# NANYANG TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY INTERDISCIPLINARY COLLABORATIVE CORE (ICC) ACADEMIC YEAR: 2024-2025, SEMESTER 1 INDIVIDUAL ASSIGNMENT

Module Code and Title: ML0004 Career & Innovative Enterprise for the Future World

**Assignment Title:** Prototyping Conversation

Weightage: 22%

**Deadline:** Week 8, 10 Oct 2024 (Thu), 23:59hr

### Part A: Informational Interview Details

Date of Informational Interview:	05/10/2024		
Name of the interviewee (mentor/ professional)  - Full name is required:	Lim Kee Yeok		
The organisation employed at:	Singapore Police Force		
Job Title:	Police Officer		
Mode of interview: (Online, face-to-face)	Online (Video Conference)		
E-mail address: (Preferably workplace e-mail)/ LinkedIn Profile address / Social Media link of interviewee)	Email Address: LIM_Kee_Yeok@spf.gov.sg		

### **Key Informational Interview Questions** (maximum 5):

- Question 1: Could you share with me your main responsibilities for your job?
- Question 2: Could you talk about some of the challenges you've faced in your career?
- Question 3: What key skills do you think are essential?
- Question 4: What, in your view, are the main differences between working in the public versus private sector?
- Question 5: Could you share your experience regarding the work-life balance in your role? Additionally, how does the organisation support employees' well-being?

### Part B: Reflection (word count 500 words ±10%)

I chose to interview Mr. Lim Kee Yeok due to his extensive 25-year career in the Singapore Police Force (SPF), which closely aligns with my aspiration to work in the public service in frontline roles ensuring the safety and security in Singapore, in agencies such as MINDEF or MHA. His experiences would offer a valuable perspective on the responsibilities and challenges faced in roles related to national defence, and I wanted to learn from his journey to guide my own career.

Firstly, a key takeaway from Mr. Lim's sharing was the importance of interpersonal skills (e.g., conflict resolution, emotional control, situational awareness) in the above-mentioned frontline roles, which challenged my previous belief that technical skills (e.g., physical skills) were the most important aspect for those roles. For example, Mr. Lim shared how he remained calm and communicated effectively during high-pressure situations when confronting perpetrators during his anti-crime rounds, which enabled him to successfully diffuse and handle the situations and ensured the safety of his colleagues.

Secondly, I found that Mr. Lim's sharing of the structure and job stability in a career with the public service and the sense of fulfilment he feels from safeguarding national security, aligned with my core values of stability, purpose and service. While Mr. Lim acknowledged that the private sector might offer more financial benefits and flexibility, especially for someone with my DSAI academic background, he also mentioned that public servants have a sufficient work-life balance, which aligns with my family-first principle as I value family time, so I felt that frontline work in the public service still resonates deeply with me, which reaffirmed my career aspiration.

Thirdly, I think that my career aspiration aligns with my short and long-term goals. My short-term goal is to graduate with a strong academic standing and continue to enhance my technical skills like in communication, ability to work well in teams, problem-solving and digital technologies, which will be important for contributing to frontline roles or technology-driven roles; and my long-term goal is to secure a stable job, where I can contribute meaningfully to, in this case, by becoming a public servant who can contribute a part to national safety and security.

Nevertheless, to keep my career options open, I also checked with Mr. Lim if there were alternative career paths besides frontline work which would still allow me to contribute to public safety and security, but with the knowledge I accumulate and skills I develop in DSAI (e.g. cybersecurity, data science); and he said that there are many such roles within the public service (e.g., data analyst, intelligence expert). Hence, Mr. Lim has certainly helped me broaden my perspective on the possible career paths which I can take, which align with my interests and skills.

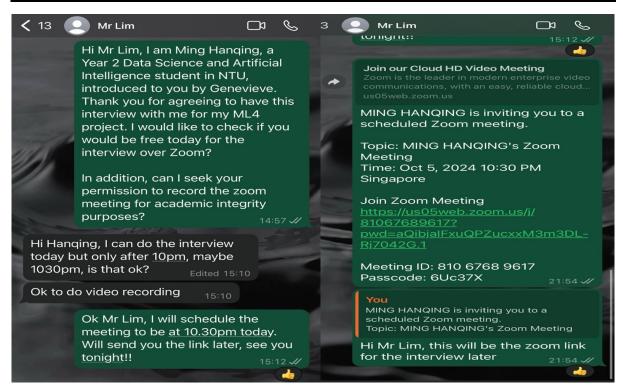
(Word Count: 456)

Interviewer (Ming Hanqing, Ming) / Interviewee (Lim Kee Yeok, Mr Lim)	Transcript		
Ming	Thank you, Mr. Lim, for taking the time to join this interview. I'll start the recording as soon as you're ready.		
Mr Lim	Okay, ready.		
Ming	In our previous conversation a few weeks ago, I learned that you've had an impressive 25-year career with the Singapore Police Force (SPF), driven by a deep passion for protecting the safety and well-being of our citizens. I personally share your interest in contributing to Singapore's safety and security, and I'd like to ask you a few questions regarding your role and your extensive experience in the public sector. To start, could you share with me your main responsibilities for your job?		
Mr Lim	Okay, well, currently I'm serving in the Singapore Police Force as plainclothes officer. My responsibilities are to prevent and detect crime to protect lives and property and also keeping the community safe.		
Ming	As with any role, especially one as dynamic and critical as yours, there are bound to be challenges. Could you talk about some of the challenges you've faced in your career?		
Mr Lim	Well, it's always not easy when we are performing our duties, especially during our anti-crime rounds in the neighbourhood. We will tend to come across people who have previous records, and upon being questioned, they will tend to turn aggressive or even try to evade my questioning. At this juncture, we will need to be calm and also to apply interpersonal skills in order to calm them down so that they will cooperate with us. Not only that, we need to have good observation skills, so as to detect when some suspect they might turn violent or might try to run away. So we must always be on our guard and also to take care of the safety of my fellow colleagues whilst we are performing our duty. And also, in real time, we will need to effect the arrest of the criminals if they have committed any offence.		
Ming	Now, for someone like me who's interested in pursuing a career focused on national safety and security, what key skills do you think are essential?		
Mr Lim	Well, to me, one of the skills that you must have is your physical fitness. Why is that so? Because there will be moments where you will have to		

defend yourself against any physical threats or attacks suspects. So officers like us are well-trained in mar Taekwondo, to defend against ourselves from any attacks.  Shifting to a broader perspective, I recall you mentioning of your friends transitioned from the public sector to private companies, and you've had the opportunity to hear their expectations.	rtial arts, like
of your friends transitioned from the public sector to priva companies, and you've had the opportunity to hear their experience.	
What, in your view, are the main differences between work public versus private sector?	ite experiences.
Well, recently I have spoken to some of my ex-colleagues sector.  They actually told me that they have more freedom of spout on any of the policies that were being implemed company. On top of that, they were also given slightly compared to mine. Well, but I would like to emphasise the government sector, the good thing is we have great journal And not only that, I find it more fulfilling and purposeful keep the company safe and secure.	eech to speak ented in their higher pay as hat working in ob stability.
Thank you for your insights so far, Mr. Lim. This will be m question. One of the reasons I've been drawn to a career sector is its reputed emphasis on work-life balance and e support. Could you share your experience regarding the balance in your role?	r in the public employee
Mr Lim  Well, as for work-life balance, we are given a fair and vacation leave annually so that we can go overseas with contop of that, we have two off-days each week.  But in order to plan it well, you really need to take breatime. At the same time, by doing so, (5:49) you will have achieve better work-life balance.	our family. And ks at the right
Ming Additionally, how does the organisation support employees' well-being?	
Mr Lim  Well, there is this counselling unit in our department whereby at an point of time, if officers tend to be stressed out with their work or every with their family, if there's any issue, they need help, they can talk them and seek their advice via this counselling unit.	
That concludes our interview, Mr. Lim. Thank you so much for your genuine and insightful responses—they've certainly deepened my interest in pursuing a role in the government sector. Would it be alright if I occasionally reach out to you for further discussions to learn more?	

Ming	Thank you so much, Mr. Lim! I really appreciate it. Have a great night!
Mr Lim	Thank you.

## Evidence of interview: WhatsApp chat (Saturday, 05/10/2024)



Follow-up Question: WhatsApp chat (Sunday, 06/10/2024)

