WIDE ARRAY OF OPPORTUNITIES ON OFFER

With six public universities. students now have a diverse range of degrees to choose from. To attract the best students, the universities are striving to be different - in their programmes, tuition fees, student and faculty mix, accommodation options, financial help and overseas opportunities. **Calvin Yang** looks at the options offered.

University facts			
_	Faculty	any of any other	Full-time

Schools members undergraduates NUS 27,975 2.374 NTU 1.700 23,700 SMU 350 7.541 SUTD 120 1,000 72 SIT 1.800 UniSIM 21* 211

*Those who teach UniSIM's full-time degree programmes Sources: NUS, NTU, SMU, SUTD, SIT, UniSIM ST GRAPHICS



DEGREE PROGRAMMES National University of Singapore (NUS): It has more than 50 full-time de-

grees, with exclusive ones such as those in dentistry, music and pharmacy.

Nanyang Technological University (NTU): It has more than 50 degrees, with niche programmes such as communication studies, and sport science and management.

Singapore Management University (SMU): It offers seven full-time programmes such as accountancy, law, information systems management and an SUTD-SMU dual degree programme in technology and management, launched last vear.

Singapore University of Technology and Design (SUTD): Its five degrees include architecture and sustainable design, engineering product development, engineering systems and design, and information systems technology and design.

Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT): Catering mainly to polytechnic graduates, the university has 36 programmes - some offered by reputable partner universities and others run solely by SIT. The programmes include culinary arts management, criminology and

security, game design and naval architecture.

SIM University (UniSIM): The university synonymous with part-time degrees recently started offering full-time programmes in accountancy, finance and marketing. It will introduce a fourth full-time degree in human resource management this year.



SIM undergraduates.

while students from other programmes will pay about \$31,000.

seen a two-fold increase in stu-

dents receiving scholarships,

from about 800 in 2009 to 1,650

in 2013. There was a 60 per cent

increase in the number of stu-

dents receiving bursaries over the

NTU: For the new academic year

that starts in August, it will be pro-



same period.

FINANCIAL HELP

NUS: It has a wide range of scholarships and financial aid available. Over the past

five years, it has

arships, namely the Nanyang Scholarship and College Scholarship. Singaporean students interested in taking up a bursary each will receive assistance as long as their household per capita income is \$1,900 or less per month. **SMU:** It has a comprehensive range

of financial schemes. For scholarships, about 60 per cent of those who apply have been successful in securing a scholarship supported by the university or its donors. **SUTD:** It offers 173 scholarships and

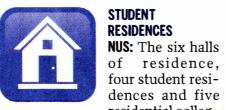
viding about 500 full-term schol-

43 bursaries, excluding government ones.

SIT: More than 10 per cent of students are on scholarships or non-air-conditioned room costs

sponsorships by their employers or prospective employers.

UniSIM: About a dozen scholarships, such as the SIM University Scholarship, and bursaries, such as the Ministry of Education Bursary, are available to students.



residential colleges offer about 11,000 places in all for full-time students. A one-week stay in a typical single, between \$110 and \$130. NTU: Its 18 residential halls house more than 10,400 undergraduates. Rental fees range from \$225 to \$280 monthly for a twin-sharing room.

SMU: It does not have any student residences.

SUTD: It has three student housing blocks with a capacity of around 1,100 beds. Depending on the room type, an undergraduate typically pays around \$350 to \$480 per month.

SIT: It does not offer any student residences.

UniSIM: It does not have any student accommodation.



EXPOSURE

NUS: About 70 per cent of undergraduates have at least an overseas exposure stint, such as summer school or in-

ternships.

NTU: Some 80 per cent of students get some form of overseas exposure, such as taking classes at a partner university overseas. SMU: About 86 per cent of students have some form of overseas exposure, mainly through student exchange programmes. SUTD: Nearly 60 per cent of

undergraduates have overseas

TUITION FEES

These are for Singaporean students admitted in the academic year 2014/2015, except for UniNUS: Annual tuition fees range between \$7,850 - for courses like computing, engineering, and arts and social sciences - and \$24,200 for medicine and dentistry.

NTU: Fees are between \$7,850 for most programmes, and \$31,500 for medical students.

SMU: Undergraduates who started last August are paying \$11,100 per year, except for law students, who are paying \$12,300.

SUTD: An education at the university costs \$11,650 per year.

SIT: Annual fees range from \$10,100 to \$15,300.

UniSIM: This year's accountancy students will pay about \$33,000 for the entire degree programme,

OVERSEAS

experience.

SIT: All students taking programmes offered by its partner universities abroad must go for an **Overseas** Immersion Programme as part of the curriculum. They spend between three and 17 weeks at the home campus of the university. Also, nearly all undergraduates doing SIT's own programmes have gone on study trips and work-study initiatives overseas. **UniSIM:** Its full-time students must

go for an overseas stint during their studies. Currently, they have not started their stints, which may include a work attachment programme or a service learning project.