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ITE Graduation 2018

Celebrating the Achievements of Class 2018

ITE's 12 Top Graduates received their Awards from Education Minister Ong Ye Kung

The Institute of Technical Education (ITE) held its annual **Graduation Ceremony** on Tuesday 3 July 2018, 3 pm, at the Auditorium, Tay Eng Soon Convention Centre, ITE Headquarters, 2 Ang Mo Kio Drive. It was organised for **top students** from the three Colleges, together with a cross-representation of other graduands. **Mr Ong Ye Kung, Minister for Education**, officiated at the event (Refer to programme at **Annex A**).

2 In Academic year 2017/2018, there were **14,234** ITE graduates. Of these, **732** received Certificates of Merit (COM) for being among the top five per cent of the graduating cohort. In addition, 226 COM holders were awarded **Course Medals** for topping their respective courses.

3 The ceremony also honoured the **12 top students** from Class of 2018. They received the prestigious Lee Kuan Yew Gold Medal, Tay Eng Soon Gold Medal, e2i Gold Medal, IES Engineering Award, and the inaugural The Ngee Ann Kongsi Gold Medal (Details on these Awards are at **Annex B**). Each of these top students (some examples below) had proven their mettle and continues to inspire others with their desire to acquire skills and knowledge.

Ahead of the Game

4 **K. Jagateesvaran Rajoo** may have dyslexia, but the thought of giving up on learning never crossed his mind. The tenacious youth would read as many books as he could and practise speaking repeatedly. In ITE, he even helped his classmates in their schoolwork. In fact, Jagateesvaran was so good in his studies that he topped his cohort from the School of Electronics and Info-Comm Technology. With a goal to be a game programmer, Jagateesvaran put what he learnt in his *Nitec* in Infocomm Technology (Networking & Systems Administration) course to good use by participating in various game application competitions. He led a team to compete at the 2nd International Convention on Vocational Student Innovation Project 2017, in Thailand, and their game application for dementia patients won First Prize.

5 As the President of the Bridge Leaders Club, he also led in community service projects, including the teaching of first aid skills to residents. Out of school and in his free time, Jagateesvaran conducted a free workshop on Java programming for the public. Jagateesvaran is deserving of **The Ngee Ann Kongsu Gold Medal**. Despite his dyslexia, he had proven that his destiny is in his hands and everyone has a chance at success.

Passion to Serve

6 In his early teens, **Muhammad Shazuan Bin Shiraj Abdullah** was discouraged by a series of disruptive events, including being bullied, transferring from the Express to Normal (Academic) stream, and changing school. Shazuan also had to adjust to a single-parent family situation. Having benefited from social services' assistance, he wanted to help others in need, too, and aspires to become a Social Worker in future. After the 'N' levels examination, even though he could qualify for 'O' Levels in Secondary 5, Shazuan chose to enroll in the *Nitec* in Community Care & Social Services course at ITE. The course fuelled his passion and he excelled academically.

7 With a big heart for the underprivileged, Shazuan actively volunteered to organise events for community groups, such as the AWWA Annual Gathering, an event that celebrates the achievements of families who had overcome hardships. In ITE, Shazuan also rekindled his love for public speaking. Encouraged by his lecturer, he participated in the YMCA Plain English Speaking Awards 2017, national public speaking competition, and became the first ITE student in 31 years to reach the finals. He eventually emerged as the first runner-up in the competition. A recipient of the **Lee Kuan Yew Award**, Shazuan exemplifies how passion can chart a viable pathway in life and that willpower can overcome any challenges in life.

Never Too Late to Learn

8 After spending 12 years in the semi-conductor industry, **Lew Chia Sing** amassed a wealth of experience in that sector, but it did not help him when he joined National University of Singapore as a Specialist Associate. In his current job, Chia Sing takes care of facilities and equipment, and is expected to provide the first line of support, diagnosis and troubleshooting when required. As facility management was new to him, he knew he had to pick up new skills quickly to be relevant at work.

9 Chia Sing chose to enrol in ITE's Continuing Education & Training (CET) *Nitec* in Technology - Facility Technology (Air Conditioning & Refrigeration) course. Even though he had to rush from work to class four days a week in the evenings, he relished the learning opportunities and open sharing from classmates, some of whom are in the same trade. Chia Sing also appreciated the fact that he could readily apply what he learnt in class to his daily work duties. An exemplary model in lifelong learning, Chia Sing received the **e2i Gold Medal**, as an encouragement to adult learners to increase their employability through constant upgrading and reskilling.

10 Profiles of the other Top 12 graduates can be found in the **ITE Graduation 2018 Programme Booklet**.

11 For further information and arrangement for media interviews/photography, please contact:

Ms Mah Yen Ling
Head/Stakeholder Communications, ITE
Tel: 6590 2057 / 98787604
Email: mah_yen_ling@ite.edu.sg

or

Ms Josephine Lefort
Head/Corporate Events, ITE
Tel: 6590 2030 / 90607515
Email: josephine_lefort@ite.edu.sg

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About Institute of Technical Education, Singapore

The Institute of Technical Education (ITE) is a post-secondary education institution established in **1992** under the Ministry of Education. As a principal provider of career and technical education, and a key developer of national occupational skills certification and standards, ITE's **Mission** is to create **opportunities** for students and adult learners to acquire skills, knowledge and values for employability and lifelong learning. ITE's **Vision** is to be A **Trailblazer** in Career and Technical Education. Our **Values** are **Integrity, Teamwork, Excellence** and **Care**. ITE comprises the ITE Headquarters and three ITE Colleges - College Central, College East and College West.

ITE Graduation 2018

Tuesday 3 July 2018, 3 pm
Auditorium, Tay Eng Soon Convention Centre
Block A Level 4, Institute of Technical Education
2 Ang Mo Kio Drive 567720

Programme

<u>Time</u>	<u>Activity</u>
2.00 pm	Registration
2.45 pm	Guests to be seated
3.00 pm	Commencement of Graduation 2018
	Video Screening of <i>Stepping Up to the Future Economy</i>
	Address by Ms Low Khah Gek, Chief Executive Officer, Institute of Technical Education
	Address by Guest-of-Honour (GOH), Mr Ong Ye Kung, Minister for Education
	Presentation of Diplomas and Certificates of Merit/Certificates
	ITE Song – <i>The Heart and Soul of ITE</i>
	Presentation of Course Medals by Ms Low Khah Gek
	Presentation of Tay Eng Soon Scholarship Awards by Mr Bob Tan, Chairman, ITE
	Presentation of Top Awards to Outstanding Graduates by GOH
	Group photograph of Top Graduates with GOH and ITE Senior Management
	Valedictorian Speech
5.30 pm	Reception (GOH will interact with selected students)

Brief on Top ITE Graduate Awards

The Institute of Technical Education (ITE) holds its Graduation Ceremony each year, to mark the graduation of ITE students and to recognise graduates who have performed well in their courses. At the ITE Graduation Ceremony 2018, Top Graduate Awards will be presented to ITE graduates who have excelled in their studies.

Top ITE Graduate Awards

The top awards that will be presented at ITE Graduation 2018 are:

1) Lee Kuan Yew (LKY) Gold Medal [3 pax]

Donated in 1999 by the then Senior Minister, Mr Lee Kuan Yew, from the sale of his memoirs, the **Lee Kuan Yew (LKY) Gold Medal** is awarded to the top ITE graduate of each ITE College, who has excelled in his or her course of study and co-curricular activities, and has made contributions to the community or in enriching College life. He/she will receive the **LKY Gold Medal and \$600 cash**.

2) Tay Eng Soon (TES) Gold Medal [3 pax]

The **Tay Eng Soon (TES) Gold Medal** was introduced in 1994, following the establishment of the TES Scholarship Fund to promote technical and polytechnic education. The Fund was established in 1993 through donations from companies, individuals and staff of ITE and the polytechnics in memory of the late Dr Tay Eng Soon, former Chairman of ITE, and Minister in-charge of polytechnic and technical education (1988 – 1993). An outstanding ITE graduate, from each ITE College, who has achieved excellent course performance, participated actively in co-curricular activities and contributed to the well-being and development of his or her college, will receive the **TES Gold Medal and \$600 cash** funded by the TES Scholarship Fund.

3) The Ngee Ann Kongsi (TNAK) Gold Medal [3 pax]

Introduced this year, The Ngee Ann Kongsi (TNAK) Gold Medal is awarded to top graduates from the three Colleges for their outstanding course performance, active participation in co-curricular activities and contributions to the Colleges. Founded in 1845 to look after the religious and welfare needs of Teochew immigrants in Singapore, The Ngee Ann Kongsi has since evolved to become a significant contributor towards the enrichment of Singapore society. The foundation is actively involved in educational, cultural and welfare activities in Singapore. The recipient of the award will receive **TNAK Gold Medal and \$600 cash**.

4) e2i Gold Medal [2 pax]

The **e2i Gold Medal** was introduced in 2016 to promote lifelong learning among adult learners to increase their employability, and to motivate and give recognition to ITE Continuing Education & Training (CET) graduates for their upgrading efforts and achievements. The top ITE CET graduate will receive the **e2i Gold Medal and \$600 cash**, donated by the Employment and Employability Institute.

5) IES Engineering Award [1 pax]

Introduced in 2013, the **IES Engineering Award** is awarded to a top graduate for outstanding performance in an Engineering course and contributions in Engineering-related projects and activities. The IES Engineering Award is sponsored by the Institution of Engineers, Singapore. The top Engineering graduate will receive a **Plaque and \$600 cash**.

Other Awards

The ITE **Course Medals** are awarded to the top Certificate of Merit graduate in each course. Recipients will receive the **Gold, Silver or Bronze Course Medal and a cash quantum of \$300, \$200 and \$100** respectively. Course Medals awards are donated by relevant trade/professional associations and companies.