



***MEDIA INFORMATION
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**FAS AND REPUBLIC POLYTECHNIC SIGNS MOU TO LAUNCH CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE
FOR FOOTBALL SCIENCE**

Spanning Sport, Coaching and Social Sciences, the new centre is first of its kind in an institute of higher learning

SINGAPORE, 9 MARCH 2018: The Football Association of Singapore (FAS) today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Republic Polytechnic (RP) to recognise them as the preferred academic partner of FAS. In support of our new vision and attitude to improve the vibrancy of football in Singapore, this three-year partnership agreement is aimed at facilitating the sharing of best practices between both parties and providing the FAS an opportunity to educate and engage the youth on sport science.

The RP-FAS Centre of Excellence (COE) for Football Science was also declared open today by Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Health, and Member of Parliament for Sembawang GRC Mr Amrin Amin.

Under the MOU, the joint COE will be based in the Sports Engineering Lab at the Republic Polytechnic Industry Centre and pools resources from both RP and FAS to reap the benefits of expertise across different domains. It also aims to act as a connecting node for students to the sports industry through activities and authentic learning spaces further to further enhance industry linkages. This is the first such collaboration between FAS and a polytechnic to improve the sport leveraging science, technology and education.

The COE will adopt a more scientific and data-driven approach, focusing on five key areas – high performance, fitness and nutrition, building mental resilience, injury management and

improving coaching and sports administration systems. Laboratory-based activities, Continuing Education and Training courses, final year projects and specific academic modules related to the sports industry will also be jointly developed by FAS and RP to enhance students' curriculum and academic learning experience. Beyond education, FAS and RP will also jointly organise sports events to engage the community.

FAS Deputy President Mr Bernard Tan said: "At the elite level of sports, athletes' performance is determined by the edge provided by sports science in developing and raising their capabilities to ensure that they peak at the right time. We need to have a better understanding of players' physical and mental capabilities and develop them at a higher intensity to raise the level of play.

"With this as the focus, the FAS has forged a meaningful partnership with Republic Polytechnic, a reputed institution, which has developed considerable competencies in this area over the years to help develop our young footballers. At the same time, this partnership will increase the body of knowledge for RP and give young sports scientists a greater exposure to football science."

Dr Michael Koh, Deputy Principal (Academic Services), Republic Polytechnic said: "Republic Polytechnic is delighted to partner FAS in establishing the RP-FAS Centre of Excellence for Football Science. The first of its kind in an institute of higher learning spanning domains from sport science and coaching pedagogy to the social sciences, our combined expertise would allow us to facilitate a more scientific and evidence-based approach in the delivery of RP's sports diplomas in authentic learning environments. Moving forward, this collaboration will benefit our full-time students as well as provide opportunities for lifelong learning when more football-related workshops and courses are made available in the near future."

Following the launch of the RP-FAS COE for Football Science, the FAS Football Science and Medicine department conducted a hands-on workshop on injury prevention. As part of the SHL-EWBIS Youth Sports Science Symposium led and ran by students from RP School of Sports Health and Leisure (SHL) and the EW Barker Institute of Sports (EWBIS) from Raffles Institution, the workshop was conducted for student athletes to learn more about sports science and education.

**CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT
FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION OF SINGAPORE**

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ABOUT RP-FAS COE FOR FOOTBALL SCIENCE

The RP-FAS COE for Football Science, based in the Sports Engineering Lab at the Republic Polytechnic Industry Centre, pools resources from both RP and FAS to reap the benefits of expertise across different domains and act as a connecting node for students to the sports industry. It also supports the study and development of exercise biomechanics and physiology testing.

There are seven testing stations within the laboratory – Treadmill and Indirect Calorimeter, Isokinetic Machine, Cycle Ergometer, Force platform/ Vertical Pole, Performance Analysis and Light Gates. FAS will utilise the COE for physiology and performance testing on youth players from the FAS Football Academy while students from RP can carry out academic-based research on the players.

ABOUT THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION OF SINGAPORE

The Football Association of Singapore is responsible for developing and advancing the game at all levels. Providing a structure for the game to flourish and governing the running of football in Singapore, the FAS also ensures that the Laws of the Game are adhered to, from the professional league to amateur leagues.

The FAS also manages the organisation and running of league and cup competitions, the stewardship of international teams, the establishment of youth development, women's football, refereeing and coaching frameworks.

The mission of the FAS is to enhance lives by leading innovative development of competitive and recreational football in Singapore together with all our partners."

For more information, please visit us at:

- Website: www.fas.org.sg
- Facebook: [@singaporefootball](https://www.facebook.com/singaporefootball)
- Twitter: [@FASingapore](https://twitter.com/FASingapore)
- Instagram: [@FASingapore](https://www.instagram.com/FASingapore)

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 seven schools and one academic centre offering forty-one diplomas in Applied Science, Engineering, Management and Communication, 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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