

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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WE ARE DEVELOPING A MODEL FOR ENGAGED LEARNING, PARTNERING WITH SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN THE PUNGGOL REGION TO USE STEM SKILLS TO SOLVE REAL-WORLD PROBLEMS. THIS WILL NOT ONLY BENEFIT THE COMMUNITY, BUT ALSO GENERATE INTEREST IN STEM AMONG THE YOUTH, AS WELL AS PROVIDE VALUABLE LEADERSHIP AND FACILITATION EXPERIENCE FOR OUR STUDENTS.”

A DECADE OF IMPACT: CELEBRATING SIT'S 10TH ANNIVERSARY

As SIT commemorates its 10th anniversary as an Autonomous University (AU) in 2024, I am filled with pride and gratitude for all that our faculty, staff, students, alumni and partners have accomplished together. SIT has witnessed remarkable growth, achieved significant milestones and most importantly, made a positive impact on the lives of our students, as well as industry and community partners.

FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH: GROWING OUR STUDENT BODY

Our student body has grown significantly. From admitting 1,800 students at the start of our journey as an AU in 2014, our current intake exceeds 3,300 – making us the third largest AU for full-time undergraduate intake in Singapore. The achievements of our graduates reflect the quality of education we provide. Graduate employment surveys over the years consistently show over 90% employment rates, with about half of our students receiving advance job offers through our signature Integrated Work Study Programme (IWSP).

EXPANDING OUR HORIZONS: NEW EDUCATIONAL PATHWAYS

Recognising the evolving and growing needs of learners and industry, SIT has expanded our mission beyond pre-employment training. Working closely with industry, we developed the Competency-based Stackable Micro-credential (CSM) pathway, offering in-employment learners the opportunity to acquire in-demand skills just in time. This allows for quicker application of knowledge to address industry needs. It also gives learners the option to build towards a degree, catering to their growing need for flexibility when embarking on lifelong learning.

INDUSTRY COLLABORATION: A CORNERSTONE OF SUCCESS

Collaboration with industry continues to be a cornerstone of our success. The curriculum for all our programmes, including the upcoming CSM Engineering degree programmes, is co-developed with industry partners. This ensures that our graduates always possess the skills and knowledge most desired by employers and helps industry build their talent pipeline.

PROFESSOR CHUA KEE CHAING

President



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

RESEARCH THAT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Our industry partnerships extend to the realm of applied research, where we prioritise a close nexus between research and education. Since 2020, we have entered into over 150 applied research agreements with industry partners, tackling real-world challenges in areas like food technologies, AI, construction technologies and maritime engineering. For instance, through our subsidiary FoodPlant, we have worked with food companies to leverage technology for alternative protein development and spent upcycling. FoodPlant has also expanded its reach overseas, establishing partnerships with FOODBOWL, SEAFast and SIFT, leading food innovation facilities in New Zealand, Indonesia and Australia respectively. The dynamic multi-project collaboration aims to build capabilities and accelerate commercial outcomes in food innovation, manufacturing and distribution. Another notable applied research partnership is the SIT Centre for Artificial Intelligence that we have established in collaboration with NVIDIA to accelerate the adoption of AI technologies across industries. This centre will also provide research opportunities for SIT students while fostering awareness of AI among students, companies and the public.

LOOKING FORWARD: BUILDING A BRIGHTER FUTURE

As we celebrate the achievements of the past decade, we also look forward to moving to our new Punggol Campus,

which will see the coming together of all six of our existing campuses. With the new campus situated in the upcoming Punggol Digital District, SIT will be plugged into a vibrant ecosystem for innovation and collaboration, allowing us to further deepen our industry partnerships. We will capitalise on our campus Living Labs of real-world systems and those of our partners to catalyse authentic learning experiences and applied research. Living Labs foster a dynamic learning environment where students can apply their knowledge to real-world challenges while providing a fertile ground for impactful research, allowing the University, industry and government partners to jointly develop, test and deploy research ideas. Our students will benefit from these opportunities to develop practical skills and contextualised knowledge that is highly sought after by employers.

We also envision the campus as a vibrant hub for alumni engagement and lifelong learning. With initiatives like "Learn for Life", which offer our alumni a free course or module every five years, we hope that this will encourage and support our alumni to be lifelong learners.

Building a strong connection with the local community is another key focus as we move to our Punggol home. We are developing a model for engaged learning, partnering with secondary schools in the Punggol region to use STEM skills to solve real-world problems. This will not only benefit the community, but also generate interest in STEM among the youth, as well as provide valuable leadership and facilitation experience for our own students.

A GENEROUS GIFT: EMPOWERING FUTURE GENERATIONS

As we reflect on our journey, we must acknowledge the tremendous support we have received from our partners and donors. I would like to express our profound gratitude to Mr Kwek Leng Beng, Executive Chairman of City Developments Limited (CDL), and CDL for the gift of close to \$25 million to SIT. This generous contribution has enabled us to offer a wide range of scholarships, bursaries and prizes, significantly enhancing our ability to support deserving students in their educational pursuits. In recognition of Mr Kwek's transformative gift, we have named the University Tower in our Punggol Campus, the Kwek Leng Beng University Tower. This tower, which will house our academic and administrative staff offices, will stand as a testament to Mr Kwek's commitment to nurturing the next generation of innovators and leaders.

A SHARED SUCCESS STORY

As we mark our 10th anniversary as an AU with a year-long celebration, I am grateful for the dedication and support of our faculty, staff, students, alumni, industry partners and donors. Together, we have built an institution that is making a positive impact on Singapore and beyond. I look forward to the next decade of growth, innovation and continued success as we strive to become a premier University of Applied Learning.