

Redas, NUS tie up to offer trainee, internship programme for real estate talent pipeline

By **Ry-Anne Lim**
limmin@sph.com.sg

THE Real Estate Developers' Association of Singapore (Redas) has partnered the National University of Singapore (NUS) to roll out management traineeships, internships and mentorships for students.

The programme will give students early exposure to the real estate sector and a better understanding of the realities of the industry, including its various career pathways. This will give them confidence in pursuing real estate as a major and long-term career path, said Redas.

Speaking at the association's annual Spring Festival lunch on Friday (Feb 27), Redas president Tan Swee Yiow said around 40 organisations – from public agencies and developers, to financial institutions, trade associations and consultants – have already expressed interest in participating in the programme. These include the Building and Construction Authority, City Developments Ltd, DBS, Frasers Property, GuocoLand and Keppel.

Over 50 internship opportunities have been committed to date, Tan noted. Roles offered cover asset management, commercial leasing, fintech and project development, among others.

"This sends a strong signal that the industry is united and committed (to) investing in future talent," added Tan. "We hope more organisations can join us in the months ahead... We also welcome other institutes of higher learning to roll out similar programmes."

Minister for Law Edwin Tong, who was also at the event, said: "This is exactly the kind of forward-thinking partnership we need as we work towards creating good jobs for Singaporeans and strengthening our enterprise ecosystem."

The move comes amid declining enrolment in real estate studies.

In a letter to Redas members dated

Feb 9, Tan and his predecessor Chia Ngiang Hong pointed out that the real estate major has been in direct competition with other business disciplines for student interest since being folded into the NUS Business School. This has raised concerns about the real estate programme's long-term sustainability, as well as the pipeline of formally trained graduates for the sector. The issue is pressing as students are set to select their majors in May, they said.

"While we recognise that individual organisations may already have their own talent programmes, we hope that by consolidating the opportunities across the industry, Redas can present a clearer, more coordinated signal," added the two. "This effort will help students better appreciate the scale, diversity and long-term career pathways within the real estate sector."