Being in a musical has always been on the top of my to-do list and when this opportunity came my way, I had to say yes! "Crunch Time!" is an original musical written specially for TP’s 25th anniversary, with an original script and songs created by, and the stage set designed by students. The cast is made up of students, staff and alumni — all of us went through close to five months of preparation and we loved every part of it. What came out was a beautiful production and a bonded team — it was a TP family affair! As much as we enjoyed every bit of the musical, even all the way to the curtain call, we were apprehensive of the audience response. Would they like it? Would they laugh at the jokes, cry during the sad moments, or would the songs bring smiles to their faces? We would only know when the curtains go up.

On 4 November, all of us held our breaths as we stood in position waiting for the ‘live’ band music to cue the curtains open. Soon enough, as the story unfolded, waves of laughter were heard. People laughed at points in the story where we had expected — and even at points we did not expect. During the sad scenes, sniffing could be heard and there was such a connection with the audience. Many were hanging on to the edge of their seats, eager to know what was going to happen in the following scene. The audience loved the songs that were written by the students and we couldn’t be any prouder singing them!
It has been an unforgettable and eye-opening experience for me being a cast member in “Crunch Time!” – TP’s 25th anniversary musical. We were guided by the Artistic Director and theatre professional, Mr Sonny Lim, who transformed us from totally inexperienced performers to being vibrant stage personalities. These are lessons that will be useful for any future performances! The time and effort spent in this musical really paid off and I could not ask for a better outcome. The only unfortunate thing is... Why can’t we do more musicals?! Hehe!

Tan Jing Wen Victor
Diploma In Marketing, Class of 2015

THE TEMASEK REUNION 2015
What better way to round off a celebratory Silver Jubilee year of exciting, vibrant activities and events, than to have an alumni get-together back in the campus? Yes, that was exactly what we did on 11 Dec as alumni of different eras and generations gathered here on a cool, relaxing Friday evening.

Clearly, anticipation was in the air as our alumni had been teeing up this reunion in the weeks leading to the event. The “Indian chiefs” amongst the various groups of graduates were energetically rounding up old friends and getting them to come back.

So, when the day came, many arrived early and were pleasantly greeted with sincere hi-fives and firm handshakes from their good old TP buddies and staff advisors. The warmth of their friendship evidently filled the air with hearty conversations and generous laughter. Some of them have not seen each other for ages. Others could have kept in touch, but had not stepped back into TP’s campus for a long time. To them, the presence of new buildings and facilities, including the McDonalds, Subway and Toast Box outlets, drew some rather amused oohs and ahhs. Nice.

The evening lived up to its theme — Good Ol’ Times! We had a carefully curated programme aimed to reignite that TP spirit in our old boys and girls. The alumni were taken on a journey of fun and games in the entertainment segments late into the night. Everyone celebrated their old memories by taking nostalgic quizzes, looking at a gallery of old TP photos and singing the TP song! Of course, the organisers also made sure that there was always something new to excite them. Incidentally, this group of alumni were privileged to be the first to get a glimpse of the new upcoming Alumni Lounge at the refurbished Blk 30A, Student & Alumni Hub.

In short, the Temasek Reunion was a wonderful gathering of good old friends who share a common love for something — their beloved alma mater, TP!

KEEP IN TOUCH!

Stay connected to TP by liking our Facebook Page or follow us on Instagram. Apply for the Alumni Membership Card. Find out what the alumni card entitles you to by visiting www.tp.edu.sg/alumni/services-and-privileges today!

Remember to update your particulars with us and keep yourself connected to TP! Simply email us at alumni@tp.edu.sg.

STOP PRESS! TP ALUMNI CAPTURED IN LATEST SG50 BOOK

Eight of our alumni are featured in a recently published SG50 book entitled “A Nation Of Skilled Talents” which tells of technical education in Singapore. They are Dr Samuel Gan (Biotechnology, 2001), Dr Rebecca Lim (Biotechnology, 2000), Lin Xuali (Logistics & Operations Management, 2004), Randy Ang (Visual Communication, 1999), Royston Tan (Visual Communication, 1997), Edwin Yeo (Mechatronics, 2000), Rhoda Renu Ganggadaran (Early Childhood Studies, 2013), and Matthias Yeo (Information Technology, 1999), photos below in order of mention.
Besides capturing inspiring stories about the success of alumni who took the ITE and polytechnic routes, the book presents interesting facts, brief history and course overview of these featured institutes of technical education. The authors, Jonathan Loh Yulin Han and Chadi El Farraan, both scientists in the biomedical field at the National University of Singapore, purposed to enlighten the public of the importance of a hands-on and technical education that helps to build a skill-ready workforce in Singapore’s.

The book launch, which involved presentation of the book to alumni featured in the pages, was held on the morning of 30 December 2015 at the “Future of Us” exhibition hall located within Gardens By The Bay, graced by Acting Minister for Education, Mr Ong Ye Kung.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP – STIR UP THE CHEF WITHIN!

On 14 November, under the instruction of Chef Roger Low from the School of Applied Science’s Baking & Culinary Science (BCS) diploma, 20 TP alumni came back to TP and learnt the techniques and tips for two of the 25 Singapore hawker classics in the TP25 Cookbook – Steamed Chicken Rice and Chendol.

Stepping into our BCS kitchens for the first time and clad in aprons and hair nets, the eager participants had hands-on experience in transforming raw ingredients and successfully plated the fat and succulent chickens and the fragrant rice, complete with garnishes and chill sauce for all present.

While waiting for the chicken and rice to be cooked, three of the BCS students presented the chendol-making demonstration, incorporating the science behind the making of the chendol jelly.
A simple quiz was administered with one winner picked from among those who gave correct answers. The prize was an autographed cookbook, which contained the other 23 recipes decoded by our BCS chefs, led by Section Head, Chef Randy Chow. Incidentally, Chef Randy was just featured in the Staff Feature segment of our previous eNews issue.

The network lunch that followed was much awaited as everyone came together and tasted the fruit of their labour. What a delightful Saturday to #learnnewthingeveryday!

What would y’all like to learn next?

(The TP25 Cookbook "Singapore Hawker Classics Unveiled: Decoding 25 Favourite Dishes" is available for sale at major book stores at S$34, but purchase it in TP and you get a discounted price of S$28)

TP ENTREPRENEURS REUNION & NETWORKING NIGHT

Networking is crucial for all entrepreneurs to enable them to connect, explore new business opportunities and to collaborate. It is with this in mind that TP Entrepreneurship Centre has started organising annual networking sessions for TP entrepreneurs since 2013.

On 16 Oct 2015, it was a REUNION for many TP alumni, comprising mostly entrepreneurs and business leaders held at TP Staff Lounge. It might seem that some were strangers at first but soon, they were all happily chatting up. It was an evening that was filled with excitement, interactions, and endless conversations with exchanges of contacts. Entrepreneurs like David Cheang (Quality Engineering, 1997), David Wee (Business, 2003), Belinda Ang (Interactive Media Design, 2002), Kingsley Peh (Info-Communications, 2008) and Jane Seet (Biomedical Informatics & Engineering, 2005) had the opportunity to share some highlights of their entrepreneurship journey.

We are heartened to see established entrepreneurs offering help to mentor the newbies. All this is done in the spirit of entrepreneurship to promote an inclusive eco-system and most importantly, to stay connected.
The Temasek Tourism Academy (TTA), situated away from the hustle and bustle of the campus and right next to the scenic Bedok Reservoir, exudes an aura of warmth and serenity that is ideal for student learning and alumni gatherings.

The TTA has been the home for Diploma in Hospitality & Tourism and Diploma in Leisure & Events Management for less than 1.5 years, and officially started lessons at the facilities only in April 2015/2016 semester. It comprises a hotel lobby, hospitality learning suite, tourism technology rooms, student clubhouse, event hall, event management layout room and event management ideation rooms, among others.

The academy intensifies the level of experiential and realistic training for students from these diplomas by collaborating with key industry partners, among whom are our illustrious alumni, to ensure that training is real, relevant and rewarding, culminating in a learning node that is at the forefront of tourism and leisure education.

ALUMNI FEATURE

ADLER POH

Adler is one of the few alumni featured in TPTV's latest YouTube series, “Life Starts Here”. In the video, he shared about how TP’s Hospitality & Tourism Management (HTM) diploma programme, the diploma’s connection with esteemed internship companies and the quality lecturers gave him invaluable knowledge and experience in shaping him to who he is today as a hotelier. He appreciates that even in his entrepreneur endeavour, he could constantly get help from lecturers. Although Adler felt like he was a misfit among his younger year one cohort, he took pride in the fact that TP has the best lecturers in the field and that our HTM students are well-sought after in the hospitality industry. In fact, his management staff are HTM alumni.

At a recent visit to his Adler Hostel along South Bridge Road, Adler shared with us that he knew what he wanted to do since primary six. He knew his results were not great but he knew the kind of Secondary
School he wanted to get into to pull him through. When he was doing his normal tech programme in ACS, he was appointed as one of the Deputy Head Prefects. He was encouraged by his teacher to take up 'O' levels and was given a chance to choose what he wanted to study. After which he did his own research and picked TP HTM as the obvious choice, wanting only the best.

Mr Goh Hock Quee was the F&B module lecturer that Adler fondly remembers. He looked up to Mr Goh's endearing passion for quality service, his old school hospitality which he identified based on influence by his own dad who served at Singapore Airlines. He admires Mr Goh from a far and is still a fan even after all these years.

The chat at the lobby of his recently expanded hostel revealed this 28-year old entrepreneur as a very focused and meticulous young man. After graduating from TP in 2009, he went on a trip backpacking around Europe and stays at hostels to get ideas on how he wants his own to be. After National Service, he got into part-time modeling with the hope to build his network. He hand-picked all this furnishings at his luxurious hostel to ensure his guests get the Adler experience.

It is impressive that just three years after graduating from TP, Adler has opened Adler Hostel and expanded his business just two years later.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

UPCOMING EVENT – PULL THE RIGHT STRINGS @ TP OPPORTUNITY FAIR 2016

Pull the right strings
Tie up with the right employers and universities at the Opportunity Fair

TP Opportunity Fair 2016 is an annual campus-wide career and further education fair organised by TP’s Career & Education Services Centre (CESC).

This year, 81 Exhibitors will be presenting their employment, further education, scholarship and internship offerings to our students and alumni.

Details of the Fair & Talks are now available at http://www.tp.edu.sg/tpof
Register NOW before the closing date on 31 January 2016.

Interested to find out more about job opportunities or further education?
To get in touch with CESC, call 6780-6480 or email cesc@tp.edu.sg
Dr Tan, who prefers to be addressed by his first name among his colleagues and even students, was only into his fourth year at Temasek Polytechnic when he was awarded the Teaching Excellence Award by Temasek Polytechnic in 2012. A lecturer noted for being an inspirational influence to the students he taught, he was known for his simple and enjoyable lessons, warmly remembered to be a fun and lively person, and one who helps students understand the theory by sometimes sharing his personal stories.

He would purposefully find the right illustrations, the exact intended words to deliver his lessons. Wah Pheow knew that such a deliberate effort is needed to help his students learn in the most efficient way. And that he knows very well because of his field of study, which is Cognitive Psychology – a study of how people process information, learn and make decisions, simply put.

On this note, it is interesting to point out that Wah Pheow, who is currently the Section Head for the Diploma in Psychology Studies in the School of Humanities & Social Sciences (HSS), was actually on route to being a Chinese teacher when he enrolled into NUS. Up till his first semester in Uni, Wah Pheow was taking his major in Chinese Studies. However, an elective module he took made him change his path after less than six months into his intended degree. Since then, there was no turning back and he went on to complete his PhD in Cognitive Psychology while freelancing as a Chinese translator and writer to support his studies. In 2009, Wah Pheow was recruited by his friend (the current Course Manager) to join the diploma. At that time, the diploma was in its infancy and he had a hand in helping to develop and shape the curricula.

Don’t expect to get it easy from this lecturer. In fact, he would jokingly threaten his students that if they do not behave, he would start giving his lessons in Chinese. But any students under his care can be assured that they will walk out at the end of his class grasping beyond what they can get out of the textbook. This is because, besides being a strong advocate in using well-researched methods to structure his lessons and to set his assessments so as to allow his students to get the best out of his classes, Wah Pheow believes that having the desire to be a positive influence on his students’ life is the other equally important factor to being an effective educator. With the tools he uses in his teaching, his delivery is based on this need to bring about positive change to his students – in the way they behave, their attitude and values.
One of the greatest satisfactions Wah Pheow gets from working with his students, is to know that they found value in what they learnt in TP and to see them starting to contribute back to the society. So it is not surprising that Wah Pheow's interaction with his students would go beyond the classroom, and beyond the four "walls" of the campus when they graduate.

**QUIZ TIME!**

Congratulations to last issue’s winner: Nur Azizah Bte Zainal, NRIC: SXXX5087J. The title of our TP25 Anniversary Musical production is Crunch Time!

What hawker dishes did TP alumni participants at the Back-To-School Personal Development – “Stir Up The Chef Within!” workshop learn to make?

1. Laksa & Bubor Cha Cha
2. Chicken Rice & Chendol
3. Fish Head Curry & Ondeh Ondeh

Email us your answers at alumni@tp.edu.sg by 8 February 2016 and a lucky winner will walk away with a mystery prize!