



Where lifelong learning begins

ISSUE 1 / MDIS ALUMNI MAGAZINE 2017 / MCI (P) 145/01/2017

# MONUMENTAL DECISIONS FOSTER SUCCESS.

### **Features**

- MDIS Launches Bakery & Culinary Studio
- Alumni Spotlight: Mr Roy Chew Deputy Director, People's Association Mr Narendran Panir Selvam Trainer, MDIS

### Happenings

- Alumni Networking Night
- Day Trip to Johor Bahru Durian Tour
- Nature Explorer Series

# A card that connects... and more



### Dear Alumni,

Welcome to the Alumni Community of the **Management Development Institute of Singapore (MDIS)**. Enjoy an array of benefits with the new MDIS Alumni Card (MAC), including exclusive invitations to activities, Alumni event updates and discounts from our partners.

We look forward to seeing you at our MDIS Alumni Community events where you can keep in touch with your classmates and stay connected with your alma mater.

Have not received your card yet? Simply contact us at 6473 5885 or alumni@mdis.edu.sg today!

- Attractive rebates for progression students
- Auditorium and Facility Rental at member's rates
- Discount on selected items at Brew and Bites Café
- Enjoy special MDIS Toastmasters Club membership rate @ S\$107 per annum
- Exclusive invitations to Alumni events
- Gym and Badminton Court Usage at member's rates
- Special rates on Management Development & Consultancy (MDC) and Service Quality Centre (SQC) courses / programmes for personal and professional development
- TV Room and Pool Table Booking

# **The MDIS Experience**

We have all been hearing poor news about the economy. Globally, the world economy is struggling. There are much uncertainties arising from political events like Brexit and various risks in Asia. Locally, we are feeling the heat with a bleak job market, rising unemployment rates and retrenchment exercises. Such are moments where I am reminded of the heavy responsibilities that we shoulder as an educational institution. Amidst the difficult times, MDIS needs to step up and bring the best for our students more than ever.

It is crucial that the institute continues to identify future opportunities and accordingly, invest into our facilities and develop courses relevant to the future economy. On that note, I am proud to announce the grand opening of our new MDIS Bakery & Culinary Studio. This studio is on par with professional standards and is part of a roadmap to introduce more practical, skills-based curricula for people keen to enter the hospitality and Food & Beverage (F&B) sectors. There is a clear demand for more people to be trained for the industry. The F&B industry contributes about \$14.4 billion to Singapore's GDP, coupled with positive statistics released by the Singapore Tourism Board showing an upward growth for visitor arrivals and tourism receipts.

The opening of MDIS Bakery & Culinary Studio precedes the launch of several new programmes expected to be rolled out over the next few quarters and I am also pleased to share that MDIS has been appointed as a WSQ Approved Training Organisation. The significance is that learners can be confident in receiving nationally recognised training and attaining skills that are of high quality and value. This appointment is truly a remarkable achievement added to our allocades. We are eager to soon introduce new programmes in areas such as food & beverage and culinary management, fashion, healthcare and more.

In this issue of Bond, an alumnus showcased is our MDIS Trainer, Mr Narendran Panir Selvam. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science (Hons) in International Tourism & Hospitality Management from the University of Sunderland. Learn about his rewards and challenges as he shares details of his 6-month overseas internship at Hyatt Regency, Dubai and also, his reasons for returning to MDIS as a Trainer in the School of Tourism and Hospitality.

Seeing Alumni playing an active role in MDIS, sharing our traditions and values with current students always warms my heart. If it's been awhile since you return to campus, I urge you to participate in a variety of Alumni activities organised by MDIS Membership and Alumni Relations. Grasp the opportunity to forge new friendships and expand your network. As we embark into an uncertain future, I am confident of MDIS continuity as an institution of academic excellence and the employability of our Alumni.

HAMILINE GO

### Ms. Jestine Wong

Director MDIS Membership and Alumni Relations

### **FEATURE**

### MDIS Expands Skills-Based Curriculum, Launches Latest Bakery & Culinary Facilities



With a focus on expanding its skills-based offerings, MDIS announced the launch of its new hospitality facilities in conjunction with its partnership with notable City of Glasgow College, United Kingdom (CGC) on 28 March 2017.

Mr. Gary MacLean, Senior Chef Lecturer of CGC and winner of BBC's MasterChef: The Professionals 2016, along with Mr. Willie McCurrach, Curriculum Head for Food, were present to grace the special occasion. The launch heralded the extension of the partnership between MDIS and CGC, to extend the latter's internationally recognised and practicum based

programmes to students and working professionals here who wish to enter, upgrade or progress further in the hospitality industry.

For a start, MDIS plans to host various bakery and culinary workshops which are accessible to students and alumnus. The launch also precedes the introduction of several new academic programmes across various disciplines.

MDIS provides a transformative education that nurtures a future-ready workforce and the new facilities and programmes are a part of MDIS' academic thrust to introduce more practical, skills-based curricula in the areas of food & beverage, culinary management, fashion, healthcare and more.



The institute is also a Workforce Skills Qualifications (WSQ) Approved Training Organisation. Courses approved under the WSQ Framework will be accredited and qualifications obtained will be nationally recognised. Students, working professionals and the public can thus be confident that the skills they acquire from the MDIS Bakery & Culinary Studio workshops and courses will be of high quality and recognised by companies here.

### Masterchef Recipe Chocolate Fondant with Berry Compote



### **Ingredients:** 125g – 70% dark chocolate

125g – butter 30g – plain flour 150g – caster sugar 3 – large eggs

### Garnish:

Strawberries 3 Vanilla pods Sugar (according to taste)

### Method:

Melt chocolate and butter slowly over low heat in a pan. Whisk eggs and sugar together until well combined. Add flour. Stir both mixtures together and pour mixture into buttered moulds, preferably small pudding basins. Bake at 190°C for 10-12 minutes, making sure the center is still runny.

Dice strawberries. Cut open and scrape out the vanilla beans. Add sugar into a pan with the diced strawberries and vanilla beans. Cook for about 3-5 minutes. Pour over the Chocolate Fondant to serve.

### ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

## **Getting to the heart of hospitality**



Narendran Panir Selvam chose MDIS to pursue his Bachelor of Science (Hons) International Tourism and Hospitality Management (Top-Up), awarded by the University of Sunderland, UK. "MDIS' practicum curriculum stood out amongst all other tourism courses. What really attracted me was the 6-month internship opportunity, which would allow me to gain industry experience and build my network," he shared.

Narendran currently works as a Trainer in MDIS School of Tourism & Hospitality. A typical day at work involves Narendran training students in hotel operations. His role includes liaising with hotels, resorts and other hospitality and tourism related organisations for internship arrangements for his students. For his own internship, Narendran had the opportunity to go for an overseas stint with Hyatt Regency in Dubai.

During his overseas internship, Narendran was attached to the Rooms Division in Hyatt Regency, Dubai for six months. He had gained a wide array of experiences during his internship as he was deployed not only to front and back offices, but housekeeping duties as well.

"I can confidently say that the six months I spent interning at Hyatt Regency, Dubai were the best six months of my life! I am particularly proud to have been recognised by a guest and the hotel for exceptional services rendered and also being a part of the team that achieved the highest check-in score in the Southwest Asia region of Hyatt hotels. We set a record high of 97% for Hysat (Hyatt's internal guest satisfaction feedback system) in a month. These achievements proved my capabilities and gave me the confidence to improve myself further."

After graduating from MDIS in 2013, Narendran joined Grand Hyatt Singapore as a Guest Service Agent.

His passion was in teaching and after three years with Hyatt, Narendran made a career switch and returned for a trainer's position with his alma-mater, MDIS.

"I wanted to be able to impart my knowledge and skills to students who are keen to learn about the hospitality industry. Being able to provide positive impacts to the younger generations really attracted me to take up the trainer's role."

The most satisfying part of Narendran's job is the strong bonding and relationship he develops with his students. Being



an Alumnus, he can easily relate to current students and effectively impart his industry experience in classes.

"When I was a student at MDIS, I always had a great relationship with my lecturers and trainers. Similarly now that I am working here, I strive to ensure good relationships with my students. I believe the learning journey and experience we provide is what defines us the most as an educational institute."

### **ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT**

### An Academic Progression Through Determination and Perseverance

While his education path is by no means mainstream, Mr Roy Chew, Deputy Director at the People's Association, is a classic example of how perseverance and hard work pays off. Receiving an ITE education, Roy acknowledges the possible stigma that "ITE stands for it's the end" but to him, it is strictly in a different context. The ITE education was the end to all the setbacks and failures in his past.

Roy shares his story with MDIS and through his experiences, we learn about how his "never-say-die" (not giving up) motto pushed him towards greater heights.



#### A QUEST FOR KNOWLEDGE

Moving on from ITE, Roy went on to be a Police Officer with the Police Security Command. Taking a chance, he applied for a sponsored parttime diploma studies with Temasek Polytechnic, thinking he would not be accepted. When the application turned out to be successful, Roy took a leap of faith with the confidence and positive attitudes built from his ITE education. Despite his hectic work schedules, he enjoyed the learning process and successfully completed the programme.

Roy chose MDIS for his degree education as his institution of choice. What attracted Roy was the renowned university partners partnering with MDIS. The programmes were also reasonably priced. The positive branding of MDIS reassured his investment and most importantly to him, the employability of MDIS degree graduates was a key consideration in making this choice.

Roy enrolled in a degree in Marketing, offered by the University of Bradford. In his two year study, Roy recounts how he enjoyed the allencompassing learning experiences and the well-selected modules offered in the curriculum. The lecturers at MDIS were industry practitioners, ensuring knowledge and insights imparted were relevant. Additionally, the well planned schedules provided great convenience for him, as he juggled between full-time work and part-time studies.

His academic journey did not stop after obtaining his degree. Roy will be graduating from Nanyang Technological University with a Master Degree in July 2017, sponsored by the People's Association.

### A MEANINGFUL CAREER

Roy is currently the Deputy Director with the People's Association. A typical day for him starts with his morning Crossfit workouts. Roy pumps in 100% effort every morning as it helps him set his pace and tone for the rest of the day. At work, Roy spends much time attending staff meetings and meeting community partners or leaders. When things quieten down in the evenings, he spends his nights clearing reports and his email.

"I see myself as a community connector. I get satisfaction when I build new networks and connect the dots in strengthening the community and helping them build a strong sense of national purpose and belonging. This of course involves overcoming various obstacles and challenges." He further added that having good people skills and being sincere is essential in his work. When faced with challenges, resilience is key and a "never-say-die" (not giving up) attitude is essential.

### LOOKING BACK

When asked if he would have done anything differently, Roy shares, "I might have hoped to have studied harder during my secondary school. However, our life journey shapes us to be who we are today and I think I'm doing fine now. It's still work in progress for me."

For the students that may be experiencing similar circumstances like him, he wants them to accept that it is ok to be confused about the future at times. "Feeling lost is part of the journey. Embrace the lost moment but never lose sight of what you have set out to achieve. Success is a lifelong journey and the key is to cultivate the habit of giving your best effort to every task that comes your way."



Management Development & Consultancy The Corporate Training Arm of MDIS

# Who Are We?

**MDC** provides a wide range of well-designed programmes specially catered for business organisations with different training needs

### **Public Seminars**



Popular Public Seminars:

- Out-of-the-Box Thinking and Problem Solving with PRISM<sup>®</sup>
- Leading High Performance Teams
- Conflict Management Skills
- Project Management Masterclass
- Assertiveness Techniques and Approaches

For more courses, please visit www.mdis.edu.sg/corporate-training

### **Overseas Business**



### **Customised Training**



Analyse the business and training need to get to the core of development requirements

Identify the skills, knowledge and behaviours needed for optimum performance

Assemble training solutions for your desired outcomes

Provide solutions beyond the model of conventional training

MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT & CONSULTANCY (MDC) 20 Orchard Road Singapore 238830 Tel: (65) 6842 6666 Email: mdc@mdis.edu.sg Website: www.mdis.edu.sg/corporate-training

### **EVENTS**

### **Alumni Networking Night**



MDIS hosted its first Alumni Networking Night in November last year at Tropical Breeze, MDIS Campus. The event was attended by over 90 Alumni and postgraduate students, where everyone bonded over a scrumptious buffet and fine wines. We were also pleased to have an Alumni sharing session as part of the programme where two of our Alumni, Mr Jasper Chan and Mr Tan Zhi Hong, shared their insightful experience of their exciting careers in the corporate world.



### **MDIS Movie Night: Doctor Strange**

Last October, over 120 Alumni, Students, Corporate members and their families enjoyed themselves at our ever popular Movie night, premiering Doctor Strange by Marvel Studios. Held at Golden Village, VivoCity, participants were treated to drinks and popcorn while immersing themselves in the mysterious movie. Register early for our upcoming movie premier, Transformers: The Last Knight in June 2017.



### **1 Day Durian-licious Tour at Johor Bahru**

30 students, alumni and members took part in a one day trip to Johor Bahru, Malaysia, for a durian feast on Saturday, 16 July 2016. Much to the participants' delight, free-flow of durian was served at the durian plantation in Tangkak.

Apart from the durian feast, they were brought for some shopping at local stores. The trip was concluded after a sumptuous eight-course dinner. Ley Came, from Bangor University, has this to say of the trip, "I had a great time at this trip, and it's fun to mingle with the others."





### **Nature Explorer Series: Coney Island**



On 27 August 2016, MDIS Alumni & Students got to explore the rustic Coney Island. The scenic new park underwent a 15-month makeover with its natural character preserved.

Maintained by the National Parks Board, our alumni spent the morning checking out the world away from the city's urbanity. Besides being rich in history, the 50ha Coney Island Park houses a wide variety of habitats, including coastal forests, grasslands, mangroves, and casuarina woodlands. It is also home to a wide variety of fauna and flora, some of which are critically endangered.



### **Events Calendar 2017**

**28** JUN

MDIS Movie Night presents Transformers: The Last Knight



Venue: Golden Village, VivoCity

Fees: \$8 (Students/Alumni/Members) \$14.50 (Public)

Be the first to catch our blockbuster movie premier Transformers: The Last Knight with your friends and family over our treat of popcorns and drinks!



CEO Breakfast Talk – Leadership & the Entrepreneurship Journey

### Fees: Complimentary (Students/Alumni/Members) Public: \$80



The journey to successful entrepreneurship is a combination of risk taking and leadership, often fraught with challenges. Hear from leading industry experts as they share on their entrepreneurship journey in overcoming the speed bumps and how they are expanding their business globally.



Nature Explorer Series: Sungei Buloh Walk

Fees: \$3 (Students/Alumni/Members) Public: \$5



Discover the beauty and wonders of nature at Singapore's first ASEAN Heritage Park. Uncover a world filled with rich biodiversity as you wander through the wetlands with an extensive mangrove forest at Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve. Explorers will get to discover the native inhabitants such as mudskippers, crabs, shellfish, water snakes, birds, spiders, monitor lizards and otters. Come join us if you like trekking and enjoy spending time in nature. **12-13** AUG

MDIS Badminton Tournament 2017

# Fees: Please check our website for more details



Come and have a great time as you pit your skills in a friendly competition at our annual MDIS Badminton Tournament! Winners stand to take home prizes worth up to \$2,000.



MDIS MusicFest 2017

Fees: Please check our website for more details



Party with us and our Singapore local bands at our inaugural MDIS MusicFest held at MDIS Campus! Our finalists from Talentime will also be competing in their final round of performance live on stage. Join us and show your support for them while having a great time!



Football Tournament 2017

Fees: Please check our website for more details



Score your way to glory at MDIS Football Tournament 2017. Winners will walk away with attractive cash prizes! Stay tuned for more information.

### **Treats Partners**



#### **Discounts and Privilege**

#### Exclusive MDIS Weekend Staycation Package without breakfast

Superior Room – S\$179++ Deluxe Room – S\$209++

- Rate is Inclusive of movie tickets for 2 persons
- Rate is Inclusive of Complimentary upgrade to Bayview Room (Subject to availability)
- Rate is Inclusive of 15% off hotel F&B outlets
- Rate is Inclusive of High Speed Internet access

### Exclusive MDIS Weekend Staycation Package with breakfast includes:

#### Superior Room – S\$199++ Deluxe Room – S\$229++

- Rate is Inclusive of Breakfast for 2 persons and Internet access
- Rate is Inclusive of movie tickets for 2 persons
- Rate is Inclusive of Complimentary upgrade to Bayview Room (Subject to availability)
- Rate is Inclusive of 15% off hotel F&B outlet
- Rate is Inclusive of High Speed Internet access

#### **Terms and Conditions**

- Additional breakfast is at S\$25++ per person per day
- Rate is Exclusive of Tax
- Rate is valid for per night stay only on Weekend Stay (Friday to Sunday )
- A surcharge of S\$50++ per room per night is applicable in addition to the staycation rate during F1 Singapore GP 2017, 14 - 17 September 2017
- Cancellations can be made without charge 48 hours before arrival date
- For enquiries and reservations, please call 6233 1122 or email rsvns.gcw@millenniumhotels.com



#### **Discounts and Privileges**

• 20% off all bookings on ZEN Rooms website

#### **Terms and Conditions**

- Please use ZENMDIS20 upon confirmation of booking
- Terms and conditions on site applies

#### **Contact Details**

Website: https://www.zenrooms.com/



#### Discounts and Privileges

Enjoy 15% off total bill

#### Terms and Conditions

- Valid MDIS membership card / staff pass must be presented during purchase
- Promotion is not valid in conjunction with other promotions and discounts
- G.SPA Pte Ltd reserves the right to amend the terms and conditions without prior notice
- Promotion is valid till 31 Dec 2017

#### **Contact Details**

- Website: www.gspa.com.sg
- Tel: 6280 8988



#### **Discounts and Privileges**

• 25% off Thai Steamboat when 4 or more dines

#### Terms and Conditions

- Valid from Mondays to Thursdays for Lunch and Dinner at all outlets, except Great World City
- Reservation is required
- Present MDIS Card upon ordering to enjoy discount
- Not valid with other in-house promotions and credit card privileges
- Management reserves the right to amend prices, dishes, promotions and/or terms and conditions without prior notice

#### **Contact Details**

Website: http://www.bangkokjam.com.sg

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#### **Discounts and Privileges**

- Non-peak Novice Kart @ \$22 (UP: \$28)
- Non-Peak Advance Kart @ \$28 (UP: \$35)
- Peak Novice Kart @ \$28 (UP: \$35)
- Peak Advance Kart @ \$35 (UP: \$45)

#### Terms and Conditions

- Valid MDIS Membership card, Staff card or Student Card to be presented upon booking of kart
- Not valid in conjunction with other promotions or offers
- Valid till 31 Dec 2017

#### **Contact Details**

• Website: www.kf1karting.com



### 🛱 Cheen Wrap

Download the App or sign up at www.cheerwrap.com and enter the below Redemption Code to enjoy 8 of our marchants reward Gift Cards worth \$282.1

MDIS2017

**KUSHRAV BHADA** MDIS Alumnus (Class of 2015)

### BE PRIZED AS A PROFESSIONAL, WHEREVER YOU GO.

### **BE A MONUMENTAL SUCCESS**

At MDIS, we nurture and amplify the potential of our students while encouraging them to become lifelong learners. For more than 60 years, we have fostered professionals capable of carving out exciting careers and positively impacting society.

#### **MDIS BUSINESS SCHOOL**

- Master of Business Administration Awarded by the University of Sunderland, UK
- Master of Business Administration in Banking and Finance
- Master of Business Administration in International Marketing
  Awarded by Bangor University, UK
- Master in International Business Awarded by Grenoble Graduate School of Business, France

- Graduate Diploma in Human Resource Management
- Graduate Diploma in Business and Finance
- Graduate Diploma in Public Service Management
- Graduate Certificate in Public Administration and Management Awarded by MDIS

#### SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

- Master of Science Engineering Management
- Master of Science Project Management
  Awarded by Northumbria University, UK



#### **SCHOOL OF HEALTH & LIFE SCIENCES**

 Master of Science in Health Sciences (Management)
Awarded by Northumbria University, UK

### SCHOOL OF TOURISM & HOSPITALITY

 Master of Science Tourism and Hospitality Awarded by the University of Sunderland, UK

MDIS Merit Scholarships (Local)\* available \*Terms and conditions apply

Our University Partners:















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Management Development Institute of Singapore Reg. No. 201001793H 20 May 2014 to 19 May 2018

Where lifelong learning begins

#### THINK SUCCESS. THINK MDIS.

6247 9111 / 6372 1000
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