New links with Indonesian universities forge stronger global alliances for NTU

Nanyang Technological University (NTU) will expand its network of global alliances by fostering closer links with two of Indonesia’s leading universities - Universitas Indonesia (UI) and Institut Teknologi Bandung (ITB).

The landmark links with UI and ITB are expected to result in academic and educational cooperation, close relations and mutual understanding. NTU, UI and ITB will encourage cooperation among their faculty and administrative staff in the form of:

- Visits and exchange of undergraduate and graduate students
- Visits and exchange of faculty and staff for research, teaching and discussions
- Exchange of information
- Joint research activities

The new links complement existing ties with Indonesian universities. Staff members from NTU’s School of Civil and Environmental Engineering are collaborating with their counterparts at Dipenengoro University on the upcoming 3rd International Conference on Geotechnical Engineering. A professor from the Nanyang Business School also sits on the International Advisory Board of ITB’s School of Business Management. Indonesians, including some staff members from Indonesian universities also pursue graduate studies at NTU.
Says Dr Su Guaning, President of NTU, “NTU is pleased to take our close relations a step further, through closer links with UI and ITB, both leading universities in Indonesia. This is in line with NTU’s vision of becoming a global university of excellence.”

More Indonesian university staff members can be expected to pursue their graduate studies at NTU as a result of the following initiatives.

- NTU will offer research scholarships to bright young faculty members selected by their universities for staff development. These scholarships provide for tuition fees and a monthly stipend, and may be granted for up to four years.

- NTU will also team up with Indonesian universities to bid for ASEAN Universities Networking SEEDNet funding for Indonesian faculty to pursue their masters and doctoral degrees at NTU.

Dr Su signs two Memoranda of Understanding each with Prof Usman Chatib Warsa, Rector, UI, and Prof Dr Ir Djoko Santoso, Rector, ITB, on 23 February 2005 to formally acknowledge their commitment towards closer ties.

The signings take place in Jakarta and will be witnessed by Mr Tharman Shanmugaratnam, Minister for Education, Singapore, Prof Dr Bambang Sudibyo, Minister for Education, Indonesia, Dr Ir Kusmayanto Kadiman, Minister for Research and Technology, Indonesia, Mr Edward Lee Kwong Foo, Singapore’s Ambassador to Indonesia and His Excellency Mochamad Slamet Hidayat, Indonesia’s Ambassador to Singapore.

During his trip to Indonesia, Dr Su will also interact with some 60 alumni in Indonesia over dinner.

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About Nanyang Technological University

Nanyang Technological University was recently ranked by the Times Higher Education Supplement at the 50th place globally and 7th in Asia, in its ranking of the 200 best universities in the world. The campus was originally developed for a Chinese language university, Nanyang University in 1955. In 1981, Nanyang Technological Institute was established on this campus to educate engineers for the rapidly developing Singapore economy. In 1991 Nanyang Technological University was inaugurated.

The university has a strong engineering school ranked among the best in the Commonwealth, a business school with one of the top 100 MBA programs in the world, an internationally acclaimed National Institute of Education, one of the
best Schools of Communications and Information in Asia, and a new (2001) School of Biological Sciences playing a leading role in Singapore’s Life Sciences initiative. The Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies is an international authority on terrorism. The university is in a major expansion from 16,000 to 22,300 undergraduate students. During this expansion three new schools are being built – the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, the School of Physical and Mathematical Sciences and the School of Art, Design and Media.

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 realizing 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.