How long have you been teaching IEM?
I've been teaching IEM for 4 years since 2009. Experience with IEM students. They are quite adventurous and they're willing to try out. Compared with some design students that I teach, because they didn't learn so much, they do more.

Sometimes, if the students think they know a lot, they'll only do what they think is required. For IEM students, I guess they are not that exposed to design, they do a bit more, they try, and they ask questions.

In that sense I think there are less constraints within them. Also I think in that sense it's good for students to be exposed to this kind of course. While they're technical, they are also exposed to all these artistic and creative stuff.

As a combination of arts and engineering?
I think it's a good mix. First of all, being able to do all the technical stuff and be exposed to design side is critical, because nowadays you don't get jobs that solely focus on one aspect.

You're required to do a few things and you need to do something that you're not required to do. Because the job scope changes. It's very organic. It's not like where it used to be when you just do what's in your job scope.

Nowadays they ask you whether you can do something else. That's how you grow and develop.

If you just want to do one thing, you'll never be able to grow. So I think the beauty of the course is that they expose students to all these. You may find that the course is very general, but in a way it sort of prepares you to whatever that's coming outside.

You must add value to your company. They'll see you as an asset because you can do a lot of other things that you're not required to do, and you're willing to do it.

So that's kind of the advantage of IEM students. How about the disadvantages?
I guess the disadvantage is that four years in this course is quite short. So you are only given a brief introduction. You're only touching the surface of whatever you're doing. You may not have in-depth knowledge of anything, but you're given everything.
Just do something extra. Meet and interact with people of the field that you’re interested in. Just go into it, maybe do it for free. It’s not about money, it’s about the knowledge, it’s about the exposure. Whoever gives you the opportunity, you just take it. I think that would help you to grow in that aspect.

**HOW DA3000 COULD HELP STUDENTS WITH THEIR CAREER?**

I guess the basic ones are tangible. You learn how to use the software, and you learn how to visualize. But the intangible is that it helps students understand that there’s always another solution. We want them to see in different perspective.

If you’re able to open yourself up to different perspectives, you learn to solve problem differently. That’s applying design thinking into everyday life.

It’s not only about the job, it’s also about how you deal with people.

Once you open up the possibility that there’s no one single solution to a problem, you can give many options so that we can get to the solution in the end. You open yourself to see.

If you design a hairdryer, if you say a hairdryer must always have a handle and a switch to switch on and off, then you’re always stuck with that solution.

So you want to change your perspective. What if you don’t have a handle, what if the requirement is that you need to pack it and travel overseas? So the solution changes.

**WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE FUTURE OF IEM STUDENTS IN DESIGN?**

It’s a new market, but also is a growing market. The potential and the prospect are there, but it’s not conventional. If you’re looking at a very conventional way of getting a job, competing with the usual group of people, then you’re at a disadvantage. But then if you look at the skillset that you have, it’s unique.

Of course you may not have a lot on the creative side, but you have the technical side, which the design people don’t have. They are always at lost and close themselves up when faced with technical stuff. That’s the reason why they never go into computer or engineering.

So for you guys I think that’s the advantage. You have to be like an entrepreneur. You have to learn to find your own job. Even for designers nowadays there’s no street job that gives you a nice salary and you can just take it. It’s getting tougher and tougher. There are so many graduates coming out. The only way to survive is to add value, to think you’re the boss, you’re doing your own business. Whoever that hires you and gives you a salary, you’re doing a service to them. So the perception of your work has to change.

**ANYTHING ELSE TO SAY TO IEM STUDENTS?**

The job market is changing, so we have to build up our work as if it’s our own business. We have to add value, and treat everything that we do as our own. Don’t just think it’s so difficult to get the job, the market is so small. You have a niche. It’s just finding the market for it.
IEM FACEBOOK
our family album
BATCH 2009/2010/2011
OBJECTIVES:
- To become a medium for the freshmen to introduce and familiarize themselves in NTU
- To become a channel for the bonding among the EEE & IEM freshmen
- To message to all EEE & IEM students to bond as a one big family in NTU

PROGRAMME:

Day Event: EEE/IEM Orientation Day
Date: 3 August 2012, Friday
Time: 0930
Venue: LT24 (Block SS1-B2-03)


Night Event: Meet your Alumni/Seniors
Date: 3 August 2012, Friday
Time: 1700-2200
Venue: Canteen B tables, Canteen B concourse and LT24

PROGRAMME:

1700-1800: Grand opening (Break into OGs + attendance)
1800-1930: Icebreakers
1830-1900: Games
1900-2100: Dinner + discussions for skit
2100-2200: Grand finale (Skit performance + prize-giving ceremony)

ATTENDANCE:
Freshmen - 78
Seniors - 25
Alumni - 3
It was a relaxing and heartwarming night; everyone wore a big smile on their face all night.

This year, every participant got a mooncake as a door gift which made the whole SRC filled with the cozy atmosphere of moonlight festival.

On 28th September 2012, the whole IEM big family gathered together and celebrated the IEM 6th annual gathering and the moonlight festival.

Not only the students across each year participated in this enjoyable and relaxing event, but also professors and alumni took their time and joined the celebration.

There were also VIPs came to the party - Assoc Professor Teh Kah Chan, Assoc Professor Chua Hock Chuan and Miss Quek Hong Choo, Joanne.

This year, every participant got a mooncake as a door gift which made the whole SRC filled with the cozy atmosphere of moonlight festival. The SRC room was decorated in a traditional moonlight festival way with red lanterns and riddles hanged. The party started with several games which lights up everyone's mood.

Followed up Associate Professor Chua Hock Chuan gave an important briefing on DIP/IO/IA for students to be better prepared for their academic roads lying ahead.

After that, the IEM Yearbook 2011-2012 was launched and introduced by Li Ruixue who was one of the editors of the yearbook.

Everyone enjoyed the dinner and the specially prepared chocolate fountain. At the same time, students and professors shared their thoughts and experiences together which made the dinertime pleasant and meaningful.

Then the VIPs were invited to cut an agar-agar cake which specially pasted with IEM party poster signifying the success of the IEM party which pushed the party to the summit.

The winners of IEM design competitions were announced and prizes were given out. After that great performances were presented by IEM students and other guests performers.

It was a relaxing and heartwarming night; everyone wore a big smile on their face all night.

Writer of the story
John Sebastian Doe
Held at SRC Clubhouse @ Yunnan Corner on 1st of March, the IEM Gathering Party 2013 is yet another fun and relaxing gathering for all IEMies.

It was a great opportunity for lower year students to interact with their seniors, academic mentors and alumni. The gathering turned out to be a more relaxing and interesting one for all as we had a MASQUERADE party and chic masks were distributed to all early birds. Everyone relished a delicious dinner (BBQ) as well as special ordered desserts. There were also exciting GAMES, KARAOKE, BILLIARDS. Last but not least, a LUCKY DRAW prizes were won throughout the night. What a blast!
ACHIEVEMENTS & AWARDS
Tell us about yourself?

I studied in IEM and graduated within four and a half years. I extended half a year because I didn’t want to cram too many AUs into one single semester.

I started to become interested with entrepreneurship when I was in Year 3 in 2011 and it was actually by chance. That time I was having an overseas internship in China. I was in Beijing for six months, working there as a graphic designer in an engineering company.

It was what I saw in Beijing that triggered some thoughts in me. I still remember visiting one of the farmers’ houses when I was on vacation in China. I witnessed how poor the family is. Due to irregular weather patterns nowadays, they could not earn a decent living for themselves. The very sight was traumatizing and I can still recall how dry the land is. So when I came back to Singapore, I became more concerned with the issue on global warming.

I used to be informed about the environmental problems only through textbooks but now that I have witnessed real-life situations, I was really deeply touched. So I decided to utilise my area of expertise – electrical engineering – to make some meaningful changes.

It all started with my Final Year Project in NTU. Back then, I was doing some research work on a kind of renewable energy known as Piezo. At the same time, while I was doing my FYP, I came across this business challenge competition which is called Ideasinc, so I decided to just give it try and submitted a business proposal similar to my FYP topic.

What prompted you to start a company?

So as mentioned earlier on, it was an experience in China that led to all the events which follow after. So using my FYP topic, I went into this.

At the same time, I applied for this business challenge and submitted the initial idea. Subsequently, we managed to get in and things proceeded along the way.

However, the first attempt in the business challenge was not with eVida. That was actually my first start-up attempt with another
company. It wasn’t very successful and that is why I exited from the company. For me, it’s just that the first business evolved not to my liking. It evolved from Piezo to video-making and then to QR code.

My interest lies in renewable energy and I believe that the idea will still work. I believe the market needs this product. After all being said, I think it is really about perseverance. That's why I pressed on with the second start-up eVida. A lot of people running a company mentioned about the word perseverance. It’s actually true.

WHAT ARE SOME OF THE PROBLEM/RISKS FACED?

I would say more of time management. In general, it’s like a commitment to abide by the deadlines that you have set for yourself. The critical period for the company was the last semester of Darius’ year 4 when there were a lot of dues, project deadlines and FYP deadlines. That time I have already graduated. In fact, for the whole half a year I was virtually managing everything by myself.

Given this setting, most of the time it was very hard to meet Darius and Jianlong. Sometimes I had to excuse myself from important meetings. My friends really helped me a lot and did most of the work. I appreciate them very much for their effort and I try to compensate in other forms such as buying them dinner or in the future if they have any need, they can come to me.

Can you tell us about the recent IdeasInc Business Challenge 2013 competition that your team took part in?

I would say it is the network. After spending my undergraduate years of revenue. We also need to keep ourselves informed of the government schemes available to help local companies. In view of the gigantic amount of work, we had to work out a way to distribute tasks and work in a smart way.

How do you juggle between studies and business?

I would say that I am not a good example at striking a balance between studies and business. I am not a first class honour holder and I graduated with a second lower honours degree. Unfortunately, I had to give and take. So I gave my commitment more to the company than to my studies. But I still completed my studies anyway. So how do I juggle these two very important aspects?

I would say, to a certain extent, I depended on my friends, especially when it comes to project work. Sometimes I had to excuse myself from important meetings. My friends really helped me a lot and did most of the work. I appreciate them very much for their effort and I try to compensate in other forms such as buying them dinner or in the future if they have any need, they can come to me.

Can you tell us about the recent IdeasInc Business Challenge 2013 competition that your team took part in?

I would say it is the network. After spending my undergraduate years
at NTU, I realise the most valuable asset that I can keep with me from the school is the network as well. The certificate itself does not say much about a person. The very reason I am talking to you and being interviewed is the fact that I know Ms Sandy who is in-charge of IEM students' welfare. This is so precious and this is why I am still connected to the school. The people I know will make a lot of difference as they are the ones who connect me with people whom they think will help me. So the same thing applies for the competition. In this competition, there were also other start-up companies. As we went through the entire process together, we shared a lot of similar experience. We shared our highs and lows in this project. At the end, we realise that we are more like friends rather than enemies. Likewise, in the world of business, I cannot emphasise more how important it is to have people to help you out. After the competition, we were telling one another that it's not the end of our journey, it's the beginning, so let's help each other out if there is a need or if we see in any way we can collaborate, we could do that. I think it's good to have these people who you know when you are need of help, you can approach them. For example, if in the future, their client might need some service from us. The network also includes the organisers and people who came down to speak to us. These people shared their valuable industrial experiences and insights with us generously.

What is important is establishing your network and get connected with people who can help you in the years to come. You have to make them feel being appreciated and there has to be some rapport built on a personal level. It is not nice to disappear and suddenly ask for help. So by then, we would have become self-sustainable, meaning our revenue can support our expenses. In the 4th year, we plan to venture into overseas market. They are Sheryl Yeo and Jianyun Ng. I would say that they are people who grab opportunities along the way. These are really my heartfelt words. As a student, I went through the same things as you guys did. But I would say as a student, you shouldn't just see the importance of results. We shouldn't just make ourselves believe that results is equal to salary. There is a big difference. Good grades don't necessarily mean a high salary. What is important is establishing your network and get connected with people who can help you in the years to come. It is applicable even for students who want to find their niche in the corporate world and knowing the right people will help you move up the corporate ladder.

WHERE YOU SEE YOURSELF AND YOUR COMPANY EVIDA IN 5 YEARS?
Actually our financial projections are only planned out for the next three years. But now that you ask, I can share that by the third year, we would have already rolled out our maiden product, MotionSparkTM. And I would like to take this opportunity to mention Prof Yeo Kiat Seng for his technical advice when we are developing MotionSparkTM. The first country we are considering is Brunei. On the 5th year, we probably have an overseas operation office at Brunei. So MotionsparkTM would have already been in the third generation. Then we will probably think of a second in-house product. The second country to go is Malaysia. What words of advice would you give to other IEM juniors or student entrepreneurs?
I would like to take this opportunity to mention two IEM juniors and give them credit for their open-mindedness in accepting opportunities and focus on non-academic development in helping us to build the company web site on a voluntary basis. They are Sheryl Yeo and Jianyun Ng. I would say that they are people who grab opportunities along the way. These are really my heartfelt words. As a student, I went through the same things as you guys did.

"Award for those who learn and earn" in Straits Times
Interview with Tiny Thomas

Thomas has attained a number of awards over the past few years of his undergraduate studies. The following interview is based on his recent experience on winning the 3rd prize of Code Xtreme National Hackathon against 80+ other teams.

**INTEREST?**

I am just an ordinary man who likes to make stuff. My area of interest is broad, from electronics, programming, to arts, media, music, and etc. Basically I am always very hungry. I like to try out every single thing that looks fun to me. I just can’t treat life linearly. I don’t like to be bounded by rules and I hate routines.

**WHAT INSPIRE YOU TO GO FOR THE COMPETITION?**

I can’t really tell why I like to participate in competitions. Maybe I was drawn to the tension and pressure. Of course, it also has to be the opportunity to prove myself. Personally I feel that that is something I can do better than writing answers on exam papers. However, to me, the best part is the preparation when I get to spend most of my time learning something new and mingling with my teammates. It is tough sometimes to lead a team where every single one of them is smarter than me, but I guess that’s how I grow and I love growing.

**HOW DID YOU COME UP WITH THAT PROJECT IDEA?**

Ideas are everywhere. Sometimes my friends and I could just talk about ideas all day long. I surround myself with a lot of creative people with tons of crazy ideas. This is something I am very proud of. There is a Chinese saying that goes like this, ‘you mess with pigs, you smell like pig.’ Well, I am not sure if it is appropriate to use it here, but yea you get it.

**WHO / WHAT DO YOU LOOK FOR IF YOU ENCOUNTERED DIFFICULTY?**

When I encounter difficulties in life, I seek for help! No one can win the war by himself. I guess this seems like common sense to everybody, but sometimes stubbornness and ego get into our way. I am no exception and I learnt this by the hard way. As we grow up, more and more things tend to get out of control. Learning to be humble and learning to ask are important (A constant reminder to myself). As for whom do I look for? Well, it all depends on what kind of difficulty I have in hand. I acquire a lot of knowledge and useful information from books the jungle of wisdom.

**WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO YOUR JUNIOR?**

Be crazy. Do things that will make you remember and regret. Surround yourself with the people you like. Start doing things by asking yourself, WHY NOT. Do not believe when others say you should not, or you cannot. If you want to be ordinary, go ahead. If you want to be an outcast, just do it. Even when you’re reading this, ask yourself, ‘Do I have to believe these same old gaga told by these boring looking seniors? What is so special about them?’
I am just an ordinary man who likes to make stuff. My area of interest is broad, from electronics, programming, to arts, media, music, and etc. Basically I am always very hungry. I like to try out every single thing that looks fun to me. I just can’t treat life linearly. I don’t like to be bounded by rules and I hate routines.

I was invited by one of the incubator from SiTF. My objective of participating in this award is to engage with industry professionals and yes indeed, I received a lot of useful feedbacks and advices.

I also got the opportunity to network with experts from the industry, members from iDA, MDA, etc. I’ve even got to meet the Minister of State! I am happy that I came out on top. One funny thing is I didn’t actually aware of the level of competition. During the first round judging, I wore smart casual with a jeans and my favorite Converse.

When I arrived at the venue that’s the moment I realized everyone was wearing formal with suit and tie. What is worse? I was the only one who went solo. Every other team consists of 4 to 5 people. Nonetheless, I enjoy the competition and most importantly, it was fun. I am now more motivated and preparing for my next coming project.

Please stay tuned. :)  

ABOUT MY PROJECT: VIRTUAL INSTRUMENTS ONLINE STUDIO

Some parents like to groom their children in the music arena. However, they may not necessary know which musical instrument their children will like and it is also costly to let them try out all before focusing on the right one.

We have developed a solution to enable parents in saving cost and yet able to let the children try out all instrument. We call it An Adventure of Bunny Tori, a motion sensors game which allow children to play on various instruments in virtual form while having fun in an adventure.

WHAT IS SITF AWARD?

SiTF Awards, organised by Singapore infocomm Technology Federation (SiTF), is to provide recognition to innovative ICT Application / Solution which are developed locally.

This award, championed by the industry, is an important accolade to the infocomm innovations in Singapore.

It shall provide MNCs, local enterprises and institutions, with the opportunity to showcase their innovative product and services. It also offers an excellent platform to create awareness, seek investors and identify business partners.

The judges who preside over the competition are distinguished individuals; amongst them are luminaries of ICT industry, venture capitalists, investors and academia.

Nominees who participate in SiTF Awards will receive professional feedback on their submissions from the judging panel.

Networking opportunities for participating organizations with prospective partners and investors are also available.

I am just an ordinary man who likes to make stuff. My area of interest is broad, from electronics, programming, to arts, media, music, and etc. Basically I am always very hungry. I like to try out every single thing that looks fun to me. I just can’t treat life linearly. I don’t like to be bounded by rules and I hate routines.

Be crazy. Do things that will make you remember and regret.
half-baked. The detection of the taps was very unreliable and had low accuracy. Now, to have seen it improve in all aspects (resolution, sensitivity, accuracy etc...), it’s really very satisfying. Not that I actively contributed to the improvement of the technology, but yeah. :) What Honours/Awards have you received?

This project actually came first in the DIP competition when we first took part in it, and it was really pretty memorable because we weren’t expecting it at all, given that the technology was still very half-baked. The detection of the taps was very unreliable and we weren’t exactly sure if it was demo-ready at all. A bunch of us stayed overnight in the lab to test the setup out repeatedly, and to prepare for all the presentation materials. And amazingly, we actually came in first among that DIP competition. That was pretty amazing and sweet.

What is your future plan?

Continue honing my skills as a designer while learning more ‘stuff’ (e.g. pick up new languages and technical skills), then eventually striking out on my own?

What advice would you give to your junior?

Unio is really a wonderful place. It’s great to build friendships, to go crazy and personal projects now.

Grades aren’t important. (I know this might sound hypocritical coming from me, but it’s really heartfelt. And don’t stereotype that just because someone has a high CGPA they must necessarily be hard core muggers with no social life. That’s mean. >> And very petty.) Not that I’m asking you not to strive for the best honours you can get and cope with, but it’s the relationships formed and the memories that are the most important. I’ve never regretted my choice in IEM, in part because the course really suit my interests, but mostly still because of the damn awesome friends I have made.

Please don’t backstab people or be a freelancer or whatever. Grades don’t matter. That. Important. Compared to the friends you make and the happiness you can give/receive from each other, grades are meh. I’m thankful to still keep in touch with a lot of graduated IEMies.

Also, most of us graduate still not sure what we’re going to do. If you’re still unsure what you like, relax and try as much as you can. It’s ok to bumble around and take a few years to figure yourself out.

Hi! I’m a fresh graduate from the IEM Econ double degree programme. Currently, I’m working as a product/UX/UI designer in Zopim Technologies (Awesome company!) and doing some freelance work on the side.

Who are the members in your team?

Let me share a little about how it went. Basically, I worked on the project for DIP when this was still starting out. Then, my DIP group (I was in algo team, Sun Jiapei was the overall leader) helped developed the initial prototype using acoustic sensors.

After DIP was over, and one year later, Andy found some students to help him with further testing and for commercialization of the technology. I was one of them. Eunice Ong (just graduated), Dingjie, Liu Kai, and Kylie (EEE) were/are other students involved at different stages. We helped him with business proposals and presentations and sometimes to set up demos for visitors.

He included my name at the time the competition was taking in submissions. Thus, my main contribution are actually really the proposals and presentations. Technical stuff wise, I really just helped out in the initial phases with the prototype. Members other than the students mentioned, would be the researchers and Prof Andy Khong.

What are the challenges you’ve faced?

Challenges I would say keeping up with the researchers and Professor Andy Khong? Very obviously, I cannot compare with them when it comes to technical knowledge, so sometimes, I do get lost in the discussion when the specific workings on the technology come out. Fortunately, they’re always very kind and patient in explaining things to me. Coping with the workload sometimes also proved difficult.

Who do you look for if you encountered difficulty?

Prof Andy Khong. Since he was leading the team, it was best to look for him. He’s always very patient and willing to talk things through. If it was some technical aspect of the project that I could not understand, I would look for the researcher in charge of that component of the project.

Describe your most rewarding experience.

Seeing the project grow from its infancy definitely. When we started out on it during DIP, it was still very
Massive travelling is always part of the exchange experience, especially in Europe! I can’t even name all the countries that I have been to: Italy, Hungary, Germany, Czech Republic and so many more until I got my passport stolen in the hometown of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, which kept me in Sweden for quite a while.

Sometimes you need some adventure, to escape from the ridiculous pricing of Sweden!!! What about St Petersburg, Russia? Okay, slightly cheaper, still expensive. However, it was loads of fun in St Petersburg. We asked a cute Russian (perfectionist) to help us take a group photo and this guy was taking like 10 photos and still did not satisfy.

This is the Academic Society building, which totally belong to the STUDENTS. It feels really dreamy to have your coffee, meet your friend, or go to your group discussions (the Swedes’ favourite activity) in a CASTLE!
My host university is Lulea Technological University. It is located in the city Lulea near the northern polar circle. In January, the daylight is only about 6 hours. Sun sets at 2pm. The city is very beautiful. We can see the iced Baltic Sea. People there live a very quite life. The most gain for me maybe is that I found inner peace there, which prepares me a clement attitude towards future.

During the whole 7 months in Europe, I spent around S$16000 including living expense, travel, rent, flight tickets. Most of the exchange students had similar expenditure. I traveled to UK in December, to Holland, Belgium, Luxembourg, Germany, Austria, Czech in March and to France and Spain in June. In total, I took around 55 days on travel, which is in winter vacation, quarter vacation and summer vacation.

Sweden is a country of high quality education level. People there speak Swedish and English. There are many courses offers in English, but most of these courses are for master students. Hence we met many difficulties in study, however, at last, we overcame the difficulty and got good grades.
Something fun about Spain:
From 2pm to 5pm all the shops are closed due to lunch and Siesta, the later means nap break, and it’s lawfully protected. In this country usually restaurants for dinner do business after 8:30pm and people dinner at 10. People go party at Thursday.

I went on exchange last semester, yr2 sem 2 in Madrid, Spain, Universidad Carlos III. For anyone who loves latin culture, loves football and enjoys great food, this is definitely the best chance ever. You don’t have to speak spanish to enjoy Spain, as everything you want to know is in wikipedia in English; yet knowing Spanish will make the exchange life extremely exciting: delicious Iberian cuisine, passionate latin people and vigorous festivals are right behind that door waiting for valorous explorers.

About housing my friend and I we shared a room with other 10 girls from different latin speaking countries, in the city centre. I would say the best part of exchange life is that you live at the right place with the right people. And we were very lucky with this. Travel depends on different people’s plan. I gave up Northern Europe because half year really is very short. Apart from travelling to nearby countries in Europe, I spent most of my time visiting various place in Spain during their local festivals, for example Las Fallas in Valencia, where they set up giant dolls across the city and burn them at the last midnight; Carnival in Cadiz, where everybody dress up, sing, drink and dance on streets; Batalla de Vino, where people fight with each other by pouring wine to you.
1. INFORMATION

France is famous for cheese and wine. People there have an aromatic way of living their life. They are quite proud of their culture and language, most of them do not speak English, therefore it is necessary to learn French before exchange. Almost ALL the shops close on Sunday, even in Paris. The dessert in France is fantastic.

There are quite a lot of people who smoke in France, (including students) Luckily the law has changed and people are no longer allowed to smoke inside.

2. PERSONAL AND ACADEMIC BENEFITS - WHAT WERE THE BENEFITS OF CHOOSING THIS PARTNER? WHAT IMPACT DID THIS EXCHANGE HAVE ON YOU - PERSONALLY, SOCIALLY, CULTURALLY, AND ACADEMICALLY?

I had 3 French courses during my exchange. And my listening and speaking skills in French has been greatly improved. I have learned to keep an open-mind about other culture. I had made many friends with people from many cultural backgrounds.

3. HOUSING - WHERE DID YOU LIVE? WAS YOUR ACCOMMODATION PROVIDED BY THE HOST UNIVERSITY?

I live in a student hostel near campus. It was a 2 room apartment which I shared a kitchen and living room with my roommate. The housing was provided by school. The good news is that French government provide housing benefits that covered up to 50% of my rental fee.

4. FINANCIAL ASPECT - HOW MUCH DID YOUR EXCHANGE COST?

I spent about 11000SD

5. ENGLISH LANGUAGE - HOW MUCH ENGLISH WAS SPOKEN AT YOUR HOST UNIVERSITY OF IT IS NOT AN ENGLISH SPEAKING UNIVERSITY?

Not much English is spoken in UTT. Most of the local students speaks French.

6. LANGUAGE COURSES (IN HOST COUNTRY NATIVE LANGUAGE) - WERE THERE ANY OFFERED BY THE HOST UNIVERSITY?

Yes, I had an intensive course during the special semester. And 2 others during the semester.

7. WHERE DID YOU TRAVEL TO? AND HOW DID YOU ROUGHLY PLAN THE TRIP?

I traveled to about 10 countries, including Italy, Spain, Austria, Netherlands, Germany, UK, and Counties in Northern Europe. I planned my trip with my friends.
THE WAY FORWARD

Convocation 2012/2013 & Updates from alumni

from SEM alumni
Warmest Congratulations to the Class of 2012

Hello, I’m doing good now... currently working at Motor Image Subaru doing Operations. Been traveling the region a lot for work. Fun yet tiring job.

Dustin Benito
Zhang Leyu Kelly

My life so far is busy yet great! I am working on IT product and project management in Daimler South East Asia regional Department. I also work on new initiatives to deliver better AfterSales applications to the company. But I also miss IEM life - please do treasure your time with iemies - surely u will miss it Some gossip? Some IEMies already married! Congrats! Also my friend and I adopt a cat recently!

Lim Shiyun

Life’s good la. I’m working at Zopim Technologies (Really awesome company) as a product designer, while working on some side projects in my free time. Work’s great and I’m learning lots.

Huang Jiesi

Hi IEMies ! I’m Jiesi, from the 2012 batch. I’m currently working in the Ministry of Defence. Working life is more routine than school life. It is a little tiring, but as the hours are more fixed than school, I find it easier to pursue other activities as well! I’m still actively playing in a chinese orchestra, and have recently started learning Taichi, as well as Lindy Hop. If you ask me what I miss about IEM, I would say the wonderful people, and the opportunities to create. In IEM, I had the chance to try creating a wide range of art works, films, audio, photos etc. Where can people learn such fun stuff? Only in IEM! Present IEMies, enjoy your time in this big happy family!
Warmest Congratulations to the Class of 2013
DARIUS SIM WEI WEN (FIRST FROM LEFT)

I'm the chief operating officer of eVida Pte Ltd. My role involves interacting with OEMs and clients and investors. I like my job because I'm empowered to make corporate decisions in terms of device selection and hardware development. IEM taught me many design principles which I use to develop publicity materials.

SALYONN KOH (FIRST FROM LEFT)

I'm working in OCBC, but after graduation I ventured into music production as a side interest. IEM's comprehensive curriculum consisting of engineering, art and communication modules rooted me in important fundamentals. IEM helped me because I can understand concepts like modulation and SNR. They allowed me to pick up necessary skills as a freelance songwriter and digital media marketer quickly. I'm glad to have graduated from this course.

TOH HUAY CHEN (RIGHT)

I'm working as a quality assurance analyst in PalansirSolutions. The company provides upstream oil and gas industry with integrated and dynamic planning solutions. As a fresh entry, I was sent to London for job training.

KOK ZHIWEI

I'm working at CSIT as a software engineer. Although IEM did not prepare me for this job as well as what a course in SCE would in terms of technical ability, it helped me to better appreciate change and accept new challenges.
We went to South Korea for our Grad Trip and there’s 7 of us: Chun Hoe, Zhi Wei, Jasmine, Hui Qing, Yuhui, Yilin, and myself. We went to Gyeongbokgung Palace and also out for deep sea fishing on the waters near Jeju Island. We really enjoying ourselves despite the wet weather.