

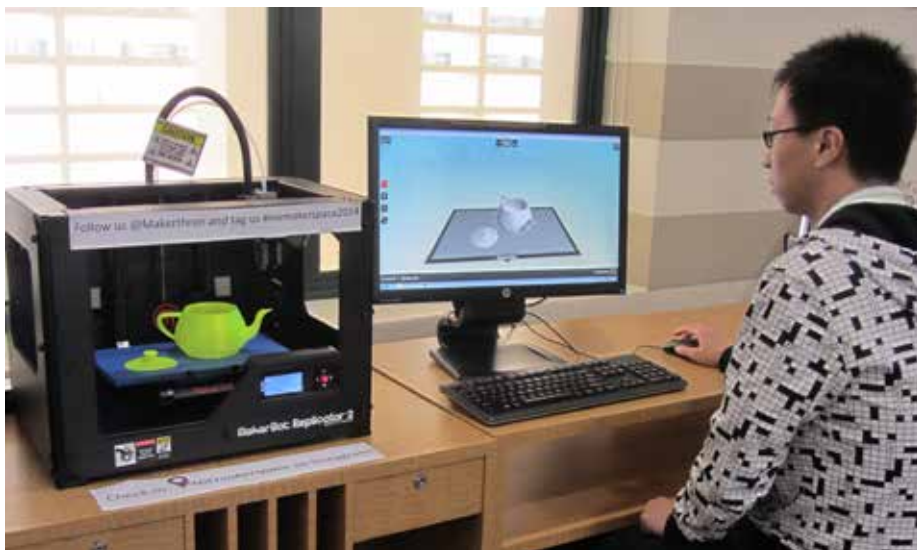
MAKERSPACE IN LIBRARY

By Library and Information Services Centre

Since the end of January 2014, a new hangout called 'the Makerspace' has been added to the Library's Collaborative Space on level three. The Makerspace is a collaboration between NIE Library and the Translation and Development Unit (TDU), with the Library providing the footfall and TDU offering hands-on project ideas.

The Makerspace aspires to build a community where members share and collaborate to bring ideas to fruition. To this end, the Makerspace is equipped with a 3D printer for users to rapidly prototype their ideas (pictured below). A printed sample allows them to evaluate aspects such as aesthetics and ergonomics. Two DIY projects have been made available for users to build their own bristle bot and rubber band

aircraft and learn about electronics and aerodynamics experientially. These will perhaps inspire them to incorporate electrical and mechanical parts in their designs. There are plans to showcase projects similar to those being done in schools so that our student teachers are kept updated. Currently, TDU is working with seven secondary schools in creating Makerspace in schools as well as exploring the use of 3D modelling and printing as part of the design process in the lower secondary Design and Technology curriculum.



A key feature of 3D printing is that it is less complex to use as compared to other methods like Computer Numerical Control (CNC) machining. It requires a mere desktop computer instead of more specialised equipment in a workshop environment. In the short time since the Makerspace was set up, success has been achieved in raising awareness on how easy it is to use a 3D printer. Users have printed handphone holders, ornaments and even flutes. Library staff have also hopped on the bandwagon, printing 3D bookmarks as giveaways for the Library Mini-Fair.

Do drop by at the Makerspace and discover the maker in you!

SWAN SONG

By Public, International and Alumni Relations

Leaving the NIE community is usually a hard thing to do, especially when you have been a part of it for the last 10 years. For Dr Koh Chong Lek, the 'stage' was set for him to bid a fond farewell to friends and colleagues. In a heartfelt email, he announced that he would be saying his goodbyes in style - by singing 10 golden 'oldies' for everyone.

On 30 June 2014, a small crowd of 30 people gathered at the Recital Room. With song sheet in hand, they were brought back in time as Dr Koh belted out timeless classics such as "Over the Rainbow", "Moon River", "Bengawan Solo" and "My Way". Showing their appreciation, the audience which was made up of NIE students and staff, urged Dr Koh for one last song as an encore performance before he finished his set. Dr Koh happily obliged and invited everyone to join him in his warm rendition of "Auld Lang Syne".

Thank you Dr Koh Chong Lek for all your years of hard work and contribution. We wish you a happy retirement!

Right: Dr Koh was in his element as he serenaded his audience with heartfelt renditions

