

S'pore's 5th university to have 6 campuses

BY CHERYL LIM

THE Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT), which will open in August, will have five campuses located in Singapore's five polytechnics. It will also have a separate campus in another location.

This "distributed campus system" will be ready in 2014, and will be a first for a university here.

Set up to help polytechnic diploma holders upgrade their qualifications to a degree, Singapore's fifth university will offer eight degree programmes from five **renowned** universities.

Students will attend most of their classes at one polytechnic campus, but will have to travel to the standalone campus to take **modules** that are compulsory for all students. These include courses in communication skills, leadership development and entrepreneurship, said SIT's president, Professor Tan Chin Tiong, yesterday.

He said that the "distributed campus model allows SIT to leverage on available infrastructure", even though a separate SIT campus will be built within each polytechnic campus.

For instance, undergraduates can share a polytechnic's facilities, such as laboratories and swimming pools.

It is unlikely that students will have to travel to more than one campus in a day, said an SIT spokesman. In the meantime, they will use the polytechnics' facilities.

SIT faculty members will initially comprise teaching staff from the five universities: Technische Universität München (Munich Technical University), Newcastle University, the Digipen Institute of Technology, the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and the Culinary Institute of America.

SIT will develop and hire its own academic staff to make up half of its total faculty strength eventually.

It will also work with the polytechnics to identify polytechnic faculty with the potential to teach at SIT as **adjunct** lecturers, said Prof Tan.

"They will then be given the opportunity for further training and upgrading, and possibly take up their PhDs if they haven't already, to prepare themselves for the role," he said.

Singaporeans and permanent residents will have their fees subsidised by the Education Ministry, and will typically pay about \$9,000 each year for its two-year programmes, after subsidies.

SIT has also secured 50 scholarships for top polytechnic graduates from companies such as Sembcorp Marine and Apex-Pal, which are in sectors related to the speciality programmes offered at the university.

Mr Timothy Tham, 21, who holds a diploma in games development and will complete his national service in October, intends to **enrol** in Digipen Institute of Technology's bachelor of science in real-time interactive simulation programme.

He said: "I've been accepted into the National University of Singapore, but I prefer DigiPen as it is more recognised, especially for my field."

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HELPDESK 我的字典

Renowned: 著名的 zhù míng de

Modules: 单元 dān yuán

Adjunct: 兼职的 jiān zhí de

Enrol: 注册 zhù cè
