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NTU, NUS business schools climb in FT's global MBA ranking

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National University of Singapore (NUS) students walking in NUS University Town (UTown). PHOTO: ST FILE

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SINGAPORE - Singapore's top business schools rose up the ranks of the Financial Times' annual global ranking of Master of Business Administration (MBA) programmes, released on Monday (Jan 30).

Nanyang Technological University's (NTU) Nanyang Business School was in joint 24th place with Duke University's Fuqua School of Business, up from 29th last year.

Just below them was National University of Singapore (NUS) Business School at 26th place, up from 32nd in 2016.

Insead was named the world's best business school for the second year running.

Notably, Insead was lauded for its strong international culture - owing to its two campuses in France and Singapore - and an extensive alumni network. The FT ranked it third for international mobility and sixth for international course experience.

Stanford Graduate School of Business rose to second place from fifth while Wharton School of University of Pennsylvania climbed to third spot from fourth.

Several prestigious schools slipped in the 2017 ranking. Harvard Business School fell two places to fourth spot, the first time in nine years that it has been outside of the top three. London Business School fell three places to sixth, it's worst showing in 14 years.

The FT ranking is based on surveys of business schools and their graduates of 2013. MBA programs are assessed according to the career progression of their alumni, the school's idea generation and the diversity of students and faculty.

Three years after graduation, Stanford's MBA graduates earn the highest annual salaries on average - US\$195,000 (S\$277,640) - but the top 15 MBA programmes are closely matched in terms of income, career progress and satisfaction, BusinessBecause, a business school news website noted from the FT ranking.

All but one of the top MBA courses have alumni salaries over US\$150,000 - a salary increase of at least 100 per cent on pre-MBA pay.

An NTU MBA graduate goes on to earn US\$126,218 on average while the NUS MBA graduate would be making US\$131,760.

In terms of offering good value for money, Nanyang Business School came in 26th globally, while NUS Business School was 33rd.

FT MBA RANKINGS 2017

Rank in 2017	Rank in 2016	School name	Country	Weighted salary (US\$)
1	1	Insead	France/ Singapore	167,657
2	5	Stanford Graduate School of Business	US	195,322
3	4	University of Pennsylvania: Wharton	US	181,634
4	2	Harvard Business School	US	178,113
5	10	University of Cambridge: Judge	UK	164,462
6	3	London Business School	UK	154,567
7	6	Columbia Business School	US	172,624
8	12	IE Business School	Spain	168,923
9	8	University of Chicago: Booth	US	168,200
10	16	Iese Business School	Spain	147,596
24	29	NTU's Nanyang Business School	Singapore	126,218
26	32	NUS Business School	Singapore	131,760