

President's Message

2022 has proven to be fruitful. We sustained our strong pedagogical focus on applied learning and this is encapsulated in the annual report theme, "**Deepening Applied Learning**". The theme reflects our commitment to being Singapore's premier university of applied learning, and our efforts to continually find new ways to maximise the potential of our learners and to transform learning.

In 2022, we took in a record 3,121 new SITizens from a pool of 13,000 applicants, a 5.7% increase over the previous year. 88% of new SITizens were admitted to their first choice of degree programmes, a year-on-year increase of 2%.

With the easing of pandemic restrictions, our freshmen were welcomed in person at SIT@Dover for their First-Year Experience induction programmes. Our annual career networking event, Career Nexus, drew around 2,000 SITizens and over 200 company representatives. As part of our Overseas Immersion Programme, we also supported more than 1,000 SITizens in the United States, Europe and Asia.

We continued to celebrate the achievements of our SITizens. More than 2,200 graduates from 47 undergraduate and postgraduate programmes were conferred degree scrolls at SIT's Graduation Ceremony 2022. For his contributions to the growth of SIT, Dr Ng Yat Chung, founding Chairman of SIT's Board of Trustees, was conferred the University's first honorary degree.

At the same time, we have made our educational offerings more accessible to needy undergraduate students. With strong support from donors, we launched a new Forward SITizen initiative that allows eligible students to cover 100% of their subsidised fees through a combination of government-funded public bursaries, donated scholarships and bursaries offered by SIT.

BRIDGING LEARNING AND WORK

A key focus of our pedagogy is helping students connect what they learn with the workplace. In 2022, we introduced new learning pathways that aim to better synthesise these elements into a holistic learning experience, enhancing the competitiveness and future employability of our students.

We introduced a new Term-In Term-Out structure for 2 new undergraduate degree programmes — Applied Computing (Fintech specialisation) and Digital Supply Chain. This pathway, which alternated between time spent in the classroom and time spent in the workplace,

gave students regular opportunities to apply the skills and knowledge acquired in a real-world setting. Industry partners benefitted by being able to tap talent in areas of high demand. So far, 15 companies are working with us to host our students during the term-out trimesters, including DBS, UOB, AIA, Prudential, YCH and ST Logistics.

Another major development was the full implementation of the Undergraduate Programme Structure (UPS), which formally incorporated interdisciplinary learning and transferable skills components into SIT's curricula. UPS provides a formal structure for a holistic SIT education that prepares our students to be both career- and future-ready. For example, the Social Innovation Project module has been included in all degree programmes from 2022. This gives students an opportunity to work in interdisciplinary teams to develop solutions for society in areas such as sustainability and caring for the elderly.

STRENGTHENING LIFELONG LEARNING

In the Continuing Education and Training space, we continued to partner with companies such as Applied Materials, Rohde & Schwarz, Rotary Engineering and SMRT to upskill their employees and build new capabilities.

In response to the Ministry of Education's focus on lifelong learning and the goal to raise the lifetime cohort participation rate to 60% by 2025, we launched Singapore's first Competency-based Stackable Micro-credentials (CSM) pathway. The pathway, recognising the importance of schedule flexibility for in-employment learners, is designed to be mainly delivered online. It supports individuals seeking to pivot to new roles by acquiring specific skillsets, as well as those looking to acquire new degrees. The pathway is competency-based and will allow for the recognition of prior learning, whether acquired through formal programmes or work experience. In November 2022, we inked memoranda of understanding with telecommunications provider Singtel and technology services firm NCS to upskill their employees through CSM. We are on target to start with 150 learners in 2023, partnering with polytechnics and industry in the development and delivery of micro-credentials in the field of Applied Computing.

GROWING APPLIED RESEARCH AND INDUSTRY COLLABORATIONS

As an applied learning university, we focus on translational research and innovation co-creation with industry. We officially opened FoodPlant, Singapore's first shared facility for small-batch food production, in April 2022. We also launched InnoHub, a one-stop centre where small and medium-sized enterprises can tap resources to help them innovate and move up the innovation value chain. During the year, we also continued to attract competitive research grants to work with industry and deepen our research track record and capacity.

During the year, our network of industry and public agency partnerships expanded with engagements with agri-food firm Agrocrop, French energy and services company ENGIE, SingHealth and the National Council of Social Service, amongst others. These partnerships are multifaceted in areas of continuing education, applied research and in providing authentic learning experiences for our SITizens.

NEW OPPORTUNITIES AT PUNGGOL CAMPUS

We expect to start the new academic year in 2024 in our new Punggol Campus — the first time that the SIT family will be under one roof. We are greatly anticipating the move, and are particularly excited about the new opportunities that will come with it.

In 2022 we launched our Living Lab initiative in partnership with Singapore Power (SP), SMRT, SingHealth and ENGIE in the respective fields of energy, transport, healthcare, and district cooling systems. Living Labs enhance the authenticity of our students' learning and facilitate impactful research. For instance, SP has pledged additional funding for the multi-energy microgrid that will power our Punggol Campus, providing learning and research opportunities in power engineering for both our students and academic staff.

With a shared space, we see an opportunity to turbocharge our community-building efforts, which have already begun in 2022. We strengthened and relaunched our Culture Induction Programme to enable employees to better understand our culture and their place in it. We also refreshed our core values to incorporate sustainability, a key priority for SIT. With this inclusion, our 6 core values are Purpose and Agility, Respect and Sustainability, and Integrity and Excellence.

MOVING FORWARD

As we embrace the future together, we remain committed to enhancing applied learning experiences, driving innovation and preparing individuals for success in an

ever-evolving world. The support from our stakeholders has been instrumental thus far and will continue to be critical to our future success.

I look forward to an even better year ahead, in which SIT will continue to distinguish itself as a premier university of applied learning.

PROFESSOR CHUA KEE CHAING

President



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