

MEDIA RELEASE

**Ngee Ann Polytechnic partners IBM Singapore to be the first to introduce quantum computing in curriculum for post-secondary level**

*All students from the School of InfoComm Technology have access to IBM SkillsBuild AI practitioner course*

**Singapore, 25 November 2022** — Ngee Ann Polytechnic (NP) is partnering renowned technology leader, IBM Singapore, to enhance its Diploma in Information Technology (IT) course and bolster the local talent pool in the fields of Quantum Computing and Artificial Intelligence (AI).

With quantum computing becoming a rapidly emerging technology, NP is riding on the wave to be the first to roll out a curriculum in this field at the post-secondary level. As part of the collaboration, more than 500 students over three years from NP's School of InfoComm Technology (ICT) will benefit from customised learning plans, immersive training, and learning activities developed by IBM in key skill areas such as Quantum Computing, AI and other emerging technologies from April 2023. This will equip students with the valuable digital skill sets needed in technology jobs of the future.

In addition, students will get opportunities to connect with the IBM Quantum Advocate Team, which brings together educators in the growing quantum field for knowledge sharing and exchange of best practices to augment educational experiences. They will also gain hands-on experience through AI workshops.

The partnership provides an inside look into IBM's suite of industry-leading tools and offerings that are designed to boost NP's tech education portfolio. Both ICT students and faculty will have complimentary access to industry-standard software, digital credentials and professional development resources from the IBM SkillsBuild program. Students will also gain access to a repository of online learning resources and cloud access for hands-on labs and Red Hat's training courses. Currently, IBM has sponsored 30 students from NP's School of InfoComm Technology and School of Engineering for its Red Hat Certified Systems Administrator and Red Hat Certified Engineer certification programmes.

"Institutes of higher learning play an integral role in helping students keep pace with technological advances that are impacting the future economy. This calls for forward-looking collaborations with industry players such as IBM to deepen our students' skill sets in emerging areas such as Quantum Computing and AI that enable better employability for our graduates in workplaces of tomorrow", said Mr. Patrice Choong, Director of NP's School of InfoComm Technology.

"Our plan is to provide 30 million people globally with the skills needed for the future job market by 2030. The critical skills needed by candidates in their entry-level jobs are often not apparent upon their entry into the workforce. In Singapore, we are committed to joining hands with academic institutions like Ngee Ann Polytechnic by adding value to the curricula through IBM SkillsBuild program so that the courses offered are relevant to help prepare the students for the job market," said Mr. Colin Tan, General Manager and Technology Leader, IBM Singapore.

“Students will be exposed to IBM SkillsBuild program to learn, and build skills in artificial intelligence, quantum computing, and more, with opportunities for mentoring and networking in the tech space as well as attaining digital credentials to demonstrate workforce readiness,” added Mr. Tan.

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For media queries, please contact:

**Ngee Ann Polytechnic**

Sarah Lim

Tel: 6460 7353

Email: sarah\_lim@np.edu.sg

**About Ngee Ann Polytechnic**

Ngee Ann Polytechnic started in 1963 and is today one of Singapore’s leading institutions of higher learning with over 13,000 enrolled students in close to 40 disciplines. It seeks to develop students with a passion for learning, values for life, and competencies to thrive in a global workplace. The polytechnic also supports Continuing Education and Training (CET) through its CET Academy, which offers a wide range of part-time programmes and short courses. It works closely with industry partners to curate programmes for emerging skills, develop talent pipeline for the industries and help adult learners stay agile in today’s rapidly changing global economy.

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