Singapore, 10 November 2004

NTU CELEBRATES FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

Nanyang Technological University (NTU) professors who are celebrating the Festival of Lights tomorrow will be celebrating this occasion with NTU’s international students. These professors are welcoming international students to their homes to share in the joy of the occasion.

Initiated by the NTU International Student Centre (ISC), the series of home visits allow NTU’s international students, of different nationalities and cultural backgrounds, to learn first-hand how Deepavali is celebrated in Singapore. It also serves as an excellent and intimate platform for cross-cultural exchanges. This helps international students integrate into the local community and culture.

Says NTU School of Materials Engineering third-year undergraduate Miss Song Jing, 21, who hails from Szechuan, China, “I am curious to learn more about Deepavali and excited to try on a sari which my professor says his daughter will lend me.”

Adds NTU School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering Assoc Prof Sheel Aditya, 52, “The central theme of Deepavali, that of the triumph of good over evil, is universal but the culture and traditions that go with it are not and will prove to be an exotic and memorable experience for NTU’s international students.”

Says Ms Chua Poh Gek, Divisional Director of ISC, “More than just an event for our international students to learn about Deepavali, these open houses are NTU’s
way of celebrating the major festivals in Singapore together as a university community.”

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About the NTU International Student Centre
Tasked to serve the 5,000-odd international student community in NTU, the ISC provides a comprehensive suite of services and activities ranging from help in immigration matters, to a myriad of social and recreational activities, to help international students settle into campus life in NTU. Past activities held in celebration of local festivities include a Chinese New Year Open House held earlier this year at the President’s Lodge, which was immensely popular amongst the NTU international student population.

About Nanyang Technological University
The Nanyang Technological University (NTU) is a top-tier university, ranked among the best science and technological universities in Asia. It has a business school that is consistently ranked among the top ten in Asia.

With an international faculty of over 1,500 and an undergraduate and graduate enrolment of about 25,000, NTU positions itself as a global university of excellence and is committed to its mission of Educating Leaders and Advancing Knowledge for Singapore and Beyond.

NTU is on its way to becoming a comprehensive university by 2005 with the setting up of three new Schools – the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, the School of Art, Design and Media, and the School of Physical and Mathematical Sciences. The university offers a broad-based curriculum, which focuses on the development of global views, entrepreneurship and adaptability, through the following schools:

1. College of Engineering, which consists of five schools:
   - Civil and Environmental Engineering
   - Computer Engineering
   - Electrical and Electronic Engineering
   - Materials Engineering
   - Mechanical and Production Engineering
2. Nanyang Business School
3. School of Biological Sciences
4. School of Communication and Information
5. School of Humanities and Social Sciences
6. School of Art, Design and Media *(to be established by 2005)*
7. School of Physical and Mathematical Sciences *(to be established by 2005)*

For more information, visit http://www.ntu.edu.sg/.