



27 October 2015

## **NIE AND IAL LAUNCH NEW MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME TO BOOST ADULT PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION IN SINGAPORE**

Memorandum of Agreement marks the start of a collaboration to bring Continuing Education and Training industry to greater heights and professionalism

Professionals in the Continuing Education and Training (CET) industry can now look forward to levelling up their skills and deepening their knowledge through a new Master's Degree programme offered by the National Institute of Education (NIE) of Nanyang Technological University and the Institute for Adult Learning (IAL) of the Singapore Workforce Development Agency. This new programme, Master of Arts in Professional Education (Training and Development), MAPE(T&D) for short, is launched.

MAPE(T&D) brings together industry-relevant expertise and knowledge from both institutes – NIE, an institute renowned for its deep expertise in pedagogy and instructional design, and IAL, a leader in training and developing adult educators. The programme aims to deepen the academic knowledge and strengthen the competencies of individuals who wish to move to more professional roles, such as CET consultancy and leadership positions in schools and academic institutions.

It is a part-time programme that can be completed within two years and six months and comprises coursework of 30 academic units, spread over 9 courses, of which seven are core and two are specialised elective courses. The programme develops rigorous knowledge, understanding and skills, covering areas such as educational practices and systems from social, philosophical, psychological, cross-national and normative perspectives. The programme also centres on issues in learning and development, education and training, as well as educational leadership in various professional contexts. Blazing the trail are 16 individuals who have been accepted into the inaugural class.

Upon their completion of the programme, students will be equipped with a distinct set of skills to drive mentoring and coaching, innovative training as well as assessment and design practices. They will be better qualified to take on more strategic functions in teaching and training, as well as in leadership roles.

The launch of MAPE(T&D) is timely and in line with the national SkillsFuture movement and provides a robust platform for our CET industry to upgrade so as to take a stronger lead in shaping the future of Singapore's workforce. Professor Christine Goh, Dean of Graduate Studies and Professional Learning says: "Underpinned by education theory and evidence-informed teaching and practices, the MAPE(T&D) will fill the gap for a rigorous and contextualised professional education degree in Singapore. Education professionals who graduate from the MAPE(T&D) programme will be able to contribute significantly to the quality of adult and lifelong learning in the country."

In conjunction with the launch of MAPE(T&D), NIE and IAL have signed a Memorandum of Agreement, marking the beginning of a collaboration for both institutes to bring the CET industry to greater heights and professionalism.

Ms Hui Mei San, Executive Director of IAL adds: "The launch of MAPE is an exciting milestone in the development of CET in Singapore. It marks a synergistic collaboration between IAL and NIE providing new opportunities for the CET professionals to deepen their knowledge and competencies. This programme will see both institutes contributing complementary sets of expertise in adult education and pedagogy to level up the professionalism and rigour of the CET community."

NIE invites applications for the August 2016 intake. Applications are open from 16 November 2015 to 15 January 2016.

For more details, please refer to **Annexes A** for the fact sheet about MAPE(T&D).

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## **ABOUT THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION (NIE), SINGAPORE**

The National Institute of Education (NIE) is an institute of the Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore.

NIE provides all levels of teacher education, from initial teacher education programmes to professional development programmes for in-service teachers and executive leadership programmes for Principals, Departmental Heads and other school leaders. NIE also administers postgraduate programmes that lead to the award of higher degrees in Arts, Education, Physical Education and Science. In addition, NIE also offers part-time programmes that make it possible for current primary level teachers to have the opportunity to earn a Bachelor of Education degree. NIE is also lauded for professional programmes such as *Management and Leadership in Schools* (MLS) and *Leaders in Education (International)* (LEPI) by overseas education leaders. NIE also shares top academic resources with USA's Teachers College, Columbia University for the first joint *Master of Arts (Leadership and Educational Change)* focused on moulding candidates into global leaders in education.

NIE plays an important role in providing education research and research based-pedagogical curriculum and direction to the Ministry and its schools to transform the teacher preparation system and to ensure it continues to meet changing needs of the education system. This is all in line with the mission of the Ministry, which is to mould the future of our nation.

For more information, please visit: [www.nie.edu.sg](http://www.nie.edu.sg)

## **ABOUT THE INSTITUTE FOR ADULT LEARNING SINGAPORE**

The Institute for Adult Learning (IAL) is at the forefront of building capabilities and continuing professional development for an effective, innovative and responsive Continuing Education and Training (CET) sector. We work closely and support adult educators, businesses, human resource developers and policy makers through our comprehensive suite of programmes and services on raising capabilities and catalysing innovations in CET. IAL also champions research in the key areas of sustaining economic performance through skills, shaping employment and CET decisions, as well as developing innovations through learning technology and pedagogy for informed policies and practices.

For more information, please visit [www.ial.edu.sg](http://www.ial.edu.sg)

## **ABOUT SINGAPORE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**

The Singapore Workforce Development Agency (WDA) enhances the competitiveness of our workforce by encouraging workers to learn for life and advance with skills. In today's economy, most jobs require not just knowledge, but also skills. WDA collaborates with employers, industry associations, unions and training organisations, to develop and strengthen the Continuing Education and Training system that is skills-based, open and accessible, as a mainstream pathway for all workers - young and older, from rank and file to professionals and executives - to upgrade and advance in their careers and lives.

For more information, please visit [www.wda.gov.sg](http://www.wda.gov.sg)

## **Fact Sheet about the MAPE(T&D) programme**

The programme includes:

- Experiential components focusing on applying learning in authentic workplace contexts,
- Development of specialised skill sets required for professional development such as evaluating and developing workplace mentoring and coaching skill sets, both of which need greater emphasis in the increasingly complex and dynamic organisational environment,
- Development of participants' capacity to engage in disciplined reflection on their experiences, studies and practices in the local contexts, and
- Incorporation of theories of learning from the learning sciences perspective as well as providing opportunities for participants to understand theories and practice of technology-enhanced learning.

### **Structure**

This is a part-time coursework Masters programme of 30 Academic Units. Students are required to complete seven core courses and two specialised elective courses.

#### Core Courses

- Foundations of Learning and Instruction
- Instructional Design Models and Practices
- Facilitating Learning and Performance Improvements at Work
- Workplace Coaching and Mentoring
- Quality Assurance Processes for Learning Organisations
- Professional Practice Inquiry Skills
- Professional Practice Inquiry Project

#### Specialised Elective Courses (Choose any two)

- Training Needs Assessment and Solutions
- Training Methods and Strategies
- E-learning Tools for Training
- Multimedia Design
- Computer-Supported Collaborative Learning and Knowledge Building
- Globalisation, Educational Change and Pedagogical Reform
- Contemporary Issues in Organisational and Development in Schools
- Theory and Practice of Teachers' Professional Learning

### **Programme Fee**

The programme costs \$33,000 (subject to prevailing GST) and is subject to revision on a yearly basis. Successful Singapore Citizen/PR applicants are eligible for 70% course fee subsidy from WDA. For Singapore Citizen, students who are 40 years old and above, they are also eligible for the SkillsFuture Mid-Career Enhanced Subsidy.

Age of Students	MAPE(T&D) Programme Fees after Subsidy (before GST)	Remarks
Below 40 years old	S\$9,900	Students must be Citizens or Permanent Residents of Singapore  * For Citizens of Singapore only
40 years old and above	*S\$8,000	

### **Entry Requirements**

- A good Bachelor's degree, preferably with an Honours degree
- At least 2 years of working experience in one of the following areas:
  - teacher professional development
  - educational leadership
  - higher education
  - continuing education and training
  - other relevant adult education or management
- Proficiency in English
  - International applicants whose first language is not English and graduates of universities with non-English medium of instruction are required to submit an official Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or International English Language Testing System (IELTS) score. Test dates must be within the last two years before the date of your application.

Applications may be made online via [www.nie.edu.sg/aug2016](http://www.nie.edu.sg/aug2016) for the August 2016 intake.