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I love SMU: Heart, life, passion, soul [advertisement]

Singapore Management University

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Our students have something you can't give a grade for

Heart

What drives Jinny Foo to nurture the hungry minds of our poorest? Heart. For while pursuing a double degree in Accountancy and Economics, this Ernst & Young scholar also works tirelessly to support the less privileged. Concern about the ethics of some tuition centres led her to set up her own agency. So that, "even weak students without the means do not get side-lined." With empathy and a strong sense of fair play, she charges lower commission rates – and waives them for students in dire straits. Says this President's Guide, who embodies the well rounded individual SMU strives to cultivate, "Nothing gives more joy than lifting and healing broken spirits."

**Celebrating the unconventional, the intriguing,
the undaunted.**

Ernst & Young scholar Jinny Foo is pursuing a double degree in Accountancy and Economics.



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Embrace something beyond the classroom

Life

What gets Tan Chee Wee out of class so often? Life. Students like Chee Wee embody the well-rounded individual SMU strives to cultivate. Committed to excelling in his pursuit of a double degree, this President's Scout, classical guitarist and outdoor lover appreciates "the warmth of connecting and friendship over obsessing with things academic". A supporter of community causes, he has organised two youth expeditions to Chiang Mai. There, he helped build a classroom for impoverished rural youth, and a dormitory for rehabilitating urban drug addicts. With this experience, team leader Chee Wee sees himself "working in – even setting up – an NGO with a global reach".

Celebrating the unconventional, the intriguing, the undaunted.



Pursue a subject you won't find on any syllabus

Life

What compelled Joven Lai to spearhead a female-led lion dance troupe? A zest for life. Moving in tempo to the syncopated beat of drums and cymbals mirrors her attitude to the unpredictability of life: "You simply feel the energy – and go with its flow". Joven embodies the well rounded individual SMU strives to cultivate. She is an accomplished Mandarin songwriter and poet and dreams of publishing a novel in her mother tongue. How does this focused and gung-ho SMU student overcome her innate shyness of people? By performing to crowds and tackling the responsibility of leadership head on.

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Undergraduate Joven Lai channels her energies towards getting her Bachelor of Science (Information Systems Management) degree.

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Experience what is not easily taught

Soul

What makes Jeremy Nguee click with urbane folk and village kids alike? Spirit. Students like Jeremy embody the well-rounded individual SMU strives to cultivate. This Bachelor of Accountancy undergraduate is rarely without his camera, and his irrepressible wit. A poet with the lens as he is with words, his powerful photographs and emotive prose move both mind and spirit. His insight that “sharing with people comes naturally when you realise you are one with humanity” is drawn from neither books nor seminars – but from the joie de vivre of hill tribe children. “To uncover what we truly are, let’s strip off all trappings of success and achievement”, he challenges. In Jeremy’s case, it is plain for all to see: soul.

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Be inspired by a quality that defies instruction

Passion

How did Rich Ho get his first film commissioning by the age of 19? Passion. Growing up in a family of science-driven professionals, this non-conformist pursued a private world of big-screen dreams. Persistence paid off. Today Rich is a consummate storyteller, composer and film maker. He embodies the well-rounded individual SMU strives to cultivate. A Business Management undergraduate, his SMU exchange programme in Helsinki gave him the chance to further hone his film-making skills. Rich shares his expertise on campus, teaching fellow students video and presentation skills. Passion can never be taught. But that does not stop Rich from using his to “open people’s minds to the wealth of possibilities in life”.

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the undaunted.**

Rich Ho is focusing his sights on getting his Bachelor of Business Management degree.



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Awaken something you won't find in books



Passion

What consumes Johnny Tay to devote ten years developing his “cartooning” style? Passion. A Business Management undergraduate at SMU, Johnny is on a serious mission to change the mindset of the public about comic books. His fantasy storylines are set in a tech-driven alien planet peopled by animal forms with human thoughts. “The comic book can be embraced as a valid form of literature... enjoyed across cultures,” says Johnny, whose one-man effort in publishing his book is just the beginning. Next step, Planet Anema interactive games.

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