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NANYANG TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY INVENTION A BOON TO MUSICIANS AND BOOK LOVERS
– Singapore's first locally developed automated page-turner brings convenience to avid readers, musicians and people with physical disabilities

Nanyang Technological University (NTU) students have developed an innovative automated page-turner, a Singapore first. This invention is also believed to be the world’s lightest and most affordable automated page-turner.

A page-turner is a device that turns the pages of books or music scores automatically by means of a remote control signal.

The page-turner is especially useful for musicians. Without having to flip their scores constantly, they can better concentrate on their performance. Busy people who multi-task may also find the device handy. For example, parents can continue reading while holding their child. Another group of people who may benefit from this invention is the physically-disabled, who may otherwise have difficulties turning the pages of a book.

Current available page-turners in the world are costly and bulky. So far, no page-turner has been developed in Singapore and there are none readily available in Singapore too.
Recognising this niche area, students from NTU School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering (EEE), under the supervision of Associate Professor Eddie MC Wong, developed and completed two innovative prototype designs. Both prototypes are low cost, lightweight and portable – an advantage over current commercial models.

Patents are currently being filed for the innovative designs and the team hopes to collaborate with interested external parties to commercialise the invention. Research is still ongoing for further enhancements such as making the device more intelligent.

Says Assoc Prof Eddie Wong: “We are very excited about our innovative invention and believe that it has high potential for commercialisation. This invention capitalises on NTU’s research and development expertise. At the same time, it allows NTU students to apply their knowledge to benefit the society.”

This invention took part in the NTU EEE Design and Innovation Project Competition 2005 and won the Gold Prize out of 50 entries.

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About Nanyang Technological University

Nanyang Technological University (NTU) is an established international institution in tertiary education.

Our university has a distinguished lineage with roots that go back to 1955. We began as Nanyang University, a private university set up with donations from people of all walks of life, from Singapore and the region. The university grounds, Yunnan Garden Campus, was donated by the Hokkien Clan Association as part of this campaign.

We were reborn as Nanyang Technological Institute, established on the same campus in 1981 with government funding to educate practice-oriented engineers for the burgeoning Singapore economy. In 1991 we became Nanyang Technological University with the absorption of the National Institute of Education.

Today, we are a research-intensive university ranked among the top 50 universities in the world. We have a strong engineering college ranked among the best globally, a business school with one of the top 100 MBA programmes in the world, an internationally acclaimed National Institute of Education, one of
the best communication and information schools in Asia, and a biological sciences school at the forefront of Singapore’s life sciences initiative.

Undergraduate enrolment will swell from 17,500 to 22,300 with the establishment of three new schools – the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, School of Art, Design and Media, and School of Physical and Mathematical Sciences.

A traditional strength of the university is the high employment rate and high remuneration received by its graduates. The university is now in the process of realising its New Undergraduate Experience initiative with a comprehensive curriculum, wide choices of options for students, vibrant campus life and international experience. Strong international relationships and collaboration programmes is a hallmark of the university. This includes the Singapore-MIT Alliance, Singapore-Stanford Partnership, Cornell-Nanyang Institute of Hospitality Management, Singapore – University of Washington Alliance in Bioengineering, Global Immersion Programme with Peking University, Tsinghua University, Shanghai Jiaotong University, University of Washington and Georgia Institute of Technology, among many other programmes in US, China, India, Japan and Europe.

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