

MEDIA RELEASE

Republic Polytechnic introduces multi-disciplinary engineering course

New diploma course in engineering design with business will train engineers for innovation-driven economy

SINGAPORE, 3 December 2015 – In support of Singapore’s national initiative to develop an innovation-driven economy, companies will increasingly need to scale-up on business capabilities and product innovation in order to compete effectively in an evolving industry landscape.

Against this backdrop, there will be an increased demand for engineering professionals with multi-disciplinary skills in engineering, innovation and business management. A strong grounding in entrepreneurial and business perspectives will allow these engineers to capitalise on new business opportunities as they are made available.

With effect from academic year 2016, Republic Polytechnic (RP) will introduce a new Diploma in Engineering Design with Business (DEDB) and take in 60 students for the inaugural batch.

The diploma will train students to be proficient in the design, development and implementation of engineering solutions. It offers students a foundation in engineering coupled with a focus on innovation. The programme also adopts a design-centric approach in which students are trained to develop innovative solutions through the use of design thinking and multi-dimensional considerations of engineering. This allows students to contribute to the growing importance of high-value added engineering, which is a major thrust of the Singapore Government in the engineering industry.

Dr. Wang Jianguo, Director of Republic Polytechnic’s School of Engineering said, “It is important for engineers to be equipped with design thinking skills and business knowledge. In this ever-changing world, they need to think like a designer and be user-centric when approaching an engineering task. Besides imparting knowledge and know-how, the Diploma in Engineering Design with Business will create platforms to inculcate students’ entrepreneurial mind-set and allow them to experiment hands-on with their business ideas.”

As part of the curriculum experience, RP will collaborate with Action Community for Entrepreneurship and Design Business Chamber Singapore to provide opportunities for DEDB students to be immersed in the entrepreneurship ecosystem. These will include joint projects with industry partners, internships, mentorship, seminars and company visits to member companies. These programmes will allow aspiring students to kick-start their entrepreneurial pursuits.

With its added focus on design thinking and entrepreneurial mind-set, DEDB will prepare engineering graduates for careers in technological innovation, including the possibility of being entrepreneurs. Graduates of DEDB can expect to gain access to a wide range of careers in engineering and business as product developers and designers, project managers, engineers and product specialists.

Prospective students can find out more about the new course at Republic Polytechnic’s Open House 2016 from 7 to 9 January 2016.

About Republic Polytechnic

The first educational institution in Singapore to leverage the Problem-based Learning approach for all its diploma programmes, Republic Polytechnic (RP) has six schools and two academic centres offering forty-one diplomas in Applied Science, Engineering, Enterprise and Communication, Events and Hospitality, Infocomm, Sports, Health & Leisure, and Technology for the Arts.

Republic Polytechnic is committed to nurturing innovation and entrepreneurial learning in an environment that develops problem-solving skills and lifelong learning opportunities. Its holistic and broad-based curriculum prepares students for an active and meaningful role in society as problem solvers, respected professionals and passionate citizens.

Republic Polytechnic strives for excellence by achieving various international and national accreditations, including ISO 9001, ISO 14001, OHSAS 18001, ISO 22301, Singapore Quality Class, People Developer, Innovation Class, and Service Class.

For more information, visit <http://www.rp.edu.sg>

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