As consumers increasingly demand news to be delivered quickly and through different media – from newspapers to online videos – Nanyang Technological University (NTU) is setting up a centre to train journalists to meet such needs.

The centre will be officially opened on Saturday.

Called Newsplex Asia, the $500,000 centre is located at NTU and will allow communications and journalism students to learn how to present news through different formats in a coordinated way.

For example, they can prepare print and online news reports that link readers with related online videos.

To help students pick up such skills, the centre has high-technology facilities such as computer workstations, overhead screens and a mini multi-purpose studio, said NTU at a briefing yesterday ahead of the centre’s official opening.

The centre has been operational since August, with students behind NTU’s campus newspaper, The Nanyang Chronicle, being among the first to use it.

Mr Sulaiman Daud, 24, the paper’s editor-in-chief and a third-year communication-studies student, said that the centre has helped The Nanyang Chronicle to have a greater online presence.

“When we have breaking news, we use the centre to publish it straight to Facebook. Later, on our print edition, we publish a reaction (report),” he said.

The centre was jointly set up by NTU and the World Association of Newspapers and News Publishers. It began as a suggestion by Mr Patrick Daniel, the editor-in-chief of Singapore Press Holdings’ English and Malay Newspaper Division.

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