

SIT's pioneer students complete degrees

THE first batch of 350 students have completed their degrees at the Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT).

Yesterday, the school celebrated their achievement at the Resorts World Convention Centre on Sentosa. Another 120 students from the first batch will complete their degree courses soon.

Education Minister Heng Swee Keat, the guest of honour at the ceremony, said SIT students will be highly sought after as the institute offers an education that is closely linked to industry needs.

Set up in 2009, it provides degree programmes awarded by well-regarded overseas schools such as the Technical University of Munich and the Culinary Institute of America.

These two-year programmes attract mostly polytechnic upgraders, who make up about 95 per cent of the institute's students.

The SIT spokesman said its graduate employment survey will be out in about six months. Meanwhile, many students have already found jobs at companies such as Keppel Offshore and Marine, and Sembcorp Marine.

Ms Nurfarzanah Mohamed Shariff, 23, graduated from the Culinary Institute of America's culinary arts management programme before being offered a job as a cook at The American Club.

"I thought it would be difficult to find a job," she said. "SIT is, after all, a new school."

The institute has been designated as one of two new universities, which aim to boost the number of degree places available in Singapore. The other is SIM University. Mr Heng said that SIT was "at the cusp of a new and significant chapter".

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