PRESS RELEASE

Launch of The Digital Academy To Accelerate Digital Transformation of Public Sector

Singapore, 21 June 2021 – The Digital Academy by Government Technology Agency of Singapore (GovTech Singapore) was launched officially earlier today over a virtual Launch Symposium, attended by almost 2,000 guests across the whole of government, as well as key industry partners. The Academy is designed to raise the digital competencies of all public service leaders and officers, particularly those in the Infocomms Technology (ICT) profession.

The virtual launch event, themed "Raising the Digital Quotient in Public Service", was officiated by Guest-of-Honour Dr Janil Puthucheary, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Communications and Information, Mr. Ng Chee Khern, Permanent Secretary (Smart Nation and Digital Government), Professor Tan Eng Chye, President of National University of Singapore (NUS), Ms. Janet Ang, Chairman of Institute of Systems Science, NUS (NUS-ISS), Mr. Kok Ping Soon, Chief Executive of GovTech, and Mr. Khoong Chan Meng, CEO of NUS-ISS.

Mr. Kok shares, "The rate of technological evolution today underscores the need to refresh tech skills as often as every 18 months. As a driving force of Singapore's Smart Nation vision, the public sector needs to stay relevant and up-to-date, especially for those working in the ICT profession and leaders steering digital transformation for their agencies. The launch of The Digital Academy is therefore an important milestone to accelerate the pace of public sector digitalisation. Our public officers can look forward to specially-curated programmes that will impart deep and applicable technical skills in the context of the business of government."

The Digital Academy, driven by Smart Nation and Digital Government Group and supported by its Operations Partner NUS-ISS, offers a unique value proposition that addresses gaps in the existing learning ecosystem, particularly for ICT professionals in Public Service; its curriculum combines expert knowledge from tech practice leads in GovTech and nine reputable content partners selected from the industry - Amazon Web Services, Coursera, Google, Microsoft, Qlik, Secure Code Warrior, SingTel TrustWave, Tableau and ThoughtWorks.

Programmes are designed and delivered in an agile way to address the fast-changing tech landscape, for direct application in the business of government. For a start, The Digital Academy will offer 55 programmes across several domains - such as Applications Development, Cybersecurity, Data Science & AI, Product Management and Tech Management – and increase its offering to 95 programmes by end March 2022.

The Digital Academy offers blended learning by delivering programmes using multiple formats, with emphasis on applied learning. Beyond the typical in-person or virtual lectures, participants can expect to attend instructor-led workshops, tech talks, exchanges with communities of

practice, hackathons and even be offered opportunities for on-the-job training. For example, the Secure Code Programme by Secure Code Warrior engages learners via an interactive e-learning curriculum; the Agile Methodology Workshop by ThoughtWorks features extensive and personalised coaching for teams; while the Starting a Data Science Project course by the Civil Service College presents participants with the chance to work on relevant hands-on projects. (refer to Appendix A for more information)

Following the virtual Launch Symposium, a week-long virtual learning festival comprising 50 sessions will continue until Friday, 25 June. Participants can look forward to interactive plenary sessions, webinars, exhibits, as well as a coding tournament for public officers who are new to coding.

As the Operations Partner of The Digital Academy, NUS-ISS will partner GovTech in developing training roadmaps, and managing the enrolment, logistics, publicity and training processes. With a 40-year track record of best practices in setting up and running an academy for developing digital talent, NUS-ISS will work closely with The Digital Academy's in-house team to design a curriculum that is contextualised for the public sector, with learning objectives that enable the application of skills to government digital transformation.

"NUS-ISS is proud of our long-standing partnership with GovTech to develop digital talent in the public sector. We are honoured to be appointed the Operations Partner of The Digital Academy to help groom the next generation of public officers and leaders to accelerate digital transformation within the public sector. The feedback from participants has been extremely positive, and we will constantly bring in new and refreshed curriculum to address the fast-changing tech landscape and equip public officers with the most current digital skillsets. We look forward to working closely with GovTech to grow The Digital Academy from strength to strength," said Mr. Khoong.

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About The Digital Academy by GovTech Singapore

The Digital Academy by GovTech is a "Practitioner for Practitioner" academy that operates at the unique intersection of technology and public service. The Academy aims to groom future-ready digital leaders to be well-versed in the technology ecosystem to accelerate the public sector's digital transformation. The Academy offers a robust suite of Infocomms Technology programmes that are contextualised to the public service, anchored on GovTech's Functional Competency model and aligned with the Whole-Of-Government Digital Maturity framework. Be it to achieve mastery in a specific tech skill or to advance the tech horizon, The Digital Academy provides all public officers with an opportunity to be digitally-confident in today's world.

For more information on The Digital Academy, please visit the website at
http://thedigitalacademy.tech.gov.sg

About National University of Singapore (NUS)

The National University of Singapore (NUS) is Singapore's flagship university, which offers a global approach to education, research and entrepreneurship, with a focus on Asian perspectives and expertise. We have 17 faculties across three campuses in Singapore, with more than 40,000 students from 100 countries enriching our vibrant and diverse campus community. We have also established our NUS Overseas Colleges programme in more than 15 cities around the world.

Our multidisciplinary and real-world approach to education, research and entrepreneurship enables us to work closely with industry, governments and academia to address crucial and complex issues relevant to Asia and the world. Researchers in our faculties, 30 university-level research institutes, research centres of excellence and corporate labs focus on themes that include energy; environmental and urban sustainability; treatment and prevention of diseases; active ageing; advanced materials; risk management and resilience of financial systems; Asian studies; and Smart Nation capabilities such as artificial intelligence, data science, operations research and cybersecurity.

For more information on NUS, please visit www.nus.edu.sg.

About the Institute of Systems Science (NUS-ISS)

Established in 1981, the Institute of Systems Science (ISS) at National University of Singapore (NUS) develops digital talent for the industry through graduate education, executive education programmes, consultancy and research services. ISS is widely recognised as a champion of industry transformation, future jobs and future skills, enabling a digital economy that is always learning and always leading.

For more information on ISS, please visit www.iss.nus.edu.sg

Appendix A

Course Name	Secure Code Programme
Content Partner	Secure Code Warrior
Target participants	Appsec Practitioners, Developers/Software engineers
Functional Cluster	Cybersecurity
Category	Capability Development
Programme Features	Using the Secure Code Warrior Learning Platform, participants will have access to learning content that with over 5,500 challenges and missions covering over 147 different vulnerability types, including the all-important OWASP Top 10, OWASP Mobile Top 10, OWASP API Security Top 10 and CWE/SANS Top 25. The course also allows learners to receive real-time advice through coaching plug-in tools and verify their skillset through online assessments and certifications.

Course Name	Agile Methodology Workshop
Content Partner	ThoughtWorks
Target participants	Project Manager (Agile), Product Manager, Delivery Manager
Functional Cluster	Apps Development
Category	Capability Development
Programme Features	The programme features extensive and personalised coaching for the teams.

Course Name	Starting a Data Science Project
Content Partner	Civil Service College
Target Participants	Public officers who are keen to adopt a data-driven approach to improving policy decisions and operations, as well as understand what is involved in starting a typical Data Science project.
Functional Cluster	Data Science and AI
Category	Capability Development

Programme Features	In this programme, participants will gain a fundamental understanding of various Data Science techniques by preparing and analysing multiple datasets using Python and performing data visualisation using Tableau. They will also get the chance to work on relevant hands-on projects.

Course Name	Leading Digital Transformation in Government (Directors)
Content Partner	The Digital Academy (by GovTech) and Civil Service College
Target Participants	Directors in charge of Digital Transformation and/or Strategic Planning
Functional Cluster	Governance
Category	Milestone
Programme Features	This programme is aimed at equipping Directors with the mindsets, knowledge and skills to support their Chief Digitalisation Strategy Officers (CDSOs) in driving digital transformation within their Agencies. It is a practice course with a focus on the next-level execution details to help directors in the planning and implementation of digital initiatives.

Course Name	Digital Product Management Bootcamp
Content Partner	NUS-ISS
Target Participants	Professionals who have a strong interest and is required to gain an understanding of the foundational concepts of product management. New managers and or senior managers who are responsible in leading and supporting their product managers and product teams, who have not had any form of formal product management training.
Functional Cluster	Product Management
Category	Capability Development
Programme Features	Curated by both GovTech and NUS-ISS, this one-day foundational course serves as a starting point into the product management learning journey that is practiced in the industry.