Republic Polytechnic and Ngee Ann Polytechnic jointly launch Specialist Diploma in Biomedical Informatics and Analytics

New CET programme trains professionals in the area of Bioinformatics, Healthcare Informatics and Analytics

Singapore, 4 September 2019 - A joint-polytechnic Specialist Diploma in Biomedical Informatics and Analytics offered by Republic Polytechnic (RP) and Ngee Ann Polytechnic (NP) was launched today at RP's School of Applied Science Industry Day to enhance biomedical informatics and analytics capabilities in the biomedical science and healthcare sectors. Classes for the new one-year Continuing Education and Training (CET) programme will commence in October 2019.

The advent of the big data era has impacted industries globally and Singapore is well-positioned as a regional data hub to harness big data technology for the biomedical and healthcare sectors. This has fuelled the demand for skilled individuals who can effectively analyse huge amounts of biomedical and healthcare data to better understand diseases in order to enhance the quality of health services and precision medicine. In addition, the Healthcare Skills Framework has highlighted the need to equip biomedical and healthcare professionals with deeper skillsets in the field of data analytics in response to the evolving healthcare landscape.

Besides the launch of the specialist diploma, RP also inked two MoUs with A*STAR Bioinformatics Institute and Raffles Medical Group at the event. The collaborations include providing for student internship placements at the two organisations, development of joint research projects, supporting the development and delivery of CET programmes and staff exchange programmes, among other arrangements. The collaborations will further strengthen RP's existing efforts in building expertise in this growing sector.

At the industry day event, speakers from the Bioinformatics Institute, A*STAR spoke about how the advancement in Biomedical informatics and Bioinformatics could potentially impact the understanding of diseases, healthcare and precision medicine. These highlight the emerging importance of healthcare informatics and analytics to Singapore's Smart Nation initiative and the revolution brought about by technology.

Dr Lim Boon Whatt, Director of RP's School of Applied Science, said, "This is the first full-qualification programme focusing on informatics and analytics application in the biomedical and healthcare sectors. Through this collaborative effort with Ngee Ann Polytechnic, participants can look forward to an exciting cross-campus learning experience. The course will be very useful for individuals in the biomedical science and healthcare-related sectors who are keen to enhance their knowledge in the areas of informatics and analytics."

The Specialist Diploma in Biomedical Informatics and Analytics (SDBIA) is jointly awarded by RP and NP. Developed with input from various research and healthcare institutions, it comprises two Post-Diploma Certificates (PDC) in Biomedical Informatics and Biomedical Analytics delivered by RP and NP respectively.

"Big data and digital platforms are radically transforming the healthcare and biomedical sciences. The SDBIA will provide an exciting and innovative launch pad for healthcare and biomedical science professionals to meet these challenges. SDBIA graduates will be equipped with the skills in data analytics, bioinformatics, coding and machine learning needed in drug development, clinical trials, precision medicine, patient management, and disease monitoring and diagnoses. Graduates will be well-placed to play a critical role in the digital transformation of Singapore's healthcare and biomedical science sectors," said Ms Tan Suat Peng, Director of NP's School of Life Sciences & Chemical Technology.

Graduate Outcomes

Graduates of this programme will be equipped with the necessary skills and knowledge to pursue a career in the biomedical informatics and data analytics industries such as:

- Data analyst/scientist
- Application Specialist
- Bioinformatician
- Medical Informatics Officer
- Health Informatician
- Electronic Medical Records Specialist

Enrolment is now open. For more information on the programme, please refer to the Annex and https://www.rp.edu.sg/ace/course-summary/Detail/specialist-diploma-in-biomedical-informatics-and-analytics

- End -

About Republic Polytechnic

The first educational institution in Singapore to leverage the Problem-based Learning approach for all its diploma programmes, Republic Polytechnic (RP) has seven schools and one academic centre offering 37 full-time diplomas in Applied Science, Engineering, Management and Communication, Hospitality, Infocomm, Sports, Health & Leisure, and Technology for the Arts.

RP is committed to nurturing professionals with strong problem-solving capabilities through an innovative and entrepreneurial learning environment, based on a holistic and industry-relevant curriculum. RP's Academy for Continuing Education also offers a comprehensive suite of lifelong learning programmes to provide adult learners with skills upgrading opportunities.

For more information, visit http://www.rp.edu.sg

Media Release issued by:

Republic Polytechnic
Office of Corporate Communications
Patrick Seng / Julian Soh
+65 9767 6701 / +65 9018 0719
patrick_seng@rp.edu.sg/
julian_soh@rp.edu.sg

Other media contact:

Ngee Ann Polytechnic
Corporate Communications Office
Hafeez Sim
+65 9830 6066
sim_hafeez_bin_faisal@np.edu.sg