



A Peek into the Biomedical Engineering Industry— The Biomed Experience Sharing Workshop Report

Prepared by He Huiling

The Biomed Experience sharing workshop was attended by 50 students in total on 30th March 2013, at the Faculty of Engineering of the National University of Singapore. This workshop served several purposes:

- 1) To offer JC and polytechnic students the opportunity to see what the undergraduate BME curriculum encompasses.
- 2) To present to the participants what Bioengineering is about beyond the classroom, where the actual research activities take place, and where Bioengineering principles are actually applied.
- 3) To introduce the BES and the upcoming BES7SM.

The first session started off with an opening address delivered by Prof. Sierin Lim, giving general introduction of BES Student Chapter, as well as an overview of today's event.

The opening address was followed by an introduction to the lab tour, with an emphasis on lab safety. Participants were then assigned into 4 groups (2 x 12, 2 x 13), each group lead by 2 bioengineering seniors from NUS and 2 from NTU. Each group

visited several labs in NUS according to a predetermined order, which included: NUS Bioengineering Labs such as NanoBioanalytics Lab, Optical Bioimaging Lab, Supramolecular Biomaterials Lab etc, where post-graduate students presented the gist of the labs' research; Bioengineering Design Studio, where participants were allowed to handle spirometer, sphygmomanometer, ECG device and Pulse Oximeter; and the Gait Analysis Lab, where students were given a sample gait analysis to understand the fundamentals of biomechanics.

The workshop progressed to the next activity which was the experience sharing session, which lasted for 1 hour. 2 current bioengineering undergraduates from NTU (Sakthi Asoke Kumar) and NUS (Sherman Koh) and 1 alumnus working in the biomedical industry (Luqman Yang Razali) shared their experiences, and fielded questions from the audience. The purpose of this session was to allow students to understand what to expect from studying at the undergraduate level, the key expectations of graduates, as well as some of the potential areas in which bioengineers may work.

Overall, the event was very successful given that it was the inaugural event of BES-X. Students from various JCs and Polytechnics were drawn to the event and the whole process went smoothly. For that, we would like to thank the Bioengineering Clubs of both NUS and NTU for making it happen. The cooperation was successful with NUS providing the place and coordinating the event and NTU giving manpower. We look forward to more interactions between the BIE and Biomedical departments in the various Universities, Junior Colleges and Polytechnics.

Things to note:

Students interested in pursuing a bioengineering undergraduate course normally think of this course as a combination of biology and engineering, but have no idea

what it exactly is. More can be emphasized on the research areas covered in bioengineering, as well as its industrial overview, such as commercial value and societal needs. This would provide students with a better understanding of what bioengineering is, not just about engineering and biology.

Finalized finance:

Catering: $90 * 6.2/\text{pax} = \underline{\$560}$ (incl. GST)

Token of appreciation: $3 * 10/\text{pax} = \underline{\$30}$

Total: **$\$590$**

Appendix: Event Photos

