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**For immediate release**

## **SKILLSFUTURE STUDY AWARDS FOR WORLDSKILLS COMPETITORS**

### ***First batch of skills excellence role models recognised***

A SkillsFuture Study Award specifically for WorldSkills Competitors was introduced in June 2017. The **first batch of eight SFSA recipients** received their awards from Ms Low Yen Ling, Senior Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Education and Ministry of Trade and Industry, who was the Guest-of-Honour at the WorldSkills Competition 2017 Awards Presentation Dinner, on 7 November 2017.

2 The WorldSkills Competition 2017 Awards Presentation Dinner is an appreciation event held in honour of the Singapore contingent who had participated in the 44<sup>th</sup> edition of the WorldSkills Competition, from 15 to 18 October 2017, in Abu Dhabi. The Dinner programme is indicated in **Annex A**.

### **Objective of Award**

3 The SkillsFuture Study Awards for WorldSkills Competitors is a dedicated category that recognises role models in skills excellence. The objective is to encourage past WorldSkills winners to continue upgrading their skills as part of lifelong learning, as well as to achieve skills deepening and mastery in their respective fields. This initiative strengthens the national SkillsFuture message in encouraging Singaporeans to develop specialist skills, and be relevant in their careers.

4 This award specifically caters to previous winners in the WorldSkills Competition, ASEAN Skills Competition, or WorldSkills Singapore, who have accumulated two years of work experience in a related field in their competition skill area. Details on the Award are in **Annex B**.

5 Mr Ng Cher Pong, Chairman of the WorldSkills Singapore Council and Chief Executive, SkillsFuture Singapore said, "Skills deepening is a continuous journey. For Singaporeans who have done well at the different WorldSkills competitions, we have introduced the SkillsFuture Study Award for WorldSkills Competitors to support them in continuing to work towards skills mastery. We hope this Award will help to encourage them to pursue their passion in their chosen fields and be masters of their skills in their respective industries."

### **Advancing Skills Careers**

6 The eight successful recipients of the SkillsFuture Study Awards for WorldSkills Competitors had competed in skills areas ranging from Aircraft Maintenance, Caring, CNC Milling, IT Software Applications, Mechatronics to Web Design (refer to **Annex C**).

7 Award recipient Ms Poh Pei Fen was one half of the duo who clinched Singapore's first Gold Medal in 'Caring' when the category was first introduced in WorldSkills Shizuoka



Institute of Technical Education

SKILLSfuture SG



2007. For the past ten years, Pei Fen has devoted herself to the healthcare profession, working her way up from a Registered Nurse to her current position as an Assistant Nurse Clinician at KK Women's and Children's Hospital. Pei Fen is now ready to expand into clinical research by pursuing a Master of Science (Nursing). "My career aspiration is to be a clinical nurse researcher, specialising in Paediatric Nursing. I would like to be involved in both research and clinical care of patients. I'm glad that this SkillsFuture Study Award can further my professional and personal goals," shared Pei Fen.

8 Another Award recipient, Mr Wong Bing Zhi recalled his competition experience when he represented ITE in CNC Milling in 2006. He said, "In just six months, I went from a complete newbie who did not even know how to operate the machine to someone who mastered the fundamentals. The training was tough, but at the end of it all, I became more interested in the trade and in the field of engineering." Bing Zhi plans to pursue a Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering through the SkillsFuture Study Award. He added, "All that I've learned so far are related to my specialisation. I work in a very dynamic environment, which requires fast thinking and immediate action on my part whenever we detect any faults in machinery. Going forward, I would like to enhance my knowledge and experience as a Mechanical Engineer. This Award is timely as it encourages me to deepen my skills, work harder and do even better at my job."

### **Participation in WorldSkills Competition**

9 The WorldSkills Competition is the largest vocational education and skills excellence event in the world. In 1993, ITE joined WorldSkills International, a non-profit organisation whose mission is to promote the image of skills and skilled careers through competitions and exchanges for youths. In 1994, ITE organised the first National Skills Competition (now known as WorldSkills Singapore Competition) and led the first Singapore team to participate in the WorldSkills Competition in 1995, held in Lyon, France. In the most recent edition of WorldSkills Competition in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, Team Singapore won two Gold Medals, three Bronze Medals and eight Medallions for Excellence. As of this year, SkillsFuture Singapore has taken over the planning and coordination of the WorldSkills portfolio from ITE.

### **Media Coverage**

10 For interview arrangements and photography, please contact:

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**WORLDSKILLS COMPETITION 2017 AWARDS PRESENTATION DINNER**

**Tue 7 Nov 2017**  
**The Hall, Tay Eng Soon Convention Centre, Block A, Level 4**  
**ITE Headquarters**  
**2 Ang Mo Kio Drive, Singapore 567720**

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**PROGRAMME**

<b><u>Time</u></b>	<b><u>Activity</u></b>
6:15 pm	Registration
6:55 pm	Arrival of Guest-of-Honour Ms Low Yen Ling Senior Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Education and Ministry of Trade and Industry
7:00 pm	Welcome Performance
7:05 pm	Speech by Mr Bruce Poh Executive Deputy Chairman, WorldSkills Singapore Council & Singapore's Official Delegate to WorldSkills Abu Dhabi 2017
7:15 pm	Presentation of Certificates of Appreciation to Technical Delegate, Team Leaders, Expert and Coaches
7:40 pm	Commencement of Dinner
8:20 pm	Video Screening of Competition Highlights
8:30 pm	Presentation of SkillsFuture Study Awards by the Guest-of-Honour
8:35 pm	Presentation of Certificates, Medallions and Medals to Competitors by the Guest-of-Honour
8:55 pm	Remarks by Team Captain
9:00 pm	Screening of WorldSkills Kazan 2019 Video
9:05 pm	End of Programme

**APPLICATION DETAILS ON SKILLSFUTURE STUDY AWARDS FOR  
WORLDSKILLS COMPETITORS**

**Eligibility Criteria**

- Singaporeans with at least two years of work experience in the sector related to their WorldSkills Competition skill area.
- Won at least a Bronze medal at WorldSkills Singapore (WSS) or ASEAN Skills Competition (ASC), or at least a Medallion for Excellence at WorldSkills Competition (WSC).
- Not a previous recipient of any SkillsFuture Study Award, or recipient of any scholarship/full bursary/full sponsorship awarded for this programme.
- Meets entry requirements for selected programme.
- Selected programme is relevant to skills deepening and/or career development in applicant's WorldSkills Competition skill area.

**Supported Courses**

Supported courses include local and overseas courses, which could be Certificate, Diploma, Specialist Diploma, Advanced Diploma, Bachelor's or Master's degree programmes. Applicants should indicate proposed course of study.

The application closed on **31 July 2017**. All applications were evaluated on a case-by-case basis.



**PROFILES OF RECIPIENTS**

<b>Full Name</b>	Mr Chan Bin Yang, Daniel
<b>Age</b>	31
<b>Latest/Current Job Title &amp; Company</b>	Instrument Engineer, Amgen Singapore Manufacturing
<b>Skill Area</b>	Mechatronics
<b>Participation in Skills Competition and Achievements</b>	WorldSkills Singapore 2006, Silver Medal WorldSkills London 2011, Certificate of Participation
<b>Short Bio</b>	<p>Daniel gained a strong theoretical and practical foundation in Industrial Automation through participation in WorldSkills Singapore 2006 and his Mechatronics course in Temasek Polytechnic.</p> <p>At WorldSkills London 2011, his teammate and him were only one position short of winning a Medallion for Excellence. Nevertheless, to Daniel, representing Singapore on the international stage was a truly unforgettable experience.</p> <p>Daniel started work as a Piping/Plant Engineer and eventually became an Instrument Engineer working with Plant Instrumentation in Amgen Singapore.</p> <p>He aspires to rise to a senior engineering role in future where he can provide expert advice in his field of work and mentor other junior engineers in their careers.</p>
<b>Course of Study for SkillsFuture Study Award</b>	Master in Engineering (Industrial Automation), Engineering Institute of Technology



<b>Full Name</b>	Mr Fong Jun Qi
<b>Age</b>	23
<b>Latest/Current Job Title</b>	Electrical Engineer, Chang Sing Engineering
<b>Skill Area</b>	Industrial Control
<b>Participation in Skills Competition and Achievements</b>	WorldSkills Singapore 2012, Gold Medal WorldSkills Leipzig 2013, Certificate of Participation
<b>Short Bio</b>	<p>While studying in Ngee Ann Polytechnic, Jun Qi learned more about the WorldSkills Competition and decided to compete in Industrial Control in WorldSkills Singapore 2012. His efforts paid off with a Gold Medal at this national-level competition and he went on to represent Singapore in the same trade in WorldSkills Leipzig 2013.</p> <p>To date, Jun Qi still has a strong interest in WorldSkills. He has been offering advice and tips to the next generation of competitors in Industrial Control. Jun Qi has also expressed interest to be an Expert in the national WorldSkills Singapore competition, so that he can to give back to WorldSkills.</p> <p>Upon graduation from NTU, Jun Qi hopes to contribute to the Building Automation industry by promoting energy-saving systems that will benefit the environment.</p>
<b>Course of Study for SkillsFuture Study Award</b>	Bachelor of Electrical and Electronics Engineering, NTU



<b>Full Name</b>	Mr Goh Kim Swee, Francis
<b>Age</b>	24
<b>Latest/Current Job Title &amp; Company</b>	Development Technologist (until Oct 2017), Nanyang Polytechnic Assistant Mechanical Design Engineer, Festo Pte Ltd
<b>Skill Area</b>	Mechanical Engineering Design - CAD
<b>Participation in Skills Competition and Achievements</b>	WorldSkills Singapore 2012, Gold Medal WorldSkills Leipzig 2013, Medallion for Excellence
<b>Short Bio</b>	<p>As the top student in two semesters, Francis excelled in his Digital and Precision Engineering course in Nanyang Polytechnic. On top of juggling his studies, Francis trained to compete in Mechanical Engineering Design - CAD at WorldSkills Singapore 2012 simultaneously.</p> <p>During training, Francis learned to produce detailed drawings for fabrication and rendered images or animations to show how the product works. The experience further piqued his interest in the field of engineering. Francis was rewarded a Gold Medal at WorldSkills Singapore 2012 and a Medallion for Excellence in WorldSkills Leipzig 2013.</p> <p>Francis is currently studying Mechatronics in a German university, under a sponsorship from a German engineering company in Singapore. When he returns to Singapore, he hopes to contribute to Singapore and also internationally, by sharing his knowledge and experience with all who are interested.</p>
<b>Course of Study for SkillsFuture Study Award</b>	Bachelor of Engineering (General Mechatronics), DHBW Stuttgart, Germany



<b>Full Name</b>	Mr Koh Nai Wen, Favian
<b>Age</b>	30
<b>Latest/Current Job Title &amp; Company</b>	Procure to Pay (P2P) Analyst, PayPal Pte Ltd
<b>Skill Area</b>	IT Software Applications
<b>Participation in Skills Competition and Achievements</b>	WorldSkills Singapore 2006, Bronze Medal
<b>Short Bio</b>	<p>The exposure to IT projects during Favian’s schooling days in Nanyang Polytechnic opened his eyes to the infinite possibilities that IT has to offer. His WorldSkills Singapore experience also helped to hone his skills in the IT specialisation.</p> <p>Applying the skills he gained through education, Favian took the initiative to work on several projects that aligned systems with business vision/needs. Certified in the Microsoft Office suite of applications and with his knowledge in development, he created solutions that automate or aided work processes.</p> <p>His current role as a P2P Analyst has given him the chance to manage several projects at the same time. He hopes to advance to a project management role in future.</p>
<b>Course of Study for SkillsFuture Study Award</b>	Project Management Professional Certification, National University of Singapore





<b>Full Name</b>	Ms Poh Pei Fen
<b>Age</b>	30
<b>Latest/Current Job Title &amp; Company</b>	Assistant Nurse Clinician, KK Women's and Children's Hospital
<b>Skill Area</b>	Caring
<b>Participation in Skills Competition and Achievements</b>	WorldSkills Singapore 2006, Gold Medal WorldSkills Shizuoka 2007, Gold Medal
<b>Short Bio</b>	<p>Back in 2007, third-year Nursing student Pei Fen and her teammate made history by winning the debut gold medal for Singapore in 'Caring' category of WorldSkills Shizuoka.</p> <p>Since Pei Fen's graduation from Nanyang Polytechnic, she has been working in the Children Intensive Care Unit at KK Women's and Children's Hospital. She progressed from a junior Registered Nurse then to an Assistant Nurse Clinician today.</p> <p>Pei Fen constantly upgrades her professional knowledge and skills. She has a Bachelor of Nursing and an Advanced Diploma in Critical Care Nursing under her belt. Pei Fen has also shown interest in nursing research. Currently, she is pursuing her part-time Master in Nursing at National University of Singapore (NUS). Apart from carrying out her clinical duties and studying part-time, she finds time to contribute actively as a chairperson in Nursing Informatics Council and a member in Singapore Nursing Association. She is also involved in skills training of nursing students in NUS.</p>
<b>Course of Study for SkillsFuture Study Award</b>	Master of Science (Nursing)



<b>Full Name</b>	Tan Yu Ling
<b>Age</b>	25
<b>Latest/Current Job Title &amp; Company</b>	Web & Graphic Designer, PhillipCapital
<b>Skill Area</b>	Web Design
<b>Participation in Skills Competition and Achievements</b>	WorldSkills Singapore 2011, Silver Medal
<b>Short Bio</b>	<p>In WorldSkills Singapore 2011, Yu Ling had to race against time to design and develop a functional website with backend system and database within 18 hours.</p> <p>Yet web design has developed so rapidly over the years that skills in designing and coding are insufficient in today's market. There is now increased focus on coherent delivery of the campaign and developing positive customer experience. Even though Yu Ling is technically equipped as a programmer, she recognises the need to pick up new skills, especially in creating more user-centric designs and experiences. With that in mind, Yu Ling plans to brush up her skills in digital marketing as she expands her skills set to match industry demands.</p> <p>In future, she hopes to take on leadership roles to drive campaigns and guide different departments to create websites, collaterals and advertising.</p>
<b>Course of Study for SkillsFuture Study Award</b>	Digital Marketing



<b>Full Name</b>	Mr Wong Bin Zhi
<b>Age</b>	29
<b>Latest/Current Job Title &amp; Company</b>	Mechanical Engineer, The Polyolefin Company
<b>Skill Area</b>	CNC Milling
<b>Participation in Skills Competition and Achievements</b>	WorldSkills Singapore 2006, Bronze Medal
<b>Short Bio</b>	<p>Under the influence of his father who used to be in the Precision Engineering line, Bing Zhi is no stranger to the field of engineering as he often helps his father out in the workshop. It comes as no surprise that Bing Zhi was selected to represent ITE to compete in CNC Milling in WorldSkills Singapore 2006.</p> <p>In addition to the euphoria of clinching a Bronze Medal, Bing Zhi recalled that the competition experience provided him with a deeper understanding of engineering. Even now when he sees technicians using the CNC Machine at work, he understands the workflow and appreciates the reasoning behind machining requirements.</p> <p>In future, he hopes to contribute to the mechanical section of his team and be someone of value to his company.</p>
<b>Course of Study for SkillsFuture Study Award</b>	Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering, National University of Singapore



<b>Full Name</b>	Ms Yan Yun Ji, Jaslyn
<b>Age</b>	25
<b>Latest/Current Job Title &amp; Company</b>	Assistant Engineer, ST Aerospace
<b>Skill Area</b>	Aircraft Maintenance
<b>Participation in Skills Competition and Achievements</b>	WorldSkills Singapore 2014, Bronze Medal
<b>Short Bio</b>	<p>Since young, Yun Ji has a strong interest in aircrafts so she chose to study Aerospace Electronics at Temasek Polytechnic. She received an Award of Excellence and Certificate of Recognition upon completion of her industrial attachment at Lufthansa Technical Training Centre.</p> <p>Yun Ji continued to pursue her passion by working in ST Aerospace. In 2014, she represented ST Aerospace to compete in Aircraft Maintenance at WorldSkills Singapore 2014 and won a Bronze Medal.</p> <p>With plans to move from the production line to the business development side of the company, Yun Ji is currently pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Aviation Business Administration. Her experience in the production line coupled with knowledge gained from the course, will put her in good stead in the aviation industry.</p>
<b>Course of Study for SkillsFuture Study Award</b>	Bachelor of Science in Aviation Business Administration, Embry Riddle Aeronautical University