



New Master's programme for regional IT leaders launched by NUS-ISS

T.C. Seow | July 27, 2015

Commencing January 2016, the new graduate degree programme is aimed at equipping leaders with both technical skills and professional knowledge.

The National University of Singapore's (NUS) Institute of Systems Science (NUS-ISS) and School of Computing has launched a new graduate degree programme aimed at equipping next generation IT leaders with both technical skills and professional knowledge for effective business leadership and IT management.

The comprehensive programme will be jointly designed and delivered by NUS-ISS and NUS Computing. It will lead to a Master of Technology in IT Leadership (MTech ITL) awarded by NUS – the only locally conferred Master's degree focused on grooming strategic and forward-thinking IT leaders with the competencies needed to steer their organisations through fast-changing business and technology landscapes.

The MTech ITL programme offers an academic and practice-based curriculum to help IT practitioners exploit digital opportunities and broaden their strategic role. The programme will commence in January 2016.

According to Khoong Chan Meng, Director and CEO of NUS-ISS, senior IT professionals in Singapore and the region have not been able to benefit from an integrated programme with a strong blend of IT, business and leadership curriculum for well-rounded development. "Our goal is to nurture IT leaders who are not only capable, but possess the foresight, confidence and drive to leverage technology, integrate business and IT strategies, and build agile, innovative and effective IT organisations in an increasingly digital world," he said.

Professor David S. Rosenblum, Dean of NUS School of Computing, added: "Both the Institute of Systems Science and the School of Computing have been actively engaged with the IT community to meet various facets of their manpower development needs. By combining our strengths in academic, industry-oriented and practice-based pedagogies, MTech ITL graduates can be assured of a pragmatic programme that is relevant to real-world needs."

Comprehensive practice-oriented curriculum

The curriculum is structured to develop the critical business, management, info-communication and leadership skills necessary to take on key IT leadership positions and responsibilities. In addition to the coursework, MTech ITL students can apply their newly acquired competencies to solving IT issues confronting today's organisations through a capstone project for an organisation.

The IT Management Association (ITMA) supports the new MTech ITL programme by fielding practising CIOs to share industry experiences and provide mentorship to the students.

Steve Lee, President of ITMA and CIO/Senior Vice President (Technology) of Changi Airport Group (Singapore) said: "ITMA members and leaders will contribute by sharing our experiences and knowledge with the students. We will also sponsor book prizes for outstanding students. This programme is much needed to develop the next IT leaders, a key and vital component in Singapore's continual push to exploit the use of ICT."

Classroom lectures will be combined with a multi-modal learning approach that covers case studies, group assignments to encourage peer sharing, and mentorship by senior practitioners. Briefings and workshops will be conducted or facilitated by industry thought leaders and business practitioners, so that students can gain first-hand insights on current IT trends and challenges.

Lim Hooi Ling, Chief of the newly launched Master of Technology in IT Leadership (MTech ITL) Programme in NUS-ISS, explained that digital technologies are key drivers of innovation, competition and differentiation for companies that can offer tremendous opportunities for value creation. She said that the course could lower cost barriers, create new competitive advantage and level the playing field as incumbents increasingly face competition from start-ups and companies from other industries and geographies. CIOs need to develop high-performing IT teams that help them deliver results and achieve business outcomes.

For more information about the course, click [here \(https://www.iss.nus.edu.sg/MTechITL.aspx\)](https://www.iss.nus.edu.sg/MTechITL.aspx).