

Profile

Finalists



Mr Pan Zhengxiang, Jedi

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Joint NTU-UBC Research Center of Excellence in Active Living for the Elderly (LILY)

From a young age, Zhengxiang has been passionate in innovations and applying them to serve community's needs. At 13, he invented the "PeaClean" fan filter. It was showcased to Minister for Education Teo Chee Hean at the MOE Young Innovators' Fair. For over 15 years, he is actively involved in numerous innovative technologies to benefit society. This has culminated in prestigious accolades including SCS IT Youth Leader Award, Microsoft Excellence Award, and being invited to meet President Dr Tony Tan when he was conferred one of the Top 8 Young Scientists at Global Young Scientists Summit 2016.

Zhengxiang is an exemplary innovator and youth leader, and contributed to the community in 4 areas: national security, community-at-large, sports, and research domains.

During NS, he invented several award-winning counter-terrorist technology innovations for national security. Zhengxiang was bestowed the title of "A-STAR Soldier" by the SAF Pioneer Magazine. His innovations were showcased to the Minister for Defence, Chief of Air Force, Chief of Navy, and Chief of Army. The Innovative Pass Verification System was valued at \$800,000.

His innovations for the community have been used by many dignitaries. Especially noteworthy is an innovative first-of-its-kind mobile application he developed for Founding Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew to launch the Duxton Pinnacle Residents' Committee during his 90th birthday celebrations.

Zhengxiang led a group of youths to build Singapore's first "i-Outreach" software which was launched by Minister Khaw and MP Ellen Lee PBM together with over 3,000 Woodlands residents. "i-Outreach" achieved the inaugural "WeINNOVATE" and "WeCARE" Awards. He has also spearheaded Asia's 1st "Eco iPledge" mobile app, jointly launched by Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong and MP Ellen Lee PBM during the 50th anniversary of Clean and Green Campaign. Zhengxiang received the PA's Long Service Award in appreciation of 10 years in 2015 for his dedicated community service. For 6 consecutive years, he has been conferred the Most Outstanding CCC Member Award.

He has led his team to foray into sports and culture where he feels IT innovations can play an important part in forging stronger social cohesion. He invented the "iChat" instant-messaging platform. It was used during the World's First Youth Olympic Games and Asian Youth Games. Zhengxiang and his team are assisting new media efforts at the Singapore Table Tennis Association. In 2016, his team made significant contributions towards preserving and promoting Teochew culture, operas, arts and heritage at Nam Hwa Opera Ltd.

Zhengxiang has demonstrated his passion and excellence for research and innovation under the supervision of Professor Miao Chunyan (founding Director of the Joint NTU-UBC Research Centre of Excellence in Active Living for the Elderly (LILY)). His focus is exploring familiarly design in human computer interaction to enhance healthcare games for helping ageing society in Singapore and beyond. Ageing is identified as one of the top 3 Smart Nation priorities.

He is experienced in leading numerous citizen scientists to translate research into real-world systems. Within the past 2 years of his PhD study, he has authored and co-authored over 10 papers in international journals and conferences including a prestigious Scientific Data journal from Nature Publishing Group. In 2016, he won AAAI Best Student Poster Award and recently selected by AAAI as one of the 16 young AI researchers worldwide for the AAAI Doctoral Consortium held at San Francisco.

Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong has given a special mention to Zhengxiang recently, "... he is doing a PhD in NTU, Information Technology, and he is putting his knowledge to good use."