

From many centres to one huge campus

BY SHARMILLA GANESAN

AFTER several years of operating at different centres in the city, Informatics in Singapore finally has its own campus. The campus was opened recently by Singapore Foreign Affairs Ministry's ambassador-at-large and Institute of Policy Studies chairman Prof Tommy Koh.

Also present were officials from various embassies in Singapore.

Nestled in the peaceful and cosy Science Centre Road, the 55,000 sq-metre campus can accommodate up to 15,000 students. Informatics' student body headquarters has been operating at the new premises since January this year.

The diversity of Informatics' students was well showcased at the opening ceremony, with many of them in traditional wear. The students also put up entertaining performances highlighting their cultures.

Informatics CEO Dr Michael Teng said the campus would attract more international students with its various facilities.

The campus is equipped with wireless infrastructure, lecture halls, computer and engineering laboratories, and other facilities, including basketball courts. The new campus also comes with various student-friendly features such as a student lounge and a large cafeteria.

The dormitory is scheduled to be completed by the middle of next year.

Prof Koh said organisations like Informatics had a vital role in the country's aim to become an educational hub of the region.

Accountancy student Kailash Ragupathy, 21, said: "It's great to have all our classes in one place, so we don't have to travel so much. We also get to meet students of other courses and mingle much more."

Business student Kunal Lunkad, 20, said he was excited to be able



Informatics Singapore's new campus has an area of over 55,000 sq metres and can accommodate up to 15,000 students.

to play basketball and cricket on campus.

"There are many more facilities which make for a better studying environment," he said.

Several new programmes have been included such as hospitality and tourism management, and cyber security.

The academy also offers the Informatics Capstone Programme, which is an integrated programme that combines e-learning with face-to-face studying.

The programme offers students the flexibility of taking modules online from anywhere in the world, while attending tutorial classes.

Informatics is also creating new global ties and expanding its network. Its tie-up with language training provider Linguaphone

Group allows English language to be included in its line-up.

There is also co-operation between Informatics and South Korea's Chang Shin College, which will allow academic exchanges.

Finally, a collaboration has been established with Peking University's International Brand Federation, which will help Informatics in developing courses on brand development and research.

The Informatics Group, established in 1983, is a multinational corporation providing lifelong learning services in information technology and business management. Its network spans more than 50 countries and offers programmes from O and A Levels to undergraduate and postgraduate diplomas.



DR TENG: 'The campus with its modern facilities would attract more international students.'



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