NTU CAREER FAIR 2012

Record 221 employers woo undergrads

DESPITE the modest economic outlook, a record number of 221 Singapore and multinational organisations is zeroing in on Nanyang Technological University (NTU) students at this year’s NTU Career Fair, which was on yesterday and will be on again on Friday.

There are about 3,000 job openings at this year’s Fair, offered by well-known companies such as Credit Suisse and ExxonMobil, reports The Straits Times.

Close to 15,000 students are expected to attend the event, including more than 8,000 final-year students who will graduate in July.

Internship “conversions” to full-time positions are expected to increase this year, too. Internships have proven to be effective talent-spotting for organisations as they extend offers of full-time employment to their ex-interns.

For the Class of 2010, nearly 800 out of about 4,000 undergrads surveyed by NTU had received job offers from their internship companies.

In that year, about 4,300 NTU students did their internships at more than 1,200 organisations worldwide, such as global technology company 3M, the Big Four accounting firms, Lucasfilm Animation and power systems giant Rolls-Royce.

Credit Suisse and ExxonMobil were honoured as major employers at the NTU Career Fair on Tuesday.

The two companies have converted a high percentage of NTU interns to full-time hires over the years, and have employed a total of 100 or more students over five consecutive years.

Meanwhile, university students in Singapore said Google is one of their preferred employers, a survey by the human resource industry revealed.

Undergrads also prefer companies that provide “a fun work environment”, “high pay” and “career progression” – their concept of an ideal workplace.

Singapore employers were believed to be efficient but do not provide a fun work environment, and require employees to work long hours.

Respondents, on the other hand, perceive US companies as having a “fun work environment” and “fast career progression”, while European companies are seen as employers who offer “high pay”.

Despite holding this view, many respondents still indicate their most preferred employer to be either a Singaporean or an American company, according to the findings of the survey by Legenda, which was done in collaboration with the Singapore Human Resources Institute (SHRI).