NTU APPOINTS NEW NIE DIRECTOR

Nanyang Technological University (NTU) has appointed Professor Lee Sing Kong Director of the National Institute of Education (NIE) as part of a process of leadership renewal. This will take effect from 1 November 2006.

Prof Lee is widely regarded by students and staff as an outstanding and dynamic leader, researcher and educationist. He has had a distinguished track record as civil servant, polytechnic lecturer and university professor.

Prof Lee started his career in April 1975 as an officer in the then Parks & Recreation Department. He rose to become Deputy Commissioner of Parks & Recreation before joining Ngee Ann Polytechnic in May 1989 as Head of Biotechnology. In July 1991, he took up the post of Senior Lecturer in the Biology Division, School of Science, NIE, NTU. He later became Head of the Division.

When NIE adopted a matrix organisation structure in 2000, he became the first Dean of the newly-formed Graduate Programmes & Research Office, a post he still holds. Under his leadership, the Graduate Programmes & Research Office has been successful in greatly expanding the enrolment of in-service teachers in professional development programmes and in revamping training programmes for school leaders.

Prof Lee is concurrently NIE’s Dean, External Programmes Office. In this appointment, he has been responsible for expanding NIE’s role in the increasing provision of education programmes for an international clientele.

Prof Lee is expected to lead the Institute to new heights of achievement, building on the excellent foundation laid by his distinguished predecessor, Professor Leo Tan Wee Hin.

Prof Tan has served as Director for more than 12 years since 1 February 1994. He has made sterling contributions to the development of the Institute, directing and guiding it to its current position as a teacher education institution of distinction, regarded by many of its peers in countries such as the UK, US and Australia as one of the top such institutions in the world. An eminent zoologist as well as a highly-regarded educationist, Prof Tan will continue to serve
the University as a professor. He will contribute towards the academic work of the Natural Sciences & Science Education academic group of NIE and undertake assignments to represent NIE in the establishment of strategic links with other institutions of excellence around the world. Prof Tan will also help train leaders in education from various countries.

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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 Compiegne and University of Technology of Troyes.

For more information, visit www.ntu.edu.sg

**About National Institute of Education, NTU**

The National Institute of Education (NIE) is an institute of the Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore.

NIE provides all levels of teacher education, ranging from initial teacher education programmes to further teacher preparation for serving teachers, departmental heads, vice-principals and principals. It also offers postgraduate programmes which lead to the award of higher degrees in Arts, Education, Physical Education and Science. Other specialised programmes which train preschool and kindergarten teachers, teachers of special schools and staff of institutes of higher learning are also conducted by NIE.

As the national teacher education institute in Singapore, NIE is critical in transforming the teacher preparation system to meet changing needs of the education system. It also plays an important role in providing educational research and consultancy services to the Ministry of Education and schools. In line with the mission of the Ministry, which is to mould the future of our nation, NIE’s vision is to be “An Institute of Distinction”.

For more information, please visit www.nie.edu.sg.