SST STUDENTS TO GAIN MORE STEM LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES IN NEW COLLABORATION WITH SUTD

1. 50 students from the School of Science and Technology (SST) had a shot at designing solutions to tackle the regional haze issue at the SUTD-SST Big-D\(^1\) Camp that took place from 12 to 14 January. This is the first of a series of collaborations between SST and the Singapore University of Technology and Design (SUTD). It is part of SUTD’s efforts to expose promising secondary school students to the unique design-centric programmes at SUTD. The partnership aims to nurture youth leaders passionate in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) through applying their skills and knowledge to solve real-world problems. In the pipeline are plans for a SUTD-SST Makers Club, joint workshops and a lecture series. SUTD and SST will formalise their collaboration in a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signing following the camp.

2. Commenting on the collaboration, Associate Provost of Education, SUTD, Prof Pey Kin Leong said, “Through our interactions with the students and educators at SST, we see strong synergies in our approach to grooming a generation of innovative, bright minds who will shape the future through their inventions. The participants have been exceptional and with the success of this initiative, we are looking forward to more opportunities to reach out to SST’s students.”

3. Mrs Linda Chan, Principal of SST, adds, “The SUTD-SST Big D Camp provides an ideal platform for our students to hone their STEM and design skills under the mentorship of SUTD’s lecturers. It complements the school’s current programmes to help students find their niche and discover suitable pathways after their graduation and has marked a great start to our collaboration.”

\(^1\) SUTD’s unique approach to the science of design and design thinking may be summarised by what it terms Big-Design, or Big-D for short. It is all technically grounded design, including products, processes, services and systems. It involves the full value chain from conception, development, prototyping, manufacturing, marketing, maintenance to sustainability. Big-D includes an understanding of the liberal arts, humanities and social sciences.
4. Claire Tham, a budding innovator, aspires to be a design engineer. Working with her team members, she got to produce and market a Dry Ice Bomb (DIB) prototype that puts out fires in hard to reach areas. Getting more girls involved in STEM has become a trending topic in recent years, however, the organisers have observed exceptional efforts from the likes of Claire and her fellow female participants, who make up 20% of the participants. Vanshiga Argawal, another female student participant, said, “I really appreciate the opportunity to work with professors and students of SUTD. I was able to apply the concepts to actual projects and the experience was very enriching.”

About School of Science and Technology, Singapore

The School of Science and Technology, Singapore (SST) is a Specialised Independent School that offers a distinctive 4-year GCE O-Level programme with an integrated approach to applied learning. Learning in SST is multi-faceted as students gain a strong foundation of key academic concepts in core subjects like Mathematics and Science. Receiving institutions of the first two cohorts of graduated students have reported that the SST students demonstrate a distinct difference in the way they approach their learning, indicating that the school is well on its way to becoming a global leader in transforming learning and nurturing passionate innovators through real-world applications of science and technology. For more information, visit www.sst.edu.sg.

About Singapore University of Technology and Design

The Singapore University of Technology and Design (SUTD) is Singapore’s fourth public university, and one of the first universities in the world to incorporate the art and science of design and technology into a multi-disciplinary curriculum. Established in collaboration with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), SUTD seeks to nurture technically-grounded leaders and innovators in engineering product development, engineering systems and design, information systems technology and design, and architecture and sustainable design, to serve societal needs.

Also in collaboration with Zhejiang University (ZJU) and Singapore Management University (SMU), SUTD, a research-intensive university, is distinguished by its unique East and West academic programme which incorporates elements of entrepreneurship, management and design thinking. Graduate opportunities include an MIT-SUTD Dual Masters’ Degree Programme and an SUTD PhD Programme. www.sutd.edu.sg.
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