like adults) to join a CCA but most of the students join one anyway.

With more than 120 CCAs ranging from the standard uniform groups like Red Cross to the not-so-standard Makeup Artists club, there’s definitely something for everyone. Archery or beatboxing, anybody?

Exclusive to SP

Every poly has a pool and a gym. But there’s more in SP. Noticed the Drifters’ Court and Skate Park at Open Plaza? You want to bowl? Just walk over to the SP Graduates Guild; you get special rates. If you like trees, take the Heritage Trail and find out that some of them are older than your grandpa.

Things You Should Know:

Coming from Dover MRT station, the block number of buildings increases from the left to right (e.g. The left side of the school has blocks like T1 and W1, whereas the right has blocks like W12 and T120).

Understand Venue Codes:

T = Teaching blocks
LT = Lecture Theatres
MLT = Main Lecture Theatres
T2122 = Block 21, 2nd storey, Room 2
T312 = Block 7, 3rd storey, Room 1
Someone defaced the signboard

Getting to the Nearest Toilet (There are Some Impressively Renovated Ones)

➤ Look for toilet signs (We have been trained to do so since birth.)
➤ If it’s not your kind of washroom (male or female), go either one floor up or down to find the opposite gender’s toilet. And boys, don’t do it in the gardens.

Asking Around

➤ Look at their faces. If they have lost expressions like yours, avoid them.
➤ Approach people wearing the SP tee. Right?
➤ The wisest thing to do is to locate offices in school and ask the people sitting in there.
➤ Don’t hesitate to ask around. People around here are generally helpful.

How to Have Fun: Moberly

This magical place of relaxation and fun is called Moberly. A long time ago, it was a barracks for British soldiers. It’s beautiful. William and Kate should have gotten married here!

Now, it’s your recreation centre. Play billiards, sing karaoke, jam with your best friends or try the nice chicken chop at the cafe.

Hilltop Library

If you don’t belong to one of the Schools up on the hill, you might not notice this. There’s a Polar Cafe and cool study tables and chairs. And the girls from business and media courses!

Chillin’ 101

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“This tolerance of failure is what makes Silicon Valley really unique, because it encourages people to pursue their dreams or take a different road. In Singapore, you always feel there’s a very different attitude toward failure. People say it’s okay, but do they really believe it? In the US, I see there’s a very different tolerance level to failure. It gives people courage to go on.”

Alan and 34 other Diploma in Financial Informatics (DFI) students from SP Business School (SB) travelling across California, USA. The study trip was organised for them to immerse in American culture and discover the value of learning to fail and daring to take a different road.

In front of him, in the distance, was the El Capitan, a massive, 900-meter high monolith of whitish rock. Between him and the El Capitan was a valley of sturdy oaks and redwood trees, a vast sea of green that stretched on for miles. Standing in the midst of Yosemite National Park, a 3,080.74 km² nature reserve, Alan Bong couldn’t help but feel an immense sense of awe and wonder weighing down on him.

“In Yosemite was the best for me," he recounted. “When you look at something so huge and nice, you get the feeling that the world is really big with lots of chances to explore and self-discover.”

The park was only one of the things that stirred the hearts and minds of Alan and 34 other Diploma in Financial Informatics (DFI) students from SP Business School (SB) travelling across California, USA. The study trip was organised for them to immerse in the proud entrepreneurial culture of California’s famed Silicon Valley, and to nurture their own entrepreneurial spirit.

For many of the students, the valley’s culture was inspirational. "The phrase, ‘never-say-die spirit’, which Singaporeans are quite fond of, exists so strongly in people at Silicon Valley that it is no wonder the environment has produced some of the most successful companies and individuals to have ever existed,” said final-year student Lam Yung Sheng. They visited powerhouse companies such as Facebook, Google and Citibank, as well as startup incubators like Plug and Play Tech Center. Talking to the professionals at these offices, they learned not just about American culture but also the single most important lesson they would gain from the trip: the value of learning to fail.

“Working in Silicon Valley, failure is acceptable and like a badge of honour to them,” said Alan. “To the people there, if you fail in your first start-up, you are never ostracised or locked down upon. Companies will even hire you because they feel you’ve learned something from it and they can learn from your mistakes.

“This tolerance of failure is what makes Silicon Valley really unique, because it encourages people to pursue their dreams or take a different road. In Singapore, you always feel there’s a very different attitude toward failure. People say it’s okay, but do they really believe it? In the US, I see there’s a very different tolerance level to failure. It gives people courage to go on.”

“In Silicon Valley, failure in school, work, or simply just attempting something novel, is not deemed failure but a stepping stone in life,” said Ying Sheng. “In fact, the real failure comes from either not trying, or not learning from one’s failures. We observed the intensity of the never-say-die spirit instilled in these people.” He also added that people there were “open-minded and willing to consider other possibilities.”

Besides Silicon Valley, the students also attended lessons at famous universities such as Stanford University and the University of California, Berkeley.

There, they were exposed to a different approach to learning by American professors. Alan felt that the lecturers there played the roles of discussion facilitators who encouraged them to “think in-depth, be more vocal and learn proactively.”

No trip to California, however, would be complete without the chance to go to some of its most iconic attractions. The students visited architectural marvels such as San Francisco’s Golden Gate Bridge and Palace of Fine Arts. They also binged on seafood at Fisherman’s Wharf, a famous tourist landmark at the seaside filled with restaurants, docked ships, performers and buskers. The Dungeness crab there was so good that when their bus came, a student who hadn’t finished his food snapped a claw off and ran to the bus with it, much to the disgust, envy and amusement of his classmates!

They returned to Singapore with newfound enthusiasm for business and an expanded sense of what was possible in life. Alan said: “Before I went, I never thought of starting my own business. I just thought of studying and getting a job. Just the typical route… But after San Fran, I thought, why not take the step out, identify opportunities and start something of my own? The trip really exposed me to a different culture and I saw how people around the world are doing stuff differently.”

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Sight is one of our most precious gifts, and this ability to take in the physical beauties of the world around us is safeguarded by none other than optometrists.

Recent graduates from the Diploma in Optometry (DOPT) witnessed first-hand the key role of eye health specialists during their two-week learning and community service trip to Chennai, India.

"You choose to be an optometrist because you want to help people." This simple, striking statement was made by Dr S S Badrinath, the founder of the National College of Optometry in Chennai, India.

As final-year students at the time, they were there to observe advanced optometry procedures and look at rare eye conditions that could not be found in Singapore. Dr Badrinath was sharing anecdotes with them about reasons for choosing the optometry field.

"Dr Badrinath’s words about optometry were really impactful to all of us," said Nur Ain Bte Abdul Razak, the trip’s team leader, who felt the trip had strengthened her convictions about her course of study.

All of them shadowed doctors and optometrists at SN and at the Jaslok Community Ophthalmic Centre. They witnessed advanced eye examination techniques, as well as rare eye conditions like nystagmus, abnormal and involuntary eye movement that leads to reduced vision. They also actively used their skills to benefit the communities in the area, such as conducting free vision screenings for the locals and collecting spectacles that they had collected before the trip. "The people were especially welcoming," recounted team member Chen Jian Hong. "They even had a formal gift presentation for us and lots of photos. I was glad that I could help them in my own way. The experience was definitely priceless." Nur Ain added, "We did make a difference to them, but they made a difference to us as well. The Indian optometrists and our lecturers were willing to guide and teach us, and they made us more confident."

Besides optometry-related activities, the students also took time to experience Chennai culture. They visited many cultural heritage sites and attractions and ate flavourful local dishes such as masala dosai, pani, idliappam and naan.

Now, having returned from the trip and graduated, most of them feel a renewed sense of purpose. Nur Ain said: "I now feel even more confident that the path I chose was the right one. I chose optometry in the first place because I knew I could make a difference to healthcare in Singapore. Seeing how it really mattered in India made an impact on me and helped me realise how important it was."

Nur Ain graduated this year and is now in Nanyang Technological University studying for a degree in Biological Sciences.

There, they met and interacted with fellow youths from South Korea and Southeast Asian countries. The event, organised by the National Council of Youth Organisations in Korea and sponsored by organisations such as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), aimed to build a strong bond between youths from different countries through music, cultural sharing and mutual learning about each other’s nations.

Over seven days, the group attended the ASEAN-Korea Food Festival, the ASEAN-Korea Music Festival and ASEAN-Korea Night. For the Food Festival, all the participants prepared their own local cuisines, allowing our students to taste diverse and unique dishes from each country. The people of Thailand prepared their delicious dishes with colourful presentations that provided insights on their homelands.

The Music Festival was held at COEX, the largest underground shopping mall in Asia. There, the group practiced together with the other countries’ students to perform a dance item. Each country’s representatives also took turns singing their national day songs and performing ethnic tunes. The series of festivals was concluded with Korea Night, where the participants partied, played games and danced together. As part of the trip, they also had the chance to visit attractions such as Gyeongbokgung, a royal palace filled with blooming gardens, ponds and beautiful pavilions; and go skiing at Welli Hilli Park, a popular ski resort.

For most of them, the best part of the trip was meeting their peers from other lands. Recent Diploma in Food Science and Technology (DFST) graduate Chia Jin Kiat said, “With just a simple supper, we built great friendships with the Cambodian participants, who were really friendly and open to talking. We even went shopping together and supported each other during team games. As for the Korean participants, they took care of us very well throughout the programme. They brought us out to shop and eat, and let us try out street food and their favourite childhood treats!”

Recent Diploma in Applied Drama and Psychology (DADP) graduate Chory Gan agreed. She said: “What I enjoyed the most was having the company of people from different countries. I made a lot of good friends whom I still keep in contact with. Some of the Korean participants even came over to Singapore and we hosted them throughout their stay. One does not come across this kind of friendship easily.”

Chory is pursuing a degree in Drama, Applied Theatre and Education at the University of London.
Say “Hello” to these newly-minted SP Scholars! The title is certainly nice to have but now the onus is on them to put forth their best show for the next two to three years in SP. Altogether, 60 first-year and 15 second-year students were recently awarded the SP Scholarship and the SP Engineering Scholarship. Another five were recognised for the outstanding achievements and awarded the SP Sports, Arts and Music Scholarship. As scholars, they are expected to perform exemplarily in their academics as well as other areas such as community involvement programmes. They will also be enrolled in SPOT (SP Outstanding Talent), a specially-tailored programme to hone their leadership skills through activities like camps and the United Nations Model Conference held in American top universities. More importantly, they should also embody the spirit of serving the less fortunate. This was best summed up by Steven Ong, a former SP scholar from the Class of 2013 who shared in his speech at the scholarship ceremony: “Empathy and humility are two very important traits that we should have as SP scholars and possibly, future leaders. These qualities will help us to know how others around us feel and in turn, we can respond to their needs better.”
The haze enveloped sunny Singapore but over at Telunas Island tucked amidst the Riau Islands, it was clear skies throughout the four days when the SP scholars were there. Almost 70 SP scholars, accompanied by three staff, set foot on Telunas Resort, which was some two-and-half-hours away by boat from the Singapore Cruise Centre at Harbourfront. They were there for the SP Scholars’ Leadership Camp — a specially-tailored grooming camp meant to nurture their potential for leadership roles.

Out Of The Comfort Zone

There was no internet connection and TV sets on the island but that did not seem to spoil their desire to have a good time. For most of them, it was the first time that they were housed in dormitories built atop wooden stilts and nothing else but the sea water they could see when they stepped out of their rooms. Showers were confined to a common bathroom and meals were taken community-style in the resort canteen. For those who brought some money, they could help themselves to minor luxuries like a can of Coke.

Comprising mostly first-year scholars and a handful from Year 2 and 3, the group picked up knowledge about leadership styles, conflict management and team building which was coupled with fun activities such as an amazing race to illustrate these values through action.

Confidence-building came in the form of jetty jumping from a 10-metre deck. While some took to it without any hesitation, there were some who made their maiden jumps into the water with much trepidation. For those who overcame the fear, they asked for repeat jumps!

For most of them, the highlight of the camp was certainly the overnight jungle trek which was a mentally and physically taxing experience. Aside from having to trek on ground for a gruelling five kilometres, they had to dismount off a boat and trek in a mangrove swamp that was waist-high and as dirty as one could imagine. Team spirit oozed in abundance throughout as members voluntarily helped each other to cross difficult terrain, build hammocks and cook in the jungle.

Arshad Bin Supa’at from the Diploma in International Business (DIB) showed tremendous grit. He could have opted out of the jungle trek as his leg had recently undergone a skin grafting operation after a bad traffic accident. But he was determined. “I wanted to challenge myself physically. I don’t want to define my limits and I want to be game enough to try out new challenges,” he said confidently.

Gayathiri Sivaraj from the Diploma in Tourism and Resort Management (DTRM) revealed that she was initially reluctant to attend the camp. “I’m really glad that I came, otherwise I would have missed out on the really good fun and company. The overnight jungle camp was my favourite activity. We had heart-to-heart sharings and all of us bonded really well.”

Benny Ong from the Diploma in Bioengineering (DBEN) summed up the camp experience: “Although it was a three-night camp, time passed so fast that I wished it could go on for a few more days. We were only starting to get familiar and comfortable but before we knew it, it was coming to an end.” He believed most of his fellow campers would be feeling the same way too.
The heat is on for the best in solar-powered vehicles. About 40 students and a handful of recent graduates from the School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering (EEE) and the School of Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering (MAE) will be heading down south in October for the solar race of the year. Dubbed the Olympics of solar car competitions, the World Solar Challenge (WSC) 2013 will see the SP Team racing down a 3,000km public route along the Australian Outback all the way from Darwin to Adelaide. The team will be up against 42 teams from 23 countries in the Challenger Class category, including teams from Cambridge and Stanford universities.

Buoyed by their success at the Shell Eco-Marathon Asia 2012 where the team came in first in the Prototype Solar category, every team member is putting in their 100% to make this their most memorable SP experience. Says Jason Ang, student leader for SunSPEC 3 from the Diploma in Mechanical Engineering (DME): “We did case studies of the other cars in previous races and are confident that SunSPEC 3 can surpass them in terms of performance.” The last time Team SP participated in this biennial race was 1999. In 2011, only seven teams managed to complete the race, out of a total of 37 teams that participated.

How will they perform in Australia? SPirit will catch up with the team upon their return to bring you a review of their Australian experience. Visit www.worldsolarchallenge.org for details on this competition.
With a burning desire for finally having something of their own, Jedidah Neo founded Flare Magazine (www.flare-magazine.com), an online magazine that is “for girls, by girls.” She then pulled together four close friends from her course to lead the Flare team.

I caught up with Jedidah as well as Hana Nordin, a contributing writer who is part of the Flare team, for a chat on how the magazine shows that to our readers – that special spark. We hope that our writing has definitely on the cards. Stick around to find out! Lastly what advice do you have for your juniors who want to work on their passion as well? Hussein: We can go for it because after you’ve acquired all the skills and knowledge, you are kind of prepared for everything that’s to come. It’s whether or not you have the passion for it. If you do, then you should just go for it.

And when we came back for graduation in May, she gushed to us, saying, “What do you guys want from this? Do you think that the skills you picked up from DTVM were helpful?”

Hana: We understand what one another is doing. We accept one another for what we like and think, so it’s not like we judge each other. We have different ideas but the same goal.

Jed: Same heart but different minds. Especially in DTVM. It is a course where everybody is very different, so you learn to embrace each other. We don’t outright reject an idea because we know it is dear to the other person. So we respect each other’s interests.

Jed: That’s very sisterly! But do you see Flare Magazine as something like project work in school?

Jed: During project discussion in school, everyone is like half dead, but now we’re all actively discussing. Everyone has the same interest and everyone wants the same thing. Sometimes we may disagree but we always reach an agreement together. I think what’s great is that everybody is putting in something, like a piece of ourselves.

Hana: One of the definitions of the word “flare” is “to shine or to glow”, and that is exactly what we wanted the message of our magazine to be. That everyone has the potential and capability to be that special spark. We hope that our magazine shows that to our readers – that they are not alone and that they are so very special.

Jed: We are all crazy here. We are all so different we will all have different ideas of what Flare should be, so I think that’s good because we want our readers to feel that Flare is what they make it to be.

Hmm, so what is it that ties you girls together?

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How is the team like, especially with the five of you?

Jed: We have very different people with very different personalities!

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Do you think that the skills you picked up from DTVM were helpful?

Hana: I don’t think we could have started this without DTVM. How we met from this course plays a part as well. Our writing has definitely improved, because there is a difference when you are writing for yourself and writing for others to read.

Jed: DTVM has really refined us. It prepares us because we can’t just go into the media world and say, “I just want to write”. We have to have knowledge of everything (e.g. writing, screenplay production, new media, and DTVM prepares you for that.

How did your lecturers react when they heard about Flare?

Jed: It was around the time of the DTVM Awards graduation dinner in March 2013. At that time it was still a secret. So I just told our lecturer, Ms Stella Wee, about it. Hana: She was so sceptical. She was like, “What do you guys want from this? Are you sure?”

Jed: So we wanted to prove her wrong. And when we came back for graduation in May, she gushed to us, saying something like, “Guys! I’ve seen your website, it is so good!”

What are some things that readers can look forward to in the future of Flare Magazine?

Jed: I think readers can look forward to more fun reads on Flare. We always aim to entertain and have a wide variety of articles, everything from a thought-provoking piece on performance artist Marina Abramovic to a guide on how to deal with being in the “friendzone”. Also, the team has kickstarted a How To: Change Up Your Look series where we challenge each other to adopt the styles of different celebrities! For our July issue, we had our first-ever collaboration with online blog shop, Evil Valentine. So other collaborations or future giveaways are definitely on the cards. Stick around to find out!
Special Project

Diploma in Interior Design (DID) students were tasked to explore bold new designs for spatial enclosures and retail displays that could mesmerise shoppers and give them fresh, intriguing experiences. Recently, they held an exhibition of pop-up stores outside campus with designs generated by their study of sewing techniques in clothes.

Pop-up stores are stores that can quickly be set up for sales, street markets or conventions. These stores "pop up" for short durations, and are quickly and easily disassembled after the event ends.

The interior design students were also given a thought-provoking assignment: design their stores according to the stitching techniques found in clothes. Each team had to analyse and deconstruct a shirt, re-stitch the material into a skirt, then translate the skirt's dimensions, ratios and stitching technique into the design of their store.

"The method assigned to our team was weaving," said final-year student Low Kai Jun. "This means our skirt had two separate layers weaving through each other. We extracted the ratios and design ideas in our skirt and translated them into the store's design."

Junior's group aimed to design and construct a store that would attract shoppers from a distance and then draw their attention to the clothes inside it. The result was a strikingly angular display with several panels jutting out. Hints of the clothes inside stick out from openings, leading shoppers towards it. Once near, they see a corridor full of protruding angles that they must twist, turn, and maneuver through to view the clothes in full.

"The idea was getting people to weave through the display," said team mate Tao Shu Xian, "and not just walk through it normally. We were thinking, instead of having the structure show the weaving design, why not let the user himself weave through it?" Kai Jun added. "We wanted the user to feel constrained. It's like you being a needle trying to weave through a cloth."

The result was absorbing and delightful. As you twist and squirm through the store's corridor a la obstacle course, you feel like a small child wandering through a deep, dark cavern. Around you, there are skirts and shirts positioned at strategic angles that snatch the attention of your heightened senses. Every edge of the walls around you provides a tiny challenge for you to deftly dodge and avoid. Once you finally exit, you feel like you've completed a little mini-adventure.

The exhibition garnered a fair amount of exposure for the students. "The DID students' stores are currently being showcased at ArchiFest 2013, a month-long architecture festival organised by the Singapore Institute of Architects."

The first user we attracted was a tourist, a designer from San Francisco," said Shu Xian. "When she stepped closer, we explained our project to her, and she liked it. She thought it was something very interesting and different." DID lecturer Mr Fann Zhi Jie was pleased with the turnout. He said: "Looking at how the students engaged the public with pride, I think the event has more than met its objectives and ended with a bang!"
There are 18-year-olds in Singapore’s ministries helping to shape government websites and influencing policies. Is this something good or something horrifically bad? Maybe no one knows but the 18-year-olds themselves.

Five second-year students from SP have been spending time at the Ministry of National Development (MND), one of those admittedly mysterious organisations that guide and direct the flow of our lives from behind the scenes. These five Diploma in Business Innovation and Design (DBID) students are interning there as part of the requirements for their DBID-MND scholarships. The ministry had offered these scholarships in the hopes of spotting young talent that could provide unique perspectives and analyses to improve government policies.

The five were chosen not only because they impressed the senior management at MND during an interview round for the scholarship, but also because they had been trained in a special thinking methodology called Design Thinking (DT), which is taught in SP. Over two school breaks, they used this knowledge in two projects assigned to them by MND. Two of them, Kao Hwee Ling and Vivian Ang, share their experience:

What did you work on, Hwee Ling and Vivian?

V: Our first project was www.myhometown.sg, a website to encourage kampung (i.e. community) spirit. We interviewed Singaporeans to get ideas to improve the site, which has low membership even though it was launched years ago. Our second project was from the Housing Development Board (HDB). It was about the resale process with customers, agents and HDB officers.

And what was it like working with them?

HL: We worked really closely. The five of us had a meeting room to ourselves, and they would usually come down to discuss. Sometimes they came to find us instead of us going to find them. For people ranked so highly… It’s simply very humbling for us.

Was it interesting to do research on national-level MND projects?

V: It’s a government organisation. I mean… In our lives, how many chances do we have to work with the government? MND is at the core of Singapore’s national development, so we’re working on something that could potentially change the future of Singapore…

HL: For me it’s the same. How many 17 or 18-year-olds get to work on solutions that will really impact people and meet so many high-ranking faces?

How did it turn out?

V: For our first project, we presented first to the senior director and understood that he was very happy with it. Then he told the Permanent Secretary about it, and after the Permanent Secretary saw it, we were told he was also very happy about it too! Haha.

HL: Initially we were just doing sort of a small project. Then I think the senior director became interested so he wanted to see our presentation. And it escalated to the Permanent Secretary so it was really very interesting.

Can you share with us one of your key findings?

HL: For the website, there were some unnecessary functions. There were many functions in the website but the main function that people used was the futures. So there were many other things that people did not want, and which made the site look very cluttered. We found that people wanted simplicity and convenience.

What is the most memorable thing you learned during the internships?

HL: I think what I remember is… that the people from the government are also normal citizens like us. If you are in the government, you’re likely to be aimed at by everybody. But they are just like ordinary folks and they don’t want to be hated. This is something that stuck with me.

V: I think I agree with her, haha. Out of all the people there, I remember the senior director most because I had a tea session with him. Also, he is a nice person. Haha.

What is Design Thinking? Did it help you in your work at MND?

HL: DT is a problem-solving methodology that’s focused on understanding the heart of a user. Instead of giving people what you think they need, you can find out what they really need through DT.

V: One thing about DT is that you must put yourself in the shoes of users, feel what they feel and see what they see. This helped us gain insights from our end users that we cannot know from just doing statistical research.

Has the experience shaped your thoughts about what you’d like to do in future?

HL: I would want to do something that will impact people’s lives, because that’s what Design Thinking is all about. And I really want to make people’s lives better. So even after the MND experience, that’s what I’ll try to do.

Another group of SP students recently won scholarships from MND. Read about them on page SP News 7 and 8.

The Diploma in Business Innovation and Design (DBID) encourages students to unleash their inner creativity to transforming business processes. Perhaps an interesting illustration of this is when Vivian showed presentation slides of her art drawings during her interview with the six directors. When asked why she did something so unconventional, Vivian said:

“My lecturer suggested it, and I thought it was an interesting idea. At the time, we were freshmen and our PowerPoint skills were limited. So I thought that using visuals could spice up the presentation. I also showed them improvement pictures, like what I did in secondary two versus secondary four. Since it was my strength, I wanted to emphasise it.”
The SP Silat Women’s Team re-established its dominance this year by winning three silvers, four bronzes and its first gold in eight years at the Tertiary Silat Competition (TSC) for polytechnics, universities and ITEs. With fierce kicks and snapping punches, Nur Azilla bte Nazli fought to the championship spot in Tanding Category B. Her advice for her juniors? “Never be gentle in the ring.”

The first striking thing about Azilla is her voice – the mild, gentle, sweet cadences alternating with bubbling, pure laughter—definitely not what you would expect from a trained silat champ who could pummel, strike, or crush you into submission.

Across the interview table, the petite girl sits, smiling, laughing and sharing her experiences enthusiastically, such as how her teammates have nicknamed her “Azilla the Godzilla”.

“People say that I have this very killer smirk, like a ‘I’m gonna bring you down’ kind of thing. But actually, inside my mind it’s just, ‘I’m sorry... But I have to do this to you!’” she says, laughing.

The final-year Diploma in Landscape Architecture (DLA) student admits that in the ring, she is a fiercer, more determined person. “In her view, most girls tend to be gentle and softer during training, so she’s always emulating the attitude of the boys,” she says.

“I think I’m different from the girls in that when I have to fight, I’ll go all out. I see how the guys just whack each other and then go, ‘nice job’. Haha. But girls tend to be more gentle. And that’s a bad thing because it’s better to train against someone tough.”

That is probably one trait that brought Azilla from having zero silat knowledge in Year 1 to beating opponents from the other tertiary institutions to get the no.1 spot this year. A great work ethic and two-hour training sessions, three times a week, certainly helped as well. Or perhaps martial arts is simply in her blood. The sweetly-spoken girl’s uncles, aunt, sister and cousins have all practiced silat at some point in their lives.

Azilla honed her skills not just through physical punches, kicks and leg sweeps but also through mental focus and discipline. “At night, before competitions, she envisions what she’d do in her fights,” says, “Silat also touches on mental strength. During the three-minute fight, our mental strength and confidence have to be greater than our opponent. You have to tell yourself, ‘I can do this. I can win this. I have done this before.’”

She also speaks warmly of her coach and parents, who constantly encouraged and motivated her throughout the competition.

For Azilla, winning at TSC was the happiest day of her life thus far, and she says that one key motivation was making sure that the other schools would sit up and take notice of SP’s abilities. To her juniors who will fight for the club when she leaves, she says, “This skill you’re learning could one day help you in the outside world if you’re in trouble. So my advice would be, ‘Never be gentle in the ring.’”

When she first started out, she underwent many ups and downs as there were times when she managed to perform well and others when she could not even score a single point. Initially it was frustrating, and the young rookie started to feel more discouraged and pessimistic about herself. However, despite the hardship, Azilla persevered, believing that practice makes perfect.

Her coaches played a significant part in her success as well. In Alice’s second semester with the team, a new coach, Kelvin Lim, joined. That was when things began to improve for her. Through his constant coaching and encouragement, she vastly improved in both her techniques and tactics. Alice started to gain more confidence. Soon, she was brought to the highest level of training in the development team. In that squad, she was groomed under Coach Hendroff Ignatius Patrick to play on a competitive level.

Unlike other students who joined this sport, Alice had no prior experience in tennis. Being a relatively shy person during her time in Punggol Secondary School, she did not feel comfortable in joining anyCCA that required her to interact a lot with other people. Most of the time, she limited herself to participating in cultural or media clubs. But a mere click on her laptop was all it took to seal Alice’s successful fate with tennis. Her journey started after applying for the last vacant slot online for tennis in the Sports for Life (SFL) programme during her second year.

On the competition day itself however, the fruits of that training revealed themselves. Despite a nerve-wracking atmosphere, the determined rookie traded fierce volleys with her opponent, shedding her nerves in order to concentrate and ultimately win the match. Her win contributed to her team’s flawless victory: each player won their match against ITE, earning themselves the championship crown.

Now fully in love with tennis and in her final year at school, Alice says: “Joining the tennis team has given me a treasure in my life. New friends, CCA points (lifting!), time to exercise and most importantly, it’s made me grow to believe more in myself. I’ve found something to work for, and I know that with hard work and practice, I can go far in tennis!”

SPL is SP’s sports enrichment programme that aims to help students discover their sports talents and lead a well-balanced life. Training opportunities for people new to sports are provided for activities such as martial arts, racket sports and even yoga! It is currently in a pilot stage where only certain diploma courses are involved, but will eventually expand to include the entire school.
Jeremy Ko, who graduated from SP with the Diploma in Business Administration (DBA) in 2008, had his first taste of money-making when he was a primary school kid in Maris Stella High. A supplementary lesson in basic web design led him to create a simple website for his mother’s friend who needed some online presence. That first project earned him $500 for five HTML pages.

There was no turning back for Jeremy who realised he had the entrepreneurial streak in him. During his secondary school days in Dunman High, he started providing photography services using a friend’s camera. He charged $50 to $80 an hour and even offered photoshopping as a value-added service. Through self-learning from a book, he started to offer page layout services too.

“You think all of these would affect his grades? No way! Jeremy’s ‘O’ level grades were good enough for his choice of junior college but he chose to join SP. “Very simple reason,” he told SPHi. “I don’t need to fill my brains with theoretical stuff by learning physics or maths. Poly education would give me the hands-on experience. But there was one other reason why I chose SP – it has the most awesome rock-climbing team. And of course, SP has a very strong brand name!”

In addition, he continued to offer his photography and design services. On average, he could earn up to $1,500 a month. He could have saved a bundle but most of the cash went towards gadgets and books. “I wasn’t focused on saving money, I was just happy to earn money!” he laughed. But money-making was not his only preoccupation. During one of the semester breaks, he went to Cambodia on a community service trip to teach English to the native kids and also participated in all kinds of rock-climbing competitions.

Even after completing his final-year project which involved working in a competition with Community Chest, he was hungry for more hands-on experience. With very thick skin, he wrote in to the chief judge of the competition, Mr Liak Teng Lit, who is now the Group Chief Executive Officer of Alexandra Health System. He asked for an attachment to Alexandra Hospital. The boss replied and offered him the chance to learn in the hospital’s corporate communications department. He was tasked to either help to produce a coffee table book or revamp the hospital’s website. He took up the latter challenge.

“Very challenging as it involved talking to everyone from top to bottom doctors, nurses and patients on what they want in a hospital’s website.”

Jeremy completed his national service with the platoon’s Best Recruit honour, and joined Nanyang Technological University (NTU) where he enrolled in the Bachelor of Communication Studies programme. He is on track to graduate with first-class honors if he does not side track too much on his grades.

The first three years in NTU were eventful for Jeremy. He got a scholarship due to his excellent grades and went to the famed Fudan University in Shanghai as a University Exchange Scholar. He was also on the Dean’s List and selected to be a university research scholar; a position offered only to undergraduates.

Jeremy chose China for his overseas programme because he wanted to brush up on his Mandarin as well as immerse himself in the country with the fastest-growing economy in the world. His strong command of Mandarin now would put many of his peers to shame; he could even communicate technical jargon in Mandarin.

In China, he networked with suppliers of gym equipment and seriously looked into starting a real and registered business. Within months, Movement First was born! The company supplies and customises fitness equipment to gyms such as Ritual Gym, and his clientele has now expanded to Malaysia and Indonesia. He is now comfortably pocketing close to $5,000 profit every month from this business, which has a full-fledged warehouse in Yishun.

For a half-year period after returning from China, he interned with media research giant The Nielsen Company in the day and worked on his business operations in the evening.

After graduating from NTU next year, he envisions expanding his business. “Movement First is highly scalable. I can progress to offering consultancy services, group and personal training or even working with engineers to create gadgets specific to fitness,” he says confidently.

And did we mention that actually Jeremy has another online business that is now taking a break? He started 49orless.com, an online shop that sells anything less than $50. It’s still making a decent profit but he wants to let it go to concentrate on bigger stakes on hand. Any takers?

Need a kettlebell or medicine ball to keep fit at home? Visit movementfirst.sg or facebook.com/movementfirst.sg.

“Much more time you have, the more time you waste. If I have only an hour, I will focus on maxing out that one hour,” says Jeremy Ko. Not that he is arrogant; this SP alumnus would rather find out the fastest way to take notes during lectures instead of Facebooking or twitting. Indeed, it is his highly-disciplined time management ritual that helps him to excel not only in his studies but also his business start-ups. SPHi interviewed this intellectual go-getter who learned how to make money from primary six.

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We Chose SIT (and why not?)

Law Wei Cai @ Technical University of Munich

There was no doubt that Law Wei Cai wanted to further his studies after graduating from SP with a Diploma in Aerospace Electronics (DARE). But he never imagined having the chance to earn a degree from the famed Technical University of Munich (TUM), ranked third in Germany and all made possible with the wonderful collaboration with Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT). And best of all, the journey took only two years and it included a summer attachment at TUM itself – yes, in Munich!

Law Wei Cai joined SP from Regent Secondary School where he scored A1 for math and science at the G.C.E. ‘O’ levels. He enrolled into the popular aerospace course and his interest in engineering was further piqued by the course.

Right after national service, the set-up of his engineering degree was further piqued by the course.

In SIT, Wei Cai would always volunteer as a photographer for various SIT events as he gained a sense of accomplishment from capturing the happy faces of his peers. He muses that “photography gives me a chance to capture beautiful and exciting moments of our daily life. It’s like keeping a diary with pictures.”

As TUM classes are located within SP’s campus, Law Wei Cai is grateful that he can continue eating the “cheap and delicious” food from the many food courts there. He also gets the chance to re-connect with his former SP lecturers whom he misses very much. For Wei Cai, SP has taught him that learning never stops. His degree experience in SIT-TUM has further shaped him as an inquisitive learner and has prepared him well for the stormy world after graduation.

Jeremy Jiang @ University of Glasgow

From a passionate hobby of assembling RC-planes, Jeremy is now in his second year at SIT pursuing the Bachelor of Engineering with Honours in Aeronautical Engineering offered by SIT in partnership with University of Glasgow. Founded in 1451, the University of Glasgow is the fourth oldest university in the English-speaking world.

Since young, he has always been curious about how airplanes fly and the mechanics behind them taking off and landing. To pursue his interest, Jeremy joined SP in 2007 after his ‘O’ levels at Mari’s Stella High to pursue the popular Diploma in Aeronautical Engineering (DARE). After SP, he signed on as an Air Force Engineer Officer where he was offered a scholarship by MINDEF to further his studies in SIT.

As an Air Force Engineer, Jeremy believes that his degree education will equip him with the advanced skills and knowledge to understand aircraft systems better, and help him with defect analysis, trending and troubleshooting. The highlight of his course was spending four weeks in Glasgow for the Overseas Immersion Programme, during which he worked on two key projects. One of them involved building a high-lift aerofoil using styrofoam to conduct wind tunnel testing.

Jeremy’s team of five conceptualised the design in Singapore then assembled the model in Glasgow. He built on his experience from his final-year project in SP where his team built a 2.2m by 3.6m aircraft that was spent four weeks in Glasgow for the Overseas Immersion Programme, during which he worked on two key projects. One of them involved building a high-lift aerofoil using styrofoam to conduct wind tunnel testing.

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As the President of the SIT-UoG Student Management Committee and SIT Divers Club, Jeremy is required to organise a range of student activities. This year, he organised a Chinese New Year gathering for SIT-UoG staff and students. He recalls fondly that the faculty from Glasgow were delighted to have the chance to “join in” with the locals and be part of the festive occasion. The soft skills that he gained from these extracurricular activities have raised his confidence level, which is useful for him when he gives presentations to his superiors and commanders.

As UoG’s aeronautical engineering programme is conducted at SP, Jeremy is delighted to continue his degree education at his alma mater as it brings back memories of his poly days – loads of fun moments amidst the hard work needed to upkeep everything falls into place. We know your aspirations. We know your strengths and weaknesses. We are in tune with industry demands and we also constantly look to the future in which all of you will be playing a key role.”
Student Priorities

Recently, online store ASOS had a clearance sale of up to 70% off on watches, shoes, shirts, blouses—well basically everything. If you’re not in the know, then you almost certainly missed out on the chance to restock your wardrobe. But not to worry. Writer Lakeisha Leo surveyed SP students on their must-go websites for fashion, pop culture and entertainment so you’ll never miss out again! Here’s the top five.

What’s buzzing on the Internet?

Spending at least five hours daily on their computers, laptops or mobile devices, teenagers nowadays make use of the Internet to catch up with their friends on social media websites, get entertainment on online streaming sites or simply obtain information and get updated on the latest news around the world.

One can’t help but wonder: What are some of the websites that are popular among SP students right now? Read on to find out the top five websites with the most number of students visiting overall.

No. 1 YouTube

Website: www.youtube.com

It’s no surprise that the No. 1 website for SP students is YouTube. Launched in February 2005 and owned by Google since 2006, the website lets users upload, view and share videos. Music videos, TV shows, web-series, Vlogs (Video blogs) – you name it, it’s there. (There’s also an SP channel, if you never knew!)

With YouTube, there’s always something for everyone. One channel we’d recommend is HISHEdotcom, whose videos easily get at least 2,000,000 views each. How It Should Have Ended (HISHE) is a series of animated parodies of famous box-office flops and smash hits. Wondering how Iron Man 3 would’ve ended if genius Tony Stark had simply used his army of autopilot suits from the beginning? Watch to find out!

No. 2 9GAG

Website: 9gag.com

Popular among students across the different schools, this image-based entertainment website is a big hit with nearly two billion page views per month. Similar to websites such as Reddit and Digg where users can vote and comment on the posts, the content in 9gag is mainly made up of Internet memes, humorous comics and Internet gifs.

Students tend to visit 9gag during class and lectures, saying that the funny images help to reduce the boredom during lessons and prevent them from falling asleep. Others make use of 9gag to kill time and keep them entertained.

No. 3 Manga Websites

Website: www.mangareader.net

As many students are fans of Japanese culture, it is no surprise that manga websites are on the top three of the list.

One popular website is MangaReader, where students can read purportedly free English translations of popular manga. Updates occur weekly or monthly, giving students a regular break from studies to look forward to. However, take note that the legality of the manga provided is a contentious affair. Although we could find no online notices from companies targeting the site specifically, the actual validity of MangaReader’s copyright policies are pretty unclear!

No. 4 Wikipedia

Website: www.wikipedia.org

Created by Jimmy Wales and Larry Sanger, Wikipedia is a multilingual, collaboratively edited encyclopedia owned by the Wikimedia Foundation. With over 30 million articles in 287 languages, Wikipedia is the largest and most popular online encyclopedia on the Internet.

Wikipedia has a large amount of information readily available on any topic under the sun, thus making it popular with SP students who need resources to help them with assignments or research papers. Other than research, there are students who enjoy visiting the website just to read up on random topics to kill time. Some students even use the website to find out spoilers on their favourite TV shows!

A good source if you need factual information about something. However, be aware that the articles can be edited by anyone, so some information might not be 100% accurate!

No. 5 ASOS

Website: www.asos.com

ASOS is one of the largest online-only fashion and beauty shopping websites based in the UK. Primarily aimed at 18 to 34-year-olds, it offers over 60,000 branded products across women’s wear, menswear, footwear, accessories and jewellery.

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SP students enjoy visiting ASOS because of the website’s easy navigation and wide range of fashion and beauty products offered. It is a convenient and hassle-free marketplace that lets you shop with a click of a mouse, 24/7. Seems like the user-friendliness of the website is one of the key points of how to attract users!

As an added bonus for its customers, ASOS also provides free worldwide shipping. Furthermore, for orders above S$175, there is free express delivery to Singapore with the code “Expressing”. With such attractive deals, no wonder ASOS is a popular website for students who enjoy shopping online.

With ASOS, you can find anything from the latest fashion trends to classic styles. The website is easy to navigate, with clear categories for men and women. You can quickly find what you’re looking for, whether it’s a dress, a pair of shoes or some accessories.

Whether you’re a fashionista or just looking for something to dress up your wardrobe, ASOS has got you covered. So why wait? Log on to ASOS today and start shopping for your next outfit!
What If...

While you stare at your lecturer rattling off, your mind wanders elsewhere... to a space where you become the most authoritative, commanding, awe-inspiring and/or terrifying figure of your school – the Principal and Chief Executive Officer (PCEO)?

Writer Desirae Tan went around SP asking students: What would you change or introduce? (And by the way, yep, that’s his title: PCEO Mr Tan Choon Shian! Shiny, isn’t it?)

“I would invest more in the size of the clubrooms and definitely the CCAs as they are the reason we have so much fun within our polytechnic. So to keep our students happier within the polytechnic we must make sure their CCA is enjoyable! For example, remaking that dance house from Step Up 3.”
- Bruce Tan, second-year, Diploma in Interactive Media (DIxM)

“I would be more supportive of CCAs because they are where students excel and learn life lessons.”
- Reagan Gob, final-year, Diploma in Mechanical Engineering (DME)

“I would have an escalator to go uphill and also build a bridge connecting all the different buildings because it’s tiring to climb the hill every day in order to get to class. I would also hold more events for SP so it won’t be boring.”
- Richard Prayoga Supangrat, second-year, Diploma in Business Innovation and Design (DBID)

“I would start a three-day weekend.”
- Mandy Chang, second-year, Diploma in Information Technology (DIT)

“I would abolish Gen Ed or turn it into an extra credit module that might actually help in our portfolio.”
- Lee Xue Jun, second-year, Diploma in Creative Writing for TV and New Media (DTVM)

“I would cry because it’s such a big responsibility.”
- Nadiah Afrina, second-year, Diploma in Creative Writing for TV and New Media (DTVM)

“I would build an escalator along the long stretch of road uphill towards the business school and also install more lifts to ferry everyone up to class faster.”
- Goh Liang Yu, second-year, Diploma in Aeronautical Engineering (DARE)

“I would install aircons in FoodCourt 2.”
- Terrence Zhang, second-year, Diploma in Games Design and Development (DGDD)

“No 8am classes.”
- Sam Wen Jun, final-year, Diploma in International Business (DIB)

“I would start a three-day weekend.”
- Mandy Chang, second-year, Diploma in Information Technology (DIT)
**FIRST POLY GRAD IN NTU MEDICAL SCHOOL**

Diploma in Biomedical Science (DBS) graduate and SP scholar Russell John Chooch holds the distinction of being the first polytechnic graduate admitted to the new medical school jointly set up by Nanyang Technological University (NTU) and Imperial College. The former student from Holy Innocent’s High who joined SP under the Direct Poly Admission (DPA) programme will commence studies midway through his national service. During his SP journey, Russell organised and participated in various community healthcare programmes such as a health mapping exercise for senior citizens. He also formed a team of SP students in the IT Joy project in East Timor where they donated recycled computers and taught basic computer lessons to the natives there.

Besides Russell, fellow DBS graduates from the Class of 2013 –Charlotte Mel, Darren Goh and Meetra Seyher Rajoo have also gained admission into the Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine at the National University of Singapore (NUS). In all, there are now seven SP graduates accepted by NTU and NUS to study medicine. In addition, Alex Chua, also from DBS, was the first poly graduate admitted to NUS to pursue dentistry and has graduated this year.

**YOUR COMPUTER IS NOT SAFE...**

Not from these guys, at least. Ducn Soo and Cha Ching Chuen won third place at AIRRAID 2013, a competition where teams of IT students compete to see whose hacking skills are the greatest. The two Diploma in Infocomm Security Management (DISM) final-year students battled with 12 other local and international teams. Their objective was to launch cyber attacks (i.e. hacking) that can compromise systems. To find out more, visit www.sp.edu.sg/schools/dism and other IT-related courses.

**WINNING FRIENDSHIPS AND MORE**

Four SP girls (pictured above) accomplished a major feat: they beat not one, not 100, but 182 teams to take fifth place and US$250 cash in the Espriex Business Model Competition 2013. Calling themselves Eco M, the girls from the Diploma in International Business (DBI) team with teams from tertiary institutions in Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar and Singapore. The competition, held by the University of Brawijaya in Indonesia, challenged students to come up with creative but realistic business ideas that fit the theme, “Creative Business for Shaping the Future of ASEAN.” Eco M’s winning idea was an electronic business-card mobile app that would benefit both business professionals and businesses aiming to promote themselves effectively online. One aim of the app is to help users to better keep track of people and businesses they are interested in.

While there, the girls also had the chance to immerse themselves in Indonesia’s rich culture. They sampled local cuisine and watched traditional dance and music performances. Team member Avril Chua said: “The most meaningful part of this competition was the friendships built between us and our ASEAN competitors. We had many opportunities to network with the other participants. Although we were competing, that did not stop us from developing a healthy camaraderie. This proved to us that as important as a competition may be, it is the relationships that matter. Being in the International Business course, these friendships may benefit us in our future endeavors.”

**INNOVATE IT!**

Each year, the 14-month Innovation IT competition invites students to come up with innovative IT ideas that can improve businesses. Final-year SP students from the Diploma in Business Innovation and Design (DBID) entered the competition and took fifth place in the price of three Samsung MUV00F cameras. Their team, PerfectInnovators, proposed a mobile app idea called KLearn. Their app still digitise a pre-schooler’s portfolio, such as artworks, worksheets and sculptures, and store them in a cloud database. This lowers the costs of maintaining portfolios for schools, makes the portfolios more accessible, and allows the stored data to be used as a great learning tool. A unique feature of KLearn is its capability of storing not just 2D but 3D photos of a work, which will be used to generate a 3D model for storage. Students can then learn about shapes, sizes and colours from the model by rotating and zooming in on it. Additional benefits of the system include allowing parents and teachers access to a student’s performance to help them gain insights on how to improve the child’s learning progress.
Thirty current SP students are now proud recipients of the BCA Industry Built Environment Sponsorship: Diploma Scholarship awarded to current SP students pursuing diploma courses relevant to architecture and the built environment. This year, SP students again took the lion’s share of this scholarship, claiming 50 out of the 61 scholarships awarded to polytechnic students. In addition, another 27 students were awarded the BCA-Industry Built Environment Scholarship: Diploma in Environmental Management and Water Technology, sponsored by the Building and Construction Authority (BCA) and sponsor companies and organisations, serves to attract young people of high calibre to take up full-time built environment courses. The recipients of the Nanyang Scholarship in 2013 are: Lee Sean (Diploma in Business Information Technology - DBIT), Boui Ban Zi (Diploma in Mechatronics and Robotics - DMRO), Holly Fong (Diploma in Civil Engineering with Business - DCEB), William Luok Zhi Shen (Diploma in Music and Audio Technology - DMAT), Nicolle Loh (Diploma in Media and Communication - DMC), Tan Jia Yi (Diploma in Human Resource Management with Psychology - DHRMP) and from the Academy, or at local or overseas universities.

The scholarship and sponsorship programmes, offered by the Building and Construction Authority (BCA) and sponsor companies and organisations, serves to attract young people of high calibre to take up full-time built environment courses at the local polytechnics and the BCA Academy. Besides covering tuition fees, the scholarship programme also provides students with a structured On-Job-Training in the first year and enrol the scholar in a part-time Specialist/Advanced Diploma in the top-tiered NTU scholarships. The path towards a glorious maritime career is shining brightly for 28 students and graduates from the Singapore Maritime Academy (SMA). They clinched 28 out of the 42 Maritime/OCE Scholarship awards this year to pursue their diploma and degree programmes either at the Singapore Maritime Academy, or at local or overseas universities. These scholarships, with a total value of $1.1 million, are sponsored by SMA and maritime companies and organisations such as shipping firms and shipyards. It is administered by the Singapore Maritime Foundation.

In addition, 15 Top-tiered Maritime Scholarship Scheme (TMSS) scholarships worth a total of $400,000 were also awarded to current SP students pursuing the Diploma in Marine Engineering (DME) and Nautical Studies (DNS) at SMA. The scheme offers scholarships to students to take up their maritime career path through obtaining a sea-ratering education and subsequently becoming Masters or Chief Engineers of ocean-going ships. This invaluable sea-ratering experience will prepare talented and hardworking officers for top shore-based management positions within the maritime industry. Recipients of the Maritime/OCE Scholarship are: SMA Graduates: Heng Zhao Cheng, Gary Chin Weng Meng, Gerald Sim Choon Wei, Talifah Ayu Ya, Sheryl Choo, Jun Jie, Muhammad Faqih bin Muhd Ram, Winnie Khoo, Koh Ming Hui, Jana Sing Tan, Entice Lim Yan Ting, Jeremiah Pung You Chee, Elisabeth Tai Li Lin, Brandon Lee I Wo, Lee Teck Guan Xiang, Easgar Ge Ho Jun, Poh Ann Nai, Siti Khadijah bin Mansor, Predeepkumar Krishnamurthy, Xue Guorong.

SWEET SOLUTIONS TO WORLDS PROBLEMS

In 2012, Singapore produced 703,200 tonnes of food wastage, of which only 12 per cent was recycled. Such waste is not only terrible in itself – it also causes additional environmental harm when it is incinerated in waste disposal plants! Three students and one graduate from the Diploma in Chemical Engineering (DICE) have come up with a possible solution! At the recent Trust Us, We Are Engineers competition organised by the Institution of Young Engineers Singapore, teams of students were invited to learn more about environmental issues and propose innovative solutions to environmental challenges. To deal with the problem of food waste, the SP DICE team researched a process to convert crushed sugarcane waste into useful products! Called Sugarcane Bagasse to EverGreen Board, this process also produces a bonus, the process is also environmentally friendly. The board fibres are glued together using only harmless, natural compounds like lignin (a substance found in plant cell wall) instead of potentially harmful chemicals. For their ingenious creation, the team won first place in the Junior College/PolytechnicITE category, as well as a gold medal and $3,000 cash!
Four SP students and one graduate challenged the best of the best in Leipzig, Germany, as part of Team Singapore at WorldSkills Leipzig 2013, a worldwide competition that tests hundreds of talented youths from 65 different countries and regions to compete before the public in various skills ranging from health and social care-giving to robotics, mechanics and even cooking! The event is meant to recognize outstanding achievements of youths and help them to most follow-skilled eminents from other countries.

Hoea Loke recently had a taste of biology-inspired robot design. The final-year Diploma in Mechanical Engineering (DME) student recently won the Merit prize at the SUTD Design and Technology Challenge 2013. Organised by the Singapore University of Technology and Design (SUTD), the event challenged participants to design a bio-inspired robot suitable for search and rescue missions. The Merit prize earned Hoea $100 and the chance to attend a two-day workshop to influence kids. Because few other participants had explored the possibility of using NFC in games with each correct match. Team Playmat’s approach earned them additional praises based on a separate sheet embedded with NFC receiver chips. They will score points by displaying a word on the screen and children will use the phone to scan images found on a separate sheet. The competition gave students a mere 32 hours to brainstorm and develop their concepts from scratch to product. Using mathematical concepts, they solved this problem posed to them by the School of Physical and Mathematical Sciences in Nanyang Technological University (NTU). In a special assignment cum competition organised by SP’s Department of Math and Science, they took the top prize of a $200 Kinokuniya voucher sponsored by NTU. This curriculum-based activity aimed to cultivate mathematical thinking and creativity amongst SP students using the Advanced Math Module 3.
SP GRADS AND STUDENTS CLINCH TOP MOE AWARDS

Nickson Lee Yun Hay, a pioneer Polytechnic Foundation Programme student at SP, and Leong Hei Kern, an institutional medallist at SP Graduation 2013 and Public Service Commission Scholar, have clinched the two top education awards. Nickson won the Lee Kuan Yew Award for All-Round Excellence, a national level award which is presented to only one current poly student who has excelled in both academic and non-academic spheres, and who exemplifies positive character development, strong leadership qualities and commitment to service to the community. Hei Kern won the Lee Hsien Loong Award for Outstanding All-Round Achievement, which is presented to only one poly student with outstanding academic and non-academic achievements and who made outstanding contributions to the community, and demonstrated a spirit of innovation and enterprise.

In addition, out of 10 LKY-STEP Awards (Lee Kuan Yew Scholarship to Encourage Upgrading Awards) handed out to poly graduates proceeding to universities, SP graduates took four. They are A Sauravanan and Qurraza Am Fatimah Muhammed, who are going to National University of Singapore, and Lee Jun Li and Joyce Tan Li Ling who are heading to Nanyang Technological University.

Five current SP students also received the LKY-STEP award given to ITE graduates now studying at the poly. They are Arshad Bin Sapiqul, Lee Jen Li, Mohd Firman Bin Abdul Wahab, Tan Yong Siang and Tim Wei Li.

The LKY-STEP Award comes with a one-off cash quantum of $3,500 and waiver of tuition fees during their course of study. The awards were presented to them by the Minister of Social and Family Development, Mr Chan Chun Sing, at the 2013 Special Awards Presentation Ceremony.

AN EDGE OVER THE REST

A second group of students from the Diploma in Business Innovation and Design (DBID) were recently awarded the MND EDGE Business Innovation and Design Scholarship. Only SP students enrolled in the DBID course can apply for this prestigious scholarship offered by the Ministry of National Development (MND). The five were selected through a rigorous process before clinching the scholarship that will cover their tuition fees, annual book allowances and an overseas student exchange programme overseas and have opportunities to participate in attachment programmes overseas.

FUTURE HOUSING ARCHITECTS

Three fresh graduates from the School of Architecture and the Built Environment (ABE) were recently awarded the MND EDGE Business Innovation and Design Scholarship. Only SP students enrolled in the DBID course can apply for this prestigious scholarship offered by the Ministry of National Development (MND). The five were selected through a rigorous process before clinching the scholarship that will cover their tuition fees, annual book allowances and an overseas student exchange programme overseas and have opportunities to participate in attachment programmes overseas.

He has done it, again and again! It seems an easy feat for Leong Hei Kern to win awards and scholarships. Throughout his three-year SP journey, he has clinched the SP Scholarship as well as prestigious awards like the LTA Engineering Award and the A*STAR Science Award (Polytechnic). At his graduation ceremony, he was named as one of SP’s institutional medallists and graduated with the Lee Kuan Yew Award, along with a string of other prizes.

The latest, and the biggest feather to his cap, is winning the prestigious Public Service Commission (PSC) Open Scholarship, the top-tier government scholarship. Formerly from Chung Cheng High School (Branch), the Diploma in Architecture (DARCH) graduate was firm about choosing to join SP after his ‘O’ levels. His father, also a SP graduate, supported his decision wholeheartedly.

On his choice of applying for a government scholarship instead of a private one, Hei Kern says: “The more I looked at the job scope offered by PSC scholarships, the more I’m lured into it. The scheme allows me to be placed in different government bodies to explore different opportunities. I feel that I could really use my engineering and design skills in a very meaningful manner to improve lives.” He has accepted a place to read engineering at the Singapore University of Technology and Design (SUTD), where he will also undertake a global leadership programme at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in USA. He explains why he chose to join SUTD: “It has a very special programme that integrates design and technology and I totally subscribe to this philosophy.”

The PSC Scholarship is not the end of Hei Kern’s string of victories. He has recently also been awarded the Lee Hsien Loong Outstanding All-Round Achievement Award, given to post-secondary students who have done well (both academically and non-academically), particularly those who have made outstanding contributions to the community and demonstrated a spirit of innovation and enterprise. The award was given out for the first time in 2010 to one Singaporean fresh graduate from each of the following four groups – junior colleges / centralised institutes, ITE, polytechnics and autonomous universities. The first recipient of this award for the polytechnic group was given to SP graduate Desmond Thiam, who is now doing his medical degree in the National University of Singapore.
GORGEOUS GUYS!

Brice Tan (left) (Diploma in Interactive Media) and Wilson Lau (Diploma in Computer Engineering - DCPE) have the title, “Gorgeous Hunk”, hanging over their heads now. They are the winners and first runner-up respectively in the Gorgeous You! contest organized by Teenage magazine. Selected from a pool of great-looking guys across the schools, Brice and Wilson charmed the judges with their poise and confidence in the finals that was held in Bugis. Brice won home with $500 cash while Wilson got richer with $250 cash. Brice went on to win the “Gorgeous Men” title in the subsequent contest. Wilson was also recently awarded the SP Scholarship.

SP students Arshad Bin Supa’at (below left) and Tan Yong Siang received top honours from their alma mater, the Institute of Technical Education, recently. They received the Lee Yuan Yen Medal (Student/Trainee Award 2013) for their consistently excellent academic performance in their courses and display of outstanding conduct and attitude worthy of emulation by their peers. The award serves to inspire students and trainees to display exemplary behaviour in training, develop high moral values and show care and concern for others. Arshad is now pursuing the Diploma in International Business (DIB) while Yong Siang is chasing his dream to be an engineer with the Diploma in Aerospace Electronics (DAE). Both of them were also recently awarded the SP Scholarship.

READY FOR MEDIA INDUSTRY

Fourteen SP students recently received prestigious pilot wings. The Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore presented them with their Private Pilot License (PPL), which they earned by training at the Singapore Young Flying Club (SYFC). The PPL entitles them to pilot a Singapore-registered aircraft for non-commercial use.

To get their licenses, the students, who are mainly from the Diplomas in Aeronautical Engineering (DARE), Aerospace Electronics (DAE) and Electrical and Electronic Engineering (DEEE), joined the SYFC in their CCA and went on more than 30 training flights over a period of one year. Although the training is expensive, it is almost fully funded by the Ministry of Defence which hopes to identify suitable candidates to become air force pilots. SP students received 14 out of the 38 licenses awarded this year. In addition, Lee Hong Hui from DEEE was honoured with the SYFC Best in Flying Award and the MAJ Best in Flying Award, while Mohd Azkhairy bin Mohd Ramezan from DIT was awarded the MAJ Best in Ground School Award.

SP students yet again clinched the host’s share of the Integrated Infocomm Scholarship (IIS). Out of the 40 scholarships awarded, 24 went to SP students from the School of Digital Media and Infocomm Technology, SP Business School and SP Design School. The IIS will prepare them in their infocomm studies at both the polytechnic and university levels, such as providing opportunities for valuable industry attachments to major infocomm corporations locally and overseas. The scholarship will cover their full polytechnic tuition fees at SP and other perks such as a $6,000 annual allowance, computer allowance and sponsorship of an overseas attachment. Upon graduating from SP, they have two options to pursue digital media and infocomm-related degree courses at university level - continue under the IIS programme or apply for the National Infocomm Scholarship.

SP students clinched 60 per cent of Infocomm Scholarships within a matter of three months, Tan Shi Hui clinched two top honours. The first was topping her Diploma in Business Information Technology (DBIT) course in May. The second was receiving the National Infocomm Scholarship from the Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore (IDA), sponsored by Singtel. She is now pursuing her degree in Information Management for Business at University College London (UK). Incidentally, her older brother, Tan Yoon, was also a SP graduate and high scorer too. He was the silver medallist in the Diploma in Information Technology (DIT) course and is now pursuing a degree in Computer Science in Real-Time Interactive Simulation at DigiPen - Singapore Institute of Technology. There were more honours for SP graduates at the Ministry of Communication and Information Scholarships Award Ceremony 2013. Beside Shi Hui, Lorraine Tang (Diploma in Media and Communication - DMC, Class of 2013) and Daryl Yong (Diploma in Games Design and Development - DGDD, Class of 2013) were awarded the Media Education Scheme (MES) scholarship by the Media Development Authority (MDA) to pursue their university degrees. The scholarship will cover courses with their sponsor companies after they get their degrees. Lorraine will pursue a degree in Communications Studies at Nanyang Technological University and hopes to become a journalist with MediaCorp.

Previously, she has interned as a journalist with Today newspaper. Daryl will pursue his Bachelor of Arts degree in Game Design at DigiPen - Singapore Institute of Technology. He aspires to be in the ranks of talented game designers, pooling together local and international talents to work on projects that would put Singapore on the gaming world map.

The MDA is an initiative launched by MDA in 2003 to build and nurture the next generation of talent in the media industry. The scheme was revived last year to foster even closer collaborative relationships with the industry, so that scholars can benefit early on from the job experience to learn specific skill sets which the industry requires, and thereafter take the helm as the next generation of media leaders and professionals. The revived MES offers full scholarships for local and overseas studies that cover full tuition and other compulsory university fees, as well as annual allowances to defray living expenses. Partner companies, who are involved in the selection of the candidates together with MDA, orientate the scholars through internships before and during their studies. Upon completion of their course, scholars will serve a bond of three to five years with the co-sponsoring company.

SP NEWS

SP NEWS

TOPS IN THE...
When Tan Tze Kai joined SP to pursue the Diploma in Biotechnology (DBT) in 2010, little did he think that three years later, he would clinch a prestigious scholarship from A*STAR, the national science agency. It was not just any other scholarship that he won but the top-tiered National Science Scholarship that gives him the choice to pursue scientific studies all the way to a PhD at any top overseas university. The former student from Manjari Secondary School also clinched the pioneer A*STAR Science Award for polytechnic students when he was with SP. After his national service, Tze Kai will fly to the United Kingdom to pursue his studies in Developmental and Cell Biology at the University of Edinburgh.

Celebrating with Tze Kai are three other life science graduates from SP who received the A*STAR Undergraduate Scholarships. They are Serena Lim (Diploma in Biotechnology – DBT) who will pursue a degree in Life Sciences at the National University of Singapore (NUS), Danson Kwong (Diploma in Applied Chemistry with Pharmaceutical Science – DACP) who will study Chemical and Biomedical Engineering at Nanyang Technological University, and Neo Shi Yong (Diploma in Biomedical Science – DBS) who will take up the degree in Biological Sciences at NUS.

Since 2001, A*STAR’s scholarship programme has nurtured a pipeline of over 1,200 Singaporean PhD talents. Over 350 scholars have completed their PhD studies or postdoctoral fellowships, and have leveraged on their research expertise to pursue a variety of rewarding R&D careers in public sector research institutes, corporate labs, tertiary institutions, hospitals as well as industries. The four SP graduates received their scholarships from Mr A J B Inan, Minister, Prime Minister’s Office, Second Minister for Home Affairs and Second Minister for Trade & Industry at a ceremony held recently.

The students are among 31 who were among 97 who received the National Science Scholarship (NSS), the SPRING Science Award (SS) and the A*STAR Science Award (ASA) for their academic and research excellence during their studies. They are among more than 300 PhD scholars who have leveraged on their research expertise to pursue a variety of rewarding R&D careers in public sector research institutes, corporate labs, tertiary institutions, hospitals as well as industries.

Eugene Lim, a second-year student at SP, clinched the pioneer A*STAR Science Award for polytechnic students when he was with SP. After his national service, he will fly to the United Kingdom to pursue his studies in Developmental and Cell Biology at the University of Edinburgh. The programme is a collaboration between A*STAR’s Institute of Biological Chemistry and the University of Edinburgh’s School of Molecular Biosciences. Upon completing their degree programme, they will be bonded for four years for local studies and six years for overseas studies.

The 13 MOH scholars are: from the Diploma in Biomedical Sciences (DBS): Tze Kai, Tiong Ying, Maggie Lee, Diploma in Biotechnology (DBT): Crystaline Pok, Siew Jin Rong, Diploma in Food Science and Technology (DFST): Emily Ong, Diploma in Nutrition, Health and Wellness (DNHW): Jienan A Rajan, Chua Ya Liang, Ya Yong, Loo Hui Shi, Li Juan and Loo Hui Rong.

All of them have secured places in local or overseas universities that include National University of Singapore, University of Missouri (Columbia), University of Queensland and Flinders University (Australia) to pursue niche degree programmes such as dentistry, speech therapy, pharmacy, medical social work and physiology. With this scholarship, they will embark on exciting career tracks such as the Professional Clinical Track, Education-Research Track and General Management / Leadership Track, according to their abilities and career inclinations.

Recent SP graduates Sabareesh Nair and Dennis Teo are the latest talents to have sprung up in the eyes of SPRING Singapore for their outstanding academic records and commitment to SPRING Singapore. The two students were announced as SPRING-ING UP TALENTS at the A*STAR IN THEIR CAP AWARD CEREMONY.

RISING DEFENCE ENGINEERS

Four young SP engineering alumni have clinched the DSTA Undergraduate Scholarship that will see them pursuing studies of their choice in science and engineering at renowned universities worldwide. Jonathan Tan Zeng Sheng (Diploma in Aerospace Engineering – DASE, Class of 2011), Lee Jia Wei and Tye Zheng Kang (both from the Diploma in Aerospace Electronics – DASE, Class of 2011 and 2010 respectively), will embark on careers in the Defence Technology Community that include the Defence Science and Technology Agency (DSTA), DSO National Laboratories, and the Centre for Strategic Infocomm Technologies. They will also get to experience their future working environment first-hand through internship attachments. This year, 39 DSTA Undergraduate Scholarships have been awarded.

Lee Wei and Zheng Kang are now in Singapore University of Technology and Design pursuing their engineering degrees while Jonathan has flown off to the United Kingdom to pursue a degree in mechanical engineering at the University of Manchester.

The Defence Science and Technology Agency is a statutory board set up under the Ministry of Defence (MINDEF). It implements defence technology plans, acquires defence material and develops defence infrastructure for MINDEF. It provides cutting-edge technological solutions to the Singapore Armed Forces by tapping the best technologies and fostering an environment of creativity and innovation for defence applications. It also builds up a strong community of engineers and scientists from universities, research institutes, the government and industries to serve the defence needs of the nation.

Three of the four SP alumni pursue their defence studies while the fourth student, Tye Zheng Kang, is pursuing a degree in Life Sciences at the National University of Singapore (NUS). The students are among more than 300 PhD scholars who have leveraged on their research expertise to pursue a variety of rewarding R&D careers in public sector research institutes, corporate labs, tertiary institutions, hospitals as well as industries. The four SP graduates received their scholarships from Mr A J B Inan, Minister, Prime Minister’s Office, Second Minister for Home Affairs and Second Minister for Trade & Industry at a ceremony held recently.

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TIMOTHY FOR SEA GAMES

Since 2003, Singapore has not sent divers to represent itself at the South-east Asian (SEA) Games. But this year, with a crop of six young talents, the country is gunning once again for victory at the regional competition. One of the athletes who met the SEA Games qualifying mark is our very own SP student, Timothy Lee. The straight-shooting young man with an impressive physique has been diving since 2009 and has since gained a plethora of awards, most recently scoring first place for various diving events at the Singapore Diving Institutional and the Malaysia National Age Group Championships 2013. How is he feeling now, in the face of this upcoming challenge?

"In the last two years, I’ve made every preparation necessary for a chance at success at the SEA games. I’m going to give my all at the competition and keep moving toward my goal of competing in the 2016 Olympics," he says. The words of a person who’s focused and serious about his craft. All the best, Timothy! SEA Games 2013 will take place in Myanmar from 11 to 22 December.

2ND WORLD BEST IN TCHEOUKBALL

It is still a relatively new sport here but that did not stop SP students from being the best they can be. Four members from the SP Tchoukball team made it to the Singapore team for the World Youth Tchoukball Championship held in Kaohsiung, Taiwan. They played in the Men’s and Women’s Under 18 categories and both teams came in 1st Runner-Up, behind reigning world champion, Taiwan.

See Xin Xiu from the Diploma in Human Resource Management with Psychology (DHRMP) says of her experience on a world sporting stage: "It was an honour for us to represent Singapore in a world competition. Through our participation, we not only gained experience in the game but also reinforced important values such as teamwork and discipline. It was definitely an eye-opener for relatively new players like myself as this was my first international competition. The fight was certainly tough as we had extremely competitive teams from Hong Kong, China, Taiwan, India and Switzerland. In my eyes, we are all champions because we upheld sporting values and played to the best of our abilities."

FIRST GOLD FOR 2013 SEASON

Team SP looked off the start season of POG-ITE games with a golden start. The SP Table Tennis (Men’s) clinched the Gold after beating their opponents from the other polys. They triumphed over two polys with straight 5:0 wins and lost only one game point (4:1) to another two opponent teams before emerging with the highest points. This is their third gold since 2010. The women’s team did not disappoint either by emerging 2nd runners-up, an improvement from the 4th position last year.

WATER VICTORY

The SP Waterpolo boys played their hearts out at the POL-ITE Games. In Engineering final-year student Phyo Thu Ya Thet Min (left) with a boy he met during his time in South Korea. He also served as the team’s President during 2012 and 2013.

SP Red Cross students advisor and Diploma in Clean Energy student Phyo Thu Ya Thet Min left with a boy he met during a community service trip to Indonesia. Plays organized and voluntary assistant in various Red Cross blood donation drives and Blood Transfusion camps. He also served on the SP Red Cross board during 2012 and 2013.

SP Red Cross student advisor and Diploma in Clean Energy student Phyo Thu Ya Thet Min left with a boy he met during a community service trip to Indonesia. Plays organized and voluntary assistant in various Red Cross blood donation drives and Blood Transfusion camps. He also served on the SP Red Cross board during 2012 and 2013.

HONOURS FOR INDIAN SP GRADS

Every year, the SINDA (Singapore Indian Development Association) Excellence Award is bestowed on Indian students who have achieved excellence in their respective academic fields, the arts or sports. They are recognised for their diligence and passion to excel, and are given certificates and book vouchers to recognise their achievements.

Among the recipients this year are 15 recent graduates from SP. They are Aravin (Diploma in Aerospace Electronics), Gayathri Chandra Mohan (Diploma in Creative Writing for TV & New Media), Johan Sadaa Nazir (Diploma in Architecture), Kalidasan (Diploma in Business Administration), Nur Farah Nisa (Diploma in Integrated Computer Science), Nur Naziee Binte Noor Mohd (Diploma in Maritime Business), Nur Shaqina Binte Mohd (Diploma in Business Administration), R Arul Narayanan (Diploma in Computer Engineering), Rajendran Ramachandran (Diploma in Marine Engineering), and Ravn Nicholas Binte Kumanan (Diploma in Aeronautical Engineering).

IN TCHOUKBALL

SP Tchoukball Team members are inspired to work for SP students who have achieved excellence in their respective academic fields, the arts or sports. They are recognised for their diligence and passion to excel, and are given certificates and book vouchers to recognise their achievements.

Among the recipients this year are 15 recent graduates from SP. They are Aravin (Diploma in Aerospace Electronics), Gayathri Chandra Mohan (Diploma in Creative Writing for TV & New Media), Johan Sadaa Nazir (Diploma in Architecture), Kalidasan (Diploma in Business Administration), Nur Farah Nisa (Diploma in Integrated Computer Science), Nur Naziee Binte Noor Mohd (Diploma in Maritime Business), Nur Shaqina Binte Mohd (Diploma in Business Administration), R Arul Narayanan (Diploma in Computer Engineering), Rajendran Ramachandran (Diploma in Marine Engineering), and Ravn Nicholas Binte Kumanan (Diploma in Aeronautical Engineering).

THE KINDEST BLOODSUCKERS

The SP Red Cross has done a fair share of good these past few years. Besides supporting overseas disaster relief missions and first aid teaching programmes, they also have organised community service visits to homes such as St Luke’s ElderCare and the Red Cross Home for the Disabled. They’ve also switched over many of us, though we may not know it, by providing first aid at several SP events.

The club also has the distinct honour of having been awarded the Bloodmobile Organizer Gold Award in 2012 and 2013 by the Health Sciences Authority and the Singapore Red Cross, as well as the Silver Award in 2011. Getting the Gold Award means that the club managed to collect over 500 units of blood within a year through their blood donation drive held twice yearly. The SP Red Cross is a student-run club and a chapter of Red Cross Youth, which aims to build a community of young leaders who are achievers as well as socially responsible people who embrace humanitarian values. If you are interested to let them suck your blood (for a good cause!), there will be a donation drive happening this October!
ANTI-DRUG EVENT PLANNERS

SP students are helping in the battle against drug abuse through continued collaborations with the Central Narcotics Bureau (CNB). Five Diploma in Integrated Events and Project Management (DEPM) students helped organise CNB’s Anti-Drug Abuse Campaign 2013. This year, the campaign’s theme was “Life Does Not Rewind. Say ‘No’ to Drugs.”

Held at Bugis+, the event targeted youths and saw about 1,500 visitors over two days. The DEPM students helped to organise and develop several parts of the campaign, including the overall campaign concept, a YouTube teaser video for the event and a maze filled with posters depicting the life of a drug addict named Sam. The maze included lighting and visual distortion effects to mimic the confusion one feels when taking drugs.

The team also helped to plan follow-up events such as an online photography contest and the distribution of anti-drug-themed memorabilia. Previous collaborations include Club Against Drugs 2012, an island-wide clubbing event with an anti-drug theme. The team also helped to plan follow-up events such as an online photography contest and the distribution of anti-drug-themed memorabilia.

DEPM has worked with CNB on several different anti-drug campaigns. Previous collaborations include Club Against Drugs 2012, an island-wide clubbing event with an anti-drug message, and Danceworks! 2013, an anti-drug-themed dance competition and showcase.

FLIGHT OF THE MACHINES

Made-in-SP unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) were showcased to visitors at the Aviation Open House (AOH) 2013 held recently at the Singapore Expo. Built by students from the Diploma in Aeronautical Engineering (DARE) and the Diploma in Aerospace Electronics (DAAE), the remote-controlled SP Ironic UAVs and bladestorm crafts were manned visitors with their impressive technical capabilities. The Ironic UAV was built to have high manoeuvrability that allows it to hover in mid-air and nimbly avoid environmental obstacles in flight. It is also built with onboard electronic sensors that can detect and track targets within its range. Another set of exhibits, the Multirotor crafts, were designed to be used for aerial photography and videography that can allow one to get multiple aerial perspectives of any outdoor event. Final-year DARE student Divesh Singaraju, who worked on the Iconic UAV, said: “It has definitely been a meaningful experience working on the UAV, which allowed us to acquire industrial hands-on experience, design and analytical skills, and the privilege of using expensive, high-tech equipment. Displaying it at the AOH was an inspiring moment that showed how our hard work had paid off.”

Oragnised by the Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore, AOH 2013 brought together more than 45 aviation-related organisations and education institutions to showcase opportunities, technological advancements and career options in the dynamic and growing Singapore aviation sector.

DESIGN TOYS THAT THEY LIKE

The new generation of kids may not like what they see at Toys R Us. So what better way to please them than to get them to design their own toys? The 8th Toy Design Competition, organised by the School of Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering, saw students from 23 secondary schools forming a total of 75 teams participating in two categories – Autodesk Inventor Design + 123D Make Design Category (Land Vehicle) and Toy Design Category (Automata). First launched in 2006, the competition aims to promote creativity, innovation and enterprise amongst secondary school students.

River Valley High’s creation, Two In One, won the first prize in the Autodesk category, whereas Henderson Secondary’s design named Dummy Woods took the first prize in the Toy Design Category. The winners walked away with cash and product vouchers.

MUSIC IN THE GARDEN

The SP Chinese Orchestra serenaded picnickers and parkgoers recently amongst lush greenery at the Botanic Gardens. With a combination of popular tunes from around the world, the 40-strong orchestra treated the appreciative crowd to an evening of orchestral music with a modern touch. Songs such as Nobody from the Wonder Girls, Love Story by Taylor Swift and Chinese pop favourite Mike Love Rose (玫瑰 花) were performed with instruments like the guzheng, pipa and sheng.

The Singapore Maritime Academy (SMA) gave secondary school students a splashing good time at the recent Maritime Youth Day 2013. The event aimed to help participants understand the vibrant maritime and shipping industry in a fun, dynamic and challenging manner. Besides talks on career opportunities in the maritime industry, the students also enjoyed a series of energetic games such as tug-of-war in the water! They also toured SMA’s Poly Marina, the academy’s waterfront training centre for practical seamanship, proficiency in survival skills at sea, and other maritime-related courses.

SPLASHING GOOD TIMES

The SP Chinese Orchestra serenaded picnickers and parkgoers recently amidst lush greenery at the Botanic Gardens. With a combination of popular tunes from around the world, the 40-strong orchestra treated the appreciative crowd to an evening of orchestral music with a modern touch. Songs such as Nobody from the Wonder Girls, Love Story by Taylor Swift and Chinese pop favourite Mike Love Rose (玫瑰 花) were performed with instruments like the guzheng, pipa and sheng.

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Made-in-SP unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) were showcased to visitors at the Aviation Open House (AOH) 2013 held recently at the Singapore Expo. Built by students from the Diploma in Aeronautical Engineering (DARE) and the Diploma in Aerospace Electronics (DAAE), the remote-controlled SP Ironic UAVs and bladestorm crafts were manned visitors with their impressive technical capabilities. The Ironic UAV was built to have high manoeuvrability that allows it to hover in mid-air and nimbly avoid environmental obstacles in flight. It is also built with onboard electronic sensors that can detect and track targets within its range. Another set of exhibits, the Multirotor crafts, were designed to be used for aerial photography and videography that can allow one to get multiple aerial perspectives of any outdoor event. Final-year DARE student Divesh Singaraju, who worked on the Iconic UAV, said: “It has definitely been a meaningful experience working on the UAV, which allowed us to acquire industrial hands-on experience, design and analytical skills, and the privilege of using expensive, high-tech equipment. Displaying it at the AOH was an inspiring moment that showed how our hard work had paid off.”

Oragnised by the Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore, AOH 2013 brought together more than 45 aviation-related organisations and education institutions to showcase opportunities, technological advancements and career options in the dynamic and growing Singapore aviation sector.

The new generation of kids may not like what they see at Toys R Us. So what better way to please them than to get them to design their own toys? The 8th Toy Design Competition, organised by the School of Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering, saw students from 23 secondary schools forming a total of 75 teams participating in two categories – Autodesk Inventor Design + 123D Make Design Category (Land Vehicle) and Toy Design Category (Automata). First launched in 2006, the competition aims to promote creativity, innovation and enterprise amongst secondary school students.

River Valley High’s creation, Two In One, won the first prize in the Autodesk category, whereas Henderson Secondary’s design named Dummy Woods took the first prize in the Toy Design Category. The winners walked away with cash and product vouchers.

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independent learners who take initiative in defining and growing our own student lives. “ These skills fit well with the style of education in Yale-NUS, where we’re encouraged to be more as well as cultivating an independent go-getter attitude in organising campaigns, projects and events.

“Observing the world through a combination of social sciences, philosophy and literature allows for a more comprehensive view of things. I applied to Yale-NUS as other local approach. “

“Diploma in Tourism and Resort Management (DTRM) clinched a prestigious scholarship from the Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU) to pursue a degree in hotel management. The School of Hotel and Tourism Management in PolyU was ranked no. 2 in the world among academic institutions in hospitality and tourism in a 2009 study. It was also the only non-US-based institution among the top five that also included Cornell University, Michigan State University, University of Nevada-Las Vegas and Pennsylvania State University.

“Yue Chao from the Class of 2010 did SP proud by becoming the best in his university batch! The Diploma in Electronics and Communication Engineering alumna recently graduated as the top student from the Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering and Information Technology at Singapore Institute of Technology - Technical University of Munich (SIT-TUM).

“Tracy Hing, a recent graduate from the Diploma in Tourism and Resort Management (DTRM) has clinched a prestigious scholarship from the Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU) to pursue a degree in hotel management. The School of Hotel and Tourism Management in PolyU was ranked no. 2 in the world among academic institutions in hospitality and tourism in a 2009 study. It was also the only non-US-based institution among the top five that also included Cornell University, Michigan State University, University of Nevada-Las Vegas and Pennsylvania State University. Tracy said: “I was very honoured to receive this entry scholarship for international students, which covers full tuition fees. I’m very grateful towards the lecturers at SP Business School (SB) for the huge influence they had on my life.”

The DMC grad has been enjoying classes there so far, and he credits his time in SP with preparing you in the world of animation and visual effects! First you have to know ‘why’ to do something. You have to dig out the story behind it. “ You have to dig out the story behind it. “ You have to dig out the story behind it. “ You have to dig out the story behind it. “

For more on SF, please visit the SF website at www.spnews.sg, or like them on Facebook @spnews.sg or follow on Twitter @spnews.sg.
Tan Tock Seng Hospital’s (TTSH) Institute of Infectious Disease and Epidemiology (IIDE) recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with SP to advance clinical research on evolving infectious diseases. The first MoU that IIDE is signing with an academic institution to nurture more research professionals in this field. IIDE was set up at TTSH last year to build up expertise in the management of infectious diseases.

The collaboration will bring together scientists from SP’s Centre for Biomedical and Life Sciences (CBLS) and TTSH clinicians to help strengthen early clinical research professionals in this field. This is the first MoU that IIDE is signing with an academic institution to nurture more clinical research professionals in this field. IIDE was set up at TTSH last year to build up expertise in the management of infectious diseases.

The partnership will also provide new opportunities for the final-year students and point-of-care diagnostics validation for dengue, to name a few. The collaboration protects include bacterial genome sequencing, HIV viral quantitation and point-of-care diagnostics validation for dengue, to name a few.

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The collaboration will bring together scientists from SP’s Centre for Biomedical and Life Sciences (CBLS) and TTSH clinicians to help strengthen early detection measures for new strains and diseases. As part of the MOU, IIDE will conduct research and development with the CBLS staff in SP's laboratories. The collaborative projects include bacterial genome sequencing, HIV viral quantitation and point-of-care diagnostics validation for dengue, to name a few. The partnership will also provide new opportunities for the final-year students and point-of-care diagnostics validation for dengue, to name a few. The collaboration protects include bacterial genome sequencing, HIV viral quantitation and point-of-care diagnostics validation for dengue, to name a few.

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SP and Singapore Technologies Kinetics Ltd (ST Kinetics) recently launched Singapore’s first-of-its-kind advanced materials research centre. The S$44 million Applied Materials Engineering Centre (AMEC), located in SP, will spearhead applied materials innovation in the areas of advanced powder metallurgy and ceramic applications that are relevant to industries such as aerospace, automotive, maritime and offshore, and electronics.

AMEC is equipped with two new state-of-the-art technologies – the Gas Atomiser and Sparks Plasma Sintering (SPS) equipment. Combined with SP’s strong materials engineering knowledge and ST Kinetics’ experience in smart engineering, AMEC aims to use this technology to create advanced metal alloy and ceramic powders that can be used in next-generation automobiles, electronic devices, energy-efficient superconductors and communications satellites.

With this joint collaboration, SP and ST Kinetics aim to contribute to the growing advanced materials market in the near future. Advanced ceramics, for instance, recorded sales of US$2.5 billion in 2010 and this number is expected to grow to US$4 billion by 2016. Mr Sew Chee Jhuen, President of ST Kinetics, said: “ST Kinetics is excited to partner SP in the research and development of applied materials technology. The launch of AMEC demonstrates our commitment to delivering smart engineering and innovative solutions to our myriad customers.”

**COLLABORATION IN MEDIATION**

The Singapore Maritime Academy (SMA) in SP and the Maritime Officers Oil and Gas Association Singapore (MOOGAS) have signed a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) to develop and implement a new certification programme in expert determination and mediation. Both parties will work closely to engage the Singapore Mediation Centre to conduct courses in mediation skills to increase the understanding of conflicts, and learn the latest and most effective techniques to manage and resolve them. This is in line with Singapore’s quest to be a total business centre and effective techniques to manage and resolve them. This is in line with Singapore’s quest to be a total business centre and effective techniques to manage and resolve them. This is in line with Singapore’s quest to be a total business centre and effective techniques to manage and resolve them.

**MATERIAL BENEFITS**

Aeronautical and business students can look forward to spanking new learning facilities in about two years’ time. The groundbreaking ceremony for the upcoming Aero Hub and Business School took place recently. With them come a slew of benefits for SP students:

- **SUPER CORRIDOR**
  - This is the number one benefit for students at the hilltop. The Super Corridor is a passageway that will extend from the MRT and go straight up to the buildings on the hilltop. At the link bridge, there will be escalators and lifts to help with the climb up the slope amidst the lush greenery!

- **AERO HUB**
  - This is a four-storey building located behind the SP Convention Centre. The Aero Hub will house all of the labs used by students from the Diploma in Aeronautical Engineering (DARE) and the Diploma in Aerospace Electronics (DAE). This includes the Wind Tunnel lab, Aerodynamics lab and Avionics lab, all of which are currently located in different parts of our sprawling campus. Relocating them to one building will allow the students to collaborate more easily.

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