



Being Prepared is Half the Battle Won

Every student's experience at the School of EEE is different. Henry Ng, a valedictorian for NTU Convocation 2013, shares with eee world how NTU prepared him for the future.

Even in his freshman year, word of the infamous killer module had already reached Henry's ears. EE3003, Integrated Electronics. Those who had survived it would cock their heads and reminisce at the mere mention of it while those who have not would continue to be mystified.

It was the task of analysing multi-operational amplifiers that was daunting to Henry. But like a bona fide EEE student, he took it in stride, soldiered on and tackled the subject. "Credit must be given to the lecturers who tried their best to make sure the content remained interesting and digestible," says Henry.



It was during the mugging for this module that Henry forged closer bonds with his classmates. "We formed our own study groups and helped one another to understand flummoxing concepts. We also learnt to pick ourselves up from the setbacks and encouraged one another to stay resilient."

During the four-year degree programme, Henry was exposed to the many facets of electrical and electronic engineering. His specialisation was in Infocommunication, specifically digital media. "I learnt about web application development and I also got to perform signal processing for image rendering." As a member of the EEE-LEAD programme, a premier



leadership programme for selected EEE students that enriches their personal and professional capabilities, he was also involved in numerous activities from humanitarian work, project management to team-bonding, mentoring and training sessions for his EEE juniors.

Henry believes a degree in electrical and electronic engineering is not just a springboard to getting a good job. How one spends his time in the university is equally important. It was here at the School of EEE that he built strong friendships and developed lifelong skills while undertaking a plethora of projects. There were opportunities for him to develop his character, traits and values that would govern his decisions later on in life. "It was a safe training ground for us to experiment and 'calibrate' ourselves before we go out to the working world."

Making a Difference

The pursuit of a Ph.D. comes with a set of challenges. Valedictorian Chew Boon Seng shares encouraging words with all.



"What counts in life is not the mere fact that we have lived. It is what difference we have made to the lives of others that will determine the significance of the life we lead."

This was the Nelson Mandela quote Boon Seng shared with his fellow graduates at the EEE Ph.D. Graduation Dinner 2013. A fitting one, as it hints to the ensuing fruits of labour a Ph.D. holder gets to enjoy after all is said and done.

The stress that weighed heavily on his shoulders, the fear of disappointing those closest to him and the countless nights perfecting a single journal or transaction manuscript—these were just a few challenges that characterised Boon Seng's experience. Two things kept him going. First, the unwavering support he got from his loving wife, friends as well as

supervisors such as Dr Chau Lap Pui and Dr Yap Kim Hui. Second was the will to make a difference.

"Being a Ph.D. is merely a start state. What is important is how we put to good use the knowledge and experiences we gained from the studies." Boon Seng philosophically implored one and all present to think about how they can, in their very own special ways, be constructive change agents capable of making a positive difference.