



For immediate release

Appointment of New Director & CEO of the Institute of Technical Education (ITE) from Feb 2017

Mr Bruce Poh Geok Huat, Director and Chief Executive Officer/ITE (CEO/ITE), will be retiring on 2 Feb 2017, after 35 years of service in the public sector. Mdm Low Khah Gek, Deputy Director-General of Education (Schools) and Director of Schools, Ministry of Education, will be appointed Director and CEO/ITE (Designate) with effect from 1 Jan 2017 and Director and CEO/ITE with effect from 2 Feb 2017.

Mdm Low Khah Gek

Mdm Low Khah Gek joined the Education Service in 1984. She has held many senior appointments, the latest being the Deputy Director-General of Education (Schools) and Director of Schools, during which she spearheaded initiatives such as the development of Applied Learning Programmes and Learning for Life Programmes, the implementation of Subject-Based Banding, and the matching of Industry and Community Partners to support schools. Mdm Low held broad leadership and management responsibilities over all Principals and Vice-Principals in MOE schools, working together with the Zonal Directors and Cluster Superintendents, and guiding the Schools Division team to deliver quality education for all students.

In her previous role as Director/Curriculum Planning and Development Division, Mdm Low led the review and development of various curricula at the primary, secondary and pre-university levels. She was also directly involved in the design of the curricula for Crest Secondary School, the first Specialised School for Normal Technical students.

Mdm Low was also Principal/Anderson Secondary School and Principal/Victoria Junior College.

Mr Bruce Poh

Mr Poh started his career as an engineer in Hewlett-Packard before joining the Singapore Economic Development Board in 1981. He helped set up Nanyang Polytechnic in 1992 and held various positions within the polytechnic. He was Deputy Principal of Nanyang Polytechnic before his appointment as Director and CEO/ITE in Feb 2007.

In the last 10 years, Mr Poh expanded the range of opportunities and programmes for ITE students, strengthened ITE's industry partnerships and international linkages, and enhanced organisational and staff capabilities.

Mr Poh is credited for his stewardship of the implementation of the "One ITE System, Three Colleges" education model introduced in 2005 to provide students with more choices and more opportunities for multi-disciplinary learning, as well as modern facilities and amenities to enhance the campus experience. Notably, Mr Poh oversaw the development of two out of the three ITE College campuses – ITE College West, which was completed in 2010, as well as ITE College Central, co-located with ITE Headquarters, which was completed in 2012.

Under Mr Poh's leadership, all three Colleges have learning facilities which simulate realistic work environments to provide authentic learning experiences for students. He also increased the number of courses from 54 in 2007 to 101 today, including three niche Technical Diplomas offered in partnership with institutions in Germany and France, vastly improving the options and variety of pathways available to students to pursue their interests.

Mr Poh also enhanced ITE's organisational capacity through two strategic five-year roadmaps – *ITE Innovate* (2010 – 2014) and *ITE Trailblazer* (2015 – 2019). These roadmaps have redefined technical education, and helped students acquire skills for careers.

Mr Bob Tan, Chairman/ITE, shared: “On behalf of the ITE Board of Governors, I wish to express our deep appreciation and thanks to Bruce for his outstanding leadership and contributions to level up Singapore’s career and technical education system, enhance the success and value of ITE students and graduates, and raise ITE’s quality and profile locally and globally. More importantly, his entrenchment of a caring culture among staff and students will remain a cornerstone of ITE education.”

Mr Tan added: “Having worked directly with students of diverse profiles and having developed, as well as spearheaded various new programmes, Mdm Low brings with her extensive experience and insights to benefit and impact students at ITE. The ITE Board of Governors warmly welcomes her as the new Director and CEO/ITE to further enhance the value of ITE education, and we wish her success in her new appointment.”

Minister for Education (Higher Education and Skills), Mr Ong Ye Kung, also expressed his appreciation for Mr Poh’s service. “Over the last decade, Mr Bruce Poh has been instrumental in driving key changes in ITE, with a focus on equipping students with skills for the workforce, in line with their interests and aptitude. This has led the public to view the ITE education model and its graduates in high regard. We look forward to working with Mdm Low Khah Gek and are confident that she will carry out her new role in ITE with the same level of commitment and dedication as she had done in schools and MOE Headquarters, and continue to build on the good work of Mr Poh.”

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