



For Immediate Release

## Republic Polytechnic's Sixth Batch of Graduates Ready for Workforce

### *Industry partners feature largely in RP's graduates' success stories*

**SINGAPORE, 9 May 2011** – Republic Polytechnic (RP) today hosted its sixth graduation ceremony at The Republic Cultural Centre (TRCC). The ceremony was officiated by **Dr Vivian Balakrishnan, Minister for Community Development, Youth and Sports**. A total of 3,291 graduates will receive their diploma certificates over four days, an increase of 338 from last year. In addition, 55 mature graduates will also receive their specialist diploma certificates.

As the youngest polytechnic in Singapore, RP has seen tremendous growth over the years with the introduction of new diplomas and is fast emerging as the polytechnic of choice amongst potential students.

Many of RP's graduates have already secured jobs even before graduating, a testament to the school's deep and broad engagement with key industry players to offer internships and other opportunities. This year, 25% of graduates in the Diploma in Hotel and Hospitality Management, School of Hospitality, have already been offered permanent positions by companies such as Marina Bay Sands and Raffles Hotel, who also offered internship positions during the school term.

In his speech to the graduates, RP's Principal & CEO, Mr Yeo Li Pheow highlighted RP's core philosophy – to equip its graduates with critical thinking and analytical skills so that they will be able to adapt easily and thrive in knowledge-based workplaces.

Mr Yeo said, "To achieve this, RP builds close relationships with industry partners. The internships and project collaborations that we establish with these partners provide our students with invaluable opportunities and experience, such that upon graduation they are well prepared to take on the challenges of the workplace."

RP also celebrated lifelong learning with its oldest student, retired 62-year old Kenneth Tham, graduating with his second Specialist Diploma from the Centre for Professional Development in RP.

This year's graduation ceremony will take place through ten sessions over a period of four days.

#### **BOARD OF GOVERNORS AWARD**

Lee Jia Hui Dewi and Ang Min Yi from the School of Hospitality are amongst the eight students who will receive the *Board of Governors award* this year for their exceptional achievements as students of the Polytechnic, in their studies and extra-curricular activities.

#### **LEE KUAN YEW AWARD**

Quah Shu Ting Rachel, Tan Chun How and Mohamed Faruq B Mohamed Rasid from the School of Information Technology will receive the *Lee Kuan Yew for Mathematics and Science award* for their excellent performance in mathematics and science modules and good overall academic performance during their studies at the Polytechnic.

## **TAY ENG SOON GOLD MEDAL**

The *Tay Eng Soon Gold Medal*, presented to the most outstanding graduate who has advanced from an Institute of Technical Education, will be received by Toh Wei Quan from the School of Applied Sciences.

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### **About Republic Polytechnic**

The first educational institution in Singapore to adopt the Problem-Based Learning approach for all its diploma programmes, Republic Polytechnic (RP) has six schools and one centre offering thirty four courses in Information and Communications Technology, Engineering, Applied Science, Technology for the Arts, Sports, Health & Leisure, Events and Hospitality, and Culture and Communication. Republic Polytechnic is committed to nurturing innovation and entrepreneurial learning in an environment that develops problem-solving process skills and a life-long learning attitude. Its holistic, broad-based curriculum, covering culture, enterprise development and cognitive processes, prepares students for an active and meaningful role in society. Republic Polytechnic strives for excellence by achieving various international and national accreditations, including ISO9001, ISO14001, OHSAS 18001, TR19, People Developer Standards, Singapore Quality Class and Singapore Innovation Class. For more information, visit <http://www.rp.sg>