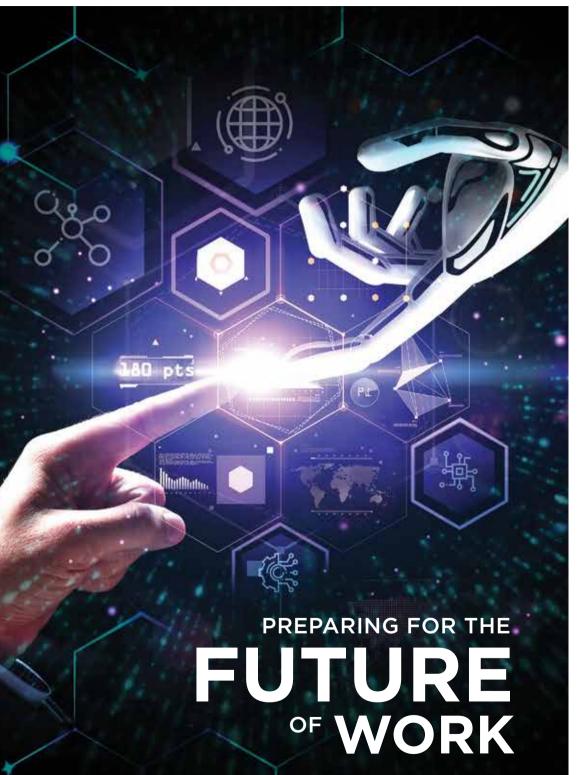


PUBLISHED FOR INDUSTRY PARTNERS OF REPUBLIC POLYTECHNIC





8 PARTNERSHIP INNOVATING THE FUTURE THROUGH COLLABORATIONS

IN CONVERSATION 22 UP WITH INDUSTRY TRANSFORMATIONS



EDITOR'S NOTE

As Singapore transforms into a Smart Nation, the landscape of work will become increasingly volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous. Given the challenges, how can companies be expected to thrive in such an environment?

To succeed, future solutions must go beyond traditional paradigms and expectations. Take PSA Corporation Limited (PSA) for example — the port operator is now developing the next generation of highly automated and intelligent container terminals to boost Singapore's position as a global maritime hub. Find out how we work with them to prepare talent for their workplace of tomorrow (In-Depth, pages 14 to 17).

Preparing for the future means planning in the present. Building solid relationships helps organisations face a VUCA environment on a more stable platform. We are glad to have fostered many fruitful partnerships with industry players and will continue to do so. In Partnership (pages 8 to 13). we look into recent collaborations with esteemed industry players — DHL, IMDA, A*STAR, RSA, IXIA, Certis CISCO, Pacific Activity Centre, and Singapore Green Building Council. In particular, our partnership with IMDA for the SMEs Go Digital Programme promises to support and catalyse the digital transformation of SMEs in Singapore.

At the same time, we are linking up with companies to equip RP students with future-valuable skillsets. The launch of our Smart Devices Laboratory was accompanied by an agreement with MediaTek and SMK Electronics, two major companies that will work with RP students and staff to transform conventional manual work processes (pages 8 and 9).

Looking forward, we encourage all industry partners to keep up-to-date with the latest happenings and to stay open to new innovations and developments. Here's to meeting the future head-on!

From the incoRPorate editorial team

CONTENTS



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Information is correct at time of print. OCC / June 2018

Hakim Dayne Lim

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Ng Boon Heng

SCAN THE QR CODE

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



Connecting with Industry at RP Career Fair 2018



Collaborating with the Employment and Employability Institute (e2i) for the third time in another successful run of the RP Career Fair, this year's theme of "Unlock Your Future — You Hold the Key to Your Future" was aimed to provide valuable opportunities for RP students and industry partners to connect with one another.

Several fringe activities took place for a month leading to the main event on 7 February 2018. For instance, the Industry Series where partners including Barclays, Scoot, and Thales — spoke about their respective industries at RP's Career Centre. These sharing sessions complemented our Education and Career Guidance (ECG) programme, allowing students to gain deeper insights into the work landscape.

Additionally, SkillsFuture Earn and Learn Programme (ELP) companies OCBC Bank, Yusen Logistics (Singapore) Pte Ltd, and JW Marriott Hotel Singapore South Beach also had manned booths at the fair. More than **3,000** students took part in the Career Fair and fringe activities

leading up to the fair



Industries included aerospace, engineering, hospitality, information technology, and public services, among others

Interested in locking down a spot for next year's Career Fair?

Email us at Help-StudentCareer@rp.edu.sg for more information.

A Showcase of Talent at Portfolio Day 2018



RP students were given opportunities to meet with industry partners to discuss potential future collaborations

Creativity was out in full force at Portfolio Day 2018. Held on 7 February, the exhibition-style event saw over 500 students from RP School of Technology for the Arts (STA) and RP School of Infocomm (SOI) displaying their creative works at RP's Agora Hall. Over 120 industry partners representing 70 companies were invited to browse and meet them to identify potential hires, spanning user experience designers, game designers, sound designers, animation artists, graphic designers, arts managers, and social media producers.

As an added bonus, attendees also got to hear about upcoming Continuing Education and Training (CET) courses in Design Thinking, User Experience Design, Unity, game-based learning, and Digital Content Creation.

Looking for creative talent?

Email Joshua Hong (joshua_hong2@rp.edu.sg) or Anthony Chong (anthony_chong@rp.edu.sg) to find out about the next Portfolio Day in February 2019.

Hospitality Transformed: Robots in Service



Secondary school students being wowed by the AUSCA during a demonstration of its egg-cooking function

Manpower shortage is pervasive in the hotel and hospitality sector. To alleviate resources issues, companies are increasingly turning to technology and robotics for answers. Keeping this trend in mind, RP School of Hospitality (SOH) has recently collaborated with industry partners to develop innovative technology solutions that may re-define the future of work.

Aethon TUG Robot^{1,2}

Partnership with StarHub and ST Kinetics

An autonomous delivery robot, designed to transport materials up to 635kg, the Aethon TUG is used to carry linen from guest rooms to a laundry collection point.

Autonomous Service Chef Robot (AUSCA)³

Partnership with Kurve Automation and Singapore Productivity Centre

AUSCA is a robotic arm that cooks eggs for guests, freeing highly-trained chefs to focus on other more complex tasks.

Mobile App Platform⁴

Partnership with McLaren Technologies & Amadeus Hospitality

A mobile app that allows hotel guests to access hotel services, room controls, as well as biometric authentication for check in and payments.

Singapore FinTech Festival: Banking on Great Ideas

The Financial Technology (FinTech) industry promises to be an exciting one, especially as Singapore develops its capabilities to become a top FinTech hub. As the industry grows, the demand for skilled workers who are familiar with the nuts and bolts of FinTech will increase too.

At RP, the first steps have been taken. According to Ms Wong Wai Ling, Director of RP School of Infocomm (SOI), there are 30 students currently doing internships in FinTech-related companies — three had even embarked on a six-month overseas internship at German digital Fidor Bank, starting in October 2017.



A presentation by Team LMB, one of the winning RP student teams



The three winning RP student teams at Singapore FinTech Festival: PolyGen, VANSIH, and LMB

The increased interest in FinTech came about through a 2016 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed by the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS), Singapore FinTech Association (SFA), and all polytechnics in Singapore to work on internships and develop curricula in FinTech.

Since then, RP students have made quick strides. At the Global FinTech Hackcelerator competition held during the Singapore FinTech Festival on 16 November 2017, students from RP's Diploma in Business Applications (DBA) achieved three of the top five spots, winning the judges over with ideas like micro-transaction payments and mobile banking services for the visually impaired. Each team was awarded with a cash prize of \$3,000 and got to present their solutions, followed by an interview with PolyFinTech 100.⁵

"I strongly encourage my RP juniors to try for an overseas internship if given the opportunity. Through an overseas internship, you will be exposed to things beyond what is happening in Singapore which may further enrich your learning."

Darren Thyng, Diploma in Business Applications, RP School of Infocomm student, who worked on improvement and bug fixes for FIDOR Ruby on Rails applications; supported the development team, business analysts, and solution architects; and assisted the product management team with market research

Sources

- ¹"StarHub, ST Kinetics to deploy laundry robots at hotels next year", 7 November 2017. Retrieved from Today website.
- ² "Robots to take over laundry operations in Singapore hotels", 13 November 2017. Retrieved from Networks Asia website.

⁴ "Hotel robotics get government boost in Singapore", 24 November 2017. Retrieved from TTG Asia website.

³ "Millennium Hotels and Resorts Pioneers the World's First Robot That Cooks Eggs", 21 November 2017. Retrieved from Hospitality Net website.

⁵ "Making the grade", 13 November 2017. Retrieved from The Business Times website.

NEWS & UPDATES.....



Ms Lyn Chua, Technical Strategist (AutoDesk-ASEAN Public Sector), fourth from left, and Dr Michael Koh, Deputy Principal (Academic Services), RP, fifth from right, officially launched the ATC together

From Students to Designers

On 7 February 2018, RP officially became the first educational institute in Singapore to provide training and certification for Autodesk Certified User (ACU) (Fusion 360) with the opening of the new RP-Autodesk Authorized Training Center (ATC). Following the launch, a special awards ceremony was held to recognise our Autodesk Certified User (Fusion 360) student recipients.

At the ATC, students and working professionals will strengthen their capabilities in the software to gain an edge in the industry. Companies can also access an online portal to check the status of certified users for hiring purposes.

Certification for Students

- Certificate of Completion (COC) (Integrated Autodesk Fusion 360 Curriculum)
- Certificate of Course Completion (Autodesk Revit Fundamentals)

Certification for Students and Adults (CET, SkillsFuture and Professionals)

- Autodesk Certified User: Fusion 360
- Autodesk Certified Professional: AutoCAD
 Autodesk Certified Professional:
- Revit Architecture
- Autodesk Certified Professional: Revit MEP

Innovators Turned Mentors: Sparking RP Entrepreneurship

When it comes to starting a business, having a mentor helps! In the spirit of this notion, 13 start-ups founded by RP alumni signed a letter of intent with industry partners to join "Inspire to Innovate", a start-up mentorship programme for students. This occurred during a networking event on 25 January 2018, organised by RP School of Management and Communication's (SMC) Enterprise Services Centre.

Under "Inspire to Innovate", students will be challenged with real problem statements and receive inspirational talks on innovation, case studies, or best practices. Selected teams can also benefit from mentorship consultation sessions.

The programme marks the next step towards building RP entrepreneurship, as the 13 startups were originally incubated by our Business Incubation Centre (BIC), an entrepreneurship resource hub that helps students and alumni start their business. To honour their achievements, they were presented with a commemorative plaque during the event. Each start-up was also given an exhibition space to showcase their products and services to the RP community.



Inspiration was the name of the game as selected startups (Motorist.Sg, Telepod and Central Perk) shared their entrepreneurial ups and downs

ULeap: Learning on the Go

Targeting busy working professionals who are constantly on the go, the National Trades Union Congress (NTUC), Employment and Employability Institute (e2i) in partnership with institutes of higher learning like RP created a new mobile learning app, ULEAP which stands for Learning Enabled through Active Participation. ULEAP is designed to provide a variety of "bite-sized" modules covering knowledge domains such as cybersecurity, IoT, digital business, and customer service with each taking the learner 15 minutes or less to complete, at his/her convenience of place and time.

Source: "Bite-size modules and crowdsourced learning features in new ULeap app", 17 November 2017. Retrieved from Today website.





Scan the QR code to find out more about ULeap.

"We are excited to be part of ULeap, which allows us to marry our content expertise with technology to raise the capabilities of the workforce."

Mr Yeo Li Pheow, Principal/CEO, RP

Young Minds at Work



Presentation by St. Anthony's Canossian Secondary School to the Judging Panel: Mr Lionel Cheng, Managing Director, HP; Mr Sim Choon Hou, Acting Director, School of Management and Communication, RP, and Ms Alexis Li, Manager, JCube

Students from 11 secondary schools were given the chance to drive innovative future business ideas as part of RP's Marketing Innovation Challenge (MIC) 2017. Now in its seventh year, the competition challenges them to conceptualise business ideas based on consumer insights harnessed from market research methods — this year's theme was "My School. My Innovation. My Smart Nation".

To help students prepare, a one-day workshop was held on 24 October 2017, covering topics such as ideation, marketing, design thinking, and presentation skills. Lecturers from RP's Diploma in Consumer Behaviour & Research (DCBR) also chipped in by mentoring them.

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School:

Hai Sing Catholic School

Innovation:

AskTheCher, a mobile app that allows students and teachers to message one another for clarification on subjects and homework, and also serves as a repository of past year papers ●

PARTNERSHIP......



GOING SMART WITH MEDIATEK AND SMK ELECTRONICS

RP took big strides into the future of technology with the muchanticipated opening of the Smart Devices Lab (SDL).

The SDL, RP's Diploma in Electrical & Electronic Engineering's (DEEE) flagship laboratory, is equipped with cutting-edge solutions that have the potential to transform conventional manual work processes into smarter and more efficient processes, enabling business stakeholders to make better informed decisions.

The launch of the SDL on 31 January 2018, at the RP School of Engineering (SEG) Industry Day, was made possible with the collaboration of two industry partners, MediaTek and SMK Electronics.

With the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between RP and the two partners, MediaTek and SMK Electronics will continue to invest more than \$13,000 over the next two years to provide RP with Internet of Things (IoT) applications development boards to learn, develop, and build IoT solutions. These companies will also provide RP students with internship opportunities and academic awards, while RP staff can also learn about the latest developments at these companies in order to deliver an up-to-date curriculum.





There is much excitement and anticipation over the great collaborative potential of the SDL. The lab aims to offer a space to enable SMEs in deploying technologies to support areas such as Industry 4.0, Urban Sustainability, and Health Care.

Ms Lim Chiew Yen, Assistant Programme Chair, DEEE, RP, added that the lab will also help to synergise the schools' technology and engineering resources and benefit student learning and research.

At the SEG Industry Day, RP students also showcased their final year projects, demonstrating innovative solutions across various fields. One student team worked with Singapore General Hospital (SGH) to develop the "Smart Sanitiser System for Hand Infection Prevention" to enhance the hygiene levels of hospital wards.

Group member Zhang Qianru, 22, said that the group came up with four prototype designs to ensure the system would not be too energy-intensive, and also easy to use. "After designing a useful product, I feel satisfied and I'm reminded how engineering is actually very useful," she added. "In this digital age, IoT will disrupt the way we live, work and play. RP School of Engineering needs to remain at the forefront in readying students for an uncertain and complex future."

Dr Wang Jianguo, Director, School of Engineering, RP

01. Following the signing of the MOU, the Smart Devices Lab was officially launched by Republic Polytechnic, in collaboration with MediaTek and SMK Electronics

02. A final year project on Augmented Reality (AR) and Virtual Reality (VR) games that promote health messages and serve as part of a sleep awareness campaign by the Health Promotion Board (HPB)

PARTNERSHIP......

CEMENTING TIES WITH DHL SUPPLY CHAIN

RP's Diploma in Customer Experience Management with Business (DCXB) students had a head start in the pursuit of a lifelong career when we inked a MOU with DHL Supply Chain Singapore Pte Ltd.

The MOU, signed on 7 December 2017 aims to facilitate the planning, discussions, and negotiations between both parties on the collaboration of some or all of the following activities:

Student attachment programme;

Industrial visits for RP students and staff;

Scholarships, book prizes, and sponsorship for RP students;

Joint research and partnership;

Recruitment initiatives for RP's graduating cohort;

Staff exchanges;

Training and development opportunities for DHL staff.

Since 2011, DHL has been training RP interns not just from the RP School of Applied Science (SAS), but also from the RP School of Engineering (SEG) and the RP School of Hospitality (SOH). To date, over 50 RP students have completed their internships with DHL.

In his speech, Mr Seto Lok Yin, Former Deputy Principal (Industry Services), RP touched on the DHL Customer Experience Programme for final year DCXB students, which offers students full-time employment upon graduation. Mr Seto went into details of the employment package selected students can expect to be offered and was proud to announce that two students had been selected for the programme.

RP is grateful to DHL for providing students with valuable and authentic learning opportunities in the contact centre and logistics environment.



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GOING DIGITAL WITH IMDA

Digital partnerships grew by the dozen as the Infocomm Media Development Authority (IMDA) entered into new partnerships with the Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR), the Institute of Technical Education (ITE), and 10 Institutes of Higher Learning under the SMEs Go Digital Programme in a bid to boost SMEs' digitalisation efforts.

Some of the areas that SMEs can look forward to under this collaboration include prototyping of solutions, specialised consultancy in domains such as Data Analytics (DA) and Internet of Things (IoT), as well as tailored workshops and courses designed for the SME community.

RP and IMDA signed a two-year MOU on 17 November 2017 to support the SMEs Go Digital Programme and catalyse the digital transformation of SMEs to increase productivity for businesses.

Source: "New partnerships between IMDA, A*STAR and Institutes of Higher Learning to support SMEs' digitalisation efforts", 17 November 2017. Retrieved from OpenGovAsia website.



Scan the QR code to find out more about the SMEs Go Digital Programme.

RSA PROVIDES Security in More Ways Than One

With recent cyber security glitches making the headlines, it was apt that RSA, an American computer and network security company, signed its second MOU with RP on 30 January 2018.

The MOU will allow for further mutual collaboration in various areas of curriculum and consulting, training, student internships and Final Year Projects (FYP), as well as provision for publicity efforts.

RSA has already made its presence felt in RP with its involvement in the Security Information Management module, which uses RSA's NetWitness software suite to gather logs and packet data to detect and respond to cyber security threats.

With the MOU, RP's Diploma in Infocomm Security Management (DISM) students will benefit learning from modules such as intrusion detection & prevention and cloud infrastructure security.

- 01. Representatives from RP and DHL Supply Chain Singapore Pte Ltd at the signing of the MOU; Mr Seto Lok Yin, Former Deputy Principal (Industry Services), RP (fifth from left)
- 02. Mr Tan Kiat How, CEO, IMDA with representatives from the various IHLs. Representing RP is Mr Ashley Chua, Senior Director, Industry Services and SkillsFuture (fourth from left)
- 03. Mr Eric Goh, Vice-President (Sales), EMC Computer Systems (South Asia) Pte Ltd with (left) Mr Seto Lok Yin, Former Deputy Principal (Industry Services), RP

03

STRENGTHENING APPLICATIONS, STRENGTHENING TIES WITH IXIA



Continuing our successful collaboration, RP signed a second MOU with Keysight Technologies' recent acquire, IXIA.

After the signing of the first MOU on 8 January 2015, many windows opened for collaboration. Nine Diploma in Infocomm Security Management (DISM) students participated in the Cyber Range demonstration during the IXIA Executive Briefing Centre (EBC) launch on 17 November 2016, and two DISM students were assigned to IXIA for internship from September 2017 to February 2018. In addition, the joint lab with IXIA was used for the facilitation of the Intrusion Detection and Prevention module.

Among the scope of activities for mutual collaboration as per the renewed MOU are IXIA's continued input to RP's curriculum, as well as student internships.

RP looks forward to working closely with IXIA to boost specialisation modules and the continued success of RP School of Infocomm's (SOI) Industry Attachment Scheme.

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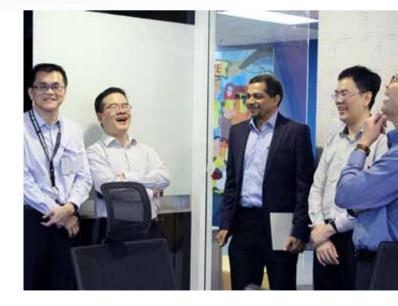
FORGING BONDS WITH CERTIS CISCO

The long-standing relationship between RP and Certis CISCO continues to deepen with the renewal of a three-year MOU, the third between the two parties.

One of the highlights of this MOU is a collaboration to conduct Continuing Education and Training (CET) programmes and projects, including but not limited to, the Work Study Scheme Programme (WSS) which offers upgrading opportunities for Certis CISCO's employees through RP's CET offerings.

Certis CISCO will host RP's students for continued internships, employment opportunities, industry learning visits, and academic awards. Both parties will also work together in research and projects and make provisions for staff exchange and mutual attachment programmes.

Exciting collaborations are in the pipeline and we look forward to a successful and long-lasting partnership.







BUILDING BETTER Places with SGBC

With environmental issues being a mainstay in our media today, the Green Building Industry Day 2018 organised by RP's Diploma in Green Building Energy Management (DGEM) put green building design and environmental sustainability at the forefront.

"Building Better Places for People" was the theme of the event held on 1 March 2018, and together with the Singapore Green Building Council (SGBC), the activity-filled day turned out to be a huge success.

In addition to the signing of the first MOU between RP and SGBC, tokens of appreciation were presented to Greenovate Programme collaborators, namely Building and Construction Authority and Johnson Controls Pte Ltd. In addition, Greenovate certificates were given out to DGEM students who performed Green Mark Gap Analysis for secondary schools.

Speeches, Final Year Project (FYP) showcases and booths by industry players completed the long list of activities. Overall, it was a very successful event with one goal in mind: to build a greener, more sustainable world.

TYING UP WITH PAC TO MAKE IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE AGED

The Embracing Active Ageing event, held on 4 March 2018, was the setting for the first MOU signing between RP and Pacific Activity Centre (PAC).

The event highlighted PAC's commitment to providing activities for the elderly. In its tie-up with RP, both parties will commit to conduct research to better understand the nutritional needs of the elderly.

In addition, both parties will collaborate through student internships, staff development and two scholarships for RP students.

We are excited to improve the standards of eldercare in Singapore with this new-found partnership. ■

01. Mr Seto Lok Yin, Former Deputy Principal (Industry Services), RP, far right, with representatives from IXIA

- 02. This marks the third MOU between RP and Certis CISCO to date; previous collaborations include a one-year MOU in 2011 and a five-year MOU in 2012
- 03. Many industry partners expressed great interest in the FYP projects presented
- 04. (Second from left) Mr Ong Ye Kung (Minister for Education), Dr William Chong (Director and Founder, PAC) and Mr Yeo Li Pheow (Principal/ CEO, RP) warming up with representatives from PAC



Source: "Embracing active ageing at Yishun Riverwalk", Retrieved from www.pacificactivitycentres.com/sg



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CORPORATE

THE FUTURE of working SNART

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he future is fast arriving. Initiatives like the Smart Nation movement and the \$4.5 billion Industry Transformation Programme are already transforming Singapore's work landscape, upping the demand for highly skilled and adaptable workers who are adept with new technology.

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Engaging in hands-on activities during the RP Open House

VISION FOR TOMORROW

At the RP Open House 2018 held from 4 to 6 January, visitors had a glimpse into up-and-coming industries and careers through a showcase of RP's full-time diplomas and lifelong learning courses. The engagement quotient was kept high with diverse handson experiential activities and tours of our cutting-edge applied learning spaces.

New facilities and programmes were also launched, representing

our commitment to keep up with emerging and future industry developments.

"Beyond a green campus, RP is also committed towards building a green workforce."

Mr Yeo Li Pheow, Principal/CEO, RP



IN-DEPTH

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A SMARTER WAY TO GREEN

The environmental services industry is one of 23 industries identified in the Industry Transformation Programme. Announced at Budget 2016, the Programme marks out a tailored industry roadmap to meet growing industry needs, drive productivity and innovation, invest in skills, and promote internationalisation.

In meeting the industry's demands, RP launched the Earn & Learn Programme (ELP) leading to a Part-Time Diploma (PTD) in Applied Science (Environmental Services & Management), an 18-month programme that will facilitate skills upgrading of the industry's workers. This is the first diploma programme of its kind in Singapore for the environmental services industry, created by RP School of Applied Science (SAS) in collaboration with Waste Management and Recycling Association of Singapore (WMRAS), National Environmental Agency (NEA), SkillsFuture Singapore (SSG), **Building Construction and Timber** Industries Employees' Union (BATU), and industry partners.

Currently, more than 70% of workers have an Institute



Guest-of-Honour Dr Amy Khor, Senior Minister of State for the Environment and Water Resources graced the launch and was presented with a commemorative terrarium by Mr Yeo Li Pheow, Principal/ CEO, RP (left)



Dr Khor unveiling a plaque to commemorate the ELP launch

of Technical Education (ITE) qualification and lower, usually employed at rank-and-file positions like operation and technical support. Under the new programme, they will gain necessary competencies to take on an increasing number of supervisory and senior technical roles, as well as learn how to handle new and evolving smart

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES AT A GLANCE

Includes cleaning and waste management sectors > 1,700 companies > 78,000 professionals technologies — an important asset as Singapore moves towards intelligent systems.

A new Rain Garden was also launched in conjunction with the PTD. As part of a collaboration with the Public Utilities Board (PUB), the garden functions as an outdoor classroom for students to learn about the role of natural elements such as plants and soil in the management of storm water runoffs.

TOP PORT

Another promising industry is port operations, with port operator PSA Corporation Limited (PSA) aiming to boost our position as a global maritime centre. To promote careers in the field, PSA has collaborated with RP to open the joint RP-PSA Experiential Laboratory on 5 January 2018. This comes as part of a three-year Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed between RP and PSA in 2015.

The Laboratory showcases port operations of the future and will give about 400 RP students each year a chance to learn how to manage a container terminal.



Mr Ng giving his address during the official launch of the RP-PSA Experiential Laboratory.

A DAY IN THE LAB

Simulated environment, equipped with port simulation hardware and software systems that mimic actual operations

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Classes based on real-life port scenarios

Customised port operations model, demonstrating different modes and job roles



Guest-of-Honour, Mr Ng Chee Meng, Minister in Prime Minister's Office (foreground, second from right) trying his hand at the automated port operations model

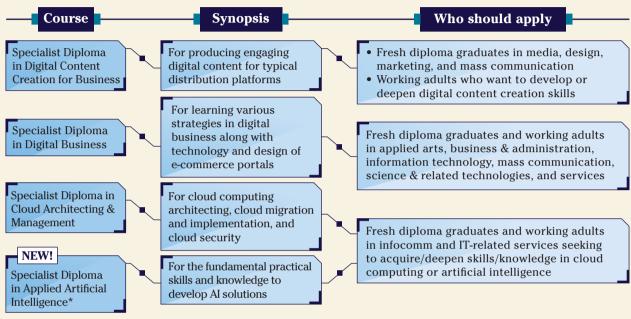
"As PSA develops our next generation of highly automated and intelligent container terminals, we need to continue to attract young talents who possess the necessary competencies. The RP-PSA Experiential Laboratory will equip RP students with a base of foundational knowledge which will be further sharpened through internships at PSA."

Mr Ong Kim Pong, Regional CEO Southeast Asia, PSA International •

INDUSTRY SNAPSHOT

SET, GODIGITAL!

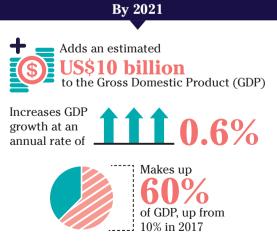
As the world accelerates at an incredible rate into the digital era, the industry will also need to embrace digitalisation into their businesses. At present, many businesses are struggling to cope with the speed of change. RP aims to alleviate this growing concern with four specialist diplomas:



*Commences in October 2018

To find out more about these specialist diplomas and other courses offered by Academy for Continuing Education @ RP, visit www.rp.edu.sg/ACE

HOW DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION WILL AFFECT SINGAPORE'S ECONOMY



"Digital transformation to contribute US\$10b to Singapore's GDP by 2021: study", 21 February 2018. Retrieved from The Business Times website.

The Robotic Invasion

RP recently organised a Discovery Forum on Robotics, Chatbox, Robotic Process Automation, and Internet of Things. Among the points that stood out the most was the stark increase in the robotic trend to date and in the years to come. With collaborative robot sales projected to exceed \$1 billion by 2020, it is estimated that the market share in the APAC region will dramatically increase from 19% in 2015 to 57% in 2020. This is in line with the expected growth of robotics implementation in Asia. Inversely, market shares are projected to fall in both Europe and North America, creating a thoughtprovoking shift in the worldwide use of robotics. (Data courtesy of ABI Research)

RP TEAMS UP WITH INDUSTRY PARTNERS TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

- [Heart]-

According to National Volunteer and Philanthropy Centre (NVPC), the volunteerism rate here has grown over the years.

In 2016, one in two volunteers served informally without going through any organisation, as compared to one in four volunteers in 2014.

The volunteerism rate of youths aged between 15 and 24 years old also increased to



It was a meaningful Sunday morning for the 50 students and facilitators from RP as they joined forces with over 30 Keppel Land staff volunteers to give back to the needy. Community engagement will be part of the fabric of work in future and RP weaves such activities into students' curriculum.

Led by Mr Ong Ye Kung, Minister for Education and MP for Sembawang GRC, and Mr Loh Chin Hua, CEO of Keppel Corporation and Executive Chairman of Keppel Land, students and volunteers distributed goody bags to less privileged residents in Sembawang GRC's Gambas division on 28 January 2018.

The event, part of WeCare@ North West CDC Service Week, handed out items such as cereal, coffee, instant noodles, and NTUC Fairprice vouchers donated by Keppel Land to residents.

Mr Ong emphasised the importance of making volunteerism a regular effort to make it more meaningful. He also encouraged young people to befriend old folks living alone, as they sought companionship and would be grateful for the interaction and friendship.

Our students found the experience to be very worthwhile. RP's Diploma of Social Enterprise Management (DSEM) student Azlin Zubairah said, "It's very meaningful to do things like this and I hope to see more youths volunteering."

"Early festive cheer for low-income Gambas residents", 28 January 2018. Retrieved from The Straits Times website.



Students and facilitators from RP and volunteers from Keppel Land at the goody bag distribution event organised during WeCare@North West CDC Service Week



Filming a scene at a void deck on the set of Father's Love

TAKING ON

With a rapidly ageing population, death, while often a taboo subject, is an inevitable discussion. In a bid to dispel the fear of death, RP students embarked on various projects centred on end-of-life matters.

A group of RP's Diploma in Media Production & Design (DMPD) students collaborated with Nam Hong Welfare Service Society in December 2017 to provide make-up and portrait-taking services for 200 disadvantaged seniors in Yishun — portraits which can be used for funeral services.

Another group of DMPD students collaborated with Montfort Care to educate the public on the availability and importance of advanced care planning to prepare for one's death. Montfort Care had set up the Good Death Project in 2014 to initiate positive shifts in attitudes towards death, offer services centred on abolishing the taboo of death, and raise awareness about the importance of end-of-life discussions and plans.

A third group created a documentary, Living in Chains, that dealt with how death affects different family members. The documentary was met with positive feedback, receiving praise from lecturers from Nanyang Technological University (NTU) and Temasek Polytechnic (TP).

Ms Emida Natalaray, Deputy Director of RP School of Technology for the Arts (STA), commented that in preparing for their projects, students learned to deal with overcoming the taboo of speaking about death, and to have compassion for those around them. "More importantly," she continued, "they are able to accept death as a part of life that happens to everyone."

EASING BURDENS

The establishment of the Hotel 81 Choo Chong Ngen Foundation and its Endowment Bursary was set up under Credit Suisse's SymAsia Foundation, with the bank as its philanthropy adviser, on 10 November 2017.

The foundation has donated \$2.5 million to the five local polytechnics. The government has matched the donation 1.5:1, bringing the total donation to \$6.25 million, with each polytechnic receiving \$1.25 million.

RP is thankful to the foundation for the generous gesture as over 40 Singaporeans will benefit from this bursary.



Mr Choo Chong Ngen, Founder and Executive Chairman, Hotel 81 (centre) presenting the cheque to recipients. Photo courtesy of Credit Suisse's SymAsia Foundation.

"Hotel 81-Choo Chong Ngen Foundation donates \$\$2.5m to help needy polytechnic students", 10 November 2017. Retrieved from Channel NewsAsia website.



Find out how to collaborate with RP to help financially needy students.

LEARNING BEYOND THE CLASSROOM



Social enterprises selling their wares to eager shoppers during the GIC Christmas event

Hands-on learning was at the forefront as RP's Youth Entrepreneurship & Co-op Interest Group collaborated with GIC to organise a Christmas-themed entrepreneurial event for GIC staff on 21 and 22 December 2017.

Led by recipients of the GIC Sparks & Smiles Grant, Nurul Farhahtil Raudah Bte K, Zilazamira Bte Zulqhiffri and Lim Li Jun presently third year students from RP's Diploma in Social Enterprise Management (DSEM) — both RP and GIC hoped the event would create awareness on social entrepreneurship and bring festive joy. Social enterprises Bizlink, Beyond Social Services, BloomBack, Personalized Love, Pure Juice, and Tea Ideas sold a range of items, making sure there was something for everyone. Social entrepreneurship has taken flight in the last decade, adding a new facet to the future of work, especially when facilitated in particular by social networking and social media websites.

It was a good learning opportunity for the students and a good chance for everyone to catch up on lastminute Christmas shopping! •

[IN CONVERSATION]

ACING THE **FUTURE**

RP's Academy for Continuing Education (ACE) was formed to equip lifelong learners with new skills and capabilities to stay relevant in the current global market. Mr Albert Toh, Director, ACE, RP tells us how they prepare students and companies for the future.

With an impressive resume spanning hotel & restaurant management, business & logistics management, and education, Mr Toh started his career in RP in 2008 as Deputy Director and subsequently Director, School of Hospitality. He also had a stint as Director of SkillsFuture Office before taking on his current appointment in 2015. "Lifelong learning is about continuous improvement, about being better today than yesterday. Learning is necessary for survival and something that everyone needs to embrace. Decades ago, we could still feel secure, but today, there is no 'safe harbour'." 0

Which industries do you foresee requiring an exponential increase in skillset in the near future. and what gaps do these skillsets currently have? How can lifelong learning help workers adapt to the transformation?

It's not so much a specific industry as it is a sub-sector of need, specifically, in the area of user experience and the fulfilment of needs and wants. I previously attended a presentation abroad and in it, they had mapped the future orientation in terms of opportunities. And the number one item on that list of 10 was user experience. This thinking has already reached our shores, with micro learning and our thrust in the Learning Enabled through Active Participation (ULeap) space in collaboration with the **Employment and Employability** Institute (e2i) and The National Trades Union Congress (NTUC).

(For more information about ULeap, please visit: https://e2i.com.sg/uleap/)

What role does ACE play in RP?

ACE acts as the conduit for schools and centres to leverage on its capabilities

and push out programmes in a two-pronged manner — in support of national initiatives, and to build the capability and standing of the institution as an opinion plus thought leader in the area of focus.



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Which ACE programmes are most relevant in today's economy, and which programmes should current RP students consider embarking on for their career needs?



All ACE programmes are fit for purpose, with an express intent to build a greater pipeline of industry

professionals within specific sectors and sub-sectors.

All our Earn and Learn (ELP) programmes are targeted at work and entrenching the individual's ability to develop a strong career. We are also embarking on the Generation project, which is geared towards enabling professionals to hit the ground running with little or almost no additional training, and to make an impact within the first six months on the job. Our Continuing Education and Training (CET) programmes are also designed to build the capability of students to sharpen their skillset, deepen their knowledge base and, through group work and peer learning, achieve a higher level of understanding that is backed by the ability to synthesise data and put it to maximum use.

How do you ensure ACE Ω programmes are relevant in today's ever-evolving economy?

ACE is constantly in touch A with industry. Every single course we roll out has the backing of industry. In addition, we engage, improve, and continually seek feedback from those in the industry.

How can companies leverage Q on ACE to improve their competitiveness? How can companies collaborate with ACE?

By moving away from training vendors for specific courses to a collaborative training partner, by developing a relationship that embodies solutions through a mix of consultancy and customised training. See ACE as a training department instead of as a vendor. And if ACE is unable to fulfil a training need, we will most certainly bring in others who can fill that need.

It is important for us to have sustainable collaborations with companies to stay engaged in the industry. We welcome companies to contact us to explore new opportunities and ideas!

SkillsFuture's Emerging Skills Areas Data Analytics Finance Tech-Enabled Services Digital Media Cybersecurity Entrepreneurship Advanced Manufacturing Urban Solutions Keen to find out

more about ACE@ **RP courses?**

Visit www.rp.edu.sg/ACE



SUPERCHARGE YOUR **CAREER** WITH ACE

Republic Polytechnic offers a wide range of short courses in key emerging areas such as Data Analytics, Advanced Manufacturing, and Digital Marketing to help companies and employees stay relevant.

To learn more about our SkillsFuture Series of short courses, scan the QR code or visit http://www.rp.edu.sg/ACE.







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