NUS, NTU ranked in Asia’s top 20 for 34 subjects

Singapore has more top-20 places than any other Asian nation, including Japan

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SINGAPORE. Achieved 34 top-20 placements in the QS World University Rankings by Subject 2017 released today by Quacquarelli Symonds (QS), more than any other Asian nation.

More than a quarter, or 27.6 per cent, of the top-20 positions achieved by Asian universities went to Singapore’s two leading universities, the National University of Singapore (NUS) and Nanyang Technological University (NTU).

Despite a drop from 2016, where the two universities had a combined 36 placements to take 34.6 per cent of Asia’s top-20 places, Singapore remains ahead of all other Asian nations including Japan with 32 top-20 placements.

NUS tied with the University of Tokyo for the highest number of top-10 finishes achieved by an Asian university, with each university garnering 35 such placements.

The QS World University Rankings research project enumerates the world’s best universities for the study of 46 different subjects. QS added four new subjects this year: Anatomy and Physiology; Hospitality and Leisure Management; Sports-related Subjects; and Theology, Divinity and Religious Studies.

Together, NUS and NTU are represented 10 times in the top 10 of this year’s tables, down from 15 in 2016. The placings also involve several downward movements, with an average drop of three places.

However, QS said that the falls can predominantly be explained by the typical fluctuations that occur at the top end of the global rankings.

NUS achieved the highest rank of Singapore’s three ranked universities, placing fifth for Engineering – Civil & Structural. NTU rose two places to place 6th for its Engineering – Electrical & Electronic subject, while both NUS and NTU rank 7th for one subject each.

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Singapore Management University is ranked in six subjects, most notably in the top 100 for two courses, Accounting and Finance, and Business and Management Studies.

Worldwide, Harvard University tops 15 tables ahead of Massachusetts Institute of Technology, which occupies 12 No.1 spots.

The University of Cambridge holds a top-10 position in 36 different subjects, more than any other university. The University of California, Berkeley and the University of Oxford come in at a close second and third, with 33 and 33 top-10 places respectively.

QS World University Rankings is an annual league table of the top 600 universities in the world. Compiled by QS in close consultation with an international advisory board of leading academics, the rankings are widely referenced by prospective and current students, university professionals and governments around the world.