NEWS RELEASE

Embargoed until 24 April 2006, 3pm  3 pgs including this pg

Media contact
Daphne Lye, Assistant Manager, Corporate Communications Office
Tel: 6790 6685; Mobile: 9436 1227; Email: xllye@ntu.edu.sg

Singapore, 24 April 2006

The Wee Kim Wee Legacy Fund -
To honour and cherish the legacy of the late Dr Wee Kim Wee

To cherish and honour the legacy of the late Dr Wee Kim Wee, Nanyang Technological University (NTU) plans to rename the School of Communication and Information as a tribute to this outstanding journalist. A group of community leaders is also coming together to establish the Wee Kim Wee Legacy Fund that would support the vision and work of the School.

The Fund, targeted to be at S$25 million with matching by the Singapore government, will benefit future generations of communications students at NTU’s School of Communication and Information (SCI).

The committee for the Wee Kim Wee Legacy Fund is chaired by Mr Kwee Liong Keng, Managing Director of Pontiac Land. The nine members are Ms Jennie Chua, President and Chief Executive Officer of Raffles Holdings Limited, Mr Sim Kee Boon, Mr Willie Cheng, Mr Patrick Daniel, Managing Editor, English and Malay Newspapers Division, Singapore Press Holdings, Mr Stephen Lee, Chairman of Singapore Business Federation, Dr Su Guaning, President of NTU, Mr Anthony Teo, Secretary to the University, NTU, Assoc Prof Ang Peng Hwa, Dean of NTU’s SCI, and Prof Eddie Kuo, Professor at NTU.

The Patron of the Fund is President S R Nathan.

“NTU is very privileged to have the support of Dr Wee’s family to honour and cherish his legacy through the renaming of the School of Communication and Information. We
wish for his values and passion to be an inspiration to the future journalists and media professionals that we are grooming here in NTU. Graduates of the School will be able to stand proud, and have the same pioneering spirit as Dr Wee, as they play a leading role in Singapore’s bid to be a global media hub”, says Dr Su Guaning, President of NTU.

Dr Su adds, “We are also grateful to the group of fervent volunteers who have come together to start the Wee Kim Wee Legacy Fund to honour and cherish Dr Wee’s legacy. We are indeed honoured to be the beneficiary of this fund.”

There is a natural alignment with the late Dr Wee and NTU. Dr Wee served as Chancellor of NTU from 1991 to 1993. In 1995, NTU established the Wee Kim Wee Professorship in Communication Studies as a tribute to Dr Wee’s contribution in the areas of journalism, broadcasting and diplomacy.

The Wee Kim Wee Legacy Fund will allow communication and journalism students at SCI to achieve excellence in areas of research, benefit from interaction with top faculty, access to more scholarships and bursaries, and innovative academic programmes.

One example of a programme that resonates with Dr Wee’s pioneering spirit, is Going Overseas for Advanced Reporting (GO-FAR). In Dr Wee’s career as a journalist, he traveled to foreign countries and became a bridge between these countries and Singapore through his reports.

GO-FAR’s aim is to provide aspiring journalists the opportunity to experience life as foreign correspondents. The programme allows students to hone their skills by allowing them to operate in a foreign environment, where planning and co-ordination are as important as their regular reporting duties. Students are also given the opportunity to meet people of different nationalities and backgrounds and in turn, learn how to handle cultural sensitivities appropriately. The inaugural GO-FAR programme was conducted in the second half of 2005. Twenty-five students visited Meulaboh, Aceh in Indonesia and Sri Lanka, over two separate weeks in July and August.

Students will be able to look forward to more of such programmes and initiatives as the School is committed to epitomize the excellence and distinction of Dr Wee’s life and work.
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](http://www.ntu.edu.sg)