Campus superstars

Firstly, campus food vendors no longer offer the usual hawker fare. At the National University of Singapore (NUS), there are familiar chains like Coffee Cash Express, Old Chang Kee snacks, New Zealand Natural ice cream, McDonald’s and Spinelli outlets.

Singapore Management University (SMU) has Polar Cafe, Inabuy sandwiches, TCC cafe and an entire underground Kopitiam foodcourt.

In Nanyang Technological University’s (NTU’s) Canteen B, there are even well-known hawker venues setting up branches there. They include Killallie Western Barbecue from Old Airport Road hawker centre and Shan Shan Vegetarian from Circuit Road hawker centre.

Secondly, you’d be hard-pressed to find food that’s more expensive. At the popular yong tau foo stall in NUS’ Techno Edge canteen, a bowl of noodles with six items costs only $1.30.

Class acts

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE
YONG TAU FOO & LASSA
Stall 9, The Deck
Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences
Opens: 7.30am to 2.30pm, closed on Sundays
This stall boasts four medals it has won over the years – including the campus’ Best Noodle Stall both this and last year. There is a reasonably wide range of yong tau foo items, which you can choose to have with a tasty laksa gravy. Best of all is the price. A bowl of noodles with six items costs only $1.30.

INDONESIAN PANGGANG FOOD
Stall 13, Techno Edge
Faculty of Engineering
Opens: 7.30am to 2.30pm, closed on Sundays
This popular stall serves a wide range of rice dishes with chicken, including grilled chicken chop ($3), grilled chicken drumstick ($2.30), and fried chicken drumstick ($2.80). The must-try here is the grilled chicken drumstick. Drenched with a special barbeque sauce, the meat is tender and juicy.

Another hit is the fried chicken, which is very crispy and has a unique flavour.

SINGAPORE MANAGEMENT UNIVERSITY
PICK & BITTE (above)
Lobby of Li Ka Shing Library
Opens: 7am to 7pm, Mondays to Fridays, 7am to 3pm on Saturdays, closed on Sundays
This dimsum eatery and takeaway kiosks offers a few tasty treats, including egg tart and carrot cake (70 cents each).

What is also worth trying is the deep-fried Asian kueh ($1 each), which is choc-full of savoury treats. Stay away from the spring rolls, though, which are tasteless.

EDMUND’S @ SMU (below)
SMU (below)
Kopitiam Foodcourt
Basement of Li Ka Shing Library
Opens: 9.30am to 9pm daily
This stall sells a range of desserts, including banana crumble, apple crumble, carrot cake and assorted brownies.

The must-try here is the chocolate fudge brownie ($2.60), which boasts a siny-smooth cake topped with warm, melted fudge.