

Huge attendance at scholarships fair

Scholarships & Top Universities Fair 2018 welcomes eager students

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For potential scholars, prospective university applicants and their parents, all roads led to Suntec Singapore Convention & Exhibition Centre. They were keen on exploring their options at The Straits Times Scholars' Choice Scholarships & Top Universities Fair 2018, which was held on Saturday, July 14, from 10am to 6pm.

This year, the event featured more than 40 exhibitors and was targeted at students seeking scholarships to further their education overseas at prestigious universities in countries like the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada and Australia.

Seminars were held throughout the day, where students and their parents got insights from university personnel and official representatives of scholarship boards.

Ms Lee Jill Suen, 20, a first-year student pursuing medicine at the University of Adelaide said: "I wanted to look at scholarship and

bond options from the various boards. I was able to get detailed answers at the MOH Holdings booth about career options in the medical industry."

Scholarship boards at the event included Land Transport Authority, Ministry of Home Affairs, Singapore-Industry Scholarship (SgIS), MOH Holdings and Government Technology Agency of Singapore.

Renowned universities such as Princeton University, Stanford University and University of California-Berkeley were also present, alongside big names from the UK and Australia such as the University of Glasgow and the University of Melbourne.

Among the students eagerly flipping through material at the booths was Singapore Sports School student, Mr Jason Kuk, 17, who had also sat in for several seminars in the morning.

He said: "I attended the Home Team - Singapore Police Force seminar, and it was interesting to learn the wide scope of responsi-



Many seminars received a better-than-expected turnout, including one by EducationUSA.

bilities that people in the police force have."

The first seminar of the day was by EducationUSA, on pursuing a degree in the US. Ms Zehra Ratani, 40, director at EducationUSA, had this to say: "The seminar was packed. There were people who were still strolling in and standing during the talk. The response has been great, there are flocks of students and families coming through."

Exhibitor Ms Yunshan Zhuo, 20, a volunteer at British Council, said: "Although the Internet is well-stocked with information, it is easier for people to have a face-to-face interaction with those who know more about what they are looking for."

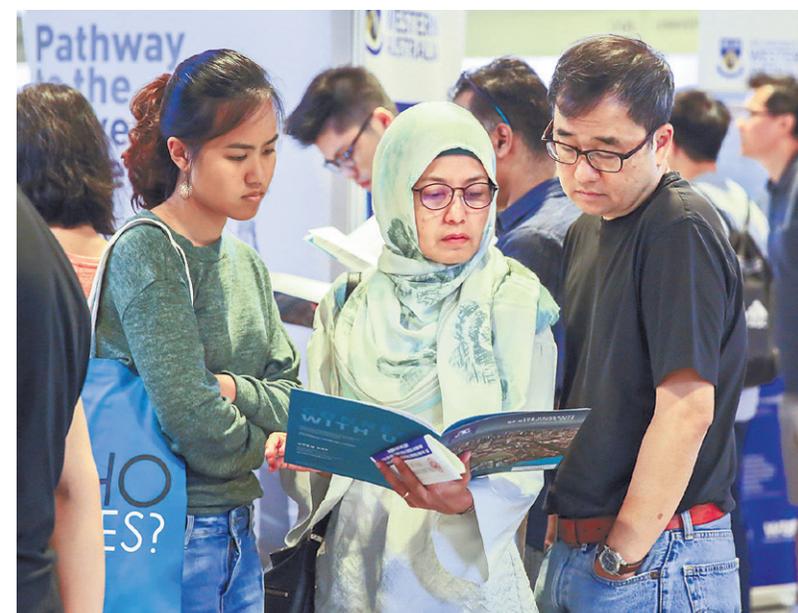
Parent Ms Lorna Goh, 55, a social worker, said: "I could conveniently figure out both scholarship and

university options for my daughter, who has just graduated from polytechnic. We were able to ask about accommodation fees, university culture, and career options among other things."

Many attendees were able to gain valuable insights from current students and alumni who were assisting at their respective booths.

One such student was Mr Lim Li Keen, 24, an undergraduate representative at Northwestern University. He said, "There is a steady stream of students who are very curious. I think most people, by talking to the exhibitors, are able to ask questions and discover new options they had not considered before."

Antariksh Mahajan, 23, an alumnus of Stanford University, felt that students at the fair this year were more informed and had more



Exhibitors saw a steady flow of both students and parents throughout the day.

specific questions. "I came to this fair myself, five years ago. This is a very unique opportunity to get to

talk to people who have actually been through the things you are planning to apply to."



The event featured more than 40 exhibitors, including the Info-communications Media Development Authority (IMDA).