

MEDIA RELEASE

TOP-TIER GREEN BUILDING PROFESSIONAL GRADUATES FROM MASTER OF SCIENCE IN SUSTAINABLE BUILDING DESIGN OFFERED BY BCA ACADEMY AND UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM

31 July 2012 (Tuesday) – The BCA Academy, together with the University of Nottingham, announced their first batch of 34 graduates today from their Master of Science programme in Sustainable Building Design.

2 “This is a milestone achievement in the green training framework put together by the BCA Academy to build a green collar workforce of 20,000 by 2020,” said Dr. John Keung, Chief Executive Officer of the Building and Construction Authority. “With the strong support from the University of Nottingham and the industry, we have managed to groom our first batch of senior local green collar professionals, at a postgraduate level, to anchor our green building movement in Singapore and the region.”

3 The two-year part-time postgraduate programme provides professional development and progression for top tier green building professionals and specialists. It was taught by academic staff from the University of Nottingham and supported by local professionals and experts.

4 The programme also provides crucial support to groom a pool of globally competitive green collar professionals in Singapore by imparting world class technology and cost-effective solutions to promote the sustainability agenda and to capture its economic benefits.

5 The cohort, which started their Master programme in 2009, enjoyed a 90% course fee subsidy from the Workforce Development Agency (WDA) under the “Professional Conversion Programme for Sustainable Design Consultants” scheme.

6 Modules in the programme such as *Environmental Design Strategies, Tall Buildings, Urban Design, Climate and the Environment* and *Renewable Energy Design* touch on real and relevant issues that the graduates will encounter in the course of their careers.

7 “The programme encourages creative approaches to developing green building design solutions and places particular emphasis on the Singapore context and climatic conditions,” said Professor Timothy Heath, University of Nottingham’s Associate Dean for Internationalisation and External Relations and Chair in Architecture and Urban Design, Faculty of Engineering.

8 The programme thrived on its accessibility to multidisciplinary students with backgrounds in Architecture, Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Civil and Structural Engineering, Quantity Surveying and Project Management.

9 Said Ms. Rita Soh, Director of RDC Architects Pte. Ltd., and a graduate of the programme, “The multi-disciplinary participation in this Master programme offered unique opportunities for collaborative efforts and peer learning, especially through the many group projects undertaken throughout the course.”

10 “This learning environment reinforces the integrative and interactive approach to design and development, and is very much a reflection of actual situations in our building industry,” continues Ms. Soh who is also the President of the Board of Architects, Singapore.

11 Five graduates emerged top of their cohort with distinctions (See Annex A). Each of these graduates holds important positions within the building industry from directorships to academic posts.

12 The programme emphasised a comprehensive experience that allows students to experience all facets of building sustainable structures from design to completion.

13 “The well-balanced course content helped me recognise and understand the multi-dimensional issues surrounding green building design and how various mitigation and adaptation strategies could be used to enhance its sustainability,” commented Mr. Terence Tan Tee Teng, Director of Integrated Building Services, Johnson Controls (S) Pte. Ltd., one of the five distinction graduates.

14 “The programme has allowed me to consolidate my understanding of sustainable building design in a systematic manner. In particular, the dissertation process helped me appreciate the relevance of adopting an integrative design approach to sustainable building design,” added distinction graduate, Mr. Tan Shao Yen, Executive Vice President (Architecture Group) of CPG Consultants Pte. Ltd.

Issued by the Building and Construction Authority on 31 July 2012

About Building and Construction Authority

The Building and Construction Authority (BCA) of Singapore champions the development of an excellent built environment for Singapore. At BCA, our mission is to shape a safe, high quality, sustainable and friendly built environment, as these are four key elements where BCA has a significant influence. In doing so, we aim to differentiate Singapore’s built environment from those of other cities and contribute to a better quality of life for everyone in Singapore. Hence, our vision is to have “the best built environment for Singapore, our distinctive global city”. BCA works closely with its education hub, the BCA Academy of the Built Environment, and industry partners to develop skills and expertise that help shape the best built environment for Singapore. For more information, visit www.bca.gov.sg.

About BCA Academy

The BCA Academy of the Built Environment is the education and research arm of the Building and Construction Authority, Singapore. It is the leading institution in Singapore that provides a comprehensive range of training and education programs tailored to the needs of the building and construction industry. In support of the national effort to develop Singapore into a green and sustainable city, the BCA Academy is pioneering several initiatives in training and research on renewable energy, green building design and technology, and sustainable development. To enable our industry leaders and practitioners to learn from the experience and knowledge of leading experts in this field, the Academy collaborates with global leaders and institutions in running executive courses, academic programmes, seminars and workshops on sustainable development and green buildings.

About University of Nottingham School of the Built Environment

The School of the Built Environment Nottingham has built its niche areas in the areas of sustainable building and technologies. In 2006, it was ranked No 1 in the UK in the Building Category of the Times Good University Guide. In 2007, the school started running a Phd in Sustainable Energy/Building Technologies in a new building, the Centre for Sustainable Energy Technologies, in Ningbo (China). This new centre conducts research in energy efficient technology, renewable energy technology, low-energy high-rise buildings, low energy housing, etc.

Annex A - Five Distinction Graduates

Ms. Chan Shuit Fun, Carrie
Senior Engineer
TY Lin International Pte Ltd

Ms. Siu Yee May, May
Senior Lecturer, BCA Academy
Building and Construction Authority

Mr. Tan Shao Yen
Executive Vice President (Architecture Group)
CPG Consultants Pte. Ltd.

Mr. Tan Tee Teng, Terence
Director, Integrated Building Services
Johnson Controls (S) Pte. Ltd.

Ms. Yim Onn Ee, Annie
Senior Design Manager
The Ascott Limited