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# Congratulations to **TEAM RP!**

At the 45th WorldSkills Competition, held from 22 to 27 August 2019, our graduates from School of Hospitality (SOH), Jerome Lim En Da and Vanesia Erico Tan Yi Jun were conferred Medallions of Excellence. Jerome and Vanesia previously participated in WorldSkills Singapore (WSS) 2018 and competed at WorldSkills ASEAN 2018 in Bangkok.

Representing Singapore and RP for the first time, Year 3 School of Engineering (SEG) student, Jasper Chua Chun Kiat took part in Drone Operating as part of FutureSkills, which is a new project that showcases emerging skills.

**Vanesia Erico  
Tan Yi Jun**  
Restaurant  
Service  
Medallion of  
Excellence

**Jerome Lim  
En Da**  
Cooking  
Medallion of  
Excellence

**Jasper Chua  
Jun Kiat**  
Drone Operating  
(FutureSkills)  
Certificate of  
Participation



Team RP representing Singapore in Kazan, Russia for WSC 2019

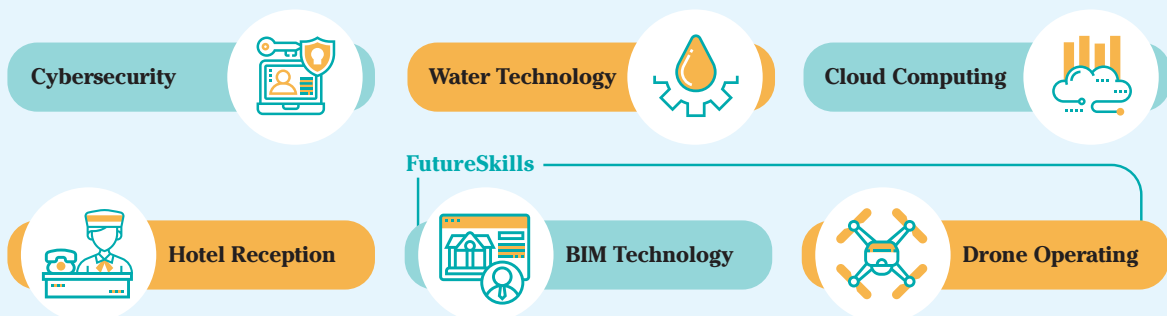
“ Our success has been made possible with the dedication of our colleagues. The team started the journey in 2018 and ended on a high with two Medallions of Excellence – no longer as strangers but as one family.

**Ms Seeneth Hanifa,**  
Team Manager for RP contingent

## About WorldSkills Competition

Held once every two years, WorldSkills Competition (WSC) is the world's largest vocational and technical skills competition for youths. The 45th WSC, held in Kazan, Russia, saw the largest cohort of participants from Singapore since 1995. A total of 32 Singaporean youths participated in the competition across 29 skill areas from 22 to 27 August 2019.

**Singapore competed in the following skill areas for the first time:**



# EDITOR'S NOTE

With an increasing awareness of the effects of climate change, individuals and organisations have begun to introduce green initiatives in their daily lives and/or in the workplace.

Going green is a cause close to our hearts here at RP, beginning with our green campus and various other eco-sustainable features in and around campus. RP School of Applied Science Programme Chairs Mr Jeremy Kong (Work-Learn Programme) and Dr Laura Yap (Diploma in Environmental Science) share how RP is making a difference. Useful tips on how to be more eco-friendly can be found on pages 2 to 4. Beyond the classroom, our students have also taken the initiative to help inculcate green values in their schoolmates (page 10).

Alongside our partners and other like-minded organisations, RP is determined to make an effort in creating a sustainable Singapore for current and future generations. One particular highlight would be our partnership with Sembcorp (pages 5 to 7) on the implementation of various initiatives such as the upcoming Integrated Agricultural Hub and the joint development of the new *ezi* mobile app. These initiatives are aimed to achieve sustainability goals.

Tackling climate change requires the collective efforts of all individuals. Looking ahead in 2020, let's make a difference together!

From the *incoRPorate* editorial team

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#### ADVISOR

Ashley Chua

#### EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Renee Loh

#### EDITORS

Charlene Soh  
Fiona Chia

#### CONTRIBUTORS

Ada Fong	Jacqui Chong	Saideep Issrani
Candace Fu	Jason Tey	Seeneth Hanifa
Cheah Siew Yen	Jeffrey Koh	Shaaron Tan
Chen Shujun	Jeremy Kong	Shamla Ramasamy
Christin Hu	Jolene Chiam	Sharon Ng
Claudia Leung	Julian Soh	Stanley Kwek
Danny Lee	Kelda Chua	Tan Song Koy
Eve Zeng	Laura Yap (Dr)	Thivya Nagarajan
Fahreeq Fattah	Liew Tien En	Valavan S (Dr)
Goh Phaik Lan (Dr)	Patrick Seng	Wendy Wong
Ho Chee Wai	Ronald Wong	Zoe Soo
Hong Ling Tim	Sabrina Lim	

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*Information is correct at time of print. OCC / January 2020*



#### SCAN THE QR CODE

to connect with RP on LinkedIn® – your avenue for the latest industry-relevant news and events!



# MAKING A DIFFERENCE BEGINS WITH ALL OF US

Going green and maintaining eco-sustainability has been a prominent topic of discussion and activism across the globe in the last decade. Eco-sustainability has also been picking up pace in Singapore over the past few years, with more organisations and individuals doing their part alongside the Government to combat climate change through green initiatives and making green choices.

**Mr Jeremy Kong**, Programme Chair, Work-Learn Programme, School of Applied Science (SAS), RP and **Dr Laura Yap**, Programme Chair, Diploma in Environmental Science, SAS, RP provide insights on how Singapore and RP are moving towards a greener future.

Mr Kong is an active member in Singapore's environmental scene and works closely with local ministries and organisations on sustainability, waste management and agriculture-related initiatives, including an overseas study trip to South Korea to understand their waste management and recycling practices. Dr Yap's interest in conservation and terrestrial ecology led her to assume the position of lead advisor for RP's Conservation Interest Group, and co-found the RP Campus Sustainability Committee with Mr Kong.

## SUSTAINABILITY ON A NATIONAL LEVEL

Hoping to achieve a sustainable and livable Singapore for future generations, the Government released the *Singapore Sustainability Blueprint 2015* (SSB 2015) as a framework that guides Singapore into becoming a better home with a cleaner, greener environment. RP's Diploma in Environmental Science also incorporates SSB 2015 in the curriculum, to help develop students into future environmental champions.

Apart from advocating public education on sustainability, the Blueprint points housing in an eco-friendly direction through the implementation of "Eco-Smart" features like solar panels,



Dr Yap and Mr Kong with a SMART Bin at RP, a solar-powered trash compactor bin that can hold eight times more waste than normal bins

pneumatic waste conveyance system (PWCS), and urban landscaping in newer HDB districts such as Punggol Northshore, Jurong Lake District, Kampong Bugis, and Marina South.

Mature estates are also progressively retrofitted with these features. Older estates were designed with public hygiene in mind; however, segregation of waste was not a priority at the time, which led to poor household recycling rates among residents. The introduction of a second chute and PWCS in newer estates will aid in household recycling efforts.

Singapore's recycling problem is exacerbated by global imports whereby the use of materials is diverse. With 2019 designated as the *Year Towards Zero Waste*, Singapore is working towards becoming a zero-waste nation by reducing our consumption of materials, and reusing and recycling them to give them a second lease of life.

The Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources (MEWR) and National Environment Agency (NEA) also have a series of implementations lined up for a *Resources Sustainability Act*, which include:

Mandatory packaging reporting in 2020

Extended producer responsibility for e-waste by 2021

Mandatory food waste segregation for treatment from 2024

Extended producer responsibility for packaging by 2025



Dr Yap (rightmost) doing her part for the environment along with RP students during the *Keep Clean, Singapore* campaign

## GREEN INITIATIVES: WE ALL PLAY A PART

“ We should treat climate change defences like we treat the SAF — with utmost seriousness.”

Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong addressing the need to protect Singapore against climate change at the National Day Rally 2019

Various organisations are committed to making a difference, such as Novartis, a Swiss multinational pharmaceutical company that hosted a Sustainability Awareness event in September 2019, which Dr Yap and Mr Kong were invited

to speak at. Ricoh Asia Pacific Pte Ltd also collaborated with RP on their Eco Action Day Finale<sup>1</sup>.

Closer to home, local initiatives include the student-organised climate change rally at Hong Lim Park's Speaker's Corner in September 2019 and the launch of Sembcorp's *ezi* mobile app, which aims to make recycling more convenient. RP has also partnered other organisations on various green initiatives. Some of these include the Public Hygiene Council's (PHC) *Keep Clean, Singapore* campaign whereby RP staff and students actively pick up litter in the campus's vicinity, and a joint project with Singapore Environment Council (SEC) to groom Eco Ambassadors<sup>2</sup>.

## MAKING A CHANGE AT RP

RP's campus was conceptualised and built with green features in mind — a campus in a park. These include water-saving nozzles on taps, solar panels on roofs, solar-powered SMART Bins, and plans to build electric vehicle charging points. Campus canteens are also fitted with food waste digestors

<sup>1</sup> Find out more about the Eco Action Day Finale on Pages 8 to 9!

<sup>2</sup> Find out more about how to become an Eco Ambassador on Page 16!

which transform 200kg of food waste into non-potable water and organic fertiliser daily, reducing the carbon footprint and also prolonging the lifespan of the Semaukau Landfill.

There are also various green implements which aid RP students and staff in adopting eco-friendly practices. A simple but effective method has been the gradual removal of single-use plastics, such as bottled water, since October 2019. Instead of providing bottled water at meetings and events, RP has been encouraging guests, staff, and students to refill their own bottles or mugs at water points around campus. Canteens and cafes at RP also no longer issue plastic straws and lids unless requested.

Guided by goals set under the *Public Sector Taking the Lead in Environmental Sustainability Version 2 (PSTLE 2.0)*, RP aims to lower our water and electricity use through the usage of LED lighting and motion detectors around campus, e-documentation, and setting air-conditioner units close to 24°C where possible, among other measures.

RP staff and students are also constantly encouraged to practise good recycling and upcycling habits, through eDMs, pledges, waste audits, and a variety of events organised by RP's Conservation Interest Group. These include the annual Conservation Fortnight where guest speakers are invited to share their knowledge, and upcycling workshops for staff and students. RP also supports external clean-up events and organises recycling and upcycling workshops at kindergartens and other public platforms.

## GREEN TIP!

Here are some simple steps you can take to play your part in going green.



### Eating More Greens

Lowers your carbon footprint as meat has a higher carbon footprint than vegetables



### Buying Clothes Less Frequently

Lowers the global climate impact<sup>3</sup>



### Requesting for Smaller Food Portions



### Carpooling or Bicycle Sharing

Lowers carbon emissions and pollution



### Checking for Expiry Dates

Reduces food waste and lowers the demand for produce, which in turn reduces your carbon footprint



### Bringing Your Own Containers, Cups, Straws, and Bags

Reduces the use of one-time use plastics



### Composting

Reduces food waste and produces fertiliser for growing your own edible plants



### Upcycling and Recycling

Extends the life of one-time use items (e.g. turn plastic bottles into plant holders and milk cartons into coin pouches)

Scan to find out how the **Work-Study Programme leading to a Diploma in Applied Science (Environmental Services and Management)** can help you make a difference in your green journey.



Scan these QR codes or turn to Page 16 to find out how you can be an **Eco Ambassador too!**



Eco Ambassador Starter



goEco Ambassador

*Inculcating green habits at a young age through upcycling workshops at kindergartens*

<sup>3</sup> As of 2019, apparel and footwear industries account for over 8% of the global climate impact.



# BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

From social and environmental consciousness to improving business performance, companies rally behind sustainability for very different reasons. Sembcorp Industries, home-grown energy company and sustainability champion, shares insights into their transformational journey towards building a sustainability-centred business and the benefits resulting from their vision and efforts.

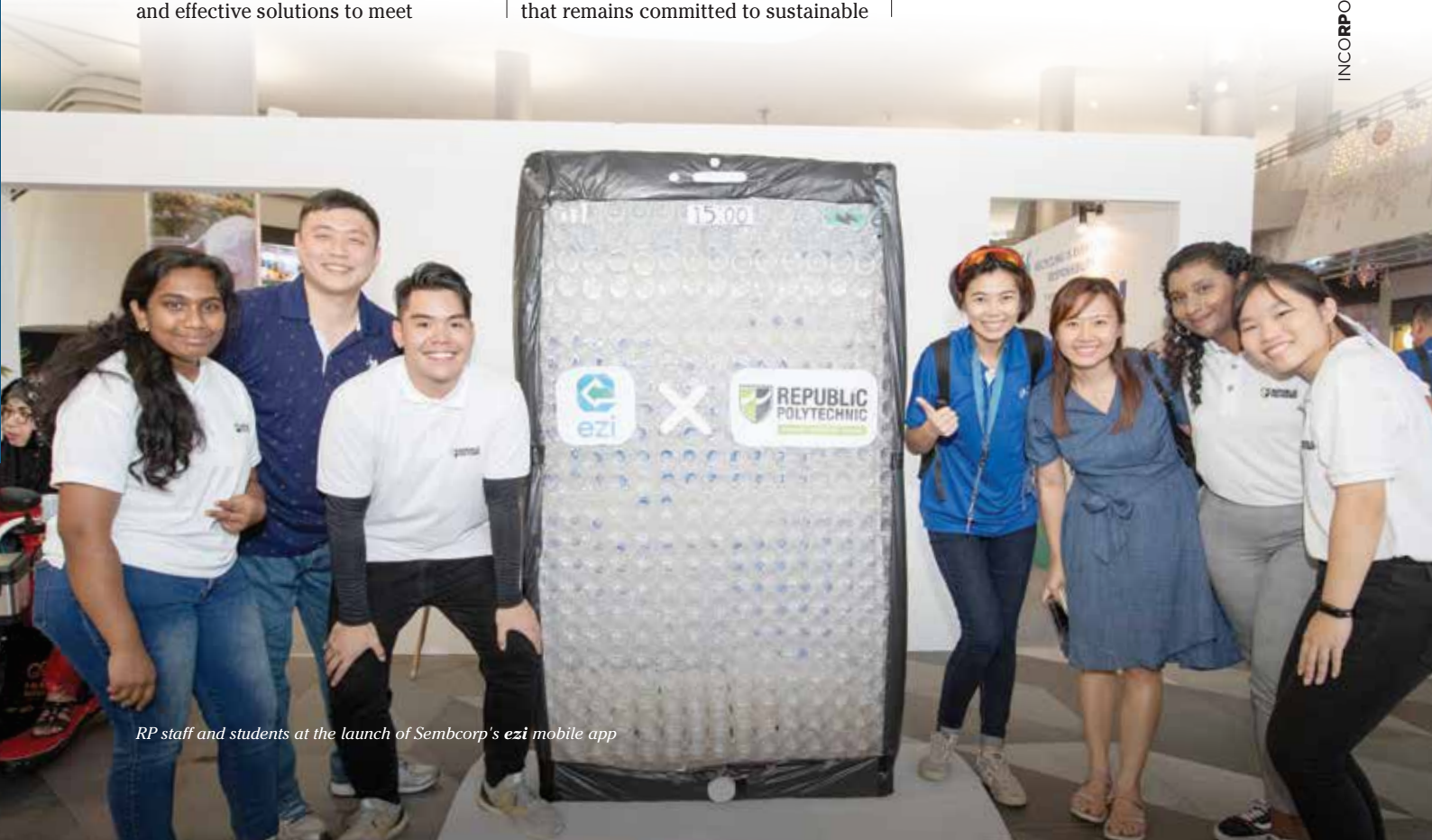
*Photos on Contents Page and Pages 5 to 7 are provided by Sembcorp.*

Sembcorp began as a utilities player in 1995. Its centralised utilities platform for energy and chemicals industry customers on Jurong Island was created with a circular economy approach — way before the now-trending term was coined. The company designed innovative and effective solutions to meet

environmental and resource challenges on the island by generating more energy for less and reusing resources to meet sustainability and economic competitiveness needs.

Today, Sembcorp is an integrated energy and urban solutions player that remains committed to sustainable

development. Over the past 25 years, Sembcorp has built up strong capabilities and deep integration expertise across the energy and utilities value chain, encompassing thermal and renewable power as well as wastewater treatment and waste management solutions.



*RP staff and students at the launch of Sembcorp's ezi mobile app*

## SEMBCORP'S SUSTAINABILITY FRAMEWORK: STAYING RELEVANT, CREATING VALUE

In 2018, profound shifts in the global energy landscape led Sembcorp's leadership to take a decisive step to reshape the company's business. Growing awareness of the threat of climate change and stresses on finite resources were driving accelerated changes in government policies to encourage more environmentally-friendly power generation. The rapid rise of renewables was disrupting conventional utility systems of past decades, low-carbon energy was entering the mainstream, and every aspect of industry was being impacted by new technologies, digitalisation, and market deregulation.

To protect corporate value and, more importantly, to stay relevant and

competitive, Sembcorp set its sights on becoming the region's leading independent renewable energy company and an integrated energy and urban development company that would deliver long-term value for its customers and stakeholders.

To intensify its transformation efforts, Sembcorp unveiled its Climate Change Strategy in March 2018 to address the low-carbon transition as well as climate change risks and opportunities. Its Sustainability Framework articulated three ambitions — enable a low-carbon and circular economy, empower its people and communities, and embed responsible business practices throughout the company — which would direct Sembcorp's approach to integrate sustainability and manage its material environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues as part of its strategy.

The renewed focus and framework around sustainability have galvanised Sembcorp's efforts towards developing innovative integrated solutions for

reducing emissions intensity and growing its renewables capacity substantively.

“By working with RP, Sembcorp is helping Singapore build up talent, accelerate R&D as well as manage and conserve scarce resources.”

**Mr Koh Chiap Khiong**  
Head of Energy Business (Singapore, Southeast Asia and China),  
Sembcorp Industries Ltd



Establishing a partnership between RP and Sembcorp on 8 October 2019



## DRIVING SUSTAINABILITY IN SINGAPORE

As part of its ongoing journey to drive sustainability in Singapore and the region, Sembcorp is collaborating with public and private organisations to drive various catalysing initiatives.

Mr Koh Chiap Khiong, Sembcorp's Head of Energy Business for Singapore, Southeast Asia and China, elaborated, "Sembcorp's goal is to be part of the solution to address growing climate change and sustainability issues. Our corporate purpose and passion is to not only do well, but to do good. This means playing our part in creating a sustainable future, delivering energy and innovative solutions that support sustainable developments, and creating value for businesses and our communities."

Sembcorp's partnership with RP reflects this strong commitment



*Learning through games: Sharing recycling tips through games at the launch of ezi recycling app*

to developing innovative solutions that drive future sustainability. In addition to supporting RP's Diploma in Environmental Science course prizes and Industry Immersion Programme where RP interns are mentored by Sembcorp experts, Sembcorp signed

a Memorandum of Understanding recently with RP to collaborate on a series of environmental initiatives aimed at making Singapore a more sustainable and eco-friendly nation. Project collaborations include: energy solutions for the urban agricultural industry; recycling waste infrastructure initiatives in Singapore; and, joint curriculum development and continuing education and training programmes in environmental sustainability and waste management.

To engage the community on waste management, Sembcorp has also collaborated with RP and DBS to launch *ezi* — a new mobile app intended to provide a more convenient way of recycling in Singapore. *ezi* has a suite of features including interactive educational elements to teach users how to recycle right as well as a doorstep recyclables collection service.

"Sustainability is a journey. By working with RP, Sembcorp is helping Singapore build up talent, accelerate R&D as well as manage and conserve scarce resources," shared Mr Koh. "Our joint efforts will support Singapore holistically as it strives towards becoming a more sustainable, smart city."



*This article is prepared with content inputs from Sembcorp's Group Strategic Communications and Sustainability team.*

## Eco Action Day: Green Initiatives with Ricoh Asia Pacific

“Everyone can make a difference, and only through our collective efforts will we be able to create a sustainable Singapore.”

**Dr Amy Khor**, Senior Minister of State for the Environment and Water Resources

Climate change is an issue that RP cares about deeply, and we are committed to preventing pollution, conserving resources, and achieving an environmentally-friendly campus. Throughout the years, RP has been raising environmental awareness among staff and students through a myriad of green initiatives to inculcate good 3R (Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle) habits, and organising regular talks on environmental related topics.

The year 2019 marks the first time RP has collaborated with Ricoh Asia Pacific (Ricoh) on their annual Eco Action Day campaign, aimed at encouraging a green movement among various stakeholders, businesses, and the public. Graced by Guest-of-Honour, Dr Amy Khor, Senior Minister of State for the Environment and Water Resources, the campaign's finale was hosted at RP on 23 July 2019 and attended by representatives from various organisations.



Guest-of-Honour Dr Amy Khor (centre) watering the plants at the arbour with Mr Yeo Li Pheow, Principal/CEO, RP (left) and Mr Yuji Hiruma, Director and Senior General Manager, Ricoh Asia Pacific, Digital Workplace Marketing Division (right)



*Dr Lim Boon Whatt, Director, School of Applied Science, RP (standing second from left) and Dr Amy Khor (seated second from left) with the representatives from partner organisations at the arbour and upcycled bench*

Named *Green the Red Dot, Join the Movement*, the 13th Eco Action Day campaign spurred individuals and organisations to take urgent climate action through a host of green initiatives. The finale celebrated the combined efforts of everyone involved in the campaign across the span of three months and was commemorated with a planting ceremony at the Rain Garden at RP. Ricoh also sponsored an arbour made of chengal wood and a bench created by upcycling used toner cartridges.

RP, along with several organisations and schools<sup>4</sup>, partnered Ricoh on the inaugural Seed Distribution initiative. Conceptualised in line with the *30 by 30* vision for Singapore to produce 30% of food locally by 2030, the initiative saw a distribution of three types of seeds which can be grown locally — mini tomatoes, okra, and water spinach. Beginning at the Eco Action

Day Finale, the seed distribution concluded successfully at the end of November 2019.



*Planting ceremony in commemoration of the Eco Action Day Finale*

<sup>4</sup> *The North West Community Development Council, the South West Community Development Council, ITE College East, Singapore American School, and United World College.*

## Saving Gaia Starts with You



RP students penning their wishes for *Save Gaia*

At RP, students looking to make a change are actively involved in developing green initiatives around campus to create eco-awareness among staff and fellow students.

Inspired by the Polytechnic Forum 2018, *Save Gaia* is an RP Student Council initiative aimed at supporting the national effort towards becoming a Zero Waste Nation. Spanning three days, from 16 to 18 April 2019, the event focused on how individual efforts can contribute to making a change, rather than depending wholly on green movements organised by large corporations and organisations.

Held across the campus, the carnival-styled event involved mini games and a maze to educate students on the environmental impacts of waste and how RP is taking green measures to reduce waste on campus. By participating in the games and maze, students gained knowledge on going green and brought home eco-friendly prizes — metal straws, reusable tumblers, and tote bags — to help reduce plastic wastage on campus.

The Student Council members also collaborated with the school food vendors<sup>5</sup> to achieve a strawless campus during the event. This movement sparked change within the canteens, with vendors and students alike becoming more receptive to going strawless after the event.



RP's 16th Student Council — the team behind the *Save Gaia* initiative

<sup>5</sup> Koufu, 1983 A Taste Of Nanyang Café, Subway, and Cheers Convenience Store.

# Creating New Opportunities at SAS Industry Partners Appreciation Day

With big data being the next big thing across industries, the biomedical and healthcare sectors in Singapore are also moving towards harnessing big data technology to enhance the quality of medicine and healthcare locally. The result is a higher demand for skilled individuals who are able to properly analyse large volumes of such data to propel the industry forward.

At the School of Applied Science (SAS) Industry Partners Appreciation Day 2019, RP announced the launch of a new Specialist Diploma, jointly awarded by RP and Ngee Ann Polytechnic (NP) to meet this growing need in the biomedical and healthcare sector.

Developed in consultation with various research and healthcare institutions, the Specialist Diploma in Biomedical Informatics and Analytics (SDBIA) commenced in October 2019. The one-year Continuing Education and Training (CET) programme consists of two Post-Diploma Certificates (PDC) in Biomedical Informatics and Biomedical Analytics, which will be delivered by RP and NP respectively.

**Programme graduates will be able to pursue careers in the biomedical informatics and data analytics industries as:**



**Data Analyst**



**Application Specialist**



**Bioinformatician**



**Medical Informatics Officer**



**Medical Informatician**



**Electronic Medical Records Specialist**

**“ Big data and digital platforms are radically transforming the healthcare and biomedical science [sectors]. The SDBIA will provide an exciting and innovative launch pad for healthcare and biomedical science professionals to meet these challenges.”**

**Ms Tan Suat Peng**, Director, School of Life Sciences & Chemical Technology, NP



*Mr Albert Toh, Director, Academy of Continuing Education, RP and Ms Christy Chung, Director, CET Academy, NP at the launch of the SDBIA*

## Medical Collaborations

SAS Industry Partners Appreciation Day 2019 also saw the inking of two Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with A\*STAR Bioinformatics Institute and Raffles Medical Group. Both partnerships will result in increased opportunities for student internships and staff exchange programmes, along with chances to collaborate on joint research projects. The two organisations will also support the development and delivery of related lifelong learning programmes, boosting RP's efforts in developing and training individuals to be ready for the biomedical and healthcare sector.



Scan to find out more about SDBIA!





# Graduation



*Our special award winners with Mr David Wong, Chairman, Board of Governors, RP (leftmost); Mr Chee Hong Tat, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Education and Ministry of Trade and Industry (centre); and Mr Yeo Li Pheow, Principal/CEO, RP (rightmost)*

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INCORPORATE

## Graduates Can Continue Learning Too



*Our happy graduates from RP School of Technology for the Arts*

Held across 2 to 9 May 2019, the 14th RP Graduation Ceremony saw 4,500 graduates from Pre-Employment Training (PET) and CET courses receiving their diplomas. The first session was officiated by Guest-of-Honour, Mr Chee Hong Tat, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Education and Ministry of Trade and Industry.

Graduation Ceremony 2019 celebrated the pioneer cohort of 60 graduates from the Diploma in Engineering Design with Business, a course introduced in 2016, as well as 26 pioneering graduates from two CET courses launched in 2017 — the Specialist Diploma in Internet of Things<sup>6</sup> and Specialist Diploma in Integrated Care Management.

<sup>6</sup> Now known as Specialist Diploma in IoT Technologies and Solutioning.

## Our Industry-Ready Graduates

### Age is No Barrier to Learning

64-year-old former flight attendant, Mr Patrick Goh, graduated with a Diploma in Information Technology. Committed to lifelong learning, he persevered through the steep learning curve during his three years of full-time diploma study in RP. Armed with his Diploma, Mr Goh intends to put his newly-learned skills to use in the workplace.



Mr Patrick Goh receiving his Diploma certificate from Ms Wong Wai Ling, Director, School of Infocomm, RP

### Lifelong Learning at Any Time

Mr Darrell Ho withdrew from his studies in his youth. Determined to complete his diploma, he re-enrolled in RP's Part-Time Diploma in Engineering (Operations and Engineering Management) after several years of working in the industry. Mr Ho believes the diploma programme will enhance his career opportunities and lead to more roles and responsibilities at his company. He is currently pursuing a part-time degree programme in Business Analytics at Singapore University of Social Sciences, an impressive achievement and inspiration to other CET students.



Congratulations to our graduates from RP School of Sports, Health and Leisure

## Continue Your Learning Journey ASAP



“ It is vital for jobseekers to keep an open mind and embrace an attitude of lifelong learning so as to acquire new skills.”

Mr Yeo Li Pheow, Principal/CEO, RP

With the workplace and workforce evolving constantly, individuals are encouraged to stay current through upskilling and picking up relevant emerging skillsets. In line with Singapore's SkillsFuture initiative to embrace lifelong learning, RP introduced ASAP (Alumni Skills Advancement Programme) during the Graduation Ceremony 2019, to inculcate the value of continuous learning in our alumni.

Under the Programme, RP alumni can enjoy complimentary enrolment for their first three SkillsFuture Series courses at RP. Close to 200 courses across different fields such as data analytics, tech-enabled services, digital media, cybersecurity, and entrepreneurship are available under the SkillsFuture Series short courses. The course duration ranges from one to five days, to lower the commitment barrier and enable alumni to learn at their convenience. ASAP will run till 31 May 2022.



Scan to find out more about ASAP and the full range of SkillsFuture Series courses available.



## Solving Real-World Issues Through FinTech

Organised by PolyFinTech 100, consisting of the five polytechnics<sup>7</sup> and Monetary Authority Singapore (MAS), the PolyFinTech100 API Hackathon competition aims to nurture and develop FinTech talents to meet emerging needs of the financial services sector. A total of 40 teams from the five polytechnics registered for the event, with ten teams from RP.

The teams developed IT solutions to real-world problems — bringing convenience to the community through financial technology. Team S.M.C (Singapore, Malaysia, China) from RP's Diploma in Information Technology emerged as



Team S.M.C with the award for their winning mobile app prototype

the competition's Grand Champion. For their winning entry, the students applied their skills in designing a prototype mobile application, *OneHeart*, to streamline donation and volunteer processes and operational efficiency at St Luke's Hospital. The team had clinched first prize in the Sustainable Social Innovation category before competing against winners of other categories to take home the Grand Champion award.

## Engineering a PAssion for the Arts



Thumbs up and smiles all around for the students and lecturers from SEG and STA as PM Lee visited their installations

Following 2018's success, students from RP School of Engineering (SEG) have once again participated in the PAssionArts Festival 2019, in collaboration with the School of Technology for the Arts (STA) this time. The PAssionArts Festival aims to use art to celebrate National Day by featuring 88 Community Arts and Culture Clubs (CCACs) working alongside 150 artists and art groups.

With preparation starting in April 2019, SEG and STA conceptualised and developed three technology-enabled interactive art pieces under the theme *Our Smart Nation 2019 — Future*. Two

digital art projects, *Digital Painting* and *Digital Graffiti Wall Painting* were the brainchild of SEG students, while an Augmented Reality (AR) piece titled *3D Virtual Merlion* was developed by the STA students.

The Festival's launch on 7 July 2019 was attended to much fanfare, with Prime Minister (PM) Lee Hsien Loong gracing the event and gamely participating in the interactive installations put up by the students. PM Lee was happy to doodle on the interactive digital canvases and pose for photos with the AR Merlion.



PM Lee trying his hand at virtual painting

<sup>7</sup> Nanyang Polytechnic, Ngee Ann Polytechnic, RP, Singapore Polytechnic, and Temasek Polytechnic.



# Understanding Foreign Markets



Participants, organisers, and facilitators of the Myanmar T&L Programme at Yangon Technological University

With more people venturing overseas for business, whether to break into a new market or to embark on a partnership, there comes a higher need to understand neighbouring markets and their local business culture. RP has been organising various enlightening Travel and Learn (T&L) programmes for budding entrepreneurs, including three notable learning journeys to Myanmar, Jakarta, and Bali in 2019.

## Start-Ups in Myanmar

22  
MAY 19

The 27 programme participants were introduced to the start-up scene in Myanmar with visits to the Thilawa Special Economic Zone (SEZ) and various organisations, including Phee Group, Mango Media, and Wave Money, among others.

25  
MAY 19

“Activities such as the creation of business plans for various industries allowed us to not only bond with other participants, but also learn how our thoughts and plans differed from the reality of the business climate there.”

*Mr Alvin Ong*  
Myanmar T&L participant



Scan to find out more and register interest for upcoming T&L programmes!



2  
JUL 19

4  
JUL 19

## Indonesian Unicorns

A total of 28 participants had the chance to visit two Indonesian Unicorns, Bukalapak and Tokopedia, to gain insights on what makes a start-up successful.

“ [T]he hospitality and planning by RP was fantastic, I enjoyed the programme and it has been an integral part in my company’s decision to set up a Representative Office in Jakarta.”

*Mr Fabian Yeo*  
Jakarta T&L participant

28  
AUG 19

30  
AUG 19

## Balinese Opportunities

Attended by 21 participants, the programme focused on the *10 New Bali* investment opportunities available in Bali, Belitung, and Lombok.

“ The course and trainers have been very helpful and attentive to our queries all the time. Thanks for organising this meaningful programme and giving me inspiration to start up a business.”

*A Bali T&L participant*

# GROOMING ECO AMBASSADORS WITH SINGAPORE ENVIRONMENT COUNCIL



Committed to driving eco-awareness in and out of campus, RP has partnered with Singapore Environment Council (SEC) for a joint project. Both parties signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on 10 June 2019, marking the launch of the Eco Ambassador Training Programme, which aims to create awareness on environmental sustainability at both an individual and organisational level.

Graced by Guest-of-Honour Dr Teo Ho Pin, Mayor of North West District and Vice-Chairman of SEC, the MOU signing and programme launch also included an eco-tour which showcased a robotic scrubber and poster presentations for green technology such as a SMART Bin and a Food Waste Digester, among others.

Jointly developed by RP and SEC, the Eco Ambassador Training Programme is available in two formats — Eco Ambassador Starter, a two-day course for

individuals wanting to go green and advocate eco-friendliness, and goEco Ambassador, a more in-depth four-day course which equips participants with the knowledge to make environmentally-sustainable changes in their organisations. Courses commenced in November 2019 at RP, and are made available to all adult learners.

“Today’s event has a particularly green focus. Not only is the colour green RP’s corporate colour, it also symbolises our continuous effort towards building a cleaner, greener, and more sustainable campus.”

Mr Ashley Chua, Senior Director (Industry Services and SkillsFuture), RP

### Eco Ambassador Training Programme Modules:

- 🌱 Environmental Analytics
- 🌱 Communication and Outreach
- 🌱 Green Innovations through Design Thinking
- 🌱 Lean Eco Approach
- 🌱 Project Management
- 🌱 Climate Change and the Environment
- 🌱 Sustainability Reporting
- 🌱 Environmental Assessment and Management System

Interested in doing your part for the environment and implementing green initiatives at your workplace?

Scan these QR codes to find out more about the programme and upcoming course dates!



#### Eco Ambassador Starter

A two-day course to kickstart individuals’ efforts in going green



#### goEco Ambassador

A four-day in-depth course on going green at an organisational level

# DIGITALLY DRIVING SUSTAINABILITY

In conjunction with International Built Environment Week (IBEW) 2019 organised by the Building and Construction Authority of Singapore, RP, alongside nine other industry partners, inked an MOU with Surbana Jurong. RP and Surbana Jurong will undertake efforts in facilitating knowledge sharing and conducting joint research in the areas of sustainability and resiliency, and aquaculture and agriculture.

This partnership, the largest number of MOUs inked by Surbana Jurong in a single day, will see RP contributing to the growth and development of the built industry in Singapore and the region.

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Both parties will be exploring joint projects in aquaculture and agriculture, and the details will be established in the following months. The IBEW featured more than 12,000 attendees, and served as an invaluable platform for industry leaders and professionals to further improvements and innovations in the built environment.

01. Mr Yeo Li Pheow, Principal/CEO, RP (fourth from left) and Dr Teo Ho Pin, Mayor of North West District and Vice-Chairman, SEC (fourth from right) with the signed MOUs, signalling the start of a green partnership with SEC

02. Mr Eugene Seah, Senior Director, Surbana Jurong (left) and Dr Michael Koh, Deputy Principal (Academic Services), RP (right) inking the MOU for a sustainable partnership between both parties

03. Happy representatives from RP and WRS at the MOU Signing Ceremony

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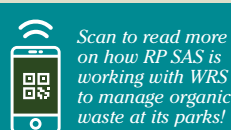


# DEEPENING TIES WITH WILDLIFE RESERVES SINGAPORE

RP has been working closely with Wildlife Reserves Singapore (WRS) since 2010, and in 2019, we have renewed our partnership with them once again through a joint MOU between RP, Mandai Park Development Pte Ltd (MPD) and WRS<sup>8</sup>. The MOU signing ceremony took place at the NEST@SIT Building at RP.

RP staff and students can look forward to internships, projects,

and attachments which aim to improve park operations at WRS and MPD, and promote wildlife conservation and sustainable development. WRS and MPD employees will also have opportunities to upskill themselves through relevant professional training and lifelong learning courses available at RP. In conjunction with the partnership, RP School of Applied Science (SAS) has also secured a grant from Mandai Research Fund for their research on management of carnivore faecal matter through black soldier flies.



<sup>8</sup> Singapore Zoological Gardens and the Jurong Bird Park Pte Ltd

## ACCESSIBILITY FOR ALL AT RP WITH SPD



Mr Abhimanyau Pal, CEO, SPD (second from left) with RP's senior management at the revamped Student Care Centre

The official reopening of the newly-renovated Student Care Centre (SCC) — which includes two rooms that cater to students with Special Educational Needs (SEN) — set the stage for the signing of an MOU between RP and SPD, formerly known as Society for the Physically Disabled. The redesign of the SCC also includes other SEN-friendly features such as panic buttons and braille lettering in rooms.

RP has seen an increase in enrolment for students with

declared SEN in recent years, and has been actively adapting the campus to meet learning needs and provide a more conducive environment for all RP students. This includes the new partnership with SPD, for the launch of a satellite Assistive Technology (AT) Loan Library at the SCC.

SEN students may require AT to aid them in their studies but may not know what devices are suitable for their use. To help these students, SPD has loaned a

series of devices to RP, which are housed at the AT Loan Library. The AT devices are available for students to borrow and test before deciding if they wish to purchase such devices for personal use. SPD also continues to provide consultation and training to RP staff and students on SEN and AT.

### Some of the AT devices available at the AT Loan Library include:

- + **Text to Speech Software (Proloquo4Text)**  
 A versatile Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) app that translates text to speech
- + **Phonak Roger Pen**  
 A wireless microphone which aids in the understanding of speech in noise and across distance
- + **C-Pen Scanner**  
 A portable, pocket-sized device that reads out text in English



Mr Liew Tian En, SEN Counsellor, Office of Student Support, RP showcasing the various AT devices available, with the assistance of RP student Joseph Oh Jing Wen

# CHANGING THE FACE OF HOSPITALITY WITH IMMERSiVELY

RP School of Hospitality (SOH) signed an MOU with iMMERSiVELY, a creative startup specialising in immersive media technologies, on 18 June 2019. An Augmented Reality (AR) and Virtual Reality (VR) booth was set up at the venue for a demonstration on how such immersive technologies can augment hospitality.

Through this MOU, both parties will collaborate on joint programmes and projects. RP students can look forward to internship opportunities,



A hearty handshake between Mr James Lee, Director, School of Hospitality, RP (left) and Mr Lionel Chok, Founder/Creative Technologist, iMMERSiVELY (right)

site visits, and scholarship awards, while RP staff can take part in staff attachments and work closely with iMMERSiVELY to enhance the curriculum in the field of hospitality.

SOH has partnered iMMERSiVELY on several occasions prior to

the MOU, such as CET training workshops, RP Open House 2018, and the VR Immersive Experience @ RP Hotel Experiential Lab. We look forward to more future collaborations with iMMERSiVELY through this partnership.

# GOING FURTHER WITH CAG

RP has renewed our partnership with Changi Airport Group (CAG) for the third time with an MOU inked on 22 August 2019. CAG has been keenly supporting RP through various internship opportunities, staff attachments, and project collaborations through

the years. CAG also sponsors book prizes, scholarships, and bursaries for RP students.

Through this renewal of the MOU, RP students can look forward to more internship programmes, projects, and

student learning activities while RP staff can take part in the industry attachment scheme at CAG and staff consultancy projects. CAG staff can also sign up for professional development courses to upskill themselves.



To more years of happy and successful collaborations with CAG

## BUILDING A CARING COMMUNITY

HDB Community Week celebrates life in the heartlands. The event included the third HDB Build-a-Thon challenge, where teams gave solutions on creating friendly and lively neighbourhoods.

Eight finalist teams were selected to implement their solutions and six of these teams consisted of RP's Diploma in Social Enterprise Management Year 3 students and residents of the Woodlands area. The teams were mentored by RP School of Management and Communication (SMC) lecturers, Mr Stanley Kwek and Mr Danny Lee, who also conducted the Social Innovation workshop — a Continuing Education and Training (CET) programme for HDB, as part of the competition.

Our students showcased their community spirit and passion throughout the competition and were part of the three winning teams, with Team Hydroglen also bagging themselves the Best Social Media Award.



The winning teams consisting of RP students and HDB residents

### The winning teams and their projects

**Hydroglen**  
Hydroponics Farm @ Woodlands Glen

A community hydroponics farm for residents to plant their own edible greens

**Konnectorize**  
Connecting the Young and Mature Group

3D wall murals and traditional games to bridge the gap between young and elderly residents

**Sembawang Rangers**  
Relax and Entertainment Corner

A revamped community corner which was visualised through Virtual Reality (VR) technology during the planning stage

## SAVING ENERGY AND WATER WITH SEMBAWANG RESIDENTS



DGEM and DSEM students, with Nee Soon Spring CC grassroots volunteers and Grassroots Adviser cum Minister for Education Mr Ong Ye Kung, at the **POSITIVELY CHARGED!** block party

Students from the School of Engineering's (SEG) Diploma in Green Building Energy Management (DGEM) and SMC's Diploma in Social Enterprise Management (DSEM) took part in HDB's Energy and Water Audit Project. The project was initiated in collaboration with Nee Soon Spring CC and People's Association

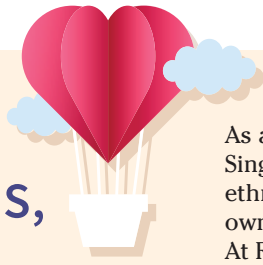
to help 15 lower income families in Sembawang lower their water and energy consumption.

The DGEM students conducted the audit and installed energy and water-saving devices in the homes to determine the impact on cost savings. Meanwhile DSEM students worked on understanding

how families' lifestyles affected household expenses. Through their efforts, the families were able to cut down as much as 20% in water consumption and 10% in energy consumption, and reduced their utility bills while doing their part in going green. The families also agreed that they would continue to conserve water and energy even after the audit.

With the support of the PAYM Loves Red initiative, the students hosted **POSITIVELY CHARGED!**, a block party to celebrate the success of the audit. Residents enjoyed the party while learning about the benefits of saving energy and water through the audit results — lower bills and a cleaner, greener environment.

# MANY CULTURES, ONE HEART



As a multicultural melting pot, Singapore is home to diverse ethnic groups, each with their own cultural practices and beliefs. At RP, we believe in embracing the various cultural groups and encouraging cultural exchange.

RP has been a part of One Heart, an annual joint polytechnic service-learning project, which aims to promote multicultural and multinational student friendships through a common goal of befriending and helping the elderly in Singapore. One Heart sees student volunteers from all walks of life interacting with elderly beneficiaries by helping them make healthier grocery choices and playing cultural games together. Through these activities, the students are able to bond and gain an appreciation for other cultures while also caring for the elderly.

In 2019, RP's Office of Student and Graduate Affairs (OSG) Service-Learning was conferred the National Integration Council (NIC)



Mr Ganesh Kalyanam, Director, Office of Student and Graduate Affairs (OSG) and The Republic Cultural Centre, RP receiving the award on behalf of OSG



A student designing a tote bag together with an elderly beneficiary

Award in recognition of the efforts of One Heart. The award was presented by Ms Grace Fu, Minister for Culture, Community and Youth, at NIC's 10th Anniversary Convention, held on 3 August 2019.

# I-REMEMBER, DO YOU?

“ It is encouraging that I-REMEMBER @ North West Carnival is an initiative by the RP student leaders. I have been told that these students are involved in various aspects of the event planning, including logistics and publicity as well as volunteering as helpers and performers.”

**Associate Professor Muhammad Faishal Ibrahim,**  
Senior Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Social and Family Development & Ministry of Education in his opening address at the I-REMEMBER @ North West Carnival

The stigma surrounding dementia is a growing concern in Singapore, with many people with dementia expressing feelings of rejection and loneliness. Students from RP School of Applied Science; School of Sports, Health and Leisure (SHL); and OSG's CREATE Interest Group (IG) organised a service-learning project, which was held on 7 September 2019, to raise awareness on dementia among residents in the North West District.

An RP student engaging the community on healthy food choices during the event

Supported by various organisations in the community, the event included a mass exercise led by SHL students, exciting performances by CREATE IG, a colouring competition, insightful talks on dementia, and a host of educational carnival booths. Event participants gained insights on dementia and learnt to form a supportive community for people with dementia and their caregivers.



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