Singapore, 22 September 2004

New IT student chapter in NTU Nanyang Business School - bridging the gap between technologists and business managers

As a testament to the increasing need to groom more competent Business IT professionals, Nanyang Technological University’s (NTU) and Singapore Computer Society (SCS) have established the pioneer IT student chapter for business undergraduate students and Master of Business Administration (MBA) participants. This student chapter signals the growing importance to effectively bridge the gap between technologists and business managers in today’s technology-driven economy.

Mr Willie Cheng, a shining example of an industry leader who have built a successful career by integrating his accountancy and business education to IT solutions, will share his experience in a talk entitled “Business and IT – A blend suitable for you?”. The talk will be held on 22 September 2004, 3pm, at NTU to mark the launch of the new NTU Nanyang Business School - SCS student chapter. Mr Cheng, a prominent NTU accounting alumnus well-regarded for his professional and finance skills, was the previous Country Managing Partner at Accenture Singapore. He is currently actively involved in the IT scene through his advisory roles with SCS and Singapore Infocomm Technology Federation.

“We are glad to have Mr Willie Cheng speak to our students on his experiences on being a bridge between technical and business users. The launch of this new student chapter, the first-ever in a business school, is a timely one. As business and IT solutions are increasingly converging, we aim to provide our students with a strong IT orientation in our business programmes to prepare them for the working world. Already, our IT specialization students are exposed to a curriculum that integrates knowledge and skills in management and information systems”, said Professor Hong Hai, Dean of NTU's Nanyang Business School.
Agreeing with him is Mr Lee Kwok Cheong, President of SCS. “It is a strategic move for NTU and SCS to establish an IT student chapter in Nanyang Business School. We hope that through the exposure gained from such a student chapter, the soon-to-be graduates will be able to draw upon the IT and management knowledge they have acquired to meet the challenges of transforming businesses with IT.”

Apart from opening up opportunities for NTU students to network with IT professionals in the industry and having access to the SCS’ professional upgrading activities and events, the new NTU Nanyang Business School - SCS student chapter will see a first in terms of operation model. Both undergraduate students and MBA participants will work together to run the chapter and take on projects such as organizing various activities including technopreneur talks, a disaster recovery site visit and computer assembly workshops.

Mr Cuong Huu Nguyen, President of the NTU Nanyang Business School – SCS student chapter, who is a full-time Nanyang MBA student with 15 years’ working experience, reflected on his interaction with the undergraduates, “Working with the undergraduates gives me a reality check on the way I motivate, encourage, and mentor juniors. It gives me an opportunity to understand the aspirations of the young graduates and the key factors that drive them. I might even recruit a few of them one day!” The undergraduate students, on the other hand, gain the opportunity to work closely with the MBA participants, most are managers or professionals with at least three years of working experience. Such an experience enables the students to gain practical advice and develop a keener sense of management expectations.

At present, the new student chapter already has more than 120 members. All students are welcome to join the new student chapter.

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 Sciences *(to be established by 2005)*

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

**About the Singapore Computer Society**

The Singapore Computer Society (SCS), established since 1967, is the premier professional body for IT practitioners and IT users in Singapore. It provides a wide range of events such as seminars and conferences, publications, and access to an invaluable network of specialists. It also administers various certifications programmes that offer individuals the avenue to gain recognition and career development. Today, having a membership of over 18,000, the SCS is the largest local IT body with membership representative of the IT community.

For more information, please contact:
Nancy Lee
Operations Manager
Singapore Computer Society
Tel: 6226 2567 ext 13    Fax: 6226 2569
Email: nancy.lee@scs.org.sg
www.scs.org.sg