

MEDIA RELEASE



NYP spearheads Healthcare IT Training for Nursing Students with NYP-HIMSS Centre of Excellence

- *Smoother transition into workforce for nursing students as NYP shortens learning curve in healthcare IT*
- *New Centre encourages shared learning of innovative healthcare IT solutions for students, healthcare institutions and IT industry, and serves as platform to enhance care delivery in hospitals.*
- *Launch graced by Dr Amy Khor, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Health and Ministry of Manpower; and Mayor of South West District*

Singapore, 27 November 2013 – Nanyang Polytechnic (NYP) and Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS) launched the NYP-HIMSS Centre of Excellence today. Dr Amy Khor, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Health and Ministry of Manpower; and Mayor of South West District officiated at the launch of the Centre. HIMSS is a not-for-profit organisation based in the United States. It is dedicated to promoting a better understanding of health care information and management systems within the Healthcare sector.

Apart from seamlessly connecting classroom learning to the healthcare setting in hospitals and polyclinics, the NYP-HIMSS Centre of Excellence will provide students with the opportunity to experience an enhanced delivery of healthcare through hands-on training on innovative systems.

By providing students from the Diploma in Nursing and Advanced Diploma in Nursing access to healthcare IT solutions at the Centre, NYP helps to shorten the learning curve for nursing students when they graduate and join the workforce as professional nurses.

They will be trained to manage healthcare IT solutions such as electronic medical record systems, wireless vital signs monitoring and close loop medication management system that are utilised in many hospitals in Singapore. The Centre, located in the Polytechnic's School of Health Sciences, will provide training to about 2,500 students per year as part of their curriculum, starting from January 2014.

The simulated Intensive Care Unit (ICU) and in-patient wards in the Centre will complement the existing simulation based training programme for students where they spend 10% of their course training hours learning to apply nursing skills and knowledge in managing patients. This training will give students additional insights into nursing informatics.

“The technologies that are available in this Centre will place our students in an environment that is similar to many hospitals in Singapore. This way, we are able to train them to be capable in operating these systems and be prepared to offer competent and professional care to patients once they enter the healthcare setting,” said Ms Wong Luan Wah, Director (Nursing), School of Health Sciences at NYP.

Improving Healthcare Management in Singapore

As Singapore strives towards delivering a higher quality of healthcare, the NYP-HIMSS Centre of Excellence will also serve as a platform to improve healthcare delivery in hospitals.

“The NYP-HIMSS Centre of Excellence is a perfect example of how information technology can optimize health engagements and care outcomes. Nursing students will now have the unique opportunity to be exposed to innovative technologies before even starting their careers. This experience will allow them to bridge the gap between school and an actual hospital setting which will in turn lead to improved patient safety and care quality,” said Mr Steven Yeo, Vice-President and Executive Director, HIMSS Asia Pacific.

Through the Centre, dialogues and workshops will be conducted for students, healthcare institutions and the IT industry to encourage the use of best practices in healthcare IT and may even lead to opportunities of enhancing healthcare delivery in Singapore by introducing these systems into hospitals.

Nurses, key in Singapore's Healthcare

On the NYP-HIMSS Centre of Excellence, Mr Yong Keng Kwang, Director of Nursing, Tan Tock Seng Hospital said: "Nurses play a key role in our healthcare ecosystem. By empowering student nurses with the opportunity to learn with innovative healthcare IT solutions, we are equipping them with skills and honing their abilities to adopt IT solutions that they can bring to the workforce. With the Centre, we believe that these nursing students will be able to overcome challenges in the healthcare settings that they are placed in, and strive towards enhancing healthcare delivery for Singapore."

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About Nanyang Polytechnic

Established in 1992, Nanyang Polytechnic (NYP) is a premier tertiary institution that offers quality education in Engineering, Information Technology, Design, Interactive & Digital Media, Chemical & Life Sciences, Business Management and Health Sciences. It offers 50 full-time diploma courses and a suite of post-diploma and customised courses for continuing education.

The Polytechnic's industry-relevant and real world-based training equips students to become employment-ready upon graduation. It aims to nurture students into innovative and enterprising individuals, capable of succeeding in any path they choose to take, be it a career or in further studies.

Nanyang Polytechnic is also the proud recipient of the prestigious Singapore Quality Award, the Innovation Excellence Award and the People Excellence Award. This makes NYP the first education institution in Singapore to receive these three top organisational and business excellence awards.

About Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS)

HIMSS is a cause-based, not-for-profit organisation exclusively focused on providing global leadership for the optimal use of information technology (IT) and management systems for the betterment of healthcare. Founded 51 years ago, HIMSS and its related organisations are headquartered in Chicago with additional offices in the United States, Europe and Asia. HIMSS represents more than 52,000 individual members, of which more than two thirds work in healthcare provider, governmental and not-for-profit organisations.

HIMSS also includes over 600 corporate members and more than 250 not-for-profit organisations that share our mission of transforming healthcare through the effective use of information technology and management systems. HIMSS frames and leads healthcare practices and public policy through its content expertise, professional development, research initiatives, and media vehicles designed to promote information and management systems' contributions to improving the quality, safety, access, and cost-effectiveness of patient care.

To learn more about HIMSS and to find out how to join us and our members in advancing our cause, please visit our website at www.himssasiapac.org

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Annex A

The following organisations have sponsored equipment for the NYP-HIMSS Centre of Excellence:

No.	Sponsors
1.	MaSanté
2.	Cadi Scientific Pte Ltd
3.	Accenture
4.	novaHEALTH
5.	Advantech
6.	CareFusion
7.	InterMetro (Metro)
8.	Dell
9.	Intel
10.	iINTERFACEWARE
11.	TCM