

SMU academy to train IT workers in financial sector

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THE Singapore Management University (SMU) has launched an academy to run training programmes in financial services information technology (IT).

The Financial IT Academy @SMU (Fita) will equip financial sector IT professionals with enhanced IT capabilities critical to the growth of the banking and

financial services sector here,

It will also give them essential knowledge of the business needs and processes of financial institutions so that business and IT initiatives can be more effectively integrated for competitive advantage.

John Vong, the academic director at Fita, said the academy is integral to Singapore's efforts to expand the quality and size of the lo-

cal IT professional workforce in financial services, and thus strengthen the country's position as a premier financial centre.

"Fita aims to attain national and global recognition for its innovative and effective approaches to financial IT training and competency attainment," he said.

The academy will offer four categories of professional training courses:

- ◆ Critical financial services IT master classes, focused on deepening technical skills required for the financial services sector;

- ◆ Hybrid financial services IT, focused on integrating IT and systems knowledge with business-oriented knowledge related to operations;

- ◆ Emerging financial services IT, focused on new developments in areas such as Big Data, analytics, mo-

bility, social media analysis, cloud computing, information security and data privacy; and

- ◆ Advanced technology and operations management, focused on preparing IT professionals to assume a wider range of management responsibilities.

Fita is working with the Institute of Banking and Finance, the Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore (IDA), banks and IT vendors in this initiative.