Unfazed by the recent outbreak and impact of the Coronavirus, our new batch of Curtin Singapore freshies turned up for their Orientation Day, ready for a strong start and fruitful start.

After students had faithfully undergone the process of registration and stringent health and cleanliness checks, they also enjoyed some refreshments to prepare them for the exciting day ahead.

Unlike the previous years, instead of a lecture-styled conference, the Orientation 2020 briefing was facilitated via Curtin's state of the arts video presentations. The Academic team gave a short briefing followed by a welcome message to the new students. There was also a short Q&A session and surveys for them to clarify their doubts.

It was a day filled with the sweet scent of love, as our Student Committee sold gorgeously decorated cards in school. They also prepared a range of gifts such as chocolates, gift cards, flowers, candles for our students to show appreciation for their significant other or loved ones.

Our cupids were also busy delivering gifts and specially packed packages which includes a card, box of chocolates, and either flowers or scented candles to choose from. For those whose love language is words of affirmation, this was also their best time to express themselves to their beloved fellow students and school staff. Students could customize gifts and personalize post messages for their special someone on this very special day!
In November 2019, Curtin Singapore hosted its second Thought Leaders Series aimed at connecting students with organisational leaders and alumni to stimulate discussion, debate and critical thinking whilst exploring topics on leadership, business, innovation and entrepreneurship and more. We were privileged to have Mr. Rob Hulme - Asia Director & Cofounder of Beanstalk AgTech, speak on the topic of ‘Feast or Famine? Finding new ways to feed the planet’. Rob provided insights into the current food system, shared experiences on growing up in rural Australia, learnings from his career, and why he is both passionate and excited about the future of Food and Agriculture on planet earth. We would like to thank all who have participated in this session and Rob Hulme for his valuable insights.

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To celebrate Learning and Teaching at Curtin, staff from all campuses were treated to an interesting and enjoyable week at the online 2019 Festival of Learning. Themed around Innovation and Excellence, the festival took place from 4 to 8 November and gave staff a fantastic opportunity to gain insights on best practice in Learning and Teaching, see what innovations other teaching areas are adopting and network with colleagues from across the University.

The Curtin Singapore team presented their audience with an overview of Curtin Singapore and the Industry Transformation Maps and Opportunities for Business, Health, Humanities and Science. Media productions by students for Austrade were showcased before closing with a Q&A session.

In October 2019, Curtin Singapore hosted a meeting on campus for the Singapore International Chamber of Commerce (SICC) - Education Services Interest Group meeting where our Pro Vice-Chancellor and President, Professor Linley Lord, sits as Chairperson. Members, who include the Chief Executive of SICC - Mr Victor Mills and Executive staff from other private education institutes, engaged in discussions on the planned dialogue with the Committee for Private Education (CPE) as well as ideas on initiatives for 2020. As the Singapore economy restructures, this Interest Group seeks to discover the roles that can be played by the private education sector in developing and supporting a high-skilled workforce required to drive an innovative, productivity-driven economy.
YOUNG PERSONS’ PLAN FOR THE PLANET @ CURTIN

We were pleased to welcome back the Australian High Commissioner His Excellency Mr Bruce Gosper for the closing of the Young Persons’ Plan for the Planet Program ‘It’s our Future Earth 3.0’ Conference at Curtin Singapore campus.

Over the three-day conference, participants from Australia, India, Mauritius and Singapore presented their SDG plans, developed their Indian Ocean International Plan, presented their insights from a global perspective. They have also shared their experiences and the work they have been doing for the past year which includes creating school-made beeswax wraps for fundraising, developed amazing sustainable ideas and concepts such as dissolving fishing lines, began community and cross-school campaigns for health and wellbeing and even independently collaborated across different countries. They have learnt about the Empathy and Stem (ESTEEM), and visited the Singapore Science Centre and Sustainable Singapore Gallery to learn and experience Singapore’s history and sustainable future.

Awards and tokens of appreciation were presented to recognise the contributions of participants and organisers.

Congratulations to all the students, teachers, speakers and YPPP organisers for yet another successful event!

AUSTRALIA DAY & CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS @ CURTIN

In celebration of Australia Day in January, we opened up our barbeque pits for students to grill and prepare their own version of barbecued snags, a fan favourite. Students also dressed up in their own version of a Koala (and Zookeeper!).

Additionally, in the spirit of diversity, we also celebrated Chinese New Year in conjunction with Australia Day. We even had our very own version of Cai Shen Ye (Chinese Icon of Prosperity) to give out auspicious mandarins and red packets.

All in all, it was a wonderful celebration of cultural diversity for our students.
ACCA Strategic Business Leader Awards
In January, top graduating students from Trimester 2A 2019 in the Accounting majors were recognised by the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA). Tran Thien Phuong Phuong from Accounting major and Angeline Tifanny from the Accounting and Finance major were awarded the ACCA Strategic Business Leaders Award.
Congratulations to both students!

Curtin Singapore were proud platinum sponsors for the Australia Day event organised by The Australian High Commissioner to Singapore, His Excellency Mr Bruce Gosper. Curtin Singapore staff and guests — alumni and industry partners, celebrated an evening of live Australian music, great food, favourite wines and other drinks, and a fun Australian Open tennis experience as we celebrate Australia and our warm friendship with Singapore.

Substitute an elective unit with a 2-week Borneo Cultural Study Tour with Curtin Malaysia in Trimester 2A, July 2020.
Open to all Curtin Singapore undergraduate students.
Join us at the Info Session on Monday 6 April, 12.30pm to 1.30pm at B2.2 to find out more.

Suspension of all overseas study tours and exchange programmes till further notice
The World Health Organization (WHO) declared the COVID-19 outbreak a global pandemic on 11 March 2020, and called upon governments around the world to do more to combat the virus. The WHO cited Singapore as a country that has already taken proactive measures to contain the virus.

Curtin Singapore has been closely monitoring and will continue to follow the guidelines and advisories issued by the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education and the Committee of Private Education. Here are the measures implemented to minimise the risk of spreading COVID-19:

- Increased cleaning and disinfecting of all areas of the campus
- Hand sanitisers are provided around the campus and in every classroom for everyone’s use.
- Checking the temperature of every person on entry and exit to campus
- Strict checks on the travel history of every student and staff member
- LOA (Leave of Absence) or SHN (Stay-Home Notice) are enforced if required
- Promoted healthy hygiene and wash practices across campus

Click here to read more Curtin Singapore COVID-19 advice.
Potential Exposure to COVID-19? Our Decision Tree will help you determine your next step, click here.

Need assistance with Covid-19 related matters, email covid-19.support@curtin.edu.sg.

Curtin Singapore would like to acknowledge and thank all staff stationed at the entrance and exit of the campus bearing the scorching sun and unpredictable rains to carry our precautionary measures. We appreciate your efforts!
The global Covid-19 situation brings along numerous changes and uncertainty. Here are some ways to keep stress at bay during these challenging times.

**During study hours:**
- Have designated work space (try not to work while lounging on your bed).
- Group consultations can be organized via online platforms. Remember everyone is in the same situation as you are, so be kind and understanding towards one another. Criticizing and judging will only lead to more frustration and anger.
- Draw up a timetable and stick to a routine, just the way you would if you were attending classes on campus.

**Remember to factor in time for relaxation too:**
- Ensure you get adequate rest and proper nutrition. If you like to exercise, please do so safely keeping in mind the social distancing protocol.
- Stay away from news, constant input especially from unauthentic sources can be distressing. However, keep yourself informed via reliable sources such as the [Ministry of Health Singapore](https://www.moh.gov.sg) and informative emails from the school.
- Stay in touch with friends and family.

**Wise words:**
- Use technology wisely It is easy to get carried away with watching shows/movies on Netflix or playing online games. It maybe fun for a while but your work suffers and hence your grades.
- Remember you can choose what to focus on. Whether you want it to be on things you cannot change (a futile effort) or on things that you can control on
- Also, remember, this too shall pass. The current situation is not a permanent one, we don’t know how long it will last, but eventually, it will change.

**Need someone to listen:**
Reach out to our counsellor for an appointment at [counselling@curtin.edu.sg](mailto:counselling@curtin.edu.sg). Counselling sessions can be carried out via Zoom on the regular Wednesdays and Fridays 2.30pm to 5.30pm or at other times if required.
Having a problem communicating with your peers? Feel you are being bullied? Need someone to listen without judging?

Speak to Shanti — our Counsellor, who has been a practicing counsellor for over 10 years. She has supported Curtin Singapore students since 2014 and enjoys working with university students from diverse backgrounds. Shanti has helped students cope with bullying situations, low self-esteem, lack of motivation, adjustment to new culture, troubled relationships, and other similar issues. Reach out to our counsellor for an appointment at counselling@curtin.edu.sg.

Curtin University does not tolerate bullying.
The Student Charter expects students to behave in an appropriate manner showing respect for both staff and fellow students. Bullies will be subjected to a range of disciplinary actions under the Curtin University Misconduct Guidelines which include expulsion.

Counselling sessions can carried out via Zoom on the regular Wednesdays and Fridays 2.30pm to 5.30pm or at other times if required.

CAMPUS LIFE @ CURTIN

Campus Closure

In line with Singapore’s circuit breaker measures to minimise further spread of Covid-19, our campus will be closed from 7 April to 4 May 2020.

During the campus closure, we will continue to provide students with support and care. For current students, please check your emails regularly and visit COVID-19 advice for updates.