

90% of NTU fresh grads found job within six months of graduation

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Nine in 10 fresh graduates from Nanyang Technological University (NTU) found a job within six months of graduation, NTU president Subra Suresh said on Monday at the convocation ceremony for the Class of 2020. This was despite the challenging economic environment due to Covid-19.

The cohort also earned higher salaries, with those graduating with medicine, accountancy and business, computer science, computer engineering and aerospace engineering degrees among the top earners.

Computer science graduate Nicholas Quek was offered a job as a software engineer in January last year before his graduation.

“I feel very lucky that finding a job was a bit easier for me. Maybe

it’s because almost every company will be looking for IT personnel, be it during pre-Covid or Covid times,” said the 25-year-old, who is working at NCS, an information, communications and technology firm.

Aerospace engineering graduate Benjamin Low, 26, is a financial adviser after getting the job offer around mid-July last year.

“If you’re not too picky, it won’t be too hard to find a job even in this economy,” said Mr Low. “I also did a few business modules in school so it gave me some background to enter the finance industry.”

To boost job prospects for the Class of 2020, NTU rolled out a Covid-19 relief package for graduates to take courses, and created several hundred paid traineeships to support them through the SG-United Traineeship Programme, Professor Suresh said.

Monday’s ceremony also marked

the first batch of graduates from NTU’s five new interdisciplinary degree programmes, including English literature and art history, economics and psychology, and psychology and media analytics.

Over 4,300 graduates will attend the in-person ceremonies over the next two weeks, until March 16. A total of 40 ceremonies will take place. The convocation was postponed last year due to the restriction on large-scale events during the pandemic. Instead, a virtual celebration was held in July to mark the milestone for over 9,400 graduates in the cohort.

Addressing the graduates, Prof Suresh noted that young people will “emerge from highly challenging periods, tested and tempered by crises”. “This moment is your invitation... to help restore and re-imagine the post-pandemic world.”

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