Singapore, 16 June 2004

NTU HOSTS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NATIONAL BOUNDARIES AND CULTURAL CONFIGURATIONS

Academics from Europe, United States and the Asia Pacific are set to join faculty members from the Nanyang Technological University (NTU) to share and develop new thoughts and directions in sinology.

The university is organising the International Conference on National Boundaries and Cultural Configurations on 24 and 25 Jun 2004. The two-day conference aims to provide a platform where scholars can discuss globalization, new technologies and ideas, and their impact on Chinese language and culture, particularly on national boundaries and people’s mindsets, behaviours and lifestyles.

The opening ceremony will be held at the NTU Nanyang Auditorium on 23 Jun. Senior Minister, Mr Lee Kuan Yew, who is the guest-of-honour, will deliver the keynote speech at the event.

The conference has generated overwhelming interest and support. Over 130 academics from 29 cities will attend the conference to share and exchange research findings. A total of 119 papers were received for the event.

Besides academics from local universities, several renowned overseas academics will also speak during the two-day conference. These include Professor (Prof) Michel Hockx, Professor of Chinese at the University of London, and Prof Lu Jianming, Director of the Centre for Chinese Linguistics, Beijing University.
Participants will also have the opportunity to participate in various fora and discuss topics such as:

- Comparative studies of global Mandarin and regional Mandarin varieties
- Global Chinese: identity, social changes and language education
- Literature in Chinese: comparative literature and national boundary
- Cultural studies in the context of globalisation and modernity

The International Conference on National Boundaries and Cultural Configuration, organised by the Centre for Chinese Language and Culture at NTU, is held in conjunction with its 10th anniversary. The event is co-organised by the Division of Chinese in NTU’s School of Humanities and Social Sciences and the Division of Chinese Language and Culture in the National Institute of Education of NTU.

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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 in 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 Sciences (to be established by 2005)

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