



A Time to Shine

Top Graduates Honoured at ITE Graduation Ceremony 2010

by Joycelyn Seet

ITE's Best: 2010's top ITE graduates – Lee Jun Wei (extreme left), Chang Ze Xun (third from left), David Christopher Pang (third from right) and Mak Yuen Leong (extreme right) – share their joy with Dr Ng Eng Hen (centre), Minister for Education and Second Minister for Defence; Mr Bob Tan (second from left), Chairman, ITE; and Mr Bruce Poh (second from right), Director & CEO, ITE.

FOR seven hundred ITE students who have achieved outstanding results in their respective courses, the ITE Graduation Ceremony, on 21 July 2010, was their time to shine and savour the fruit of their hard work and determination.

The 700 Certificate of Merit recipients were among the 12,409 students who graduated from ITE's full-time, part-time and traineeship courses in the Academic Year 2009/2010. In addition, 164 of these graduates also received Course Medals for topping their respective courses. The four most outstanding graduates for the Academic Year were presented with ITE's Top Medals (see story on page 3).

Strong Demand for ITE Graduates

Minister for Education and Second Minister for Defence, Dr Ng Eng Hen, who was the Ceremony's Guest-of-Honour, said in his speech that, despite a weaker economy in the first half of 2009, ITE graduates who entered the job market the year before remained highly employable. More than 80% of them found

jobs within six months after graduation. "The strong demand for ITE graduates reflects the high quality of your education," he told the graduating cohort.

Ceremony Firsts

Dr Ng also launched the new ITE Song – *Hands-On, Minds-On, Hearts-On* – at the Ceremony. Written by Singapore-based Australian composer, Dylan Foster, the song premiered at the event with a rendition by the effervescent ITE Show Choir.

The Ceremony culminated in a visual galore of stunning hairstyles paraded by 20 lovely models, in the L'Oréal-sponsored Hair Fashion 'Xtravaganza. This showcase of hair creations by ITE's Hair Fashion & Design students was a first for the annual ITE Graduation Ceremony. Indeed, it was a finale most befitting of the significant occasion!

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Our Distinguished Visitors

by Lim Hui Ling

ITE hosted the following distinguished visitors in June and July 2010:

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Pooling Resources: His Excellency Alfadhel Al-Harthy (centre) learns about swimming pool systems at the Building Automation System Laboratory at ITE College East.

His Excellency Alfadhel Al-Harthy, Undersecretary for Development Affairs, Ministry Of National Economy, Sultanate of Oman

June
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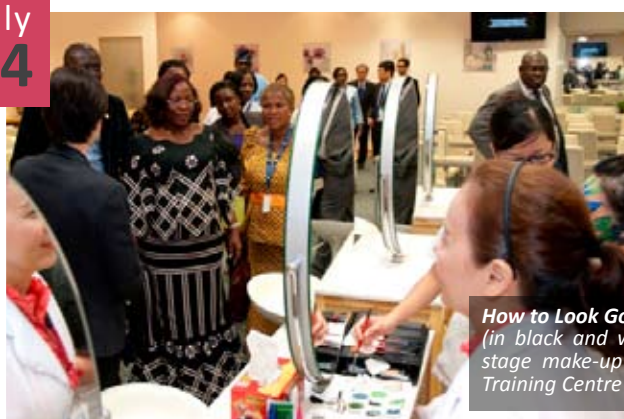
Medical Attention: His Excellency Pich Sophoan (centre) listening to a detailed explanation by Mr Bruce Poh (left), Director & CEO, ITE at the ITE Centre for Healthcare Simulation Training at ITE College East.

His Excellency Pich Sophoan, Secretary of State, Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training and Vice Chairman, National Training Board, Cambodia

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Smart Controls: His Excellency Mohamed Hamad Azzan Al Mazrouei (second from right) being given an introduction of the training equipment at the Building Automation System Laboratory at ITE College East.

His Excellency Mohamed Hamad Azzan Al Mazrouei, Director-General of Western Region Development Council, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

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How to Look Good: Princess Sarah Adebisi Sosan (in black and white printed dress) observing a stage make-up session at the Beauty Therapy Training Centre at ITE College East.

Princess Sarah Adebisi Sosan, Deputy Governor of Lagos State, Nigeria



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>> **Lee Jun Wei, 19**

Nitec in Aerospace Technology
ITE College Central

LEE KUAN YEW GOLD MEDAL WINNER 2010

Lee Jun Wei is all of 19 years old, but he projects a cool demeanor and level of maturity that belie his age. He was offered a place into polytechnic after his 'O' levels, but he chose to come to ITE to study Aerospace Technology instead.

With his goal of a career in aerospace and aviation in mind, Jun Wei focused on studying hard to achieve excellent results. It helped that the learning environment at ITE suited him very well. Jun Wei's hard work paid off - he secured a Book Prize and a six-month internship with Eurocopter South East Asia Pte Ltd, and scored a perfect Grade Point Average (GPA) of 4.0 for his course.

But it was not all work and no play for Jun Wei, who was also General-Secretary of the 100-strong ITE College West Outdoor Adventure Club, and a Cadet Inspector with the National Police Cadet Corps (NPCC).

Currently pursuing a Diploma in Aeronautical Engineering course at Singapore Polytechnic, Jun Wei aspires to further his studies in university, and eventually soar in an aviation sales career.

>> **Chang Ze Xun, 20**

Higher Nitec in Mechanical Engineering
ITE College West

TAY ENG SOON GOLD MEDAL WINNER 2010

When Chang Ze Xun is faced with challenges, he does not succumb. His first impulse is to take the problem apart and solve it. In fact, this young man is the inventor of several award-winning devices - all in his bid to solve daily problems.

Ze Xun believes that one should "always challenge your limits and don't ever limit your challenges." This positive outlook has served him well. He obtained a perfect GPA of 4.0 and was the top student at ITE College West. He was also Chairman of his campus' Mechanical Engineering Club, Vice-President of the Inspire Club and Team Leader of the Student Innovation and Quality Club.

Ze Xun is now a Diploma in Mechanical Engineering student at Singapore Polytechnic. His dream is to return to ITE, as a lecturer and make a difference in another young person's life, just like the teachers who have made an impact on him, in ITE.

Top of Their Class

By Joycelyn Seet, Jamie Chan, Victor Yen and Tan Sze Yin

Presenting ITE's Top Four Graduates of 2010



Lee Jun Wei



David Christopher Pang Jin-Yang



Chang Ze Xun



Mak Yuen Leong

>> **David Christopher Pang Jin-Yang, 20**

Higher Nitec in Business Studies (Sport Management)
ITE College East

SNG YEW CHONG GOLD MEDAL WINNER 2010

David Christopher Pang is truly an all-rounder. He had to juggle studies alongside duties and responsibilities as the Chairman of Bridge Leaders, and captain of the Track and Field team. Responsible and trustworthy, David was also chosen to lead in overseas exchange programmes, such as the Sports Exchange Programme to Indonesia and the Student Exchange Programme to Australia.

Nevertheless, David - the A-grader who scored an excellent GPA of 3.97 - remains modest and believes in contributing back to society through community service projects and mentoring of secondary school students under the Eurasian Association.

People who achieve are usually guided by their dreams and aspirations. The same goes for David. A diploma in Sports & Wellness Management at Nanyang Polytechnic, then a degree in Business Studies, and thereafter a company in the sports industry he can call his own are just some of his goal posts.

>> **Mak Yuen Leong, 55**

Nitec in Electrical Technology
ITE College West

SINGAPORE LABOUR FOUNDATION GOLD MEDAL WINNER 2010

[For top graduate of ITE's Continuing Education & Training Programme]

Fifty-five-year-old Mak Yuen Leong epitomises passion for lifelong learning. His company may be 16 years old, but it is now on the path of new growth. Thanks to his completion of the Nitec in Electrical Technology course, Yuen Leong went on to obtain his Licence for Electrical Workers. With his newfound certifications, Yuen Leong won over more clients and business for his company, A-Mark Industries Services and Trading.

Yuen Leong credits the professionalism of his lecturers and the hands-on aspects of his ITE course for his success. For his diligent consistency in his studies, Yuen Leong scored a perfect GPA of 4.0.

Needless to say, Yuen Leong is a shining example of lifelong learning not only to his three grown-up children, but also to all who aspire to upgrade their skills.

One Notch Up

Authentic Learning and Training in Hospitality

By Valerie Ng

ITE has brought authentic learning to a new level with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Four Seasons Hotels & Resorts Asia Pacific Pte Ltd on 5 May 2010.

The three-year joint venture includes the establishment of a training hotel in ITE College West, where Four Seasons will help to furnish the suite.

The MOU was signed by Dr Yek Tiew Ming, Principal, ITE College West, and Mr Christopher Hart, Senior Vice President of Operations at Four Seasons.



Camraderie: (From left) Mr Christopher Hart; Mr Goh Mong Song, Deputy Principal (Development), ITE College West; Mr Jeffery Blakeman, Vice President, Operations Finance, Four Seasons; and Dr Yek Tiew Ming mingling after the MOU signing ceremony.

Both establishments will work together to produce the education and training syllabus in hospitality to remain relevant to the industry. ITE staff and students will also be attached to the Four Seasons group of hotels to learn state-of-the-art trends in the hospitality industry.

Innovative Hospitality

Dr Yek said the collaboration between ITE and Four Seasons will enhance the students' skills and ITE's innovative hospitality education. "We hope that through this partnership with Four Seasons, we can further upgrade the skills of our staff and develop our students in preparation for their employment in the hospitality industry. Hospitality front-line skills, customer service and operational know-how are gaining prominence, especially with the booming tourism industry," he said.

Under the partnership, both parties also planned to have constant exchange of ideas, views and experiences on the hospitality industry.

Sharing Experience and Expertise

Mr Hart assured that the hotel will strive to share their experience and expertise in hospitality and hotel sector with ITE, particularly in the area of customer service. "We will strive to help ITE and your students upgrade their skills in this sector. We will also assist your lecturers who are looking to gain current work experience in a luxury hotel or resort, to enable them to bring fresh and current practices to the classroom," he said.

More Help for ITE Students

Toh Kian Chui Foundation Donates \$300,000 to ITE

By Valerie Ng

SOME 165 ITE students now have something more to cheer about. They will be given pocket money of \$150 each every month to subsidise their tuition fees, food, stationery and transport.

The donation is courtesy of the Toh Kian Chui Foundation. The charity organisation has pledged to donate \$300,000 annually to help needy ITE students, beginning this year.

The Toh Kian Chui Foundation Management Committee handed over the first cheque to ITE at the ITE College Central fundraising dinner on 17 July 2010. The donation will benefit needy students at the three ITE Colleges.

Eligibility Criteria

Students who meet the following criteria are eligible for the monthly financial assistance scheme:

- Not receiving a monthly training allowance as a sponsored student or as a scholarship/bursary recipient
- Has good conduct, regular attendance and positive attitude towards study
- Has at least three months' study to undergo till the end of the academic year



Generous Gesture: Mrs Frances Lim, a Committee Member from Toh Kian Chui Foundation, handing over a mock cheque of \$300,000 to Mr Bruce Poh (second from left), Director & CEO, ITE. They are flanked by (extreme right) Guest-of-Honour, Mr Hri Kumar Nair, Member of Parliament for Bishan-Toa Payoh GRC and Member of the ITE College Central Advisory Committee; and Mr Tan Seng Hua, Principal, ITE College Central.



Partners in Skills: Mr Bruce Poh (left), Director & CEO, ITE, and Mr Wong Weng Sun, President & Chief Executive Officer, Sembcorp Marine, sealing the partnership.

Going Offshore

ITE inks MOU with Sembcorp Marine

By Joycelyn Seet

ITE and Sembcorp Marine (SCM) Ltd signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on 23 July 2010 to cooperate in enhancing the training of students in marine and offshore engineering courses.

Platform for Sharing

Extended over five years, the MOU included the setting up of a Marine Engineering and Quality Centre at ITE, scholarships for students, and industrial attachments for ITE staff and students. There will also be jointly-developed certification and customised courses. Both parties can look forward to a platform for the mutual sharing of best practices in technology and pedagogy to enhance the training of the marine and offshore engineering workforce.

Win-win Collaboration

Mr Wong Weng Sun, President & Chief Executive Officer of SCM, said: "The MOU represents a joint commitment by both SCM and ITE to collaborate and further enhance capabilities in marine and offshore engineering training and education. We are also delighted to work with ITE in establishing the ITE-SCM Marine Engineering and Quality Centre. The centre is SCM's first joint training facility development with ITE and signifies our steadfast support for education and talent development. This win-win collaboration will pave the way for active knowledge sharing and technology transfer to raise standards of excellence within the industry."

Mr Bruce Poh, Director & CEO of ITE, remarked: "A partnership with an industry leader, like Sembcorp Marine, will not only ensure the relevance, authenticity and rigour of our programmes. Its wise investment in human capital development will also go a long way to meet the technical manpower needs of the marine and offshore industry in Singapore."

Train of Thought

ITE and SMRT to Run *Nitec* in Rapid Transit Technology

By Valerie Ng

MANY of us take the LRT or MRT daily. With the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between ITE and SMRT Institute Pte Ltd on 9 July 2010, now there is a chance to understand more closely how the backbone of the city's public transport system works.

Meeting of the Best

Under the MOU, ITE and SMRT Institute are collaborating to implement the *Nitec* in Rapid Transit Technology in January 2011.

Students taking this course will enjoy the rigour and systematic pedagogy of ITE, as well as hands-on practical training provided by SMRT, in the form of industry attachments. This will ensure that graduates of this new course will continue to be skilled assets in the rapid transit industry.

"I see this MOU as a meeting of two of the best players in their respective fields – ITE, a leader in technical education, and SMRT, the nation's premier multi-modal transport service provider," said Dr Yek Tiew Ming, Principal, ITE College West.

Mr Tommy Ng, Senior Vice President, Corporate Services, SMRT Corporation Ltd, said the course will provide learners with a solid foundation in rapid transit systems.



This is for Rail: Dr Yek Tiew Ming (third from left) exchanging the MOU document with Mr Tommy Ng. They are flanked by (from left) Mr Bruce Poh, Director & CEO, ITE; Mr Bob Tan, Chairman, ITE; Mr Koh Yong Guan, Chairman, SMRT; and Ms Saw Phaik Hwa, CEO, SMRT.

"The programme promises to be engaging and exciting with a good mix of theory, hands-on activities and industrial attachments to SMRT's rapid transit system depot," Mr Ng added.

Other Areas of Collaboration

The new MOU will also see ITE and SMRT Institute jointly setting up Rail Maintenance and Field Services Workshops at ITE College West. These workshops will conduct training in rapid transit maintenance, including rail engineering and rail industry-related modules. SMRT Institute will also offer study sponsorship awards and course medals for ITE students.



Journey to the West

ITE College West Moves into Brand New Regional Campus

By Joycelyn Seet



TWO years after its architectural design was unveiled to the public, ITE's second Regional Campus – ITE College West at Choa Chu Kang – opened its doors in July 2010, much to the joy of the 8,000 students who will now learn in ITE's newest Campus.

Boasting an events plaza, a convention centre, an Innovation Walkway, restaurants, retail outlets, a 22-room training hotel, a Sports Village and functional buildings with first-of-its-kind foliage rooftops, the new campus – spanning an area of about 10 football fields – has become an iconic landmark in the primarily-residential district.

Envisioned as “An ITE College of Service and Innovation”, the new ITE College West is uniquely designed for its Service Innovation niche. Said Dr Yek Tiew Ming, Principal, ITE College West: “The new College is purpose-built to support the growth of the hospitality and tourism sector. With the opening of the Integrated Resorts and development of other tourism-related projects in Singapore, there will be high demand and many career opportunities for our graduates. In addition to excellent career skills, we also want to imbue in our students a service innovation mindset. The focus on service innovation will further complement ITE's unique brand of Hands-on, Minds-on and Hearts-on education.”

Go West

With the new building up and running, five smaller campuses were subsequently closed and had their courses relocated to the Choa Chu Kang premises.

To mark this historic transition, 150 staff and students participated in a torch relay – aptly named the “Five-To-One Run” – on 11 June 2010, starting at the five old campus sites and culminating at the new Regional Campus. The run symbolically represented the coming together of staff and students from the satellite campuses of ITE College West, at Ang Mo Kio, Balestier, Bukit Batok, Clementi and Dover, under one giant roof of a comprehensive campus. The flames from each satellite campus were merged in the lighting of a fire cauldron by Mr Bruce Poh, Director & CEO, ITE, and Senior Management Staff of ITE College West.

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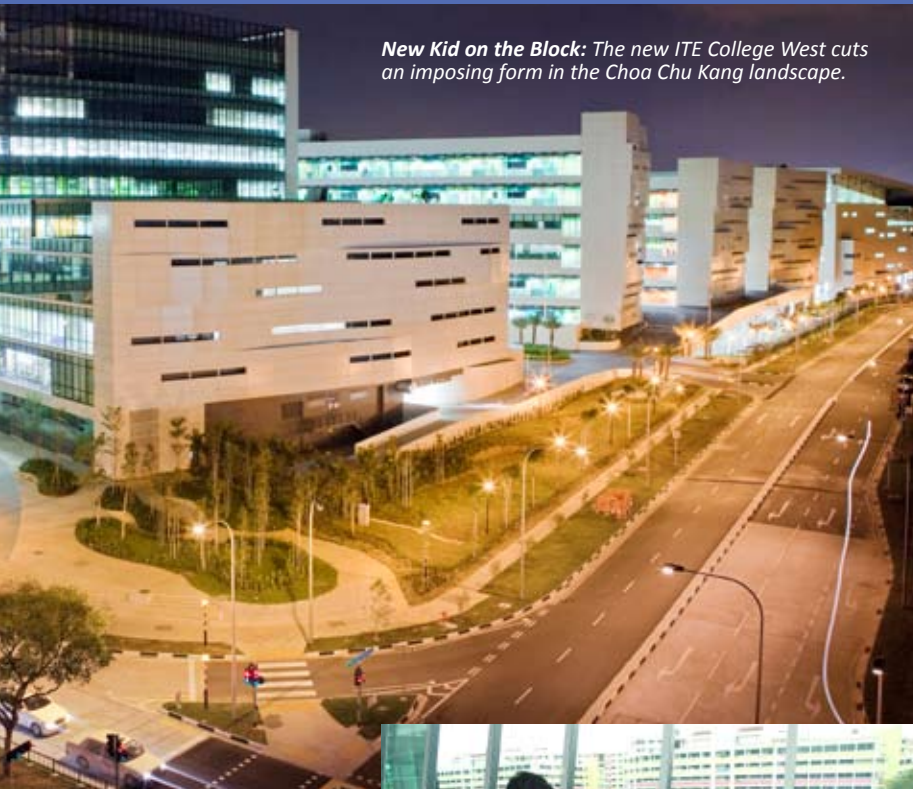
Worthy Cause

The event also incorporated a fundraising drive for the Community Chest of Singapore. In all, ITE staff and students raised \$111,888 through donations, collection of newspapers and recycled materials, making of cookies and cakes for sale, washing of cars and auctioning of a commemorative gold-plated fan plaque.

"It is gratifying to see everyone in ITE chipping in for a good cause to usher in the second new Regional Campus. More than just bricks and mortar, I believe that this latest landmark will help realise the potential of ITE students. Today's forward-looking generation has growing expectations of a post-secondary institution, and we are confident that the capabilities of this new environment will be able to meet their needs for a world-class education," said Mr Poh.



New Kid on the Block: The new ITE College West cuts an imposing form in the Choa Chu Kang landscape.



We've Got It All Under One Roof: The new campus houses many state-of-the-art facilities, including (from top) a professionally-kitted gymnasium; a radio broadcast studio; a well-equipped training kitchen; and Amber@West, a fine-dining training restaurant.



An Intercultural Melting Pot

GEN Project Management Study Tour 2010

By Lim Hui Ling

THIRTY-seven participants of the Global Education Network (GEN) Project Management Study Tour 2010, held from 26 July to 14 August 2010 at ITE, all agreed that what they liked best about the programme was the opportunity to build friendships with people whom they would never have met otherwise.

The GEN is made up of four institutions: Box Hill Institute, Australia (BHI); Institute of Technical Education, Singapore (ITE); Kirkwood Community College, United States (KCC); and SAIT Polytechnic, Canada (SAIT). The institutions take turns to host the annual GEN Project Management Study Tour, which first started in 2008. The programme incorporates local industry visits and sightseeing, and participants are supervised by staff mentors.



Think Tank: Students from the different institutions having a group discussion.

Olympic Beat: Participants of the GEN Project Management Study Tour 2010 practising for their percussion performance for the Journey of the Youth Olympic Flame to ITE College East.

A Mix of Cultures

Lauren Doogood, a Dual-Diploma of Hospitality & Event Management student at BHI, had never ventured out of Australia before. "If I hadn't been chosen for this programme, I'd never have met people from Canada and Singapore!" she exclaimed.

The advantage of picking up the Project Management module in a foreign country with students from other institutions is that this reflects how Project Management actually takes place in reality – collaborating with people from all walks of life.

"The best thing about this programme is having to work with people of diverse groups, and mix of different cultures. Sometimes, when you are trying to put things across, you must not seem offensive and step on toes. If you're the Project Manager, you need to understand how some members will throw ideas in your face, some you have to knock on their doors. That has really opened my eyes to different cultures and different people," explained Bright Ewhubare, a Petroleum Engineering Technology student from SAIT.

Drumming Up the YOG Spirit

With the inaugural Youth Olympic Games held in Singapore this year from 14 to 26 August as the backdrop of the Project Management programme, the participants took part in the Journey of the Youth Olympic Flame when it arrived at ITE College East on 8 August 2010. They were part of the percussion team who performed in front of Singapore's Senior Minister Goh Chok Tong and other distinguished guests.

Dusti Drayfahl, a Hotel Management student at KCC, summed up her sojourn in Singapore this way: "Every day is different; it is an experience that I wouldn't have back home!"

ITE students and alumni can now look forward to greater networking and business opportunities in Malaysia, China and Vietnam. The ITE Alumni Association (ITEAA) added a third nation to its alumni network when Mr Bruce Poh, Director & CEO, ITE, graced the launch of the ITEAA Malaysia Chapter on 14 July 2010, at Penang, Malaysia. On top of this latest milestone, ITEAA had previously formed Overseas Chapters in China and Vietnam in 2006 and 2008, respectively.

Opening Up a World of Opportunities

With talent flowing between nations, and a growing number of ITE alumni working or living in different countries, such Overseas Chapters are pertinent in helping the ITE alumni network and capitalising on their ITE foundation.



Links Across the Causeway: (Seated, from left) Dato Steven Chiew, Executive Director, Donut Empire Holding Pte Ltd & Member, ITEAA; Dato Koay Hean Eng, CEO, Kobay Technology Bhd; Roger Lee, President, ITEAA; Mr Bruce Poh, Director & CEO, ITE; Mr Bob Lee, Second Vice President, ITEAA; and Mr Willie Wong, Executive Chairman & Managing Director, Frontken Corporation Bhd, take a group photograph with other representatives of ITE's new MOU partners and some members of ITEAA.

Spreading Our Wings

ITE Alumni Association Extends Its Overseas Reach *By Jamie Chan*

"Besides providing an excellent networking platform, these Overseas Chapters allow alumni members to explore business opportunities overseas. Through this network, the ITEAA can support ITE's efforts in promoting vocational and technical education by facilitating and sourcing for overseas attachment places for ITE students under our Global Education Programme (GEP)," Mr Poh explained.

A Boost for ITE's GEP Programme

Indeed, to date, the China and Vietnam Chapters have already provided 250 industry attachment places for ITE students. This represents 30 percent of the 832 students who have completed overseas industry attachments since its launch in 2005.

Adding to the celebration, was the signing of Memoranda of Understanding with five Malaysian organisations, namely, Paradigm Precision Components Sdn. Bhd, Polytool Integration Sdn. Bhd, and Polytool Technologies Sdn. Bhd (all from the KOBAY Group of Companies), Donut Empire Holding Pte Ltd, and Frontken Corporation Bhd.

These companies will be providing a total of 132 placements for ITE students from 2010 to 2012. ITE students can look forward to even more opportunities to experience diverse work environments and practices in other countries. Such experiences mould ITE students to be both work-ready and world-ready.

Greening at ITE

ITE College East is First "Green School" in South East District *By Valerie Ng*



Green Initiative: Dr Ricky Tam, then-Principal, ITE College East (second from right) explaining one of the College's green efforts to Mr Matthias Yao (third from right).

ITE College East took the honour of becoming the first "Green School @ South East" on 15 July 2010, when Mr Matthias Yao, Mayor of the South East Community Development Council (CDC), presented the College with the Green School Certificate, in recognition of its efforts in greening the environment.

At the ceremony, Dr Ricky Tam, then-Principal, ITE College East said: "As a group, ITE is fully committed to do our part to reduce carbon footprint. 'Environmental Sustainability Initiatives' is one of the highlights in ITE's latest five-year Strategic Plan."

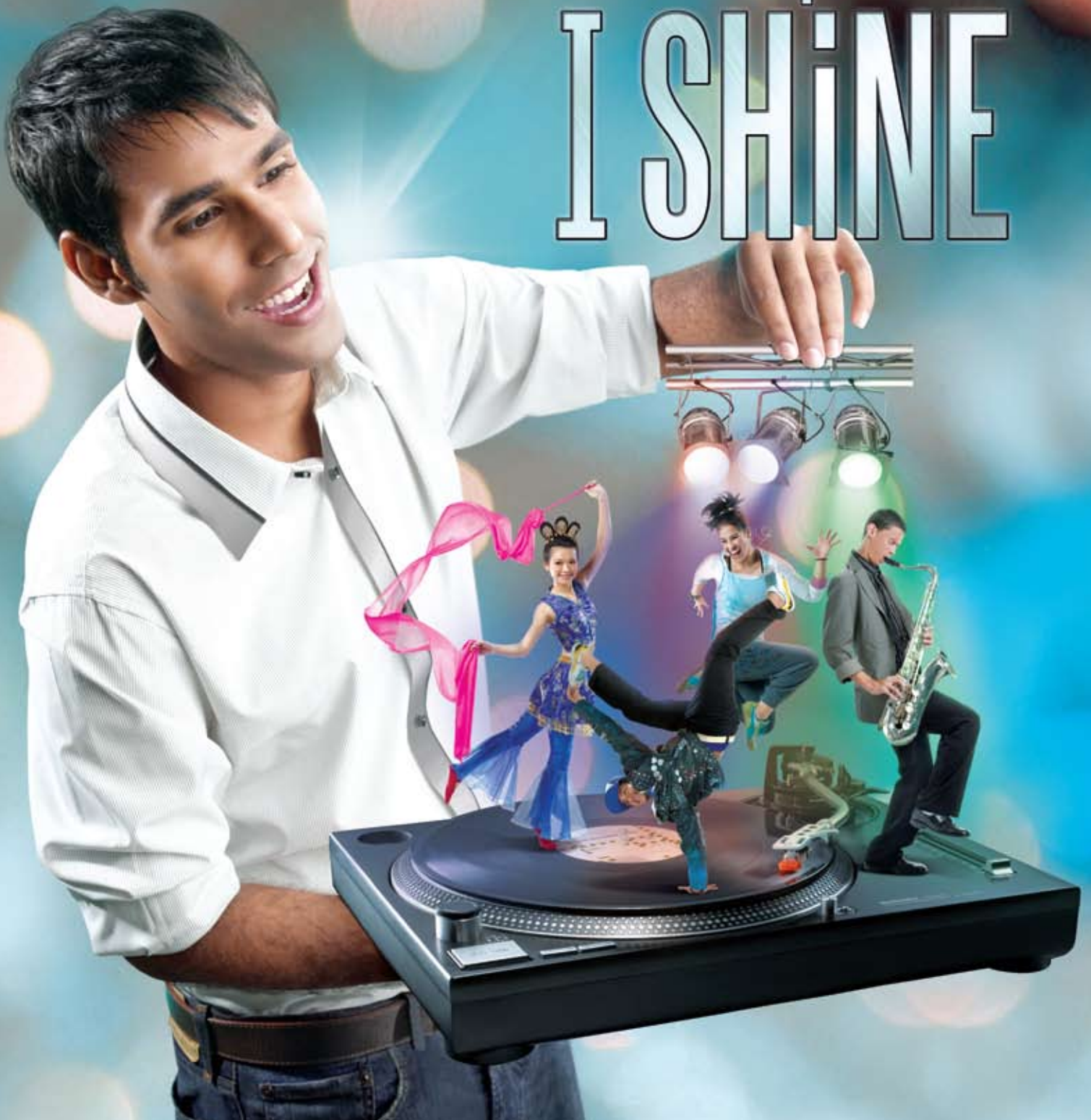
As the pioneer Green School of the district, ITE College East has been working together with South East CDC and National Environment Agency (NEA) to engage other schools to spread environmental messages to schools, as well as to the wider community. Schools can either run their own environmental initiatives, such as recycling programmes, or collaborate with other partners.

ECO Portal

Mr Yao also unveiled the Eco Community Ownership (ECO) portal (<http://ecocityzone.net>), a public portal to share resources on green knowledge and drive green efforts.

The ECO portal serves as a platform to consolidate existing efforts and an engine to drive new ones. A highlight of this portal is the "Green Collar Worker Training", where students, the public and interested parties can pick up information and best green practices through self-directed learning programmes.

With Inspiration I SHINE



My inspiring ideas set the stage for showcasing creative performances. Nurtured by ITE's unique College Education, I can realise my full potential and create results that shine in this competitive industry. With my market-ready skills, I am ready to shine.



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We Make You Shine

Hair for Hope

ITE Students Use Their Talents to Support Cancer-stricken Children *By Jamie Chan*

A heart to help others, skills to impress, and a mind set on only giving their very best – this was the gift that 30 *Nitec* in Hair Fashion & Design students and graduates brought to Hair for Hope 2010.

Shaving Away

For five months from April to August 2010, these ITE students and graduates rose to the challenge of shaving the heads of more than 1,500 people in support of the Children's Cancer Foundation's (CCF) major fundraising event, Hair for Hope (HfH) 2010. HfH pays tribute to children who are battling against cancer. It serves to raise awareness and funds for childhood cancer.



Hairs-off for Charity: ITE students using their skills for a good cause.



All Ready to Help: Some of the 30 Nitec in Hair & Fashion Design students who wore big smiles and were set to shave heads to support cancer-stricken children and their families.



Proud of ITE Students and Graduates: Mr David Tham (from left), Deputy Director/Enterprise & Lifestyle Services, ITE College East; Mr Eden Liew, Principal, ITE College East; and Ms Jean Koh, Section Head/Hair Fashion & Design, showing the token of appreciation presented by President S R Nathan.

ITE's journey with HfH 2010 started when L'Oreal Singapore Pte Ltd recommended the ITE students to CCF. Since then, this committed group of ITE students and graduates has put in more than 40 training hours outside school time to support cancer-stricken children.

HfH culminated in an anchor event on 25 July 2010 at Vivocity shopping mall, where the Guest-of-Honour, President S

R Nathan, presented a token of appreciation to ITE for all the help the students and graduates have given.

Heartwarming

Mr Eden Liew, Principal, ITE College East, received the token on behalf of ITE. He said: "I am very happy that ITE students can use their skills to benefit charity. These students and graduates have shown us what it means to be 'hands-on, minds-on and hearts-on'."

ITE College East's Hair Fashion & Design lecturer, Mr Luke Arthur Lim, was the overall in-charge of the project. He also conducted the first ceremonial shave on Mr Ravi Sivalingam, Chairperson, CCF. Mr Lim shared: "It was heartwarming for me to help out in Hair for Hope 2010, especially to see our students rising to the occasion to work alongside professional stylists. They were committed, confident, engaging and heartwarming. They poured out their hearts and drew support from one another."

"My 19-year-old brother just recovered from liver cancer. I experienced how scary it is to possibly lose a family member and how financially stressful it is. I hope that by volunteering to shave heads, I can show my brother my support, and at the same time, encourage other cancer patients and their families," shared first-year *Nitec* in Hair Fashion & Design student, Tricia Low Sin Yi.

Step by Step, Heart to Heart: ITE students stapling their folded origami hearts onto the canvas.



How It's Done: Dr Amy Khor showing participants how to fold an origami heart, while Mr Lim Boon Lye (extreme left), Vice-Chairman for the National Day Heartlands Celebrations Organising Committee, and Dr Yek Tiew Ming look on.



Hearts On!

The Making of Singapore's Largest Origami National Day Flag *By Victor Yen*

A small heart-shaped paper origami, the size of a thumb, may be inconspicuous, but when 45,000 of such "hearts" come together, they not only stand out in size, but tell a story of perseverance, inclusiveness and teamwork.

As part of the South West Community Development Council (CDC) National Day celebrations, students from ITE College West, MINDS Clementi, Pei Tong Primary School and elderly friends from the CDC gathered on 27 July 2010 at the MINDS Clementi Training and Development Centre to play a part in accomplishing this feat. When completed, the flag would measure 8.5 metres by 5.5 metres, and would have involved the combined efforts of more than 10,000 participants.

A Hearty Affair

Rallied on by Dr Amy Khor, Mayor of the South West District and Senior Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, participants contributed some 2,000 "hearts" to the flag montage during the hour-and-a-half session. Dr Khor remarked: "This is a fun and meaningful way for the South West District to celebrate National Day, bond and do its part for Singapore, and our environment." It is noteworthy that the



Heartfelt Effort: Dr Amy Khor (centre) and ITE College West students posing with their folded origami hearts.

red and white material used for folding of the hearts was all recycled paper.

Some 120 ITE College West students joined their Principal, Dr Yek Tiew Ming, who also folded some hearts for the cause. He said: "This project encourages social integration among different groups of Singaporeans, who would otherwise have few chances to interact with each other. I am glad that our students have had the opportunity to benefit from this valuable experience."

BEHIND THE SCENES

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