



Education deans Professors Julie Underwood, Jane Gaskell, Cho Young Dal, Lee Sing Kong, Field Rickards, Zeng Xiaodong (representing Zhang Binxian), Lars-Henrik Schmidt & Geoff Whitty ink their alliance for the furtherance of teacher education



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Education Deans Form Worldwide Alliance

By Public, International & Alumni Relations

Eight founding members of a new international alliance, representing a number of the world's leading education institutes, gathered at NIE on 20 and 21 August 2007 to endorse a memorandum of understanding formalising their partnership. They were hosted by NIE Director Prof Lee Sing Kong and inaugural chair of the alliance during their stay in Singapore.

This initiative brings a new depth to international cooperation among member institutions, each recognised for the quality of its educational research. The alliance acts as a think tank to influence the sector globally, drawing together existing expertise and research to generate ideas, identify trends and serve as a collective voice on educational matters. In doing so, it aims to influence governments, international agencies, funding bodies and the public at large to enhance the profile and quality of education internationally.

Its initial priority is to examine pressing issues of teacher education, currently a major concern throughout the world.

During the two-day meeting, the members also discussed their plans with Education Minister Tharman Shanmugaratnam (above, centre), Education Minister of State Rear-Admiral (NS) Lui Tuck Yew and Education Permanent Secretary Mrs Tan Ching Yee. Mrs Tan is also Chairperson of the NIE Council.

Founding Members of the International Alliance of Leading Education Institutes

Founding members of the alliance are:

- Prof Lars-Henrik Schmidt, Dean, Danish School of Education, University of Aarhus, Denmark
- Prof Zhang Binxian, Dean, Faculty of Education, Beijing Normal University, People's Republic of China

- Prof Geoff Whitty, Director, Institute of Education, University of London, UK (below, second from right)
- Prof Field Rickards, Dean, Faculty of Education, University of Melbourne, Australia (below, right)
- Prof Cho Young Dal, Dean, College of Education, Seoul National University, Korea
- Prof Jane Gaskell, Dean, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto, Canada
- Prof Julie Underwood, Dean, School of Education, University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA
- Prof Lee Sing Kong, Director, NIE, Singapore



Members of the alliance will next meet in Copenhagen, Denmark in August 2008 under the chairmanship of the Danish School of Education.

Senior NIE Staff Helms Emirates College for Advanced Education

By Public, International & Alumni Relations



Vice-Chancellor of Emirates College for Advanced Education Prof Quek Jin Jong (second from right) with his senior colleagues (from left) Prof Pieter Kachelhoffer, Dean of Graduate Programmes, Prof Colin MacMullin, Dean, Academic & Dr Paul Corcoran, Director of Corporate Services

The Emirate of Abu Dhabi has established the Emirates College for Advanced Education (ECAE) to be a new world class institution and regional leader in teacher preparation, educational research and school development.

Located in Abu Dhabi, the focus of ECAE is to provide best practice, state-of-the-art teacher training and facilities to residents of the emirate. The college utilises worldwide expertise together with valuable local input to ensure instruction is of the highest quality. This purpose-built institution will provide teacher preparation, educational research and leadership development to UAE nationals, using a mix of local and international talents and curriculum. New buildings incorporating top-notch facilities have been designed to initially accommodate a total enrolment of 4,000 full- and part-time students.

NIE was pivotal in the founding of ECAE after signing a contract with the Abu Dhabi Education Council (ADEC) in October 2006 on the provision of related services culminating in the setup of the college. Academic Advisor Prof S Gopinathan (Vice Dean (Policy), Centre for Research in Pedagogy and Practice) and a team of NIE academics undertook an extended period of consultancy delving into the proposed programmes and curriculum as well as facilitated aspects of manpower recruitment.

Since May 2006, Assoc Prof Steven Tan (Associate Dean, Professional Development) has been Head of Planning Office, ADEC, responsible for setting up all aspects of the college. Prior to the college being fully operational, Prof Gopinathan and he managed the professional development programmes where more than 1,000 teachers and school leaders were trained.

Led by its Vice-Chancellor Prof Quek Jin Jong since April 2007, the college is to play a key role in the modernisation of school education in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and throughout the Middle East by preparing a new generation of graduate teachers and educational leaders. Prof Quek is on secondment from NIE as its Principal Officer.

Reporting to ECAE's Board of Trustees, the Vice-Chancellor has overall responsibility for the development of academic and research programmes, governance, management and corporate services of the new college. Prof Quek is supported by a team of senior management comprising Prof Colin MacMullin, Dean, Academic, Prof Pieter Kachelhoffer, Dean of Graduate Programmes and Dr Paul Corcoran, Director of Corporate Services.

Prof Quek shares his aspirations for the college, "We enrolled our first cohort of 320 students into a vibrant and exciting educational institution of world class standards on 2 September 2007. Another group of about 150 Post Graduate Diploma in Education student teachers will start on 21 October 2007. Guided by our vision of "Excellence in Teacher Education" and our mission to become a premier centre for teacher education in the Gulf region, we hope to engage our students in a new global learning environment, with a commitment to help them succeed and reach their career goals."

OFFERINGS

Bachelor of Education (for UAE Nationals only)

This four-year degree programme prepares graduating high school students to teach in grades K-5, specialising in English, Mathematics and Science.

Post Graduate Diploma in Education (for UAE Nationals only)

This one-year programme equips qualified university graduates with the essential skills and knowledge to teach in grades 6-9, specialising in English, Mathematics and Science.

The programme is offered on a full- and part-time basis.

Professional Development Courses

The professional development courses are designed to provide school practitioners with the latest development in education studies and content upgrading in specific subject areas. The courses are structured to equip the different levels of educators with essential skills and knowledge for advancement in a challenging and satisfying career.

First EdD Cohort Embarks on Dual Programme

By Assoc Prof Anneliese Kramer-Dahl, Sub Dean, Doctor in Education Programme



On 13 August 2007, 10 educational professionals from a range of institutions gathered in NIE for their first course in the inaugural Doctor in Education (EdD) Dual Award programme. The programme is a result of a collaborative agreement made in August 2006 between NIE and the Institute of Education (IoE), University of London. This professional qualification is targeted at experienced practitioners who intend to enhance their professional expertise further with skills in research, evaluation and reflection on practice.

Selected from over 30 applicants, this pioneer batch of students (above, with NIE Director Prof Lee Sing Kong in blue shirt and staff of Policy and Leadership Studies Academic Group) brings together senior administrators and academics from a wide range of professional fields and organisations. Two of the participants are from the Philippines. Their pioneer status was duely celebrated through a welcome ceremony with Graduate Programmes and Research staff, course coordinators, appointed mentors to the students, as well as a visit by NIE Director Prof Lee Sing Kong.

The EdD programme combines the strengths and diverse educational knowledge and perspectives of two internationally recognised institutions – NIE and IoE. In the first three years at NIE (home institution), candidates will have to complete the four required courses and the institution-focused study, which is a

practitioner-focused independent study that identifies and solves a “field-based” problem. In their fourth and final year, they will transfer to London to participate in the research weeks there and complete their thesis.

The first course, ‘Professionalism in Education’, was held over six days and coordinated by Asst Prof Jude Chua and Asst Prof Charlene Tan (Policy and Leadership Studies). As a foundation course, candidates were exposed to a contextual interrogation of theoretical perspectives and relevant literature on the nature and meaning of professionalism in educational settings and specific issues associated with professionalism within the Asia Pacific region. The course also tapped on the expertise of several colleagues from the Centre for Research in Pedagogy and Practice, Prof Dennis McInerney, Prof S Gopinathan and Assoc Prof James Albright, as well as colleagues from the National University of Singapore and Singapore Management University. Educational practitioners elsewhere in Singapore were also invited to its final panel discussion.

IoE Director Prof Geoff Whitty and International Development Officer Mr Christopher Price met the participants on 21 August 2007 (see story on page 3) during their recent stopover in Singapore. The programme commences in July each year. Application information can be found on www.nie.edu.sg/gpr/edd.htm.

Nation Bestows Honours on NIE Staff

By Public, International & Alumni Relations

The Singapore National Day Awards are a means of recognising various forms of merit and service to the nation. Among the 3,822 recipients in 21 award categories, 34 of Nanyang Technological University's faculty

and staff have been bestowed the National Day Honours 2007 by the President of Singapore. The honours are in recognition of their contributions to education in Singapore and their commitment to the university. Recipients from NIE are:

The Public Administration Medal (Gold) (Bar)

Prof Leo Tan
Natural Sciences and Science Education

The Public Administration Medal (Bronze)

Assoc Prof Angela Wong
Associate Dean, Practicum and School Matters
Foundation Programmes Office

Assoc Prof Hadijah Bte Rahmat
Asian Languages and Cultures

The Long Service Medal

Mdm Faridah Bte Taib
English Language and Literature

Mr Cheong Kok Hua
Learning Sciences and Technologies

Mdm Vasanthi d/o Marimuthu
Physical Education and Sports Science

Mr Tay Kok Jin
Visual and Performing Arts

Senior Fellow Commended for Scouting Role

By Public, International & Alumni Relations

The Gerakan Pramuka (Indonesia Scout Association) awarded the Citation Medal (Lencana Melati) 2007 to Mr Nicholas Tang (Senior Fellow, Centre for Research in Pedagogy and Practice) (right) on 14 August 2007, in recognition of his services to the Scout movement. This award is the second that Mr Tang has received from an ASEAN country this year. In April 2007, Crown Prince Maha Vajiralongkorn of Thailand, on behalf of the Thai King, presented the First Class Award to Mr Tang.



Mr Tang has been Chief Commissioner of the Singapore Scout Association since 2001. As Chief Commissioner, Mr Tang is responsible for the quality of the programmes offered and the management of the association. He is also a member of the Governance Review Task Force of the World Organisation of Scout Movement.

Mr Tang started scouting in secondary school and received the President's Scout Award in 1966. He continued with scouting while he was in the university and then became the scoutmaster of his old scout unit when he returned to teach in his alma mater. "As a young person, I found the scouting activities to be exciting, challenging and fun, and only realised when I was much older that these activities had shaped much of my values and attributes. Scouting is as relevant today as when the movement started a century ago. Scouting is a values-based non-formal education system and values will never go out of fashion," shares Mr Tang on the modern-day relevance of scouting.

From its modest beginnings in 1910 of about 60 members to 11,000 scouts today, the first troop in Singapore was based in the Young Men's Christian Association with members from schools like Raffles Institution and St Andrew's School. Today, 217 schools offer scouting as a co-curricular activity and the Singapore Scout Association has, over the last few years, formed partnerships with other organisations and government agencies to reach out to more young people.

Assistant Professor Appointed Fellow of Prestigious Seminar

By Public, International & Alumni Relations

Assst Prof Jude Chua (Policy and Leadership Studies) (right) has been appointed a Fellow of the prestigious Salzburg Global Seminar at Schloss Leopoldskron, to be held from 1 to 6 December 2007. The competitive appointment, which is accompanied by a grant, is for Session 449 entitled *Salzburg Young Leaders Summit: Global Scenarios and Strategies for 2030*. Together with 59 other Fellows and exceptional emerging young leaders, he will be working with a panel that includes Dr Jairam Reddy (Director of the United Nations University, International Leadership Institute), Dr Madeleine Albright (Chair, Council of Women World Leaders and former United States Secretary of State) and Dr Ismail Serageldin (Director, Library of Alexandria, Egypt, former Vice President for Environmentally and Socially Sustainable Development and for Special Programs, World Bank).

Together, they will identify, discuss and rank the major driving forces of the next two decades, taking into account identified probabilities and acknowledged uncertainties. With a set of possible futures in hand, the leaders will then consider desirable scenarios for year 2030 and identify strategies that need to be implemented in the next few years in order to move the world in the desired direction.



Cornell Fellowship for English Language Academic

By Assoc Prof Christine Goh, English Language & Literature

Assoc Prof C J Wee Wan-ling (English Language and Literature) has taken up a prestigious Visiting Fellowship at Cornell University's Society for the Humanities for a year. One of the first humanities institutes in North America, the society brings together distinguished Visiting Fellows and Faculty Fellows each year for research on an interdisciplinary theme.

Working on this year's theme, *Improvisation*, Assoc Prof Wee will examine the 'improvised' emergence of experimental and contemporary art forms in theatre, the visual arts, literature and independent films in Singapore during the 1980s and 1990s. He will set these home-grown arts developments within the larger context of Southeast and East Asian cultural developments. Two of the artists he is examining – visual artist Tang Da Wu, a Fukuoka Cultural Prize winner, and the late theatre doyen, Kuo Pao Kun – have had affiliations with NIE in adjunct teaching capacities. In addition to doing research, Assoc Prof Wee is also offering a 14-week experimental, innovative seminar to a class of Cornell students. Entitled *Imagining Contemporary Asia in High and Mass Cultural Production*, the seminar is based on his research project

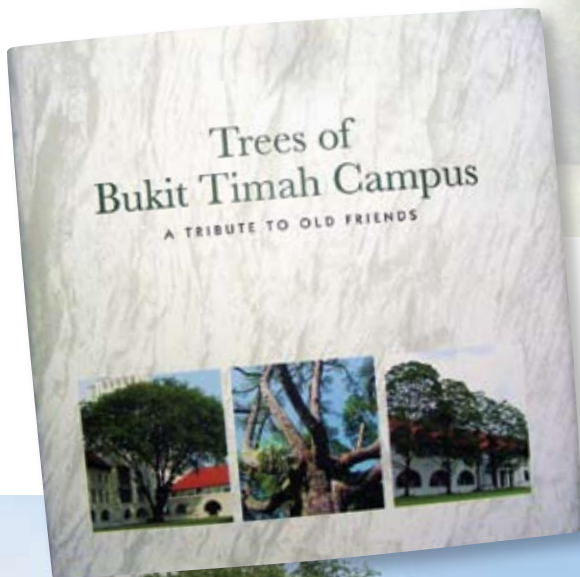
Creating Contemporary Asian Art: Late Modernisation, Cultural Production, Singapore.

Assoc Prof Wee, who received his doctorate from the University of Chicago, previously held a Visiting Fellowship in 2006 at the Australian National University's Humanities Research Centre. He was also an Honorary Visiting Fellow at the Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, Delhi, India, in 1993. His new book, *The Asian Modern: Culture, Capitalist Development, Singapore* is now in press. His earlier book was entitled *Culture, Empire, and the Question of Being Modern* (2003).

Assoc Prof Wee's work on culture and the arts which earns him international recognition has also been invaluable to NIE's professional development courses for teachers ('Singapore Literature', 'The Essentials of Teaching Civics and Moral Education' and 'Culture and Knowledge Construction for Knowledge and Inquiry'). His appointment at Cornell University, therefore, not only highlights the growth and vibrancy of Singapore arts and culture on the global stage but also contributes to the present direction in Singapore's education which values creativity and interdisciplinary work.

Tree Memories

By Assoc Prof Vilma D'Rozario, Sub Dean, Student Development & Liaison, Foundation Programmes



Staff, who have worked at NIE for at least seven years, would have had some fond memories of the institute's former campus at 469 Bukit Timah Road (below).

A book has just been published celebrating the trees of Bukit Timah Campus (BTC). This book seeks to record the memories of the campus as remembered through its trees and to preserve its natural heritage for future generations. Written and edited by people who love the trees at BTC, the book describes 41 species of trees on campus, complete with maps for a self-guided tour of the trees. The book also contains the precious "tree memories" of distinguished former staff and students of the campus, including memories penned by NIE Director Prof Lee Sing Kong, his predecessor Prof Leo Tan, other current and former colleagues. Priceless old photographs of the campus and its trees taken by NIE's photographer, Mr William Oh, also grace the pages of the book.

The book, which was published by the National University of Singapore and Nature Society (Singapore), is being sold at S\$30.00 to raise funds for education outreach and conservation projects of the society. If you would like to purchase a copy, please contact Assoc Prof Vilma D'Rozario at email: vilma.drozario@nie.edu.sg.

Spatial Planning for a Sustainable Singapore

Edited by Assoc Prof Wong Tai Chee, Humanities & Social Studies Education, NIE, Assoc Prof Belinda Yuen, National University of Singapore & Prof Charles Goldblum, University of Paris

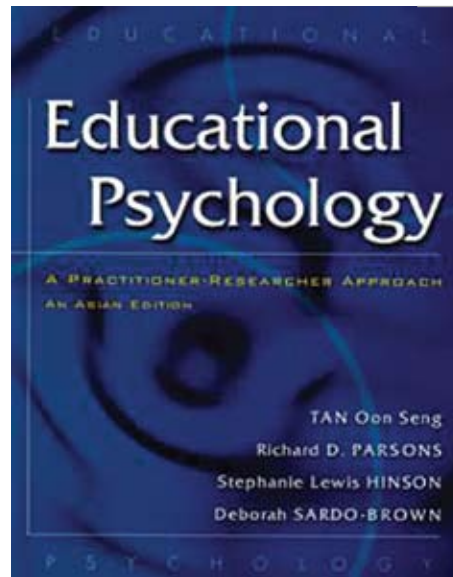
Due for publication by Springer (Dordrecht) in collaboration with the Singapore Institute of Planners in December 2007, this book analyses and provides an insight to Singapore's planning system and practices associated with urban sustainable development. It takes a reflective approach in reviewing the direction, impact and significance of sustainable development in Singapore's land use planning and the future challenges facing the city-state, which is often looked upon by many developing countries as a model.

The book, comprising 12 chapters, is intended to be a landmark publication to showcase Singapore academics and practising planners' work and thinking in the globalisation age. It contributes and produces an impact on urban planning literature in a renewed perspective about Singapore that reflects the reality and need to address sustainability in the triangular relationship of economic, environmental and social developments.

Spatial Planning for a Sustainable Singapore is written for university libraries, students and government agencies with an interest in understanding the rationale of policy formation, planning system and its implementation in Singapore.



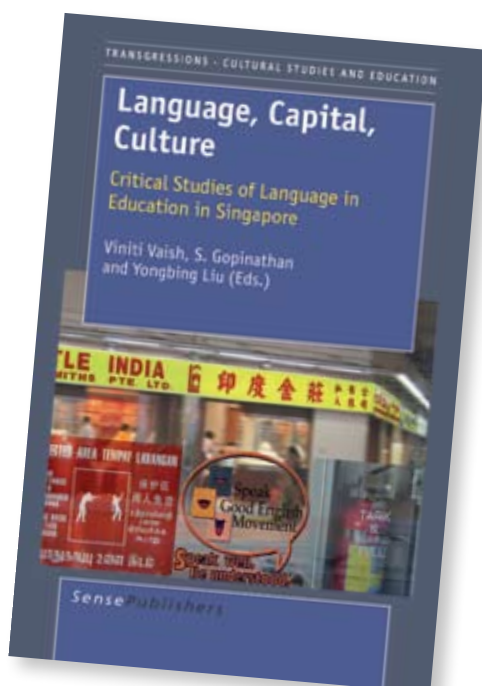
Educational Psychology Textbook by NIE Staff Launched in China



Educational Psychology: A Practitioner-Researcher Approach (An Asian Edition), a university textbook and reference for teacher education published by Thomson Learning, has been recently translated into Chinese by the Shanghai Century Publishing Company (上海人民出版社). Mr He Yuanlong, General Manager of Shanghai Century, noted that as the largest publishing company in the eastern part of the People's Republic of China, he had been looking for an international textbook with special features that would meet the Chinese context in China's rapidly expanding teacher education sector of more than 22 million teachers. Although there are various translations of general psychology books, this is the first internationally published book on educational psychology that the company has translated.

Assoc Prof Tan Oon Seng (Head, Psychological Studies) is the main co-author of the English version of this book. His co-authors are Professors Richard Parsons, Stephanie Hinson and Deborah Sardo-Brown. The educational psychology textbook has not only an Asian contextualisation but also key features such as the use of problem-based scenarios at the beginning of every chapter, action research illustrations and strong emphasis on teachers' reflections on practice. The back cover of this Chinese translation cited Singapore as a nation with one the world's most successful education system and that this book provided insights into an understanding of educational psychology for the many challenges of today's context. It described the book as a must-read for teachers, parents and educators, psychologists and practitioners in China.

Language, Capital, Culture



Singapore has been taken by many researchers as a fascinating living language policy and planning laboratory. Language and education policy in Singapore has been pivotal not only to the establishment and growth of schooling, but to the very project of nation building. Since their inception, 'mother tongue' policies have been established with two explicit goals. Firstly, there is the development and training of human and intellectual capital for the expansion and networking of a Singaporean service and information economy. Secondly, there is the maintenance of cultural heritage and values as a means for social cohesion and, indeed, the maintenance of community and regional social capital. These tasks have been fraught with tension and contradiction, both in relation to the conditions of rapid cultural, economic and political change in Asia and globally, but as well because of the tensions between the so called 'world language English' and Singapore's three

other official languages, Tamil, Malay and Mandarin. This has been complicated, of course, by the challenges of vibrant regional dialects and the emergence of Singlish as a powerful medium of community life.

This book will be the first volume to provide a critical analysis of language policy, curriculum and pedagogical practices in Singapore. It will bring together international and national expertise to examine issues of language policies, curricula and pedagogies in the light of the intensification of cultural and economic globalisation in the last decade and as a consequence of a renewed concern with the linguistic and cultural implications that a multi-polar world brings. Indeed, one of the consequences of globalisation is the tension between the centrifugal and centripetal forces of tradition and modernity that pull society in opposing directions and that the school is expected to harmonise.

International English Language Teaching Conference in China

By Asst Prof Caroline Ho, English Language & Literature



(From left) Asst Prof Peter Teo, Asst Prof Wee Bee Geok, Asst Prof Caroline Ho & Asst Prof Lawrence Zhang, English Language & Literature Academic Group

NIE was well represented by a delegation of five, comprising one Centre for Research in Pedagogy and Practice (CRPP) and four English Language and Literature (ELL) faculty at the fifth International Conference on English Language Teaching in China and the first Congress of Chinese Applied Linguistics, with the theme *Language, Education and Society in the Digital Age*. The conference, under the China English Language Education Association (CELEA) conference series, held once every three years, attracted about 1,500 participants this year at the Foreign Language Teaching and Research Press (FLTRP) International Convention Centre, Beijing, China from 16 to 21 May 2007. It was organised by FLTRP and hosted by CELEA, Beijing Foreign Studies University (BFSU) and Translation Association of China, the Association of Chinese Sociolinguistics, the International Society for Chinese Language Teaching, National Research Centre for Foreign Language Education of BFSU. As the largest professional association for university and college English teachers in China, CELEA organises this series of conference for the advancement of English language teaching and research in China and around the world.

As a featured speaker, Asst Prof Lawrence Zhang spoke about *Doing Critical Reading in TEFL Professional Development Classrooms in Asia: Exploring Possibilities and Meeting Challenges*.

His ELL colleagues presented the following papers:

- Asst Prof Peter Teo, 'Outside-In/Inside-Out': Bridging the Gap in Literacy Education in Singapore Classrooms
- Asst Prof Wee Bee Geok, Comparing the Grammar of Narrative and Non-narrative Texts
- Asst Prof Caroline Ho, *BloggingKids@Singapore: Integrating Blogging into the Primary English Language Classroom*
- Dr Zhao Shouhui, a Research Associate with CRPP, co-presented *The Latest Development in Language Planning Theory? The World and China* with Prof Richard B Baldauf, Jr (University of Sydney)

Three teachers from Geylang Methodist Primary School also co-presented with Asst Prof Ho. Eminent scholars in the field, who presented keynote addresses, included Prof Merrill Swain (University of Toronto), Prof Rod Ellis (University of Auckland), Prof Joseph Lo Bianco (University of Melbourne), Prof Rober DeKeyser (University of Maryland) and Prof Douglas Biber (Northern Arizona University).

Landmark Conference on Taoist Studies

By Assoc Prof Chia Wei Khuan, Head, Visual & Performing Arts

Over 200 people attended an international conference entitled *Ethnic Chinese Folk Culture and Taoist Thoughts*, held in Singapore from 28 to 29 July 2007.

The conference was aimed at strengthening local cultural and social identity in an age where indigenous cultures are increasingly threatened by globalisation. As younger Singaporeans become alienated from their roots, examining the extent to which Taoist culture has influenced prevailing Chinese philosophy, thinking, traditional customs and practices has become imperative.

Fourteen eminent scholars and researchers from Australia, China, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Taiwan and Singapore presented papers. Among them were Professors Chen Yaoting from Australia, Choi Chi-Cheung (Chinese University of Hong Kong), Liu Zhongyu (East China Normal University), Soo Khin Wah (University of Malaya), Alan Chan (National University of Singapore) and Phyllis Chew (English Language and Literature, NIE).

The conference, presented in both English and Chinese, was jointly organised by four non-profit organisations namely, Yanhuang Culture Researching Association (Singapore), Singapore Society of Asian Studies, Singapore Teochew Poit Ip Huay Kuan and the Taoist Mission (Singapore).

Three NIE staff played a major role in the success of this conference: Assoc Prof Wong Tai Chee (Humanities and Social Studies Education) who chaired the organising committee and Assoc Prof Chia Wei Khuan (Head, Visual and Performing Arts) was the honorary treasurer. Assoc Prof Phyllis Chew delivered an interesting and engaging paper on Taoist youths in Singapore.

Throughout the two days, there was a healthy exchange of thoughts on how Taoist culture, in theory and practice, has changed and influenced the life of contemporary Chinese. A collection of essays on Chinese Folk Culture and Taoist Thoughts will be published to mark this landmark occasion.

Research Centre Shares Findings with Teachers

By Publications Team, Centre for Research in Pedagogy & Practice



One of the best parts of doing research is being able to share your findings with those who can make use of it the most. Last 3 August 2007, the Centre for Research in Pedagogy and Practice (CRPP) was able to do just that.

Eighty teachers and principals from more than 50 schools visited NIE to listen and learn as researchers presented findings from CRPP's Life Pathways Project, otherwise known as Panel 6.

Part of CRPP's CORE Programme, Panel 6 is a massive four-year study on how schools in Singapore are contributing not only to academia but to the overall life and well-being of young people. With a sample of 30,000 students from more than 100 schools, the project provides a broad first-cut picture of how students think about their lives, their goals and capabilities.

"This is the first project of its kind in the history of educational research in Singapore. In fact, it is almost unique in the world," said Prof David Hogan (Dean, CRPP) (back row, right) who is also one of the principal investigators of Panel 6. "There are some projects similar to this one but not as advanced in terms of its administration."

"I think such descriptive data is useful because for the first time, we get to see how students perceive themselves on a wide range of outcomes measures. This is not just the view of one student but of thousands," added Asst Prof Trivina Kang (back row, left), the project's co-principal investigator.

Both Asst Prof Kang and Prof Hogan gave presentations introducing Panel 6 work and their implications on educational policy and practice. Breakout sessions were then organised to allow particular topics to be discussed in more detail. This gave teachers the chance to choose among three major themes: aspirations, social civic capital and new economic capacities.

The research team also made the effort to make their findings as "user-friendly" as possible. "We tried to move away from numbers this time," said Mr Melvin Chan, lead Research Associate. "Instead of just saying the average score of a particular skill, we tried to show the relationships between different skills."

At the same time, each school was given an information pack with data on how their students answered the research questions along with special provisions to explain the meaning of the numbers.

Seminar Tackles Childhood Obesity

By Seminar Organising Committee 2007 & Group Endeavours in Service Learning Group 6, NIE



With the theme *Obesity and Mental Health*, the second Singapore Heart Foundation (SHF)-NIE National Seminar 2007 was a resounding success.

Attended by more than 830 participants, including school and student teachers, as well as health and sporting professionals, this joint community project between the foundation and NIE is the second in the annual Managing Obesity in Schools series. Guest of honour Senior Parliamentary Secretary for Education Mr Masagos Zulkifli (fourth from right) graced the event at Victoria Junior College on 19 May 2007.

Prof Goh Kim Chuan (Associate Dean, Student Liaison and Development, Foundation Programmes) opened the seminar, followed by an energetic performance by dancers from Mayflower Secondary School. Assoc Prof Michael Chia (Head, Physical Education and Sports Science (PESS)) moderated the Open Forum during which participants raised questions and concerns to the six speakers. Prof

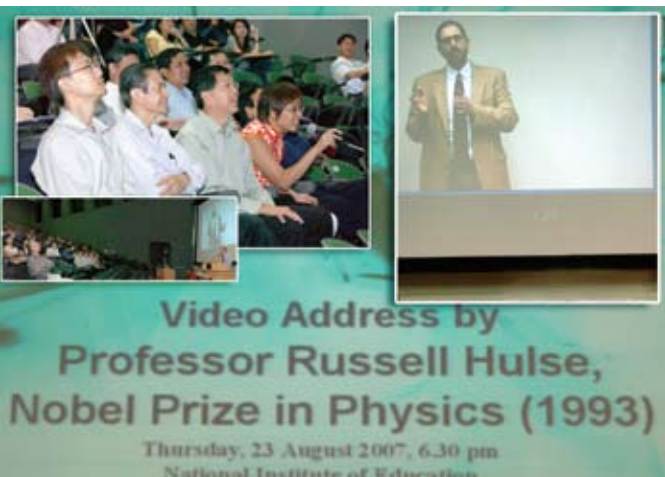
Goh in his welcome address emphasised, "Fighting against obesity is an uphill battle that involves everyone, the teacher, the parent, the community and yes, the child himself. NIE is pleased to partner SHF as co-organiser of this seminar and to work with other government agencies to help fight childhood obesity."

The seminar also saw several firsts: workshops were introduced following feedback from last year's participants, supporting ministries and sponsors set up booths featuring resource materials or product displays relevant to the theme and greater student involvement through schools.

NIE was represented by Asst Prof Patricia Wong (PESS) as chairperson of the organising committee and 17 student teachers from Group Endeavours in Service Learning Group 6. Looking ahead, the organising committee plans to invite international speakers and involve schools and parents to a larger extent.

A 10,000-mile Scientific Lecture

By Prof Feng Da Hsuan, former Vice President for Research & Economic Development, The University of Texas at Dallas & Senior Executive Vice President, National Cheng Kung University, Tainan, Taiwan



On 23 August 2007 at about 7.30am in a small conference room at the University of Texas at Dallas (UTD), USA, and simultaneously at 8.30pm on a sultry evening in a large lecture theatre on the campus of NIE, a truly remarkable and memorable event was about to happen simultaneously.

At UTD, with blurry eyes, the 1993 Nobel Laureate in Physics Russell Hulse and now Visiting Professor of Physics at UTD, was preparing to deliver a lecture entitled *An Astronomical Detective Story: The Discovery of the Binary Pulsar*, not to a multitude in front of him, as would normally be the case, but a solitude videoconferencing camera.

Some 10,000 miles away from Dallas, 300 science teachers from Singapore's k-12 community and NIE staff, were ready and eager to tune in to Prof Hulse's lecture.

This lecture, which took nearly six months of coordination by NIE's Natural Sciences

and Science Education Academic Group and UTD, would describe the discovery of the celestial system of binary pulsar - a pair of closely-dancing (with roughly 250,000 miles apart) neutron stars with 1.4 mass of the sun - and the recognition that the system was a perfect laboratory to test Albert Einstein's theory of gravity and gravitational radiation. And how remarkably accurate Einstein's theory withstood this very severe test of nature!

Indeed, this insight was so spectacular and its implications so profound that the global scientific community had always assumed that the ultimate accolade would be bestowed on Prof Hulse and Joe Taylor, Jr, who made the discovery in 1974 and subsequently understood its implications. Almost two decades later, they went on to share the Nobel Prize in Physics 1993.



Prize winners with guest of honour Ms Ho Peng (sixth from right), Deputy NIE Council Chairman Mr Khoo Chin Hean (seventh from right) & NIE Director Prof Lee Sing Kong (eighth from right)

Swan Song for Diploma in Departmental Management

By Public, International & Alumni Relations

The final batch of 154 teachers received their Diploma in Departmental Management (DDM) certificates on 24 July 2007 at a ceremony held at the Civil Service College. Ms Ho Peng, Director of Curriculum Planning and Development Division, Ministry of Education graced the event as guest of honour.

On how attending the four-month DDM course has changed the way she teaches and manages people in her department, Ms Revathi Raja Krishnan, a science level head of Hong Kah Primary School said, "The programme has definitely broadened my horizons and opened my eyes to discover a new learning and management style, beyond the traditional boundaries of what I used to see and do as a leader and staff of the school. Previously, work reviews and lesson observations had been the only means to assess my staff. I have now adopted the 'management by walking around' approach that entails taking a regular stroll around to

informally monitor and get to know them and their working style better. This had helped to form a more open and relaxed relationship between my staff and myself."

Ms Tan Mui Gee was presented the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development Book Prize for exemplifying the highest level of learning across the programme while eight other graduands were awarded the Dr J M Nathan Memorial Prize for Creativity. For the best overall performance in the programme, Mr Calvin Ong received the Dr Ruth Wong Medal.

With this graduation ceremony, the Management and Leadership in Schools (MLS) programme replaces the DDM programme. The core emphasis of MLS is collaborative learning and rides on the strengths of the successful Leaders in Education Programmes and DDM.

Teachers' Investiture Ceremony

By Public, International & Alumni Relations

A total of 2,016 newly-qualified teachers marked their entry into the education fraternity when they received their diplomas at the Teachers' Investiture Ceremony, organised by NIE at Nanyang Auditorium, Nanyang Technological University on 10, 11 and 12 July 2007. This event marked the first time that three different guests of honour graced each ceremony: Mr Tharman Shanmugaratnam, Minister for Education and Second Minister for Finance, at the first ceremony, Rear-Admiral (NS) Lui Tuck Yew, Minister of State for Education, at the second ceremony and Mr Gan Kim Yong, Minister of State for Education and Manpower, at the final ceremony.

In his address, Mr Shanmugaratnam said that the Structured Mentoring Programme for beginning teachers, implemented in 2006, was

working well, with three cohorts of about 2,400 beginning teachers on the programme and about 800 experienced teachers as mentors.

He also mentioned that the Staff Well-Being Unit, set up in the Ministry of Education's Training and Development Division, would promote an integrated approach towards the physical, social, and emotional dimensions of staff well-being. The unit has initiated Opportunities for Lives to be Ignited with Vitality and Exuberance (OLive) to assist staff in achieving harmony in self, family and work.

When asked about how such an approach would benefit teachers in helping them cope with eldercare, Ms Tan Guat Kheng, a graduand who had to juggle between pursuing her degree as a returning teacher

and sole caregiver to her ailing father throughout her studies said, "OLive, with its emphasis on helping staff achieve harmony in self, family and work can include respite care leave and flexi-work arrangements such as a temporary switch to part-time teaching to help teachers cope with eldercare."

At the ceremony, Mr Shanmugaratnam presented the National Youth Council's Outstanding Youth in Education Awards to Ms Esther Ong of Woodlands Primary School, Mdm Huang Yiyan of CHIJ Katong Convent and Ms Sukhjeet Kaur of Swiss Cottage Secondary School. Besides honouring the achievements of deserving young educators, the awards serve to inspire youths to be teachers and excellent role models to the younger generation.



Israeli Minister Exchanges Ideas on Education

By Public, International & Alumni Relations

During their four-day visit to Singapore, Israeli Education Minister Prof Yuli Tamir (above, left) and her entourage visited NIE on 25 July 2007. She was accompanied by Israeli Ambassador to Singapore Mr Ilan Ben-Dov and Israeli Ministry of Education officials.

Prof Tamir expressed an interest in learning about the Singapore education system, infusion of thinking skills in the local school curriculum and the use of technology in classrooms. Apart from visiting Henry Park Primary School, River Valley High School and

Raffles Institution, the minister learnt about teacher education in NIE as she believed that the quality of Singapore teachers was instrumental in the success of the education system.

They were hosted by NIE Director Prof Lee Sing Kong, Assoc Prof Tan Seng Chee (Associate Dean, Strategy and Pedagogy Development, Foundation Programmes) and Prof Paul Teng (Dean, Graduate Programmes and Research). In addition to presentations on the institute's array of programmes, the delegation was brought on an entertaining and enlightening tour of the Classroom of the Future.

COLLABORATIONS

Bespoke Programmes for Bahraini Educators

By Ms Cherie Lek, External Programmes

To kick-start the transformation of the Kingdom of Bahrain's education and NIE's partnership with the Ministry of Education, NIE delivered two specialised training programmes, one for school leaders and the other for senior teachers from Bahrain.

Each programme was four weeks long, with equal number of contact hours in Bahrain and Singapore. Both programmes started in Bahrain in June 2007 and concluded in Singapore on 7 July 2007. The programmes aimed to enable participants to develop the knowledge, skills and capability to lead their organisations effectively at a time of rapid change. The specially selected group of 22 school principals, assistant principals and nine senior teachers were hence tasked as "Change Ambassadors".



Lessons were conducted in an interactive manner, with participants encouraged to share their issues and think of innovative solutions, drawing reference from their observations in Singapore. The participants also visited schools and engaged in dialogue sessions with school principals and heads of department.

The programmes were a resounding success, not to mention the strong friendship bonds formed between lecturers and participants. Both participants and ministry officials from Bahrain gave very positive feedback regarding lesson content and the dedicated teaching of NIE lecturers.

The Bahraini Assistant Undersecretary for Human Resource, Ministry of Education, Sheikha Lulwa Khalifa Al-Khalifa visited the group in Singapore.

Pre-teens Learn About Being Financially Savvy

By Public, International & Alumni Relations

Ka-Ching! was a reality television show informing kids about money management and entrepreneurship. With a target audience of children aged nine to 12 years old, the 12 episodes were screened over Kids Central on Saturdays at 1.30pm from 21 July 2007. *Ka-Ching!* was brought to viewers by Citibank and NIE and sponsored by Citi Foundation.

Ka-Ching! promoted financial literacy to children and attempted to introduce money education in authentic situations so that children could relate to these issues in real-life scenarios. Participants and viewers learnt how to invest, save and budget with the challenges faced by 16 competing schools and the "Big Business Breaks" provided tips on smart money management during the show. Through this programme, children gained exposure and were empowered to continue learning more about financial literacy. Capitalising on television as an effective medium of reaching out to children and the excitement culminating in a grand finale at a shopping centre, children were enthused in acquiring

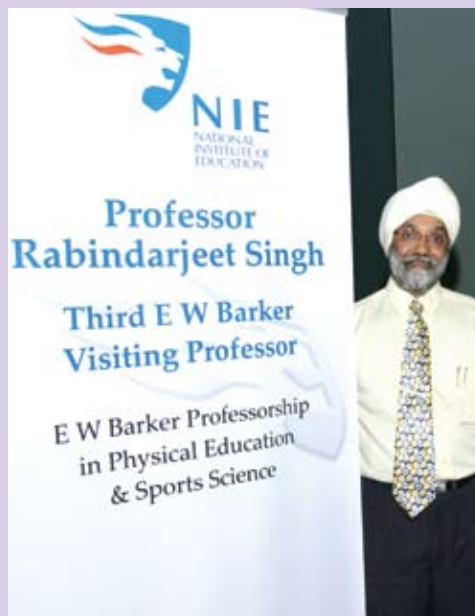
financial literacy skills and knowledge. As part of creating awareness of the importance of being financially savvy in schools, Ms Koh Noi Keng (Humanities and Social Studies Education) also worked with the hosts of *Ka-Ching!* to conduct a financial literacy game show at various schools. Her active participation as a consultant played a critical role in the success of the programme from conceptualisation to production.

NIE Director Prof Lee Sing Kong, together with Mr Jonathan Larsen, Head of South East Asia for Global Consumer Group and Country Business Manager and Chief Executive Officer of Citibank Singapore Ltd, presented cash prizes amounting to S\$16,000 to the winners at the grand finale of *Ka-Ching!*, which took place at VivoCity on 9 September 2007. The four winning teams, Temasek Primary School, Maris Stella High School, CHIJ Our Lady Queen of Peace and Nanyang Primary School, participated in the final financial literacy reality game show at VivoCity. The grand finale was televised over Kids Central (Channel 12) on 13 October 2007 at 1.30pm.

Third E W Barker Professor Regales Audiences with Research on Coconut Water & More

By Assoc Prof Michael Chia, Head, Physical Education & Sports Science

The Physical Education and Sports Science (PESS) Academic Group hosted the third E W Barker Professor, Prof Rabindarjeet Singh from 27 August to 21 September 2007. He is a consultant to the National Sports Institute in Malaysia. His expertise is in sports physiology and sports nutrition. During his stint, he met up with senior management of NIE, the Singapore Sports Council, the Singapore Sports School and the Barker family for very meaningful discussions. He gave additional invited lectures to staff and students of Nanyang Polytechnic and PE specialists at the Co-curricular Activities Branch of the Ministry of Education. In all, more than 400 PE teachers, coaches, physiotherapists, and fitness professionals attended his lectures. A capstone of his research that generated a lot of buzz was his award-winning research on coconut water as a hydrating performance and recovery drink in comparison to isotonic drinks, fruit juices, energy drinks and beer.

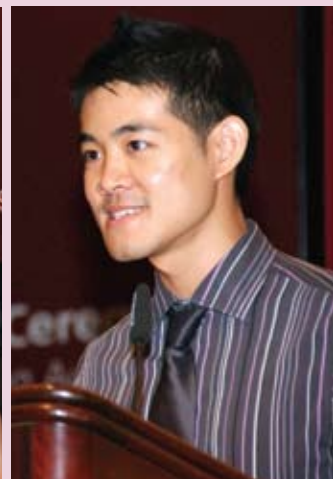


Prof Singh takes with him strong impressions of PESS and NIE. This is what he said: "PESS has coveted expertise in PE and the Sport Sciences - staff are well qualified and committed and dedicated to the training of PE teachers at the highest levels. Staff are a good mix of senior and junior staff, the latter in pursuit of PhD degrees and collectively, they contribute to the development of PE, the enhancement of healthy lifestyles and the expansion of sports, recreational and elite, in Singapore. Research in PESS, using state-of-the-art equipment and laboratories, supported by good library resources in NIE, informs teaching and the practice of sports science in applied PE and sports performance. I am impressed that in Academic Year 2006/2007, PESS research produced more than 45 publications in good quality peer-reviewed journals, an accomplishment that is

praise-worthy for a group with a high emphasis on teaching. This prudent mix of evidence-based teaching and good research is the result of strong and sagacious stewardship demonstrated by leaders of PESS and NIE."

Welcome, Freshmen!

By Mr Eric Choo, Assistant Secretary,
Trainee Teachers' Club (2006/2007)



This year's NIE Grand Welcome was held on 1 August 2007 at Nanyang Technological University's Nanyang Auditorium. The orientation is a yearly event which welcomes freshmen into the NIE family and gives them a prelude of what their life would be like at NIE and as a graduate of the institute.

The event opening was marked by a welcome speech given by NIE Director Prof Lee Sing Kong. He shared about the skills, knowledge and values associated with the Desired Attributes Framework of an educator.

Three other speakers, Mr Muhammad Sherefudin Bin Jamal, President of the Trainee Teachers' Club (2006/2007), NIE alumnus Ms Persis Wong and returning teacher Mr James Chan (above, right), gave the freshmen an insight of what being a teacher was like. Mr Sherefudin also spoke about his life at NIE and how involvement in club activities helped him to grow into a better person and prepare him for the future. By comparing the difference in the writing of lesson plans

while in NIE and as a full-fledged teacher, Ms Wong expressed her appreciation in this tedious but necessary process. She also talked about how involved she was in service learning, having led such an expedition to Myanmar. Ms Wong also praised her former NIE professors whom she described as being very encouraging. Mr Chan spoke about the multiple roles of a teacher and the importance of commitment to the profession.

Other than the speakers, there were performances by DanceFuzion (above, left), a newly formed club in NIE, and Grace Orchard School. DanceFuzion, led by Ms Twinkle Chua, showcased dance styles comprising hip hop, jazz and latin. The audience was then enthralled by a beautiful myriad of colours soaring through the air as students from Grace Orchard School juggled rings, clubs and juggling balls.

The event closure was the Teacher Culture Performance which consisted of eight student teachers, attired in the desired dress code of an NIE student teacher.

A Nation Turns 42

By Public, International & Alumni Relations



An early start to Singapore's 42nd birthday came knocking on NIE's doors with a harmonious blend of culture, cuisine, arts and architecture plus a celebratory bazaar aptly named *Food and Games Galore* on 7 August 2007 at Library Block. Funds raised from the sales were channelled to the second Director's Relay Run (see story on page 20).

Together with other Singapore schools and institutes of higher learning, the festivities continued on 8 August 2007 with staff and student teachers decked out in red and white, and ethnic clothes (left) for the National Day Observance Ceremony. As is the tradition, NIE Director Prof Lee Sing Kong read a speech by Education Minister Tharman Shanmugaratnam after the rendition of the national anthem *Majulah Singapura* and the reciting of the national pledge. The formality gave way to Project Runway NIE show, which showcased garments designed by Group Endeavours in Service Learning groups to reflect the "Uniqueness of Singapore".

Confessions of a Beginning Counsellor

NIE News offers a listening ear to Ms Tan Lay Leng (right), who recently completed her Diploma in School Counselling at NIE (January 2007 intake) and is now a novice full-time school counsellor at Tanjong Katong Primary School.

Ms Tan has been in the teaching profession for more than a decade across various South-east Asian countries. She believes in nurturing every child to his fullest potential. Her fervour to reach out to her pupils, especially wayward students, and leading them on the right path, has remained steadfast all these years. Ms Tan has a way with her pupils, always caring, inspiring and instilling the right values to all under her charge. Her students look upon her not only as a mentor but also as a friend.

She recounts to readers her learning journey during her practicum.

NIE News: How did you end up in counselling?

I remember sitting with my 19-year-old ex-Thai student four years ago during one of our typically long sessions and thinking how inadequate I was in helping him. He had confessed his increasingly strong urge to be sexually intimate with a waitress he met at a restaurant. A few days after, he came to me and said, "Lay Leng, I did it." Trying very hard to appear very cool, I replied with a mere 'Oh'.

He was one of several students instrumental in motivating me to go into counselling. Whenever I listened to them, I would wish in my heart that I had been more equipped to help them. I see counselling as a platform and privilege to enter into another person's world, journey alongside him and enjoying the fruits of our growth together. I see it as an uphill climb – challenging and tedious – but the mountaintop view is worth the effort – breathtaking and exhilarating, because I know that I have helped someone.

NIE News: How has the journey been?

Not surprisingly, the journey has been emotional, a journey of the heart. Besides applying the micro-skills and the theories I had learnt, I discovered that relationship-building and compassion triumph.

Several times, I recall sitting opposite a child, listening to his story and finding my heart overwhelmed with empathy. I looked at the child in front of me and thought to myself how much he had to bear at that young age. I took comfort that I was there to listen and that I have been given the privilege to enter his world. Yes, even if the problems in his life remain, someone cares enough to listen.

I remember being so encouraged during the first few weeks when I received an immediate affirmation: "Thanks for listening. I feel better now." Other times, I found my heart leaping with joy, smiling as I listened to them articulate positive statements of change.



NIE News: Have there been any 'occupational hazards'?

I feel an ache in my heart when I sense the negative emotions in the children, built up over the years. How I wish I could help them see that these negative emotions are like a two-edged sword, hurting both themselves and the ones they could not forgive. Then again, being engaged in this relationship with them gives me the opportunity to guide them over time.

Despite systemic support for a child, he may still stray from school. The resourceful management solicits financial assistance and help from external agencies. The principal, vice-principal, teachers, counsellor and office staff encourage, affirm and pay countless home visits. Such concern truly paints a lovely picture of a big family at work trying to help a child come back to school, but to little success. But we must persevere.

Overall, the experience has been enriching for my own soul and self-development. I have been bombarded countless times with the fact that my capacity is limited, very limited! However, my heart has expanded to respect the children with unconditional positive regard as they approach me with their stories. Their stories are a constant reminder to me that I have been given a very special privilege. They have shared with me something of value to them. How then should I handle it with care?

NIE News: How have your NIE lecturers prepared you for this role?

I would like to extend a big 'thank you' to all our 'cool and calm' lecturers, tutors and supervisors at NIE for being part of this journey, sharing their gems and experience in counselling. They have been so generous in imparting their knowledge and guidance, often illuminating this unfamiliar path with pearls of wisdom and advice.



Dear alumni

NIE recently set up an alumni relations function to serve you, our alumni, better. To help us stay in touch with you through regular email updates of NIE events, please update your particulars and send the completed form to:

Ms Jolene Tan
Public, International and Alumni
Relations Department
National Institute of Education
1 Nanyang Walk
Singapore 637616

Fax: (65) 6316 1498

Alternatively, you may also update
your particulars at:
<http://www.nie.edu.sg/alumniupdate>

Address Update

Full Name (as in NRIC): _____

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School Name/Company Name: _____

Designation: _____

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Would you like to receive regular email updates on the latest events at NIE?

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Tel: (65) 6790 6699
Fax: (65) 6790 6701
Website: www.ntu.edu.sg/nec
Email: ntu-nec@ntu.edu.sg

Calendar of Events

Event	Date	Venue	Contact Person
Leaders in Education Programme Graduation Ceremony 2007	10 Oct 2007	Meritus Mandarin Hotel	Ms Mae Chan Email: meipoh.chan@nie.edu.sg
Official Opening of the Sampoerna Teachers Institute	Oct 2007	Jakarta, Indonesia	Ms Cherie Lek Email: yianping.lek@nie.edu.sg
Appreciation for Cooperating Teachers & Briefing for School Coordinating Mentors	6 Nov 2007	NIE Campus	Ms Abby Lim Email: puayyin@nie.edu.sg
International Conference in Educational Technology	21-23 Nov 2007	Republic Polytechnic	Ms Nenny Noorman Email: nenny.noorman@nie.edu.sg
Enrichment Programme for Postgraduate Diploma in Education (Secondary) January 2007 Intake	26-30 Nov 2007	NIE Campus	Mrs Jessica Tan Email: jessica.wong@nie.edu.sg
Graduation Ceremony for Postgraduate Diploma in Higher Education for Ministry of Health Personnel	Nov 2007	NIE Campus	Ms Cherie Lek Email: yianping.lek@nie.edu.sg
14th Annual Academic Session for Young Participants, Singapore Olympic Academy	4-6 Dec 2007	Sentosa	Assoc Prof Nick Aplin Email: nicholas.aplin@nie.edu.sg
Teachers' Investiture Ceremony	16 Jan 2008	Nanyang Auditorium, NTU	Mrs Mak Lek Cher Email: lekcher.mak@nie.edu.sg
Orientation Programme for Postgraduate Diploma in Education (Secondary) Student Teachers (January 2008 Intake)	Jan 2008	NIE Campus	Mrs Jessica Tan Email: jessica.wong@nie.edu.sg
4th ICT Seminar	Mar 2008	NIE Campus	Ms Nenny Noorman Email: nenny.noorman@nie.edu.sg
Enrichment Programme for Diploma in Education, Bachelor of Arts/Science (Education) & Postgraduate Diploma in Education Student Teachers	May/Jun 2008	NIE Campus	Mrs Jessica Tan Email: jessica.wong@nie.edu.sg
Teachers' Investiture Ceremony	8-10 Jul 2008	Nanyang Auditorium, NTU	Mrs Mak Lek Cher Email: lekcher.mak@nie.edu.sg
10th Asia-Pacific Conference on Giftedness	14-18 Jul 2008	NIE Campus	Ms Shirley Seet Email: apcg@nie.edu.sg
5th ICT Seminar	Jul 2008	NIE Campus	Ms Nenny Noorman Email: nenny.noorman@nie.edu.sg
NTU Convocation	Jul 2008	Nanyang Auditorium, NTU	Mr Aaron Chong Email: aaron.chong@nie.edu.sg
Orientation Programme for all Initial Teacher Preparation Programmes	Jul/Aug 2008	NIE Campus	Mrs Jessica Tan Email: jessica.wong@nie.edu.sg

Charity Run Raises S\$48K for Special School

By Public, International & Alumni Relations



(From left) Asst Prof Alan Ch'ng (Chairman, NIE Director's Relay Run 2007 Organising Committee), Ms Debbie Lui (Deputy Director, Community Chest), Prof Lee Sing Kong (Director, NIE) & Mr Keh Eng Song (CEO, MINDS)

The third of August 2007 was an evening of charity as the second NIE Director's Relay Run raised S\$40,000 for MINDS Jurong Gardens School; the amount has since increased to S\$48,132.90. Themed *A Special Run for Special People*, some 200 runners took part in the 4.5km Competitive Relay, with over 200 participants joining in the 2.4km Fun Run.

Winners of the Competitive Run achieved some impressive timings:

- Men's Open – Nanyang Technological University (NTU), 1 hour 42 minutes and 17 seconds
- Women's Open – Victoria Junior College, 2 hours 6 minutes and 27 seconds
- Mixed Open – NIE and NTU, 1 hour 44 minutes and 53 seconds
- Men's School – an independent team, comprising boys from various secondary schools, 1 hour 43 minutes and 12 seconds

In her thank-you letter, Ms Debbie Lui, Deputy Director of Community Chest, expressed her heartfelt thanks to Prof Lee as well as to the staff and student teachers of NIE. She added that the "funds raised would help to provide special education for children with intellectual disability aged four to 18 years to develop their capacity to the fullest potential, with the long-term objective of enhancing their prospects of integration into mainstream society."

Asst Prof Alan Ch'ng (Deputy Divisional Director, Corporate Planning and Development), Chairman of the NIE Director's Relay Run 2007 Organising Committee said, "The event was a success not only in meeting its initial objectives of a successful event and raising funds for MINDS Jurong Gardens School, but it was also a channel for NIE staff and student teachers to work together for a charity cause."



The installation art *Journey of Teacher Education* chronicles the development of NIE from its humble beginnings in 1950 as the Teachers' Training College in makeshift premises at Cairnhill to its present day position as an institute of academic excellence housed in a state-of-the art campus.

The concept of the artwork is based on the wave-like design of the lion's mane in the NIE logo. The three waves depict NIE's tripartite relationship with the Ministry of Education and Singapore schools on one hand and the ministry and Nanyang Technological University on the other.

They also signify NIE riding the waves of change to embrace excellence in the pursuit of its pedagogical and educational research goals as well as the dynamism of the institute.

The top wave incorporates a backdrop showing the sky to symbolise that there is no limit to our pursuit of excellence.

Set against this backdrop are the names and pictures of past Principals and Directors of NIE and its predecessor institutions. This wave extends towards its right-hand side to show that the journey of teacher education is a continuing one.

The middle wave is a photo montage of people, places and events that have had a significant impact on NIE's journey. The final wave marks the significant milestones that NIE has passed through to the present day.

The installation celebrates our vision to be an Institute of Distinction in teaching, learning and research that would have a beneficial and enduring impact on teacher preparation and professional development.