ALUMNI TESTIMONIALS

Kimberlyn Nicole Tjipto

Our SUTD Valedictorian 2017, Winner of DSTA Robotic Award 2017 and EPD graduate, Kimberlyn Nicole Tjipto specialises in the Robotics track and was previously the president of SUTD Ballroom. During her course, she co-founded a startup called Mobearlize which aimed to create mobility aids that encourage active living amongst elderly. Interestingly, the founders met in an EPD module in 2015 when doing a 2D project which was a joint project between 2 modules in SUTD. Back then, they were called BMW which stands for Brother! Motorized Wheelchair, inspired by one of her teammates.

She focused on the business development, sales and marketing functions of the company.

How was your experience like in EPD?
EPD was hectic yet rewarding. The hands-on learning experience of being a maker and applying concepts taught in class to real life situations made the lessons relevant and fun. Together with collaborative work with friends, EPD provided an avenue of learning which never got boring.

Any advice to give to newcomers?
Come to EPD and have the time of your life! If you always wanted to get your hands dirty or always wondered how technologies, which are becoming ever so integrated in our everyday lives, work – this is the perfect place for you!

Yadunund Vijay

Yadunund received his Master's degree in Advanced Manufacturing and Design from the Mechanical Engineering department at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Prior to this, he graduated from Singapore University of Technology and Design with first class honours in Mechanical Engineering.

He works at the Advanced Remanufacturing and Technology Center (ARTC, A*STAR) as a Development Engineer in the Advanced Robotics Applications group where he helps to automate manufacturing processes with industrial robots.

How was your experience like in EPD?
My experience in EPD has empowered me to systematically tackle design and engineering problems in the real world. The plethora of hands-on projects reinforced my learning while endowing me with valuable prototyping skills. The collaborative nature of the program allowed me to form strong bonds with my peers that I will cherish for years to come. I would not be where I am today without the guidance, motivation and support I received from numerous faculty members throughout my study in EPD.

Any advice to give to newcomers?
Be pro-active with your learning and make use of the approachable EPD faculty by engaging with them regularly. Continuously evaluate where your interests lie and how they align with requirements of industry or academia. Last but not least, reach out to seniors/alumni without hesitation to discuss academic, career or general matters.

Olivia Seow

Our Pioneer SUTD Valedictorian 2015, Olivia Seow specialises in the Computer Engineering track from EPD Pillar. During her course, she co-founded a startup called Ring Theory, Technology. The company designs and develops products that give people a new way to pay for things and enter buildings – and it's simple! The sesame ring, America's first wearable metro pass is 3D-printed and makes it a breeze for you to ride the subway and buses. It is supported by the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority. In Singapore, the company introduces the Smart Buddy, the world's first in-school savings and payments wearable on your child's wrist. It is part of Singapore's Smart Nation push towards a cashless society.

How was your experience like in EPD?
Being at EPD was a fantastic opportunity to develop a solid technical grounding while working on relevant and meaningful projects. The staff and faculty are world-class yet incredibly approachable. I have many great memories of being in a cohort of like-minded builders and leaders that continue to inspire me.

Any advice to give to newcomers?
Time will fly by, so make the most out of the experience!

ALUMNI TESTIMONIALS

"While studying for my masters at ETHZ, I truly understand the value of my EPD education. My time in the EPD family has taught me many skills in addition to academic knowledge. I really appreciate having the ability to think and learn flexibly when met with new challenges and to communicate it effectively to peers. The strong emphasis on industrial experience also gives me an edge when I am working on industrial projects here at ETHZ.

Leong Hei Kern, Class of 2019, EPD Alumnus

"The EPD experience goes beyond theory and applying learnt concepts in assignments. The increased variety of projects over the course of pillar years gives the opportunity to widen one's scope, refine design thinking skills, to learn and be better each time. On top of gaining technical knowledge and developing hands-on skills, the journey, most importantly, gives the confidence to explore, and the resilience to thrive in unfamiliar fields. This gave me the courage to perform as a Research Engineer at SMART, where my scope of work is tangent to the Mechanical Engineering speciality I pursued at SUTD.

Shruthi Pandi Chelvam, Research Engineer, Singapore-MIT Alliance for Research and Technology (SMART)
Class of 2020, EPD Alumnus

"My time in EPD has proved to be invaluable in helping me to flourish in an ever increasingly technologically-driven world. The problem-solving skills and engineering mindset I have honed as an EPD graduate enables me to better contribute to my different roles in my company. I am confident that the EPD experience will continue to nurture future batches of technically-grounded engineers as leaders in design and innovation, who will succeed in any industry they choose.

Tay Zi Hang, Standard Chartered Bank Site Reliability Engineer
Class of 2019, EPD Alumnus

EMPLOYER TESTIMONIALS

"Combining the best of both dimensions of healthcare and engineering, two contrasting and yet complementary fields. EPD students in the Healthcare Engineering Design track will have the strengths of system and product design thinking and engineering principles from SUTD with a good understanding of the healthcare ecosystem. These students with innovative mindsets and skills are able to cause disruptive and positive changes within healthcare systems or become successful entrepreneurs. With CGH's recent major expansion and close proximity to SUTD, our strategic partnership will form a comprehensive collaboration framework in various areas and provide many opportunities for students to have exposure in healthcare."

Dr. Hsu Pon Poh, Assistant Chairman, Medical Board (Clinical Development), Changi General Hospital

"SUTD students are self-starters and well-rounded engineers. They have a good mix between theory and hands-on experiences, and are enthusiastic about engineering.

Mr Peter Ho, Chief Executive Officer, HOPE Technik Pte Ltd