

Media Release

Republic Polytechnic to see nearly 4,500 graduate in its ninth graduation ceremony

RP continues to nurture and produce industry-ready graduates with skills and competencies to excel in the working world

SINGAPORE, 19 May 2014 – Republic Polytechnic (RP) today commenced its ninth graduation ceremony at The Republic Cultural Centre (TRCC), with 4,430 RP students graduating from 36 diploma programmes over the next five days, representing an increase of 370 students from 2013. They hail from a diverse spectrum of diploma courses that include Applied Science, Engineering, Enterprise and Communication, Events and Hospitality, Infocomm, Sports, Health & Leisure, and Technology for the Arts. Another 67 mature learners will graduate with specialist diplomas, bringing the total number of graduates to 4,497 this year.

The ceremony was officiated by Guest-of-Honour **Mr Lawrence Wong, Minister for Culture, Community and Youth and Second Minister for Ministry of Communications and Information**.

Including this year's graduates, RP has nurtured close to 24,000 industry and workforce-ready individuals since its first graduating batch in 2006. This year, RP is also proud to witness the first graduating cohort from two new diplomas, the Diploma in Healthcare Administration and the Diploma in Restaurant and Culinary Operations offered by the School of Sports, Health and Leisure and School of Hospitality respectively.

The School of Sports, Health and Leisure will also see the fruits of its collaboration with the Singapore Sports School, with the graduation of its pioneer batch of students from the Diploma in Sports and Leisure Management customised programme. Specially tailored for student athletes from the Singapore Sports School, the unique programme provides a flexible learning structure that promotes academic rigour as well as sporting development. The programme has been a huge success, with nearly 60% of graduates achieving a Grade Point Average of over 3.0, and producing the Board of Governors' Most Outstanding Graduate, Singapore's national paddler Isabelle Li Siyun.

In his speech, Republic Polytechnic Principal/CEO, Mr. Yeo Li Pheow, reiterated the importance of providing industry-benchmarked facilities to create workforce-ready graduates. Coupled with RP's unique Problem-based Learning pedagogy, students are encouraged to seek solutions that can be implemented in the real working environment. In the past year, several new facilities have been launched at RP to provide an enhanced learning environment for students. These include the Virtual Aerodrome Laboratory (VAL), an interactive aerodrome simulation facility for students in

aerospace-related programmes; The Aquaria, a specialised centre for aquaculture research and marine conservation and the first of its kind among polytechnics in Singapore, and several training facilities for the School of Hospitality, including a Hotel Training Lab, Barista Lab and the *waters edge* training restaurant.

RP will continue to provide its students with a holistic education experience through an innovative teaching and learning environment, preparing students to be industry-ready, innovation-ready and internationally-ready. **“We are proud to share that, based on our recent survey, 85% of companies rated RP students’ internship performance as excellent. In addition, about the same percentage of companies are keen to consider hiring our students after graduation,” said Mr Yeo.**

This year, top-performing students were also recognised for their outstanding academic achievements. They included the following:

Board of Governors Award

Isabelle Li Siyun from the Diploma in Sports and Leisure Management was awarded the Board of Governors Award for the Most Outstanding Graduate of the Year for her exemplary academic performance and outstanding sporting achievements. The national paddler is also the SEA games gold medal winner and 2010 Youth Olympic Games silver medallist. On top of her rigorous academic and sports endeavours, she also has a heart for the less privileged, frequently engaging in community and social work.

Ngee Ann Kongsı Award

Juan Enrico Cacho Feliciano, from the Diploma in Micro and Nanotechnology received the 2014 Ngee Ann Kongsı Award for the Most Distinguished Graduate of the Year (Academic).

Lee Kuan Yew Award for Mathematics and Science

Joseph Donovan Matthew, Kenneth Gwee Khye Kie and Neo Chai Hoon from the Diploma in Aerospace Engineering, Diploma in Biomedical Sciences and Diploma in Business Information Systems received the Lee Kuan Yew Award for Mathematics and Science respectively. Kenneth Gwee is one of two students from this year’s graduating cohort who has gained admission to the Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore

Tay Eng Soon Gold Medal

The Tay Eng Soon Gold Medal was awarded to Ng Pei Kiat from the Diploma in Information Technology.



For media enquiries, please contact:

Republic Polytechnic

Patrick Seng / Julian Soh
Tel: 9767 6701 / 9018 0719
Email: patrick_seng@rp.edu.sg /
julian_soh@rp.edu.sg

Weber Shandwick (for Republic Polytechnic)

Siddharth Singh / Matt de Bakker
Tel: 6825 8022 / 6825 8206
Email: republicpoly@webershandwick.com

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 thirty-nine 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>