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NTU students get headstart in Apple Computer’s technology
- Ten top computer engineering students embark on joint projects and receive Apple’s WWDC scholarships

Top students at Nanyang Technological University (NTU) School of Computer Engineering (SCE) have embarked on two NTU-Apple joint projects. As part of the collaboration, these students have also received scholarships from Apple Computer to participate in its prestigious Worldwide Developers’ Conference (WWDC), held in San Francisco recently.

This is the first time that Apple’s WWDC scholarships encompass the element of student projects. The students will get to apply what they learned at the conference in their projects.

The 10 top students have started work on two joint projects. The projects, ‘BlueBus’, which aims to establish a Bluetooth-based network on buses and trains for commuters, and ‘Mobile Avatar’, which aims to allow mobile phone users to construct 3D models of himself with added animations, will be showcased when completed. The projects are targeted to be completed within two years. [See attached Factsheet on project details]

The joint projects are being supervised by SCE Associate Professor Yow Kin Choong who was also at WWDC together with the students. The 10 SCE students include: one second year student, one third year student and eight final year students. At WWDC, the students got to meet and learn from Apple engineers and Mac developers.

Says Dhany Basuki, one of the scholarship recipients and a current SCE final year student, “This once-in-a-lifetime experience has definitely been an eye-opener for me. The chance to work on the joint projects is very exciting and I treasure it very much. In addition, the opportunity to meet so many IT
professionals at WWDC is extremely valuable and I am grateful to NTU and Apple for making this trip possible. I believe that my experiences gained will be useful and beneficial for the projects and also my future career.”

Adds Assoc Prof Yow, “The two NTU-Apple joint projects are exciting ones which can impact the general public. Our students will have the opportunity to see their projects result in benefits for the common man on the street. In addition, the exposure gained at WWDC will be useful for our students in networking and learning from IT professionals. The WWDC is a valuable opportunity for the students to jumpstart their professional careers.”

Says Associate Professor Seah Hock Soon, Chair of NTU SCE, “The collaboration with Apple provides our students the opportunity to discuss and network with top professionals and be at the forefront of technology. I believe they will benefit from their experience and will return to better apply their knowledge to their projects and their future careers.”

Apple Computer’s WWDC scholarship recipients each received an e-ticket valued at US$1,595 and a travelling allowance of US$500 from Apple to attend and participate in the conference. NTU also contributed a further S$500 in travel allowance. WWDC is one of the most important annual events for IT professionals, where thousands of developers from around the world come to receive in-depth information on Apple’s latest technology.

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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 has a beautiful garden campus and a distinguished lineage with roots that go back to 1955.

NTU has 4 colleges, comprising 12 schools. The College of Engineering, with six schools focused on technology innovation, enjoys wide renown and currently ranks fourth in the world in engineering publications. The College of Science is at the forefront of Singapore’s life sciences and science initiatives, while the Nanyang Business School (which is 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, one of the best communication and information schools in Asia.

The 13th 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 terrorism.

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

Ranked among the top 50 universities in the world, NTU has in place multi-country programmes and initiatives with established institutions worldwide. Some examples of key partners include
MIT, Stanford University, Cornell University, Caltech, University of Washington, Carnegie Mellon University; world-class universities in Asia such as Beijing University, Shanghai Jiaotong University, Waseda, IIT of India; and top European universities like Cambridge University, Imperial College, Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, University of St Gallen, University of Technology of Compiègne and University of Technology of Troyes.

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