SLICE of S-L

Prof William Oakes, Director, EPICS (Engineering Projects in Community Service) Program, and Professor of Engineering Education, Purdue University, and NP's consultant for Service-Learning (S-L) in STEM education, made his first visit to NP in March 2018.

Here's our "Report Card" from him…

Most of NP's current S-L experiences and programmes are advanced compared to global standards. NP is positioned to be a regional leader in S-L in STEM!

OBSERVATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

S-L = ?

THE ROLE OF S-L

- S-L is much more than just about nurturing big-hearted graduates. It is a very effective pedagogy for teaching academic content and professional skills.

- The community is an ideal partner for testing the relevance and suitability of projects before they are industry-ready.
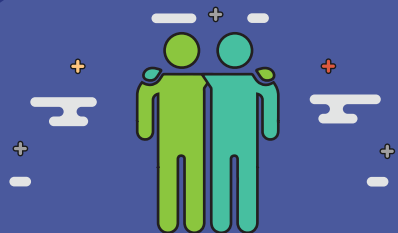
IMPROVE POLICIES & PROCESSES

- At the institutional level, develop Liability Agreement for risk management purposes.

- Provide Letter of Agreement/MOU for key partners.

- Encourage sharing of spaces, facilities and capabilities across disciplines so that S-L can better benefit the community.

SCAFFOLD & LEVERAGE S-L

- Scaffold modules where projects get passed on through multiple semesters.

- Encourage multidisciplinary projects.

- Incorporate S-L with innovation, entrepreneurship, design thinking and professional preparation.

DEVELOP STAFF CAPACITY

Develop more faculty mentors and champions of S-L in each diploma area, to be involved in building staff capacity.

APRIL 2018

Office of
Service-Learning
Ngee Ann Polytechnic