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未完成服务社区80小时要求 新大创校至今七学生无法毕业

现有的四所公立大学，唯有新大把社区服务列为毕业规定之一。它自2000年开课至今培育一万名毕业生，但有七名学生没有达到社区服务的要求，最终没有获颁文凭。

陈能端 报道

nengduan@sph.com.sg

创校13年以来，新加坡管理大学有七名学生因为没有完成80个小时的社区服务，结果无法毕业。

现有的四所公立大学，唯有新大把社区服务列为毕业规定之一。新大回答本报询问时说，它自2000年开课至今培育一万名毕业生，但有七名学生没有达到社区服务的要求，最终没有获颁文凭。

新大副教务长（本科生）兼会计学院院长房映芬博士说，学生一般从大一或大二开始做社区服务，绝大多数能在三年半至四年内完成规定的社区服务小时。校方会监督每名学生的进展，并建议他们可为

哪些福利机构服务。

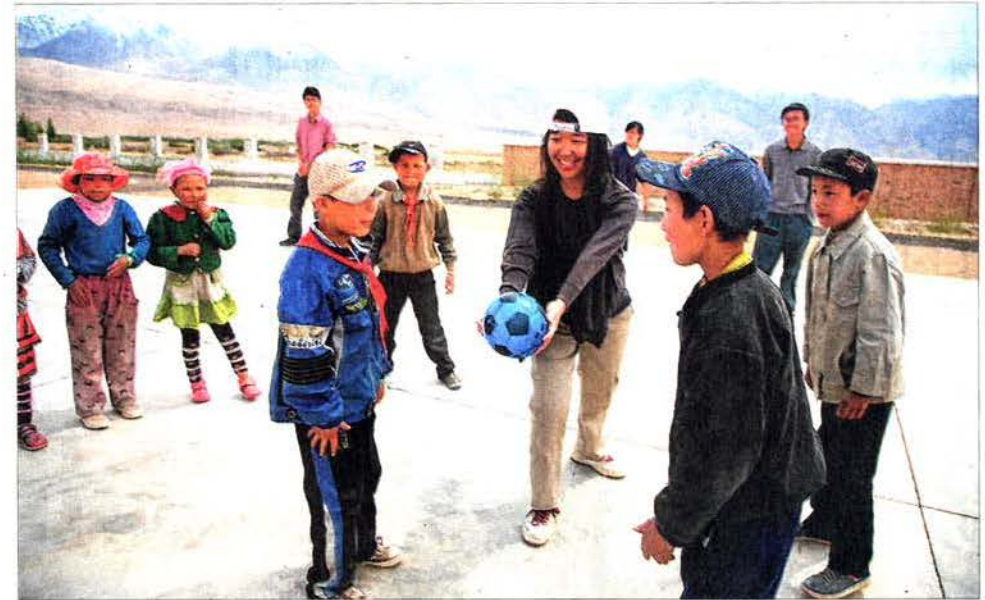
尽管如此，仍有极少数的学生不愿意参加社区服务。房映芬说：“即使接受了辅导，而校方也给予他们援助，有些学生就是对社区服务漠不关心。”

教育部长王瑞杰星期一晚上参加有关教育课题的全国对话会时，有一名家长向他反映，如社区服务计划这样的活动似乎已经失去成效，因为许多学生并非真心奉献，只是为了达标才这么做。

王瑞杰回应时以新大为例说，新大认真看待社区服务在教育过程扮演的角色，有学生因为没有达标而无法毕业。他同新大学生交流时发现，有些学生起初认为是“被迫”做社区服务，后来却从中了解到服务社会的意义。

为了更有效地协助学生进行有意义的社区服务，新大在2010年设立学生社会责任培育中心（Centre of Social Responsibility）。房映芬说，中心每年规划的大型项目都会有两三百名各年级的学生参加。此外，许多新大学生也会按照自己的兴趣发起活动，或在毕业后仍继续参与社区服务。

去年，新大约4800名学生积极参加各种社区服务。三分之二的学生在国内贡



一组新加坡管理大学的学生在2011年到新疆当义工，和当地小孩打成一片。（新大提供）

献，其余学生参加遍布亚洲21个国家和地区的200项计划。从2000年至2012年，新大学生总共累积150万个小时的社区服务。

李虹锐（20岁）是新大社会科学学院的大二生，她一向乐于参加社区服务，入学以来已完成超过600个小时的义务工作。

她很赞同新大对学生参加社区服务的坚持。

她说：“虽然这样的规定没有办法让所有原本排斥义务工作的人改观，但却有一定的成效。我认识的一些同学经过这个过程后，还会自动自发地规划新的项目，邀请其他朋友加入他们的行列。”



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Headline: Since the establishment of SMU, seven students did not graduate as they did not fulfil 80 hours of community service

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Since the establishment of SMU, seven students did not graduate as they did not fulfil 80 hours of community service

Of the four public universities in Singapore, SMU is the only university which has community service involvement as a graduation requirement. SMU has nurtured 10,000 graduates since its establishment in 2000, but seven students failed to graduate as they did not meet the university's community service requirement.

By Tan Leng Tuan

Since its inception 13 years ago, seven Singapore Management University (SMU) students failed to graduate as they did not complete 80 hours of community service.

Of the four public universities in Singapore, SMU is the only university which has community service involvement as a graduation requirement. In response to queries from Zaobao, SMU said that it has nurtured 10,000 graduates since its establishment in 2000, but seven students did not complete their degree as they did not meet the university's community service requirement.

SMU Vice Provost (Undergraduate) and Dean of School of Accountancy, Professor Pang Yang Hoong, said that most students begin community service from their first or second year of study, and the vast majority are able to complete their required community service hours well within three-and-a-half to four years. The university monitors the progress of each student, and would suggest possible non-profit or community organisations that they can volunteer with.

However, there are still a very small number of students who are unwilling to participate in community service. Prof Pang said: "Despite our counselling and assistance to suggest possible opportunities, there would inevitably be some individuals who are apathetic and indifferent towards community service."

During an Our Singapore Conversation dialogue session held on Monday evening, a parent provided his feedback to Education Minister Heng Swee Keat that community service involvement seems to have lost its effectiveness, as many students are doing it for the sake of achieving a target, rather than contributing genuinely.

Citing SMU, Minister Heng replied that the university takes a serious view of community service and its role in education. He noted that some students had not been able to graduate as they did not fulfil the requirement. Through his interaction with SMU students, Minister Heng found that some students initially felt 'compelled' to do community service, however, they came to realise its significance as they become more involved.

SMU had set up the Centre for Social Responsibility in 2010 with the aim of assisting students to engage in meaningful community service more effectively. Prof Pang noted that the Centre organises several university-wide community service projects annually, with 200 to 300 students of all academic levels participating in each of these events. Many students also organise their own projects and get involved in causes which they are passionate about, and some continue to be involved in community service even after they graduate.

Last year, about 4,800 SMU students were actively involved in various community service endeavours. Two-third of the students contributed locally, while the rest were involved in about 200 projects in 21 countries across Asia. From 2000 to 2012, SMU students have rendered more than 1.5 million hour of community service in total.

Li Hongrui, 20, is a second year student at SMU's School of Social Sciences. She has always been passionate about community service, and has already completed over 600 hours of community service work to date. She is very supportive of SMU's resolve towards community service.

She said: "Although such a requirement may not change the mentality of those who are already resistant to community service involvement, it does have an impact to a certain extent. After going through the process (of participating in community service), some of my peers have taken the initiative to plan new projects, and have even invited their friends to join them."

Photo caption: A group of SMU students in Xinjiang, China, for their overseas community service project. Here they are seen interacting with the local children. Photo courtesy of SMU.

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