Media Release

Republic Polytechnic’s seventh batch of graduates nearly 4,000 strong

107 mature learners amongst this year’s batch of graduates

SINGAPORE, 15 May 2012 – Republic Polytechnic (RP) today hosted its seventh graduation ceremony at The Republic Cultural Centre (TRCC). The ceremony was officiated by Mr Heng Swee Keat, Minister for Education. A total of 3,930 graduates from 32 different programmes will receive their diploma certificates over four days. This represents an increase of 639 students from 2011, and more than a five-fold increase from RP’s first graduating class of 619 students in 2006.

The youngest polytechnic in Singapore, RP celebrates a key milestone, its 10th anniversary, this year, with six schools and two centres, 38 full-time diploma programmes, and over 14,000 students.

Underscoring RP’s commitment to continuing education and training (CET), this year’s batch of graduands will also include 107 mature learners who will receive diploma certificates. RP’s Principal/CEO, Mr Yeo Li Pheow, shared the institution’s plan to increase its CET diploma offerings by more than four times over the next three years, and invest in the expansion of training facilities to accommodate a planned eight-fold increase in students by 2015.

At the ceremony, RP’s Centre for Professional Development (CPD), which offers a number of CET programmes for working adults, was renamed the Academy for Continuing Education @RP, or ACE@RP. The centre will now cover a much broader range of curricula in the adult professional education space.

In his speech to the graduates, Mr Yeo highlighted RP’s focus on providing opportunities for students to gain a practice-based and industry-relevant education in fields where skilled professionals are in demand.

Mr Yeo said, “Rather than just an academic process, we see education as a state of mind, culture and experience that helps students discover their true talent, transform into the best they can be, and achieve their goals, even beyond RP.

“Ultimately, our aim is to ensure that our graduates leave RP with skills, knowledge and experience that will allow them to thrive in this dynamic global economy,” he added.

At the event, Republic Polytechnic received its largest ever donation of $3 million from the Ngee Ann Kongsi Foundation. The donation was officially presented by Mr Teo Chian Long, President, Ngee Ann Kongsi, and will be used for scholarships and an annual Ngee Ann Kongsi Award.

In addition, Darshini Jeyasimman, President of RP’s 8th Student Council presented a donation of $3,619.80 for RP’s Needy Student Fund, raised by this year’s graduating batch who wanted to help out their juniors in need.
BOARD OF GOVERNORS AWARD
Syamil Siddiq Bin Abdul Rahim from the School of Engineering received the Board of Governors award this year for his exceptional achievements in his studies and extra-curricular activities.

NGEE ANN KONGSI AWARD
The NgEE Ann Kongsi Award, presented to the most distinguished graduate of the year in terms of academic performance, was received by Ricky Tsang from the School of Information Technology.

LEE KUAN YEW AWARD
Chan Sze Chun Leo and Koh Fang Ling from the School of Applied Science, and Tan Boon Jun from the School of Information Technology received the Lee Kuan Yew Award for Mathematics and Science for their excellent performance in mathematics and science modules, and their 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, was received by Wang Li Rong Caleb from the School of Information Technology.

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For media enquiries, please contact:

Republic Polytechnic
Natalie Goh
Tel: 9125 9385
Email: natalie_goh@rp.edu.sg

Weber Shandwick (for Republic Polytechnic)
Wendy Toh / Siddharth Singh
Tel: 6825 8038 / 6825 8022
Email: wtoh@webershandwick.com / ssingh@webershandwick.com

About Republic Polytechnic
The first educational institution in Singapore to leverage Problem-Based Learning approach for all its diploma programmes, Republic Polytechnic (RP) has six schools and two centres offering thirty nine courses in Infocomm, Engineering, Applied Science, Technology for the Arts, Sports, Health & Leisure, Events and Hospitality, Enterprise, 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, SS540, Singapore Quality Class, People Developer, Innovation Class, and Service Class. For more information, visit http://www.rp.edu.sg.