

**NEWS RELEASE**

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**NTU increases intake in microelectronics courses  
- aims to develop more high-level manpower to meet increased demand in  
wafer fab industry**

Nanyang Technological University (NTU) will increase its intake for students taking courses in microelectronics by 300 places. The university has also revamped its microelectronics courses to further support the changing needs of the industry. This is in response to the continued increase in demand for highly trained engineers in the microelectronics industry.

The courses are offered by NTU's School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering (EEE) and School of Materials Science and Engineering (MSE) and are available for final-year students.

EEE will introduce two enhanced courses this July, aimed at providing specialised and topical information on microfabrication and circuit design. Students will learn practical skills in state-of-the-art technology computer-aided design simulation tools that are routinely used in all semiconductor wafer fabs..

EEE will also increase its class intake by 150 for each course, bringing the total places available for its students specialising in microelectronics from 260 to 560.

MSE also offers a specialization in microelectronics aimed at the materials science and process technology of microfabrication. Students who specialize in microelectronics will take a prescribed selection of courses and undertake a final year project in this area.

This initiative ties in with EDB's announcement of its Wafer Fabrication Specialist Manpower Programme, aimed at encouraging final year students to

specialise in microelectronics. Qualifying NTU students in their final year will receive a monthly stipend of \$1,080 under this programme. EDB is giving 180 scholarships per year to NTU for 3 years.

Professor Kam Chan Hin, Chair, EEE, says, "Singapore's Microelectronics industry, and in particular the wafer fabrication segment of the industry, will continue to see strong growth. It is crucial then that we nurture the engineers to support this growth. Our new undergraduate courses will provide specialised training for our students, who will be armed with the knowledge and skills for the industry when they graduate. EDB's support in this area is timely and will definitely serve as an encouragement for our students to take on this specialization."

Professor Freddy Boey, Chair, MSE, adds, "Microelectronics is a vital industrial sector in Singapore, in which a significant portion of MSE graduates are gainfully employed. This EDB initiative will certainly boost student interest to support this important area."

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#### ***About Nanyang Technological University***

Nanyang Technological University (NTU) is a research-intensive university with globally acknowledged strengths in science and engineering. The university is located in a garden campus in western Singapore, tracing its roots back to 1955.

NTU has 4 colleges comprising 12 schools. The College of Engineering comprises six schools focused on technology and innovation. Its research output ranks among the top four in the world. The College of Science pushes the boundaries of Singapore's life sciences initiatives. The Nanyang Business School (the College of Business) offers one of the world's top 100 MBA programmes. The College of Humanities and Arts boasts Singapore's first professional art school offering degree courses in art, design and interactive digital media, the Humanities and Social Science School, and the Wee Kim Wee School of Communication and Information, a top journalism and media school in Asia.

The 13<sup>th</sup> school, S Rajaratnam School of International Studies, will be inaugurated in 2007. An important component of this autonomous school is the Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies, long recognised as a world authority on strategic studies and terrorism.

NTU is also home to the internationally-acclaimed National Institute of Education, Singapore's only teacher-training institute.

NTU has in place multi-country programmes and initiatives with established institutions worldwide. Key partners include MIT, Stanford University, Cornell University, Caltech, University of Washington, Georgia Institute of Technology, Carnegie Mellon University in USA, Peking University, Shanghai Jiaotong University, Waseda University, Indian Institute of Technology in Asia, Cambridge University, Imperial College and Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Europe.

For more information, visit [www.ntu.edu.sg](http://www.ntu.edu.sg)