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**FOR IMMEDIATE REPORTING**

## **Living the Singapore Spirit**

1. The theme for this year's Pre-University Seminar is 'Living the Singapore Spirit'. Some 550 students from 30 pre-university institutions, including Junior Colleges, the Centralised Institute and Polytechnics will come together to reflect on the unity that Singaporeans experience and use their learning from the seminar to inspire fellow Singaporeans to keep the Singapore spirit alive. The seminar will be held from 30 May to 2 June 2016 at Nanyang Technological University.

2. Keeping the Singapore spirit alive, especially among our youth, will be vital as we move forward as a nation. Young Singaporeans need to deepen their awareness of the opportunities and challenges that await them and instill in themselves a commitment to the obligations and principles that will enable Singapore to continue to progress. Such understanding and readiness will enable them to embody the Singapore spirit and enable Singapore to stay a thriving nation and inclusive home for many years to come.

3. To facilitate discussion of the theme, four domains have been identified, each with several areas of focus. While participants will be exposed to all domains in the course of the seminar, they will collaborate in teams to delve into one area of focus each. The domains are as follows:

- **Together, We Progress**
- **Building Team Singapore**
- **Treading New Paths of Success**
- **Holding Our Own, Making a Difference**

## Pre-University Seminar Highlights

4. Unique to this year's seminar, teams are required to put the seminar theme into practice by fusing their learning with creativity and resourcefulness through carrying out a 'CARE' Special Activity. 'CARE' stands for: **C**hampioning a Cause, **M**aking a Difference; **A**ccolades for the Deserving, **I**nspiration for Us All; **R**ediscovering Experiential Learning, **B**enefiting a Community; and **E**xperiencing Social Enterprise, **S**owing the Seeds of Activism. This year's seminar comprises the following components:

(a) *Pre-seminar: Expert Interviews*

Prior to the seminar, each group of students visited people and organisations to interview experts in their own field. Students are able to gain new perspectives and greater insight on their assigned domain through interacting with the interviewees and through their knowledge, better understand and appreciate the values and challenges of building a resilient society.

(b) *Opening Ceremony and Panel Discussions*

The Guest-of-Honour, DPM Mr Tharman Shanmugaratnam, will give an address during the Opening Ceremony on Day 1 and participants will also be able to participate in a Q&A session. There will be concurrent panel discussions on Day 2 of the seminar where participants can share their knowledge and experiences, examine and clarify their own views through the exchange of ideas.

(c) *'CARE' Special Activities*

Before the seminar, teams would have identified a 'CARE' activity they wish to develop and submitted a proposal on how they intend to transfer what they have learnt about their assigned area of focus into an activity that enables them to contribute to society. They will carry out their 'CARE' activity and consolidate their observations in a team discussion on Day 3 of the seminar.

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