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## INAUGURAL BATCH OF FIVE ADULT EDUCATION FELLOWS RECOGNISED FOR THEIR EXEMPLARY CONTRIBUTIONS

**Singapore, 24 October 2017** – SkillsFuture Singapore has accorded the highest award to five Adult Education (AE) professionals who set the benchmark for quality and excellence, and who serve as role models. These individuals are conferred as Adult Education Fellows (AEFs) at the Institute for Adult Learning (IAL)'s fifth graduation ceremony today, officiated by Senior Minister of State for Education and Communications and Information, Dr Janil Puthucheary.

2 Under the national Adult Education Professionalisation (AEP) initiative, the AEF is accorded to exemplary AE professionals who are at the pinnacle of their AE practices and have made significant contributions in their relevant TAE fields of practice.

3 The five AEFs honoured are:

- Professor Annie Koh, Professor of Finance (Practice), Singapore Management University
- Professor Christopher Chia, Professor (Practice), NUS Business School
- Chef Eric Teo, Master Mentor, Asian Culinary Institute
- Associate Professor Lim Swee Hia, Senior Director, SingHealth Alice Lee Institute of Advanced Nursing
- Professor Lim Yeow Khee, President, Singapore Institute of Aerospace Engineers

More information on each of the AEFs is in [Annex A](#).

4 As recognised industry veterans, these AEFs will continue to contribute to the Training and Adult Education (TAE) sector in the following ways: i) Being a role model and mentor to inspire and nurture TAE professionals, ii) Advocating collaboration at the industry, national or international level, iii) Shaping learning and practices in the TAE community, iv) Fostering growth, seeding new ideas and being a catalyst of innovation, and v) Influencing and driving TAE initiatives.

5 Piloted in 2015 by IAL, the AEP initiative aims to advance the standards of AE professionals and to be recognised for their pedagogical and professional excellence as an Associate Adult Educator, Specialist Adult Educator or Adult Education Fellow at the pinnacle. To date, more than 600 AE professionals have been recognised under the AEP initiative. They possess diverse expertise in the domains of TAE, Leadership and Management, Workplace Safety and Health, Infocomm

Technology, Transport, Engineering and Hospitality. [Annex B](#) contains more information on the AEP initiative.

#### Inaugural SkillsFuture Study Award for the TAE Sector

6 The SkillsFuture Study Award for the TAE sector was also presented to first batch of 30 recipients at the same ceremony. This award encourages professionals under the AEP initiative to pursue skills mastery and deepen their professional competencies. Each successful recipient will receive a monetary award of \$5,000 which can be used to defray out-of-pocket expenses associated with their training for skills mastery. Please refer to [Annex C](#) for more information on the SkillsFuture Study Award for the TAE sector.

7 Chief Executive of SkillsFuture Singapore, Mr Ng Cher Pong, said, “The quality of Adult Educators is critical to the success of SkillsFuture, in helping to up-skill and re-skill our workforce. We are therefore excited to welcome the first five Adult Education Fellows. All of them are outstanding role models who have shown great dedication towards raising professional standards in the Training and Adult Education sector, and who inspire other Adult Educators to strive for excellence in their practice. We look forward to their continued contributions, especially in efforts to further raise the quality and professionalism of the sector.”

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#### **For media enquiries, please contact:**

Cherlyn Tan (Ms)  
Manager, Corporate & Marketing Communications  
SkillsFuture Singapore  
Email: [cherlyn\\_tan@ssg.gov.sg](mailto:cherlyn_tan@ssg.gov.sg)

Koh Su Ching (Ms)  
Principal Manager, Media Relations  
Corporate and Marketing Communications  
Email: [Koh\\_Su\\_Ching@ssg.gov.sg](mailto:Koh_Su_Ching@ssg.gov.sg)

### **About SkillsFuture Singapore**

SkillsFuture Singapore (SSG) drives and coordinates the implementation of the national SkillsFuture movement, promotes a culture of lifelong learning and strengthens the ecosystem of quality education and training in Singapore. Through a holistic system of national SkillsFuture initiatives, SSG enables Singaporeans to take charge of their learning journey in their pursuit of skills mastery. SSG also works with key stakeholders to ensure that students and adults have access to high quality and industry-relevant training that meet the demands of different sectors of the economy for an innovative and productive workforce. For more information, visit [www.ssg.gov.sg](http://www.ssg.gov.sg).

### **About the Institute for Adult Learning**

The Institute for Adult Learning (IAL) is at the forefront of building capabilities and continuing professional development for an effective, innovative and responsive Continuing Education and Training (CET) sector. We work closely and support adult educators, businesses, human resource developers and policy makers through our comprehensive suite of programmes and services on raising capabilities and catalysing innovations in CET. IAL also champions research in the key areas of sustaining economic performance through skills, shaping employment and CET decisions, as well as developing innovations through learning technology and pedagogy for informed policies and practices. For more information, please visit [www.ial.edu.sg](http://www.ial.edu.sg).

## LIST OF ADULT EDUCATION FELLOWS

S/N	Adult Education Fellows	
1		<p><b>Professor Annie Koh</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vice President, Office of Business Development, Singapore Management University</li> <li>• Professor of Finance (Practice) at Singapore Management University</li> <li>• Academic Director of International Trading Institute and Business Families Institute at Singapore Management University</li> </ul> <p><b>Highlights:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Professor Koh has been instrumental in bridging academia and the industry and has spearheaded major partnerships between Singapore Management University and the business world.</li> <li>• She was also behind initiatives such as the Business Advisors Programme where retrenched professionals are matched with small local enterprises for short-term consultancy stints, Foundation Training Programme to prepare fresh graduates for a career in local enterprises, and the International Trading Professional Conversion Programme where displaced mid-career professionals are re-skilled for career opportunities in the International Trading sector.</li> </ul>
2		<p><b>Professor Christopher Chia</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Professor (Practice), NUS Business School</li> </ul> <p><b>Highlights:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• During Professor Chia's chairmanship at NUS-Institute of System Science (ISS), he leveraged on his industry</li> </ul>

S/N	Adult Education Fellows	
		<p>experience and steered NUS-ISS in shaping the future of the ICT industry.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• He was inducted into the Singapore Computer Society's Hall of Fame in 2015, which honours individuals who have shaped the Infocomm &amp; Media landscape of Singapore.</li> <li>• From 2004 to 2010, as Chief Executive of the then Media Development Authority of Singapore, Professor Chia was responsible for transforming Singapore into a global trusted media capital.</li> <li>• As the founding Chief Executive Officer of the National Library Board in 1995, he led the team to innovate its way into the future by introducing cutting-edge innovation and business processes to set up digitally-networked libraries and transform them into lifestyle destinations.</li> </ul>
3		<p><b>Chef Eric Teo</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Honorary President Mentor, Singapore Chef's Association</li> <li>• Consultant, ET Culinary Arts</li> <li>• Master Mentor, Asian Culinary Institute</li> </ul> <p><b>Highlights:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chef Teo was accorded the Lifetime Achievement Award at the World Gourmet Summit 2017, an award which recognises individuals whose significant contributions over a minimum span of 15 years have led to the promotion and growth of excellence within the Food &amp; Beverage (F&amp;B) industry.</li> </ul>

S/N	Adult Education Fellows	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• He was one of the chef mentors for the Singapore's Culinary Team, who was crowned the overall champion of the Culinary Olympics 2016 competition held in Erfurt, Germany, one of the most prestigious international culinary competitions in the world.</li> <li>• Chef Teo collaborated with the Asian Culinary Institute to help equip aspiring chefs with the necessary skills to be job-ready. He also provides career talks at various institutions such as SHATEC, to inspire and encourage students and young cooks.</li> <li>• From 2006 to 2013, he was a key member of then Singapore Workforce Development Agency's F&amp;B Industry Skills and Training Council where he was involved in setting up and reviewing the F&amp;B Singapore Workforce Skills Qualifications framework.</li> </ul>
4		<p><b>Associate Professor Lim Swee Hia</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Senior Director, SingHealth Alice Lee Institute of Advanced Nursing</li> <li>• President, Singapore Nurses Association</li> </ul> <p><b>Highlights:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Associate Professor Lim was instrumental in helping the Singapore General Hospital (SGH) obtain the Magnet Accreditation (2010) while serving as the Group Director of Nursing at SingHealth, and Director of Nursing at the SGH and National Heart Centre Singapore. It is the highest international accolade for nursing excellence and leadership, and SGH was the first in Asia to have received it.</li> </ul>

S/N	Adult Education Fellows	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Associate Professor Lim was also a key member of then Singapore Workforce Development Agency's Healthcare Industry Skills and Training Council since its inception in 2007, and was heavily involved in the set-up, review and expansion of the Healthcare Support Singapore Workforce Skills Qualifications framework. She played a pivotal role in establishing the SingHealth Alice Lee Institute of Advanced Learning as a Continuing Education and Training Centre for nursing professionals.</li> <li>• Associate Professor Lim also spearheaded a spate of initiatives to elevate the nursing profession in Singapore. Some of the initiatives include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Skills Training Employability Enhancement for Retrenched and Unemployed Workers, and Return-To-Nursing Training Programmes for Registered and Enrolled Nurses to help retrenched/unemployed individuals and non-practising nurses to gain employment opportunities;</li> <li>b) Work redesign projects to expand and raise the professionalism of nursing jobs; and</li> <li>c) Training modules to enable nurses to expand their job role by taking on tasks with higher complexities</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
5		<p><b>Professor Lim Yeow Khee</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Managing Director of LYK Aerospace (S) Pte Ltd</li> <li>• President, Singapore Institute of Aerospace Engineers</li> <li>• Academic Chair, Air Transport Training College</li> </ul> <p><b>Highlights:</b></p>

S/N	Adult Education Fellows	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the early 2007, as a former Chairman of the Manufacturing Generic Skills Workforce Skills Qualifications (WSQ) Validation Committee and the Aerospace WSQ Technical Sub-Committee, Professor Lim was pivotal in developing and validating the generic skills modules for the manufacturing industry, technical skills for the Aerospace industry, and developing a national skills qualification framework for the manufacturing sector.</li>   <li>• He was heavily involved in establishing the Air Transport Training College (ATTC) in 1999 as the Professional Development Centre of the Singapore Institute of Aerospace Engineers (SIAE). In September 2007, ATTC was appointed by then Singapore Workforce Development Agency as a Continuing Education and Training (CET) Centre for the Aerospace industry and was subsequently conferred the status of a National CET Institute in 2013 to offer skills-based training for the Aerospace industry.</li>   <li>• Professor Lim also played a pivotal role in setting up the SIAE in 1975, a non-profit organisation, dedicated to aviation safety and aerospace technology, and providing aerospace professionals with opportunities to increase their knowledge and skills.</li> </ul>

## FACTSHEET ON ADULT EDUCATION PROFESSIONALISATION (AEP) INITIATIVE

### About the AEP Initiative

To raise the quality of the Continuing Education & Training (CET) system, it is important that we enable all Adult Education (AE) professionals, including those delivering training outside of the Singapore Workforce Skills Qualifications (WSQ) system, to continue to deepen their professional skills, and to be recognised for their mastery of skills. This is particularly so in view of the crucial role that professionals in Training and Adult Education (TAE) play in supporting the national SkillsFuture movement to impart knowledge and skills to our workforce. As of 2016, there are about 5,900 Adult Educators in Singapore who are actively involved in the delivery of publicly-funded CET programmes under the WSQ System.

The national AEP initiative is a step forward in creating a strong, dynamic and forward-looking Adult Education profession in Singapore. It was first piloted by the Institute for Adult Learning (IAL) in May 2015, to map out how AE professionals can continue to deepen their skills, and be recognised by the industry for their pedagogical and professional excellence. The initiative, officially launched in January 2017, was endorsed by the Training and Adult Education Skills Council, which comprises leading training providers, enterprises, trade unions as well as the Government agencies.

Participation in AEP is voluntary and AE professionals who meet the eligibility criteria will be recognised as an Associate Adult Educator (AAE) or Specialist Adult Educator (SAE) or Adult Education Fellow (AEF), depending on their skills mastery and area of specialisation. AEF is the highest level of recognition, and is invitation-based or by nomination only, based on the AE professional's achievements and contributions. The AEF category, which represents the highest accolade of the three tier AEP initiative, aims to recognise exemplary individuals at the pinnacle of AE practice. The structure of the AEP initiative is in Figure 1.



**Figure 1: Structure of the Adult Education Professionalisation (AEP) Initiative**

The recognition of AE professionals' expertise and qualification will be reviewed once every three years to ensure that they maintain currency in their practice and uphold the necessary continuous professional development requirements of their AEP titles.

### **Benefits of the AEP Initiative**

AE professionals recognised under the AEP initiative can gain access to a range of benefits to advance their professional standing and professionalism, thereby contributing to the mastery of skills and raising of CET quality. These benefits include opportunities for job and practice engagement to enhance their practice, business and networking within the professional community, and exclusive

continuing professional development to raise their pedagogical and professional competencies. These AE professionals are also eligible for the SkillsFuture Study Award under the TAE sector to pursue deepening specialised skills needed for Singapore's future growth and demand. With these clear benchmarks, organisations also have visibility and assurance in the TAE professionals they engage and the sector collectively gets levelled up with better capability to support the SkillsFuture movement.

In addition to the professional recognition of their experience, quality and strengths, these professionals can display their titles of AAE, SAE or AEF in their corporate stationery, such as business cards and email sign-offs. Their profiles will also be featured on IAL's website to provide them with added visibility on their domain and specialisation.

### **Be Part of the AEP Initiative**

Interested AE professionals can find out more about the AEP initiative and make an application at [www.ial.edu.sg/aep](http://www.ial.edu.sg/aep) where they meet the eligibility criteria. Enterprises and training organisations can similarly tap on this platform to look for suitable AE professionals for their training needs.

## **FACTSHEET ON SKILLSFUTURE STUDY AWARD FOR THE TRAINING AND ADULT EDUCATION SECTOR**

### **About SkillsFuture Study Awards**

The SkillsFuture Study Awards equip Singaporeans with the skills needed to benefit from quality jobs created by the economy. As Singapore continues to transit to an innovation-driven economy, new skills and competencies among Singaporeans will be in demand. Jobs are also evolving with new functions and existing ones requiring updated skillsets. The SkillsFuture Study Awards encourage Singaporeans to develop and deepen specialist skills needed by future economic growth sectors or in areas of demand. It also supports Singaporeans who already have deep specialist skills to develop other competencies.

Recipients of the SkillsFuture Study Awards will receive a monetary award of \$5,000, which they can use to defray out-of-pocket expenses associate with the course that they will be taking. It can also be used on top of existing Government course fee subsidies.

### **Who is it for?**

The SkillsFuture Study Awards are for early to mid-career Singaporeans who are committed to developing and deepening their skills in key sectors and have relevant working experience in such sectors.

### **SkillsFuture Study Award for the Training and Adult Education Sector**

#### Sector Overview

The Training and Adult Education Sector (TAE) plays a key role in developing the skills capabilities and mastery of the workforce. TAE professionals need to be highly skilled and masters of their craft in order to meet the continuing demand for quality education, learning and development in Singapore. They play a critical role in the national SkillsFuture movement and its focus on skills mastery and lifelong learning. Thus, TAE professionals need to keep abreast of evolving professionals trends and practices, future skills needs, and continue to deepen critical skills sets to stay relevant and responsive to the changing needs of the economy and industries.

#### Eligibility Criteria

- Singaporeans with at least two years of relevant working experience
- Committed to deepening skills in the sector
- Has track record of contributing to learning and training of others

- Not a previous recipient of any SkillsFuture Study Award
- Recognised as an Associate Adult Educator or Specialist Adult Educator under the Adult Education Professionalisation initiative
- Meets course entry requirements and is accepted for selected course of study
- Selected course of study must be related to the TAE sector
- Public service officers are not eligible for the SkillsFuture Study Awards

### Supported courses

Supported courses listed below are non-exhaustive.

<b>Course</b>	<b>Institution</b>
Doctor in Education	Nanyang Technological University – National Institute of Education
Master of Arts (Instructional Design & Technology)	Nanyang Technological University – National Institute of Education
Master of Arts in Lifelong Learning and Leadership	UCL Institute of Education (IOE) in collaboration with the Institute for Adult Education
Master of Arts in Professional Education	National Institute of Education in collaboration with IAL
Master of Arts in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages	Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand and SEAMEO RELC
Master of Education (MEd) in English Language	Nanyang Technological University – National Institute of Education
Master of Science in Skills and Workforce Development	Cardiff University in collaboration with the Institute for Adult Learning
Master of Training and Development	Griffith University in collaboration with the Institute for Adult Learning