

UON SINGAPORE NEWS



Season's Greetings 2020

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year



Season's Greetings

I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for all their efforts throughout the year. This year has been challenging in many ways especially due to the impacts of COVID-19 on the way in which we work and interact. Thank you for the flexibility and commitment that each one of you has shown in your approach to work through the year.

On behalf of UON Singapore, please allow me to extend my personal and genuine appreciation to each and every one of you for your valuable contributions. We offer our best wishes and happiness to you and your families as we all look forward to a successful future ahead.

Professor Tony Travaglione

Interim Deputy Vice Chancellor and Vice President Global Engagement and Partnerships
Acting Chief Executive Officer
Chair, UON Singapore Pte Ltd



Message by the Acting Pro Vice-Chancellor, Dr Kavitha Palaniappan

We have now come to the end of the year 2020 and I am sure that everyone would agree with me that this year had been a roller-coaster ride with each one of our colleagues and our students going through their own unique set of challenges in light of the COVID-19. This pandemic had created challenges internationally and more specifically, for our sector where all kinds of face-to-face communications, including physical lectures and tutorials had to switch to various forms of e-communications and e-deliveries over a short span of time. It wouldn't have been possible for us to have done everything perfectly and there are definitely things that we could have done better. However, we have collectively responded to this pandemic and that is what we all need to be proud of.

All our students have been resilient through these trying circumstances and have constantly provided us with productive feedback through which we were able to improve our support for them. Our academic and professional team have gone to exceptional lengths to transform the educational landscape and to support our students by all means. They also saw to it that the students were all safe and at the same time getting the best possible experience through their online learning.

When I turn around and look back at the year 2020, there are many things that I would like to highlight and some of them are dedication of our teaching staff to re-design their teaching for a COVID-19 world, our staff and students volunteering in the local community to help the ones in need, full-fledged support of our professional team to all the staff and students, right from working out pathways for students who wanted to take a break, arranging for collection of certificates and documents, conducting webinars and online orientation sessions. We have all stood together and trust we would continue to fight this battle in a unanimous manner. Wish you all a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year and hope that 2021 would be a much better year for all of us! Thank you!

Dr Kavitha Palaniappan

Acting Pro Vice-Chancellor (Singapore)
Academic Director

Awards and Appreciation 2020

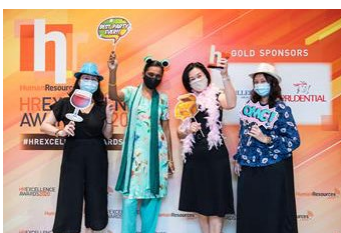


University of Newcastle, Singapore successfully held its annual Awards and Appreciation ceremony on 28 August 2020 via a virtual ceremony event due to the Covid-19 pandemic. All professional and academic staff, together with students, alumni, partners BCA Academy and PSB Academy, industry partners and guests attended the webinar to celebrate the achievements of our students and staff.

Our guest speaker for the event, Mr. Derrick Chang – CEO of PSB Academy shared his personal story and gave an inspiring speech of how he had overcome various crises during his career such as the Asian Financial Crisis, SARS and now this Covid-19 pandemic.

Representing the student community as the Student Speaker was Isabella Ye Tian from the Bachelor of Communication program and is also the Chair of the UONS-IPRS Student Chapter.

Read more about the awards [here](#)



Silver Award Winner of the HR Excellence Awards 2020 Singapore

Congratulations to UON Singapore for winning the Silver award in the Excellence in Work-Life Harmony at the HR Excellence Awards 2020 virtual awards! In this category that we won, it celebrates organisations committed to raising the quality of life and professional excellence as a healthy and engaged workforce that boosts business results. We are proud to be the Silver award winner amongst other finalists such as - Deloitte, Hewlett Packard Enterprise, Swiss Re and Novatis.

Over the past months with the Covid-19 pandemic, our HR team never stop in thinking of ways to remind all staff to stay healthy and positive. The monthly items distributed to staff for Healthier Choice showed their continuous efforts to keep all staff safe and healthy to ensure that we continue to deliver our best to serve our students and stakeholders despite a challenging 2020.



Press Feature on our distinguished BEnvOHS alumnus and PSB Academy on Future Together initiatives

We are proud of Mr Sunny Tan, our distinguished alumnus of our Bachelor of Environmental and Occupational Health and Safety Programme (BEnvOHS) for being featured by the press in October 2020. Sunny has been passionate in the workplace safety industry and has been very active in networking and meeting fellow safety professionals from various industries while he was studying. Sunny is now the Director of HSSE & Quality @ C&W Services, and continue to help our BEnvOHS alumni committee to organise seminars and networking sessions for past and current students.

He also encouraged his two children to pursue their Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering (Honours) programme at the University of Newcastle Singapore campus via our collaboration partner PSB Academy. His children are among some 2,500 local students who will benefit from PSB Academy's \$3 million Future Together initiative this year. Future Together is PSB Academy's first initiative for students developed in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. To support students for their studies, we also offered joint Study Rebates of up to \$6,000 on courses fees for eligible students who enrolled in Trimester 3, 2020 and for our upcoming Trimester 1, 2021 intake to support their studies.

Read The Straits Times article [here](#)

Read The New Paper article [here](#)

Excellence for Resilience
Leadership excellence during COVID-19 and beyond

Speakers:

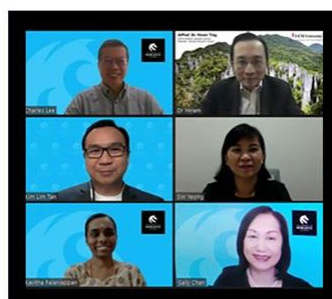


Dr. Manu Vora
Business Excellence, Inc. EduEnergy Singapore



Dr. Deepak L. Walker
EduEnergy Singapore

Date: 19 October 2020, Monday
Time: 10am to 12pm SGT
Via Zoom Meeting



Research Seminar

ONLINE WEBINAR
Exciting Career Pathways in the WSH Industry
Everything you need to know & more!

Speakers:

- Mr. Chock Yee Kiang, Senior Director, HRD Council Singapore
- Sunny Tan, Director, HSSE & Quality, C&W Services
- David Day, Chief Executive, PSB Education Pte Ltd

Organised by: Future Together, Institute of Environmental and Occupational Health and Safety

BEnvOHS Alumni Webinar 2020 - Exciting Career

Excellence for Resilience Workshop

Dr Manu Vora and Dr Deepak Waiker conducted a two-hour zoom workshop on leadership excellence for our staff and students to empower them to achieve their dreams and aspirations in professional careers and life amidst Covid-19 and beyond.

In this interactive workshop held on 19 October 2020, our esteem speakers also shared key concepts, best practices, and practical tools that participants can apply to strengthen and enhance their leadership potential.

Watch the recorded [video](#)

2020 The Art and Science of Publishing

This event was held on 17 July 2020 as part of our Research Seminar series that UONS organizes regularly.

Our appreciation to Dr. Hiram Ting, Dr. Yeong Siew-Wei and Dr. Tan Kim-Lim for sharing their experiences and recommendations. It was a fruitful session for participants as they picked up tips from our speakers and moderator to improve their success in publishing.

Watch the recorded [video](#)

Pathways in the WSH Industry

The Alumni Committee of the Bachelor of Environmental and Occupational Health and Safety (BEnvOHS) held its first online webinar on 14 October 2020 with a good turnout.

Participants benefited from the insightful sharing, advice and experiences about the WSH industry from our guest speakers, Mr. Chan Yew Kwong who is the Senior Consultant @WSH Council Singapore, our alumni - Mr. Sunny Tan, the Director of HSSE & Quality @C&W Services, and Mr. Daryl Choy who recently started his career as a safety professional.

Watch the recorded [video](#)



Global Alumni Webinar

The first Global Alumni Webinar was successfully held on 16 September 2020 and attended by our University alumni from all around the world.

Leading global experts in mental health, Professor Sally Chan and Professor Frances Kay-Lambkin shared their views and studies on the mental health impact felt around the world due to the COVID-19 pandemic. They shared useful tips on how to be resilient in the face of



A Memorable "PReSent" of 3rd MOU Between UONS and IPRS

The UONS-IPRS Student Chapter held a webinar PReSent, on 23 July 2020 to commemorate the renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the University of Newcastle (UON Singapore) and the Institute of Public Relations of Singapore (IPRS) for another 3 years.

This is the 3rd renewal of the MOU since UONS

significant change, and the importance of psychological safety at home and in the workplace as an individual and as part of a team.

Read more from [here](#)

established the Chapter in 2016 which provides opportunities for students to engage in the wider spectrum of PR & Communications.

Read more from [here](#)



International Conference on Environmental Science and Applications (ICESA'20)

Dr Kavitha Palaniappan and Dr Charles Lee were invited by the ICESA 2020 as keynote speakers on 7 September 2020.

The topic that Dr Kavitha Palaniappan presented was "Release of nanomaterials during construction activities that could potentially pollute the surrounding air"

The topic that Dr Charles Lee presented was "Development of An Environmental Sustainability Ranking Tool for Industries"

Dr Charles Lee who mentored two groups of students on their projects were also presented at the conference. Our BEnvOHS graduate Siow Li Gin, presented her research on "Singapore 2030 Zero Waste Masterplan".

The Research Assistant of UON Singapore, Elliot James Ong presented his studies on "a Population Study of Proboscis Monkey (*Nasalis larvatus*) on the Islands of Pulau Bakut and Pulau Curiak in South Kalimantan, Indonesia"

[Read more](#)



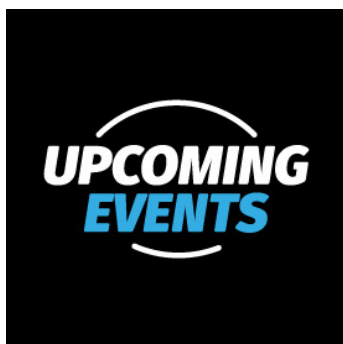
Research Webinar 2020 - Ecological Restoration of Impacted Ecosystem

Our Ecological Restoration of Impacted Ecosystems research webinar held on 3 December 2020 was co-organized with the Universitas Lambung Mangkurat (ULM), Indonesia in partnership with our collaborators in academia, NGOs, industry and civil societies who shared their field results of their exciting projects.

Big thanks to the speakers from UON, ULM, PM Haze, Adaro and NTU for making this session a resounding success.

This timely topic ties in with the recent UNEP announcement on “The UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration: 2021 – 2030” and many of our participants gained lots of valuable insights and information shared in the webinar.

You can access the recorded videos of all the speakers [here](#)



Stay Tuned.

Join us for our upcoming events such as...

**Your
Feedback
Matters**



Suggestions.

Tell us what you would like to hear from us or share with us your stories so that we can feature you



Stay Connected.

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[Instagram](#)

Research Webinars 2021, UON Singapore 15th anniversary, new students' orientation, etc....

[What's Happening](#)

in the next issue. If there are areas which we can improve, please let us know too.

[Drop us an email](#)

[LinkedIn](#)
[YouTube](#)

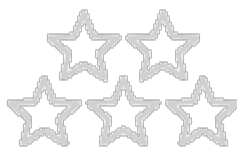
[Contact Us](#)



TOP 200

in the world¹

1. QSWorld University Rankings 2021



5 Stars

maximum rating for student retention and social equity²

2. 2019 Good Universities Guide



10 in the TOP 200

10 subjects ranked in the top 200 in the world³

3. QSWorld University Rankings by Subject 2019

More Information

For more information about these articles please visit www.newcastle.edu.au/singapore

* Visit [website](#) for rankings references

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