Singapore, 21 February 2006

NTU advances development of professional training programmes for Chinese officials
- Landmark collaboration with Wuxi Municipal Government in talent training

Nanyang Technological University (NTU) forges strategic partnership with Wuxi Municipal Government to accelerate its efforts in developing high-quality training programmes for Chinese officials and senior executives.

The landmark agreement is the first between the two parties. The new partnership signifies the enhanced commitment to foster stronger Sino-Singapore cooperation through the sharing of management experience and expertise.

Under the agreement, NTU will provide executive training programmes for administrative officers and managerial executives recommended by Wuxi Municipal Government. These programmes will cover areas such as government public administration, urban development and management, enterprise management, service industry and development.

The partnership will elevate ties between NTU and Wuxi Municipal Government to a higher plane, offering the advantage of mutual exchange and collaboration. It will also present an opportunity for participants to benefit from the exchange of ideas and perspectives. Building on the expanding links between Singapore and China, this partnership signifies another step towards NTU's vision of becoming a Global University of Excellence.
NTU President, Dr Su Guaning (南洋理工大学校长徐冠林), shares: “We are very pleased to announce this tie-up with Wuxi Government. Wuxi City is the cradle of China's national industry and commerce which has fuelled a strong demand for a new pool of elite leadership well versed in East-West best international practices. NTU is best suited to play this role with a strong pool of international bilingual faculty. We will continue our efforts to work with the Chinese government and organisations to explore training collaboration.”

Mr Yang Weize, Party Secretary of CPC Wuxi Municipal Committee (无锡市委书记杨卫泽), says: “In this era of globalisation, human resources plays a significant role in the country’s economic advancement. As a research-intensive university with globally acknowledged strengths in science and engineering, NTU is well positioned to provide high-quality training programmes in management and public administration for Chinese officials. We are pleased to have this opportunity to work with NTU to harness our mutual strengths and bring our training collaboration to new heights through this partnership.”

Riding the wave of rapid globalisation, NTU has built up an extensive network of more than 300 leading universities worldwide, including Peking University, Tsinghua University and Shanghai Jiao Tong University for academic, research and exchange activities. Over the past 15 years, NTU has trained about 3,000 mid- to senior-level Chinese officials. The University is able to offer the best of East-West scholarship and customised courses to suit the needs of its Chinese counterparts and government officials from various provinces and municipals including Jiangsu, Shandong, Hebei, Jilin, Chongqing, Sichuan, Guangdong, Guangxi, Yunnan, Beijing, Shanghai and Fujian. These well-received NTU programmes include Master of Science in Managerial Economics (also known as the “Mayor’s Class”), Master of Public Administration, Nanyang Executive Master of Business Administration, as well as Executive Training Programmes.

The signing of the training agreement between NTU and Wuxi Municipal Government marks another milestone in Singapore’s strategic partnership with China. To formalise the partnership, Mr Anthony Teo, Secretary to the University (南洋理工大学秘书长张顺才) and Mr Wu Jianxuan, Vice Mayor of Wuxi Municipal Government (无锡市副市长吴建选) will sign the talent training cooperation agreement (人才培训合作协议) at NTU on 21 February 2006 in the presence of Dr Su Guaning, Mr Yang Weize and Mr Wang Yongli, Counsellor (Education) to the Chinese Embassy (中国驻新加坡大使馆教育参赞王永利).
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's 12 schools span diverse disciplines – from engineering and the sciences to art, design and media. The university has a strong engineering college focused on innovation, 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. The Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies is a world authority on terrorism issues.

Ranked among the top 50 universities in the world, NTU has in place multi-country programmes and initiatives, many established through its strategic alliances with 300 institutions in more than 45 countries, including Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Stanford University, California Institute of Technology, Cornell University, Cambridge University, and Beijing University.

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

About Wuxi City

Wuxi (China), a dazzling pearl by the Taihu Lake, is located in central Yangtze River Delta. Strategically situated equidistant between Shanghai and Nanjing, its position at the junction of the Shanghai-Chengdu expressway makes it one of the major export bases in China, with over 2,000 industrial enterprises manufacturing export goods.

As the cradle of China's national industry and commerce, Wuxi is one of China's 15 economic centres, one of China's 10 most dynamic cities in terms of economy, and China's 2nd favourite commercial city granted by Forbes. The city also ranked the 8th of 2005 China's Mainland's top 10 cities in terms of comprehensive competitiveness and the 15th of China's 25 cities with the strongest potential by the UN. The GDP of Wuxi in 2005 reached US$35 billion, an increase of 15.1%, while the per-capita GDP hit US$7,700, taking the lead among large and medium-sized cities in China. The accumulated foreign investment in Wuxi exceeded US$13 billion. A total of 61 Fortune 500 companies have secured tenancy in Wuxi. In 2005, Wuxi’s foreign trade maintained a strong growth momentum and the imports and exports totalled US$29.2 billion.

As a national famous industrial and commercial city, Wuxi has established very close business cooperation relationship with Singapore in recent years.

For more information, visit www.wuxi.gov.cn

*** END ***