



The Ngee Ann Kongsi donates \$4.8 million to four polytechnics for students' participation in overseas innovation and entrepreneurship learning programmes

Singapore, 22 August 2025 – The Ngee Ann Kongsi donated \$4.8 million collectively to Singapore Polytechnic (SP), Temasek Polytechnic (TP), Nanyang Polytechnic (NYP) and Republic Polytechnic (RP) today. The gift will be channelled to the existing **Global Entrepreneurship Award (GEA)**, which was set up and funded by The Ngee Ann Kongsi in 2022, to support students from the four polytechnics to participate in overseas innovation and entrepreneurship learning programmes such as internships, student exchanges and global exposure trips. Ngee Ann Polytechnic (NP), which receives a separate block funding from The Ngee Ann Kongsi for its student development programmes—including NP's Global Entrepreneurial Internship Programme (GEIP)—is not included in this award.

Over four years starting from 2026, The Ngee Ann Kongsi will gift \$1.2 million to each of the four polytechnics to eligible poly students to embark on overseas innovation and entrepreneurship learning programmes. More than 2,000 students from all four polytechnics are expected to benefit from the donation.

This funding support by The Ngee Ann Kongsi is aligned with the Ministry of Education's 70:70 target, which aims for 70% of each polytechnic cohort to gain overseas exposure, of which 70% will be in ASEAN countries, China, or India. This initiative underscores the Singapore Government's commitment to equip students with the global perspectives and cross-cultural competencies to thrive in an increasingly interconnected world.

Mr Chia Chor Meng, President of The Ngee Ann Kongsi and Chairman of the Donation and Charity Sub-Committee, added, "The Ngee Ann Kongsi has gone beyond the Teochew community to support Singaporeans from all walks of life, with advancing education as one of our key priorities. We are proud to support this meaningful programme that gives students valuable overseas exposure to broaden their perspectives and build skills that are essential in today's interconnected world. It is deeply fulfilling to see our contributions open doors for young Singaporeans, and we remain committed to nurturing the next generation through our continued support for education."

Together with an earlier tranche of donations disbursed since 2022, The Ngee Ann Kongsi has in total pledged close to \$9 million in support of the GEA to date. Over the past three years, over 1,500 students were able to participate in overseas innovation and entrepreneurship learning programmes because of the partnership with The Ngee Ann Kongsi.

Please refer to **Annex A** for quotes from students who benefited from the Global Entrepreneurship Award (GEA).

– END –

Annex A: Quotes from students who have benefited from GEA

Singapore Polytechnic (SP)

“Learning eXpress (LeX) exposed me to new experiences, new friends and food, new stories and social issues. Through LeX, I gained a deeper insight into the current happenings in communities overseas. Through this life-changing experience, I realised I have a responsibility to influence change back home in Singapore; hence I took on the role as the Chairman of IM Volunteers Network SG from April 2023 till October 2024, whose mission is to inspire and champion youth volunteerism.”

Firas Hilman, SP Graduate (Class of 2025)
*Diploma in Engineering with Business,
LeX Programme, Makassar, Indonesia*

“Learning eXpress (LeX) has had a meaningful impact on me personally and professionally. This exchange allowed me to form meaningful friendships with people from different backgrounds. We shared out-of-classroom experiences like language learning and staying with host families during a community homestay. These moments helped us bond and grow together beyond the typical academic setting.”

Sim Ren Ci, SP Graduate (Class of 2025)
*Diploma in Applied Chemistry
LeX Programme, Bandung Indonesia, in partnership with
Institut Teknologi Bandung, Indonesia*

Temasek Polytechnic (TP)

“The study trip to Vietnam was a transformative experience that went beyond travel, offering practical learning and meaningful cross-cultural exchange. Visits to government bodies and innovation hubs revealed how Vietnam supports entrepreneurship, and conversations with local and Singaporean startups deepened my understanding. Inspired by entrepreneurs who emphasised learning through discovery over perfection, I began to see startups as purpose-driven instead of profit-driven. This perspective led me to co-found ‘Overhaul’ in early 2024—a product testing platform that helps creators gather targeted feedback from selected user groups.”

Chai Chang Yao, TP Current Student
*Co-founder of Overhaul
Diploma in Business,
Overseas Study Trip (OST) to Hanoi & Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam*

Note: Their efforts were recognised in October 2024, when Overhaul was awarded the prestigious Ngee Ann Kongsi - SUSS Impact Grant, valued at \$25,000.

“The Global Entrepreneurship Immersion Programme (GEIP) gave me a unique global view of how startups operate, shaped by local markets, cultures, and business norms. This exposure broadened my understanding of entrepreneurship, challenged my assumptions, and inspired more creative, strategic thinking. GEIP didn’t just expand my perspective; it reshaped my entrepreneurial mindset.”

Isaac Loh Jun Hong, TP Graduate (Class of 2025)
*Diploma in Business
Internship at a human resource tech start-up in Vietnam*

Nanyang Polytechnic (NYP)

“The hands-on work experience at Rohde & Schwarz enabled me to put the skills and knowledge I had learned in school into practice, and the research projects I was involved in gave me a broader understanding and appreciation for precision engineering. Learning from industry experts and building international connections through company tours has been invaluable, providing me with a strong foundation for my future career.”

Gan Mei Qi, NYP Graduate (Class of 2024)

Diploma in Advanced & Digital Manufacturing

Overseas internship at Rohde & Schwarz GMBH & Co KG, Germany

“My internship at Trident College of Information Technology was a transformative experience that allowed me to apply my knowledge, develop new skills, and make meaningful contributions. It strengthened my understanding of the thriving game industry in Japan, and I am excited to leverage these experiences to pursue further opportunities in the game industry.”

Lye Guan Yu, NYP Graduate (Class of 2024)

Diploma in Digital Game Art & Design

Overseas internship at The Trident College of Information Technology, Japan

Republic Polytechnic (RP)

“Being involved in cross-border projects, such as assisting Thailand start-ups, has sparked a strong interest in me to learn about international business development. My time at Innolab Asia was a pivotal chapter in my life. It challenged me to grow, exposed me to new environments, and gave me the confidence to pursue ambitious career goals. Interning overseas wasn't just about gaining work experience, it was about learning how to adapt, connect, and thrive in a globalised world. These lessons will undoubtedly shape me into the best version of myself.”

Iman Danish bin Ismail, RP Graduate (Class of 2025)

Diploma in Industrial & Operations Management

Overseas Internship at Innolab Asia, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

“Reflecting on the entirety of my internship journey at Akila, my experiences have profoundly reshaped my understanding of the professional world and my role within it. The opportunity to immerse myself in a different culture while engaging with cutting-edge technological projects has not only enriched my technical acumen but also broadened my cultural perspectives.”

Faith Teo Hwee Ru, RP Graduate (Class of 2024)

Diploma in Financial Technology

Overseas Internship at Akila, Shanghai, China

For media queries

APRW for The Ngee Ann Kongsi

Shermin Ng
Senior Associate
APRW
+65 8418 8297
shermin@aprw.asia

David Tang
Public Relations Associate
APRW
+65 9088 6072
david@aprw.asia

**Republic Polytechnic
Office of Corporate Communications**

P.Bala
+65 9365 4300
p_bala@rp.edu.sg

Nanyang Polytechnic

Felicia Ting
Communication & Outreach
+65 8128 9463
felicia_ting@nyp.edu.sg

Singapore Polytechnic

Michelle Oh
+65 9188 7455
michelle_oh@sp.edu.sg

Temasek Polytechnic

Boo Jiun Yi
Ninemer Communications for Temasek
Polytechnic
+65 92993662
boojiunyi@ninemer.com

About The Ngee Ann Kongsi

The Ngee Ann Kongsi is a non-profit Teochew philanthropic organisation focused on educational, cultural, and charitable activities in Singapore, while placing a deep emphasis on preserving the Teochew heritage. The organisation is an active advocate in education which funds scholarships for high-performing students and study awards to disadvantaged students. It was founded in or about 1845 by Mr Seah Eu Chin and a group of Teochew merchants to provide welfare services for the Teochew immigrants and was formally incorporated under the Ngee Ann Kongsi (Incorporation) Ordinance in 1933.

About Singapore Polytechnic (SP)

Established in 1954, Singapore Polytechnic (SP) is Singapore's first polytechnic. It has 10 schools that offer 30 full-time diploma courses and four common entry programmes for more than 12,800 students. Pedagogical innovation is foremost at SP. We have implemented institution-wide Flipped Learning and are at the forefront of using Analytics in Education. SP also leads the global CDIO (Conceive-Design-Implement-Operate) Collaborative in the region. By ensuring our curriculum is just in time with industry developments, we can offer a solution-driven internship programme to our industry partners.

At SP, we are committed to nurturing self-directed, versatile graduates who are also imbued with sound values so that they can be life ready, work ready, world ready, and be of service to industry and society. We have more than 240,000 graduates; among them are successful entrepreneurs, top executives in multi-national and public-listed corporations, industry leaders and professionals across various industries, and leaders in government.

SP clinched the inaugural ASEAN People's Award in 2015 for contributing to the region's community-building efforts. We are also the first polytechnic to be awarded the President's Award for the Environment in 2010, the President's Social Service Award in 2011, and the President's Award for Teachers in 2017, 2018, 2020, 2023 and 2024.

Follow SP on [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#) @SingaporePolytechnic and [Instagram](#) and [TikTok](#) at @SingaporePoly.

About Temasek Polytechnic (TP)

Established in 1990, TP is one of the leading institutions of higher learning in Singapore. Currently, it offers [36 full-time diploma courses](#) in the areas of applied science, business, design, engineering, humanities & social sciences and informatics & IT. It also offers over [40 part-time courses](#), up to specialist diploma level. TP students undergo a holistic learning system that combines hands-on experience, character education and relevant life skills, in an enriching learning environment.

The Polytechnic has also infused global realities into its programmes and developed a mindset on campus that embraces socio-cultural diversity. Believing in the possibilities of tomorrow, Temasek Polytechnic is committed to co-creating a better world with its stakeholders by nurturing the next generation of values-centred leaders, lifelong learners and future-oriented creators. For more information, please visit www.tp.edu.sg.

About Nanyang Polytechnic (NYP)

Established as an institution of higher learning in 1992, Nanyang Polytechnic's (NYP) academic schools offer quality education and training through 39 full-time diploma courses and common entry programmes. NYP also has a full suite of Continuing Education and Training (CET) options for lifelong learning, ranging from specialist and advanced diplomas to SkillsFuture-supported modules and courses.

NYP's Asian Culinary Institute Singapore and the Singapore Institute of Retail Studies are CET institutes set up in partnership with SkillsFuture Singapore (SSG) to champion and transform Singapore's F&B and retail sectors, respectively. A third NYP CET institute - the National Centre of Excellence for Workplace Learning - also set up in collaboration with SSG, will spearhead the development of progressive workplace learning strategies and programmes for companies here.

For more information, please visit www.nyp.edu.sg.

About Republic Polytechnic

Established in 2002, Republic Polytechnic (RP) is Singapore's youngest polytechnic. RP offers over 40 full-time courses across diverse fields, including Applied Science, Business, Engineering, Hospitality, Infocomm, Sports and Health, and Technology for Arts, Media and Design. Through its "Becoming Greater Me" framework, RP endeavours to spark joy in learning by helping students discover their purpose and aligning their goals and passions with both academic and life pursuits.

RP adopts effective learner-centred pedagogies to equip students with a wide range of skills needed to thrive in an ever-evolving world. The polytechnic envisions its graduates as Articulate Self-Starters, Passionate Community Builders, and Purposeful Game-Changers. Additionally, RP's Academy for Continuing Education offers a comprehensive suite of lifelong learning programmes, providing graduates and adult learners with upskilling opportunities.

For more information, visit www.rp.edu.sg and follow RP on [LinkedIn](#).