年轻爸爸兼顾家庭学业
考获商管系第一名

新加坡管理大学毕业礼

黄耀恩报道

新加坡管理大学毕业生多才多艺，其中不乏有杰出的成就。

一名出身于新加坡国立大学硕博毕业的先生，最近在新加坡管理大学考获商管系第一名。他的成就不仅限于学业，同时他的家庭生活也相当和谐。

新加坡管理大学毕业礼于2006年7月8日举行，当天共有超过2000名毕业生参加。其中包括许多杰出的毕业生，他们的成就不仅限于学业，同时他们的家庭生活也相当和谐。

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Unlike his schoolmates in the Singapore Management University (SMU), 25-year-old See Yong Sheng had less leisure time during his four years of education. This is because he is already a father of two and he has to rush home to look after his children and do housework when classes are over.

“Family comes first in my timetable. Hence, as a student, I have to sacrifice gatherings or movies with friends,” Yong Sheng said with a smile.

Married to a wife of his age, Yong Sheng has two boys of five years old and five months old respectively. “Though the pressure is great having to juggle studies and family life, our parents have been very supportive and a great help,” he said.

In spite of the heavy workloads of studies and family, Yong Sheng was still active with community service and he found time to travel overseas for cultural exchange and business study missions.

Yong Sheng, who graduated yesterday at SMU's third Commencement ceremony, obtained an impressive Summa Cum Laude in business management.

Passionate about investment and financial management, Yong Sheng also spearheaded an SMU student-led investment fund with two other classmates. The project allows students to invest in money in a simulated environment and hone their investment skills.

He said that he is currently applying for $1 million grant from SMU so that students can start investing in real cash through the fund initiative.

Yong Sheng has a keen interest in stocks and unit trusts since eight years ago. However, it is not until when he enrolled in SMU that he started investing more actively. Recently, he made $7,000 in interest.

His proactive trait impressed CapitaLand who hired him to be on the Graduate Development Programme with CapitaLand China from September.

He said: “In April this year, I helped a professor organize a Business Study Mission to China. I contacted CapitaLand to get permission to visit their China office. The company found that I was very suitable to do training and business management. Hence I will be working in China for 18 months.”

On dreams for the future, Yong Sheng said: “I hope to set up a See Foundation to help in charity.”

Yong Sheng graduated with 627 other students of SMU who completed their studies between September 2005 and June this year. They have all found jobs either before or within six months of graduation.

HO CHING: SEIZE ASIA’S ADVANTAGE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

What do Bill Gates and former Deputy Prime Minister S Rajaratnam have in common?

Both were pioneers in their own right and made a difference in the lives of their fellow men for the better.

Temasek Holdings Executive Director & CEO Ms Ho Ching made these remarks at SMU’s third Commencement ceremony yesterday and used Bill Gates and S Rajaratnam as examples to encourage graduates to seize Asia’s unique advantages and exercise their strengths.

Ms Ho is SMU’s first female guest-of-honour for its graduation ceremony since the university’s inception.

Ranked by Forbes magazine as among the 30 most powerful women in the world, Ms Ho said that Asia, which has half of the world’s population, will also have half of the share of the global GDP in 20 years’ time. This shows the advantage of many which is present in Asia.

“It also means that you, the SMU graduates of today, will be living the prime of your life in a vibrant and prosperous Asia. This is not an impossible dream. Yes, there will be ups and downs along the way. There may even be a couple of bid bumps within the next 3 to 5 years. But over the long term, Asia has the advantage of large numbers as well as the power of one on her side.”

She also mentioned the structural shock to ASEAN’s manpower by the rise of India and China. But this has also brought about new opportunities. Trade with China grew more than 30%. Trade with India blossomed into healthy double digits. Intra-Asia tourism also grew.

The advantages of large numbers will be magnified further as Asian governments invest in education for their people and the growing middle class continues to invest in their children’s future. Hidden among the Asia advantage of billions is also the power of one.

Asia has re-energised itself not just because of market liberalization and reforms. It is because there were many who used the power of one in the interest of the larger good.

A President’s scholar, Ms Ho also raised the examples of a promising young engineer who chose to stay in China post the Tiananmen crisis, the young design chief who created a super efficient new generation motorbike in India and the CEO who gave up her privacy to join the political hurly-burly in Singapore. Each of them exercised their power of one with courage and commitment. Collectively, they helped to rejuvenate and revitalize the social infrastructure of their countries in different ways and open up new pathways.

Of the 628 graduates in SMU, 65% is female. According to the university’s graduate employment survey, the top 20% of SMU’s business management graduates is getting an average of $4,100 every month.