**Creative Skills Exchange:**
Engendering a Learning Community

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**Abstract**

This thesis investigates the various emerging philosophies of education in the context of engendering a culture of life–long learning and how some general principles can apply in ‘out of classroom’ situations in which skills, interests, information are exchanged. It looks at certain fundamental revolutions that are taking place in Singapore through initiatives taken by the corporations, the government and community groups etc. and looks at possibility of designing conditions to further encourage such initiatives.

Singapore projects itself as an information economy requiring a creative, critical and skilled workforce to drive it with the inherent need to develop this mindset or culture from the bottom up. This investigation is to give expression of to a new type in Singapore, a place that treats the community as a basic resource to engender a culture of learning and creativity through exchanges in skills and know-how. To create an open environment of the skills exchange, nurturing a culture of learning through differences and similarities. Replacing traditional classroom situations by interfacing learning laboratories with commercial/retail, recreational and educational activities – stretching the boundaries of an urban ‘community workshop’.