

SP Alliance & Network

SP Alumni eNews

July 2022



**ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT:
LU WEIYAO
SOARS IN THE
AVIATION WORLD**

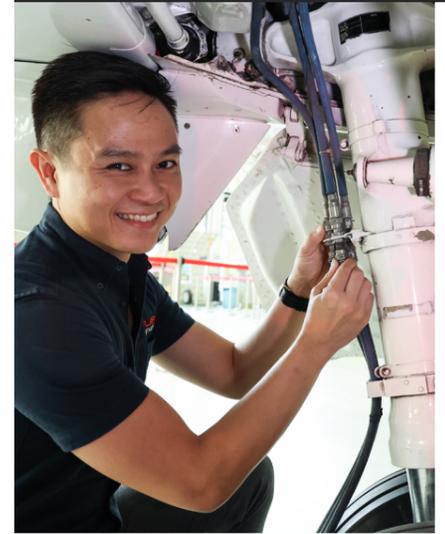


Co-founder and Technical Director,
Flare Dynamics Pte Ltd

Mr Lu Weiyao

Diploma In Aeronautical Engineering, 2009

EMBRACING ENGINEERING AS A WAY OF LIFE



Meet Mr Lu Weiyao, a Singapore Polytechnic (SP) Alumnus who looks at life through the lens of his expertise.

Graduating in 2009 from SP, Mr Lu Weiyao is now the co-founder and technical director of Flare Dynamics Pte Ltd, an Aerospace Robotics Company. As a child, Mr Lu was fascinated with the way things worked and often tinkered with machines to improve them, leading him to pursue a Diploma in Aeronautical Engineering with SP. Now as an entrepreneur and adjunct lecturer in SP, Mr Lu shares more on how he sees life through the lens of engineering.

Why SP?

Inspired by documentaries on innovative engineering companies, Mr Lu was drawn to how engineers created products that changed the world around them. “I was immersed in it and thought that’s what I want to do. I wanted to get my hands dirty and more importantly, start a company to materialise my ideas and make them commercial. It put me on this path of engineering and entrepreneurship. SP was the cornerstone, the foundation that allowed me to pursue this.”

When Mr Lu was in secondary school, an SP outreach programme inspired him to study harder so he could qualify for a diploma programme of his choice. “My experience at SP was nothing short of amazing and I think it’s because SP creates an environment where students can identify with what they want to do in the future.”

Campus life at SP

During his days as an SP student, Mr Lu was the president of SP Aviation Club, which he initially joined to hone his aeromodelling skills.

“We learnt how to build radio-controlled aeroplanes, helicopters and how to control them, which helped stem my interest in it as a hobby. Being the president of the Club was an eye-opener and I had my first taste of people management. The role put me in a position where I was forced to learn how to manage individuals in

group projects. This unknowingly helped prepare me for my current role as a technical director, where I manage people everyday while managing my company.”

When asked if any individuals in particular helped him during his time in SP, Mr Lu credits his ex-lecturer, Mr Liew Hui Sing as the person who created a conducive environment for him to flourish. Even years after graduation, Mr Lu still goes to Mr Liew for advice often.

“Mr Liew is the type of lecturer who put in so much effort and paid so much attention to his students. For him, we students were his priority. With whatever he had, he would fight for the rights of the students.”

Coming full circle as an adjunct lecturer at SP

Through his phases of life the engineer in him has been ever-present. He has fully embraced his profession through his training, trade and even in his lifestyle.

“My career influences how I see the world around me.”

I see things from an engineering perspective and I break things down to sub-system levels using a very systematic approach, whether I am solving hardware problems or human relations issues.”

So the next step for Mr Lu seemed clear. He would return to SP as an adjunct lecturer, to train the next generation of engineers.

“I work with drones which are revolutionary in the aviation industry. SP saw an opportunity for me to provide specialised knowledge to engineering students as an adjunct lecturer. My first-hand insight on how the market moves helps provide an effective feedback loop, where I share what the future demands of this industry look like. SP can then train students in these particular disciplines, better preparing them for their future.”

Words of advice

When asked what advice he had for graduating students, Mr Lu replied, “After graduating, I advise you to take some time and commit to finding your inspiration. After finding your goal, plan towards it. For example, if I want to come to work on time, I plan what time I wake up, brush my teeth, what bus to take and so on. Do the same thing, but in a macro approach.”

He also emphasised how changing your mind about a goal is perfectly alright. “It’s okay to change your mind as it means you have found a new goal. Pick something and go with it for 1 to 2 years. If it doesn’t work out, don’t see it as a waste. It is something you can strike off your list before moving on to the next goal.”

SP student Dylan Ong proved others wrong with perseverance

When his 'N' level results only qualified him to study at ITE, SP Diploma in Accountancy graduate and Tay Eng Soon Gold Medallist Dylan Ong decided it was time for a change. He committed to bettering his attitude and worked hard until he did well enough to enrol at SP to study accountancy. Dylan plans to pursue a career in auditing after university.



Seramai 6,087 pelajar Politeknik Singapura telah lulus dan menerima diploma mereka dari 4 Mei hingga 11 Mei. BERITA HARIAN meninjau pengalaman dua pelajar sewaktu menuntut di Politeknik Singapura.

Raih pengalaman jadi 'intern' firma antarabangsa



Tunjuk potensi di ITE, cemerlang di poly

RANCANGAN MASA DEPAN: Selepas meraih diploma, Enck Abdul Rahim Ishak rancang meneruskan pengajian untuk sarjana muda dan kemudiannya cuba kerjaya dalam dunia logo. - Foto: foto BH oleh KHALID BARA

SP Alumni achieving success in their own way

SP Diploma in Experience & Communication Design alumna Abdul Rahim Ishak interned as a UX trainer (user experience) under the start-up coffee chain Kopi Kenangan in Indonesia. To this day, the company still uses Rahim's ideas. Another SP alumna, SP Diploma in Mechanical Engineering Muhammad Danish Abdul Majid expressed hopes of furthering his studies at university after undergoing National Service.



Overcoming obstacles to rank second in cohort and win Low Guan Oon Gold Medal

SP graduate Benecia Tang is well on track to pursuing her dream of setting up a social enterprise for children with learning difficulties. Being dyslexic herself, the cause is close to her heart. Despite her learning challenges, Benecia ranked second in her 2022 graduating cohort and was awarded the Low Guan Oon Gold Medal. She credits her lecturers for being supportive and going the extra mile to give her advice throughout her Diploma in Business Administration course.

Highlighting diversity of voices through the work of young writers

In his latest self-published work, SP Specialist Diploma in Network Security alumnus Mr. Muhammad Fairuz Jaafar highlights the diversity of voices in the Singaporean Malay community through work of writers from different backgrounds. He said that the original idea came about in early 2021, after the publication of his first zine, The Journal of Conscious Malay Thought. Fairuz hopes that his book will foster a sense of pride and interest in the Malay culture and race, encouraging people to care for their society, regardless of their background.



SP graduate discovers passion for teaching after helping students as a peer tutor

SP Diploma in Aerospace Electronics graduate Kennard Tay and SP Diploma in Creative Writing for TV and New Media graduate Colin Low, who received their institutional medal awards yesterday. At SP's graduation ceremony yesterday, Minister in the Prime Minister's office and Second Minister of the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Foreign Affairs Dr Mohamad Maliki Bin Osman encouraged students to continue to care for the people around them and the entire community. He added that a culture of caring and openness should be built so that those in need would be able to get the necessary help and resources.

Developing a culture of support and care

The Second Minister for Education and Foreign Affairs, Dr Mohamad Maliki Bin Osman, urged students who have just graduated from the SP to continue caring for themselves, their friends and the community, even as they pursue further studies and build careers. At the ceremony, 234 students of the School of Mechanical & Aeronautical Engineering received their certificates. In his speech, Dr Maliki also expressed his delight at the efforts of SP and other higher-learning institutions to continue developing a culture of support and care.



"Not your usual 9 to 5 job" says entrepreneur Joel Lim

SP Diploma in Aerospace Electronics alumna Joel Lim always had a passion for identifying growing markets and investing in businesses from there. His drive led him to founding Ruhens, a multimillion-dollar water filtration enterprise with 40 employees and annual turnover between \$3 million to \$6 million.



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