

NEWS RELEASE

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NTU celebrates the graduation of its Class of 2007

Nanyang Technological University (NTU) will celebrate the graduation of its Class of 2007 from today, Mon 23 July to Fri 27 July 2007.

This year's Convocation sees the pioneer batch of graduands for the Bachelor Engineering (Bioengineering), Bachelor of Engineering (Computer Science), Bachelor of Engineering (Environmental Engineering), Master of Management in Hospitality, Master of Science (Information Systems) and Master of Science (Applied Finance) degrees.

His Excellency, President S R Nathan, who is also Chancellor of NTU, will preside at NTU's first convocation ceremony. Other guests at the first convocation ceremony include Minister for Defence, Mr Teo Chee Hean, and Minister for Education and Second Minister for Finance, Mr Tharman Shanmugaratnam. The First Lady of the Republic of Indonesia, Ibu Haja Ani Bambang Yudhoyono will also be present to witness the graduation of her son, Mr Edhie Baskoro Yudhoyono.

A total of 15 ceremonies will be held over the five-day convocation period, with more than 7,250 students graduating. The number of undergraduates and graduates receiving higher degrees are 4,850 and 2,400 respectively.

NTU honours Prof Cham Tao Soon

The first ceremony will witness the conferment of the President Emeritus title on Professor Cham Tao Soon, to recognise his outstanding contributions and distinguished service to the University.

Prof Cham Tao Soon was founding President of Nanyang Technological Institute (NTI) in 1981. He served as President through the establishment of NTU in 1991, and then continued to serve as President of NTU until 31 December 2002.

During his service as President for 21 years, Prof Cham served the University with distinction. He played a historic role in building up the University, transforming NTU into a major university for industry and business. By the end of Prof Cham's tenure in 2002, NTU had fulfilled its primary mission of producing graduates for the Singapore economy and has gained global recognition.

Under Prof Cham's distinguished leadership, NTU was able to progress from strength to strength. He laid the groundwork to prepare NTU for the challenges of the 21st century, and was instrumental in leading a major strategic planning exercise to formulate goals and guiding principles as well as identify steps that could help the University to continuously strengthen its position of leadership and service to society.

NTU, thus, confers the President Emeritus title to Prof Cham in recognition of his distinguished leadership and contributions to the development of the University. The President Emeritus title is a lifelong honorary distinction which may be conferred on past Presidents of the university.

NTU honours inspiring teachers with the University Scholars Award

The University Scholars Award is launched at the first ceremony. 18 outstanding University Scholars of the Class of 2007 receive their awards from Mr S R Nathan, President of Singapore and NTU Chancellor.

The teachers and NTU faculty members they honour are presented with certificates of honour. Award recipients and their nominated teachers and NTU faculty members will also be invited to a dinner hosted by the NTU President to commemorate the occasion on 23 July 2007.

The NTU University Scholars Award, which ranks only after the Lee Kuan Yew Gold Medals, recognises the achievements of these all round student achievers in the graduating class, while honouring the teachers and faculty members who have been an inspiration to them. A one-time cash grant of S\$5,000 has been set up in the name of each teacher honoured. The teacher in turn nominates a prospective student from his/her college or polytechnic (or equivalent) who will receive the S\$5,000 grant on admission into NTU.

For a list of University Scholars and their honourees, please refer to the fact sheet.

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Media contact

Lim Siok Peng, Assistant Director, Corporate Communications Office
Tel: 6790 6687; Mobile: 9661 9466; Email: siokpeng@ntu.edu.sg

About Nanyang Technological University

Nanyang Technological University (NTU) is a research-intensive university ranked among the top 20 technological universities. The university has two campuses in Singapore. The Yunnan Garden campus, NTU's main campus, is located in the southwestern part of Singapore. The NTU@one-north campus, home to educational and alumni clubhouse facilities, is located near Singapore's biomedical research hub, Biopolis; and the new infocomm and media hub, Fusionopolis.

NTU has four 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, Arts, & Social Sciences 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 13th school, S Rajaratnam School of International Studies, was inaugurated on 1 January 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