

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

*For Immediate Release*

### **TUM ASIA CELEBRATES 10 YEARS WITH NOVEL STRAITS TIMES SCHOOL POCKET MONEY FUND PROJECT**

*Students get rare opportunity to attend Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting, attend classes in Munich and tour laboratories in the Alps*

**SINGAPORE, 17 November 2012** - The German Institute of Science and Technology - TUM Asia - celebrates its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. To show its appreciation to Singapore for welcoming the first German academic venture abroad a decade ago, it is launching a new project with the Straits Times School Pocket Money Fund (SPMF). *Building The Future* will give students the rare opportunity to attend the Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting, attend classes at TUM (Technische Universität München) – Germany's top university (ARWU 2011 & 2012) - in Munich, and also visit its new research laboratory for school children in Berchtesgaden. TUM President Wolfgang Herrmann announced this at a celebratory dinner he hosted for TUM Asia's partners in government, industry and science at the Raffles Hotel last night.

#### **Inspiring their future**

*Building The Future* aims to inspire underprivileged children by showing them that the future is in their hands – their future, and the world's future. Every year, two pre-university students benefitting from SPMF will be given the opportunity to embark on a learning journey to Technische Universität München (TUM) campus in Munich. During their visit, the students will sit in on lectures, and visit research laboratories. They will then attend the Lindau Nobel Laureates Meeting, before embarking on the second leg of their learning journey. For the second leg, they will be hosted by TUM's newly set up research laboratory for school children in alpine Berchtesgaden. "TUM Asia is committed to supporting Singapore in building a continuous talent pool for engineering. We hope that the youths will be inspired by their immersive experience with the leading minds in the world of engineering today, and in turn inspire their peers to the field of engineering, science and technology," said Professor Herrmann.

## **Singapore First to Run TUM Part-Time Master Programme**

10 years ago, TUM Asia was the first German academic venture abroad. Today, TUM Asia will be scoring another first. It will be launching the first ever part-time Master of Science programme awarded by TUM. “In the German educational landscape, our post graduate programmes are usually conducted full-time. However, in Singapore, many people prefer to continue working full-time throughout their academic pursuit. We hope that with the part-time programme, we can encourage more people to deepen their knowledge and expertise in their field,” shares Dr Markus Wächter, Managing Director of TUM Asia, “The transport and logistics sector is one of Singapore’s key economic sector, and running the programme on a part-time basis will also help the sector to retain its talent while growing it.”

## **Partners and Alumni celebrate TUM Asia’s decade**

Close to 100 guests attended the dinner last night. The guests hailed from TUM Asia’s government, industry and science partners, as well as its Alumni, who came together to celebrate TUM Asia’s achievements.

“The structure of my course in industrial chemistry has given me a new perspective to how the industry works – that on top of my passion for chemistry. It is because of the lessons learnt, attachment opportunities from TUM Asia that has equipped me with a strong foundation and great knowledge which has given relevance to my current career pursuits,” said Ms Angela Chian, an alumni from TUM Asia who pursued a Master of Science in Industrial Chemistry, and is now a research assistant with the National University of Singapore.

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## **About TUM Asia**

As the first German academic venture abroad, TUM Asia opened its doors in Singapore in 2002. German in its roots and Asian in its approach, TUM Asia combines an emphasis on industry readiness and innovation with a distinct dedication to be relevant to Asia and its development. TUM Asia has seen more than 300 global graduates come through its Master programmes, including graduates from Asia and Europe.

TUM Asia currently offers five Master of Science programmes. The Industrial Chemistry, Integrated Circuit Design, Microelectronics and Aerospace Engineering programmes are jointly offered with Nanyang Technological University (NTU) or National University of Singapore (NUS) – two of Asia's top universities – while the Transport and Logistics programme is offered exclusively by TUM Asia. Our international faculty hail from Germany and more, and their wealth of knowledge from various fields provide a spectrum of experience for the students to glean from.

Recognising the demand for engineering excellence in Singapore, TUM Asia partnered Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT) to offer Bachelor of Science programmes in Electrical Engineering and Information Technology and Chemical Engineering in 2010. It has also set up TUM CREATE in June 2010 to propagate research programmes, where scientists and researchers from both Germany and Singapore can work together for the advancement of science and technology. With the support of the National Research Foundation of Singapore (NRF), researchers at TUM CREATE focus on developing innovative systems that incorporate safety and reliability with functionality and energy efficiency in electric vehicles.

For more information, visit [www.TUM-Asia.edu.sg](http://www.TUM-Asia.edu.sg) or contact us at [Marketing@TUM-Asia.edu.sg](mailto:Marketing@TUM-Asia.edu.sg).

## **About Technische Universität München (TUM)**

Founded in 1868 by King Ludwig II, Technische Universität München (TUM) has long established itself as a premier institute of higher learning in Germany. Ranked as Germany's number 1 university in the 2011 & 2012 Shanghai Ranking (ARWU), TUM has maintained its reputation of being a provider of excellent academic education. Currently, TUM boasts of 13 faculties with more than 32,000 students (about 16 percent come from abroad), 478 professors and around 9,300 staff.

TUM's high regard for innovation has earned itself the reputation of being an institute that produces world-changing technologies. Some notable inventions from the TUM alumni include the refrigeration technology invented by Carl von Linde; the Dornier airplane by Claude Dornier; and the Diesel engine, invented by Rudolf Diesel. To date, TUM has seen a total of 13 Nobel Prize laureates come through its ranks, including distinguished chemists and physicists such as Ernst Otto Fischer and Rudolf Mößbauer.

Known as a premier address in Europe that encourages students to pursue innovation and entrepreneurship, a TUM degree is key to unlock a world of possibilities.