Well, if you have enrolled into RP, you have made your right choice! No one can deny that RP is the youngest poly, but from the fact that it has achieved several significant awards in numerous areas within just a few years, I feel proud of my school! I love RP because of its Problem Base Learning which is unique and it provides us opportunities to discover our potential in problem solving skills and develop our passion in it. RP students have been trained to think far beyond the textbook knowledge and we are able to tackle the problem from various point of views. These attributes, I feel, are going to be very important aspect for success.

Each and every diploma has its own distinctive features and meaningful programmes which will help students to be innovation-ready, Industrial-ready and international-ready after graduation. For my case, my 3 years with DIOM has been the most rewarding. In addition to the practical skills and knowledge that I have gained, our passionate facilitators who are always there to guide us along the way and help us overcome any obstacles we face have been the greatest! I would like to express my gratitude to all my facilitators I’ve come across, for they genuinely care for their students.

In RP, there are so many opportunities for each and every students to be an all-rounder. Academically, I have achieved several awards such as module prizes, Diploma award and Merit awards in my study through the 3 years. I am also greatly honoured to be awarded the Gold Medal Prize sponsored by Singapore Project Management Institute (SPMI) during my graduation. On top of that, I was also President for our newly set-up IG which is known as Operation-Project-Skill (OPS). I was also involved in “NPP of the Future Design” Competition, where our team worked hard and made it to the finals and received the „Best Online Voting” award for RP. These and many other experiences have made my journey in RP really memorable!
Going forward, I am confident that the skills and knowledge which I have developed from DIOM will help me to do well in NUS. I'm happy to say that I have made the right choice for my future studying DIOM in RP!

**Motto:** Sacrifice is my action and forgiveness is my reaction.
After graduating from RP, I decided to proceed with my university education at NUS Business School doing Business Administration (Accountancy). At first, I was a little worried that I might not be able to fit in and adapt well as I had no prior business training background before. However, I am glad that not only my worry was unfounded, I realised that I was able to perform better than I had expected, thanks to all the trainings that I had received from DIOM which has made me a more versatile and competent learner – one who is more systematic in thinking and problem solving, yet at the same time, very creative and innovative!

RP’s unique PBL teaching methodology has really helped enhanced my learning and problem solving ability, as well as the confidence in presenting my thoughts and ideas to others today. It was a little hard for me at first trying to get used to the different learning style at RP. However, with my perseverance, together with the encouraging and supportive facilitators, I was able to overcome all odds and succeed in what I aspired to achieve.

I’m glad to say that the trainings that I have gone through in DIOM has prepared and helped me perform even better, it is a good platform for me to achieve even more outstanding results than I thought was possible at NUS!

**Motto: If others can do it, so can we**
I enrolled in DISE (DIOM) program as I wanted to pursue a course that has both elements of engineering and management. The course gave me a great hands-on experience in technical software such as AutoCAD, Minitab, MatLab and SAP. These software are widely used across major industries, even a basic knowledge of any, can give you an unparallel advantage over your peers in the job market. The curriculum in DISE also provided me with a strong foundation in management theories and a unique opportunity to develop analytical skills and critical thinking abilities by integrating theory into practice. DISE Facilitators were always friendly and approachable. They advised and guided me whenever I needed their support in my studies as well as in my tenures as the president of IES IG and Vice-President of LSCM. Another advantage of enrolling in DISE is the industry exposure you get. I had the opportunity to work with Corporates like Baxter, Molex and Aussino during my course, which gave me practical insights on how to solve real problems in industry level. All these participations added a high weightage to my knowledge as well as to my resume.

Upon graduation in 2007, I joined SMU Business School to further a course in Business Management. With all the skills mastered during my 3 years in RP, I was well prepared to the challenges ahead in the university life. Those RJs written over three years has, subconsciously, improved my writing skills, which I often used from my written admission test to term papers, project reports and essays at SMU. Currently, working as a senior executive, I write management reports on daily basis, which requires a high competency in putting thoughts in to writing. Presentation skill is another aptitude you get to master at RP. You can’t escape presenting yourself no matter you are in a university or a workplace. I am really grateful that I had been well-trained in presenting
and communicating in front of small and large audiences during my course in RP. With PBL system, you get to stretch your cognitive and problem solving skills to a new level and approach complex issues in a very practical and systematical manner. All these skills and competencies you gain in DISE/ RP, eventually help you to succeed in your academics as well as in careers. * DISE is our previous diploma name and is replaced by DIOM now.

MOTTO: Think Positive and Be Happy
I choose to pursue an engineering diploma here at RP as I can leverage on the unique PBL system to hone varied aspects of my soft skills which are equally vital compared to my academic training. Three years out, I can speak with conviction that my objectives were duly accomplished on a convincing magnitude evident from the transformation of a swinging introvert to a confident and expressive speaker.

Academically, IOM instilled in me the necessary foundations to evaluate engineering problems, specifically in the operational aspects of an industry from an often multidisciplinary perspective. This technical knowledge, coupled with the emphasis of independent learning through PBL allowed me to perform well in a challenging internship with PSA where I was assigned to the algorithms and optimization application section to work on some of the complex problems PSA face in the execution of their day to day operations. It is also precisely because of this internship that I am able to witness first-hand the applicability of the things that we were taught back in class.

Within my time at RP, I also had ample opportunities to develop my non-academic interests. From the excitement of setting up a business through an entrepreneurship competition to solving real world business issues through a case competition to a project with an accompanying social cause, I am surprised that besides the schoolwork, I still manage to have a good dose of fun that adds another dimension to my time at the school.
To end, I would really like to thank the many DIOM facilitators who have taught or mentored me. Being students, we are at times guilty of spasmodic spans of attention but this has never deterred any facilitator from doing his or her best. This is really important to a student and certainly deserves our applause.

Motto: To be above the contemporaries
With the PBL approach in RP, I had many opportunities to work with people from different backgrounds which sharpened many important skills for instance, team work and conflict management. The systematic structure of lessons became a part of me and transformed me to a more organized and efficient person. The emphasis on independent learning also came into handy especially during my FYP where I was frequently taken out of my comfort zone.

DIOM is an engineering program with a unique facet. Besides the many technical know-how on operational issues like process improvement, resources optimization and management, we are trained in industry relevant software(s) for instance AutoCAD which eventually helped me clinch an internship placement with IBM. At IBM, I was responsible to work closely with the safety officer to look at their data sever and draft out what’s needed to assist him on the upgrading of the current layout.

Being an ITE student, I had my reservations on my chances to proceed on to the universities after my time in poly. Fortunately, thanks to the environment here at RP, coupled with the encouragement and confidence many friends and facilitators put in me, I was able to perform well enough to secure a place at SMU.
DIOM will equip you with the knowledge and understanding of how business and engineering work hand in hand to achieve optimal results. Let DIOM give you the necessary foundation and join in the big family if you are ready for the transform!

Motto: Life is 10% what happens to you and 90% how you react to it!
3 years ago, I was a quiet and shy student who does not like to interact with others. Thanks to RP for training us to be more confident in presenting ourselves, independent and outspoken. The programme had given me knowledge regarding the trading industry such as logistics, management and other commercial aspects. All these set as a foundation to me when I was in my year 1 in NTU. My degree has similar curriculum as what DIOM offered. In Maritime Studies, I get to know how to manage the ports operations, what are the documents needed for shipping, the types of INCOTERMS used which I have learned it in RP. This really makes me stand out from other classmates.

This does not only apply in studies but it taught me how to prepare in an interview as well. With the knowledge that I had gained, it does make me perform better than other competitors. Recently, I went for the interview and the interviewer was surprised by the number of computer skills I had such as PowerPoint, Microsoft Visio and the most important one, Microsoft Excel. Excel is one of the best tools that are required in this industry. Hence, I do encourage you all to learn and ace in these skills. It does help you as your employer in the future will require you to generate a lot of statistics by using Excel.

Currently I am having internship with a local consultancy company that engage in terminal operations and maintenance, project management, port regulatory review and other port related issues. I attended a meeting recently and my supervisor was not happy with the way his employee presents because she is reading off from the slides. He told us that presenting to the senior management is not reading off from the slides but is to deliver the ideas for them to make decisions. In my mind I was thinking, this is just a piece of cake for me because I have been doing this for 3 years. I have no
problem in handling all these problems. Really thanks RP for teaching me such an important life skill.

Lastly, a message to my dear fellow juniors, if you are interested and willing to take up challenges from different fields such as business and engineering, DIOM is the best choice for you. All the best to you all.

**Motto: Mistakes are the best opportunities to improve ourselves so don’t be afraid of them!**
I chose studying in the RP was simply because the campus is near to where I used to live, and considering my background of being a science student in the secondary school and my interest in the management related course, DIOM became the perfect choice, and luckily, I got in!

The unique Problem Based Learning education system has developed me many useful skills, such as leadership, presentation skills, and problem-solving skills, research skills and so on, which are very beneficial in my future studying and work. And the knowledge I learnt from the DIOM course is applicable for different industries. During my time in the RP, I inducted to the Academic Roll of Honour for twice, and my overall performance was within the top 5% of the polytechnic cohort graduating in 2009.

I discovered my passion in the hospitality industry after I worked in the Commonwealth Travel company as a tour consultant for half year. Therefore, I took a bridging course, and started studying in hospitality management in the Hong Kong Polytechnic Universality. I was offered a non-local student scholarship by the university. Additionally, I also served two internships in hotels during my university time.
Currently, I am employed by the Singapore Airlines as a flight stewardess. I’d like to travel around the world for a couple of years before I take my master degree. In the future, I wish I can become a lecturer in a university.

Motto: Think positive!
DIOM gave me a strong foundation for my further study. As my major in NUS has some similarities with what I learnt in DIOM, I was given exemption from some modules, which helped accelerated my expected graduation. Also, RP has trained me to be an independent learner, yet a good team player at the same time. The analysis, planning and presentation skills that I have developed have made me more adaptable.

Motto: Work hard, play hard, live well!
A firm believer in lifelong learning, I am always actively exploring and learning new things so as to enrich myself with a variety of knowledge and skills that may come in handy at the various milestones of my life.

Choosing DIOM as my course of study at RP is indeed a great decision that has served me well. To me, it is a good platform that has prepared me well for the further challenges in my life. One example to highlight is my research capability. I'm proud to say that when it comes to research and information gathering, RP students tend to be able to dig out a lot more useful information and process more quickly and efficiently than the others, thanks to the culture of self-directed learning inculcated in me every day at RP. I am very grateful that RP has emphasized and provided a lot of opportunities every day to develop my teamwork, collaborative learning and presentation skills every day, which has proven to be very important and beneficial for my University stint at NTU currently!

I would really like to thank all the RP facilitators who have guided me. They have not only delivered knowledge to me, but also developed the skills that helped me build up the confidence in my life. Thank you.

Motto: Desire is necessary to keep life in motion.
First of all, my grateful thanks go to all of the DIOM facilitators from RP! The facilitators and the great support that they have given me have not only helped me a great deal in my journey in RP, but also my journey now in NTU!

During my 3-year’s studies in DIOM, I am glad to have many hands-on opportunities on various software, such as Statistical Analysis (Minitab), CAD drawing (Autocad, Solidworks), simulations software (Flexsim), etc. These experiences have helped to build a stronger foundation with the fundamental analytical skills needed to tackle the challenges presented to me in my further studies in Computer Science here in NTU.

I also really appreciate the opportunity to do a final year project with A*STAR’s SIMTech (Singapore Institute of Manufacturing Technology) during my final year of studies in RP. As a DIOM student, I thought that was an excellent exposure for us to acquaint ourselves with one of the top Research Institutes in Singapore.

Finally, the Problem-Based Learning (PBL) education system in RP has really trained me to be an independent learner, confident and ready to stand out and excel in the competitive environment here in the university!

Motto: The days when you feel like giving up are the days you should try the hardest. Sometimes the sun shines, sometimes the rain lashes, but then it takes both the sun and rain to make a rainbow.
Coming to RP was, to be honest, by chance. At that time, I didn't specifically have any goal/course to do in mind. I also felt quite lonely as most of my friends were posted to other polytechnics then. Thanks to the encouragement guidance from the facilitators and my supportive friends in RP, I am glad that I had persevered and eventually turned this “chanced encounter” into one of the most precious and important milestones in my life!

While studying at RP, I was concurrently working as a Floor Manager with McDonald's. It was fascinating how I was able to relate and put into action immediately those knowledge and skills that I've learnt in my DIOM courses. I was honoured to be awarded the Excellent Service Award (EXSA) by Spring Singapore and the Restaurant Association of Singapore, both the Silver and STAR award category, even before I graduate. I must say that RP and DIOM had certainly played a big part in it.

Wanting to do something meaningful in my life, I also decided to get involved in many activities in RP, such as the Student Ambassador (SA), the 6th Student Council (SC) and the National Youth Achievement Award Club (NYAA). I was honoured to be given the opportunity to serve and contribute as the Finance Secretary and Assistant Head of Training and Welfare Department in the Student Ambassador (SA), Assistant Head Of Welfare Department in the 6th Student Council (SC), and the Club Representative and Publication Executive Committee in the National Youth Achievement Award Club (NYAA). Through these IG participations, I had numerous chances to represent RP in many international and local events and activities, such as the International Problem Base Learning Symposium and Expedition Khmer (an Overseas Servicing Learning Trip to Cambodia), meeting and helping many people from all walks of life. Currently, I am honoured be considered for an NYAA-gold award this year.
The training that I had received in DIOM had also helped in building my self-confidence and people skills. It's good to be able to relate what you learnt in school to your everyday life and see how it can benefit you in the practical sense. Just as an example, the Project Management module which I took had been really useful in helping me cultivate important habits such as effective time management and good planning skills in whatever I do.

Currently an undergraduate of Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT), University of Nevada Las Vegas, reading Bachelor of Science in Hotel Administration, I'm looking forward to my 3 weeks immersion programme in the main campus in Nevada itself as well as the internship programmes coming up next year. I am enjoying my university life to the fullest just like I did back in RP! I'm now so excited and optimistic about what lies ahead of me! Honestly, the best period of my student life thus far was those days in RP. In the next three years, I believe you'll get to experience it yourself too and Discover, Transform and Achieve!

Motto: Always be READY for an EXCITING and FUFILLING learning journey ahead!
Name: Alvin Arulselvan  
Year graduated from RP: 2007  
GPA: 3.41  
Current Status: Recently graduated from SMU (Double Major in Information Systems Management and Operations Management)

I was given a lifeline by RP after doing badly in my Math during my O Levels. It was a pretty low point for me but RP gave me a chance. At DISE especially, I have learnt the ropes of Operations Management taught to me by some excellent facilitators in RP, and this knowledge has served me well throughout my education at both RP and SMU. The PBL style of learning really helped me in learning to learn. To become really good at what you do, you have to be fast and in the real world no one has the time to help you so you learn as quickly as you can and find information yourself. RP and DISE really helped me in mastering that aspect and I am very grateful for that. My advice to my juniors would be to always strive for greater heights no matter what the odds.

Motto: Failure is the key to success