

## **Fellow of AST 2023 Recipient**

**Name:** Mrs Theophilia Yong Yeun Foon  
**Designation:** Subject Head (Educational Technology)  
**School:** Chua Chu Kang Secondary School

Theophilia is passionate about her subject, Geography, with a deep understanding of both content and pedagogy. She spearheads the Empowering Student Learning Virtual Reality (VR) Networked Learning Community (NLC), working with fellow educators to enhance pedagogical understanding and practice in utilising VR for Geographical Investigation (GI). Her initiatives encompass diverse aspects, such as crafting alternative assessment methods using VR in GI, piloting community partnerships to leverage VR in GI, and conducting immersive workshops and demonstrations for teachers across various levels and disciplines. Besides leading the NLC, Theophilia has been an active mentor to her NLC members, providing guidance and support as they prepare and present at workshops.

Her passion for innovation and excellence has garnered recognition, as she was selected by Master Teachers to be featured in a video showcased at the 2022 GeoConnect plenary session. Her inspiring story serves as an example for fellow Geography teachers, inspiring them to innovate in their teaching and embrace networked learning communities. Her systematic approach to project initiation, which encompasses seeding innovative ideas, meticulous planning, effective implementation, thoughtful reflection, and the celebration of successes, has motivated inspired colleagues across all experience levels.

Besides leading NLCs, Theophilia has also been actively facilitating workshops for fellow educators. One of these workshops took place in November 2022 at GeoConnect, where she focused on the theme of 'Engaging and Empowering Students with VR for Geography Learning.' She facilitated a teacher-led workshop which centred around 'Empowering Students in Geographical Investigation Through Virtual Reality (VR)' in April 2023.

Theophilia believes that every educator, regardless of experience, brings valuable expertise to benefit the fraternity. Theophilia's dedication and expertise in advancing the integration of technology in education, fostering meaningful learning experiences for both educators and students alike make her an exemplary role model, inspiring fellow teachers to adopt transformative practices.