Singapore, 13 October 2004

Big four accounting firms to recruit about 540 accountancy undergraduates from NTU more than half a year before their final examinations

Singapore’s big four accounting firms will recruit about 540 final-year Nanyang Technological University (NTU) undergraduates more than half a year before these undergraduates take their final examinations.

Deloitte & Touche, Ernst & Young, KPMG and PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) will send 200 representatives to an NTU recruitment event on 13 October 2004 called Networking Nights.

At the event, the representatives will interact and get to know the 580 undergraduates expected to attend the event. The students will, in turn, have a better understanding of the firms’ work culture and an insight into the careers available to them.

Says Mr Stephen Tjoa, Director of Human Resource, KPMG, “I am confident of meeting good prospective employees at NTU Networking Nights. The broad-based curriculum that NTU students undergo gives them an advantage and enables them to contribute to the various business areas of KPMG. Their contact with industry through professional internships and attachments give them an intimate knowledge of the accounting industry. NTU students are an asset and I look forward to hiring more of them for KPMG.”

Adds Ms Deborah Ong, PwC’s Human Capital Partner, “The Big Four Networking Night is an ideal platform to interact with NTU students on an informal basis and an opportune event for us to connect with prospective employees and exchange thoughts, views and experiences.”
She adds, “At PwC, people are our most important assets. They are our key resource and they drive our ongoing success. We place a high emphasis on our recruitment programmes to attract high calibre candidates to join our growing PwC global family. We believe that NTU graduates have the attributes we require and we are committed to developing them as professionals.”

Mr Daniel Soh, Human Resource Partner, Ernst & Young, agrees. Mr Soh says that NTU accountancy students are “mature, have good people skills and are able to present themselves well”.

Mr Philip Yuen, Staff Partner of Deloitte & Touche says, “At Deloitte, people bring our brand to life. Our goal is to attract and retain the best, that is, well-rounded graduates who are committed to become standard-bearers of our firm. I’m confident that this networking event will give the NTU graduates a good feel of the Deloitte experience through interacting with our people.”

Like their prospective employers, accountancy students at NTU relish the opportunity to clinch their first job even before they take their final examinations.

Says Mr Gary Tan Qinghui, 23, a final-year accountancy undergraduate and a member of the NTU team that won the "Rookie of the Year" award in the Students In Free Enterprise (SIFE) World Cup 2003 competition, "It’s a wonderful opportunity for me to make a good and not just first but early impression on the big 4 partners. I intend to find out more about specific job openings as well as explore other less publicised career alternatives."

Besides the session on 13 October 2004 for accountancy students, two other Networking Nights were organized on 5 and 8 October 2004 for students from other schools.

Networking Nights were first organized by NTU’s Office of Professional Attachments (OPA) in 2002. Other career events for this year’s graduating class include:

- NTU Career Fair
- NTU Career eFair
- NTU Industry Nights
- NTU Recruitment Talks
- NTU Campus Interviews

Says Mr Ng Boon Hwang, Director of NTU’s OPA, “NTU graduates have always enjoyed bright employment prospects. They are sought after by industry for being highly competent and even top among their peers in their chosen fields of specializations. It is no wonder therefore that job offers have begun pouring in for
our students now, more than half a year before they are due to take their final examinations."

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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.

Established in 1991, the university has since been positioning itself to be a global university of excellence and is committed to its mission of Educating Leaders and Advancing Knowledge for Singapore and Beyond. NTU has an undergraduate and graduate enrolment of about 25,000 and an international faculty of over 1,500. It 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)

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