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NTU BRIDGES SINGAPORE AND SILICON VALLEY WITH INAUGURAL GLOBAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP CONFERENCE

Budding entrepreneurs eyeing a piece of the booming IT and biotechnology industries will gather at Nanyang Technological University (NTU) to learn more about the highly-successful models of entrepreneurship adopted by Silicon Valley and how they can be adapted for Singapore.

The Global Entrepreneurship Conference is jointly presented by Nanyang Technopreneurship Centre at NTU and the Stanford Asia Technology Initiative ( ATI), a student-initiated programme. The conference, organized for the first time in Singapore, is part of a series of global entrepreneurship programmes which have been launched successfully in China, India and Japan by Stanford ATI.

Engaging the Nanyang Technopreneurship Centre (NTC) at NTU has been a key success factor in enabling Stanford ATI to establish alliances and partners in emerging technology ecosystems in Singapore. NTC provided active support to the Stanford ATI Directors and Fellows in every aspect of the programme, from looking for sponsors, event organization to arranging for conference facilities.

Playing the role of a mentor to the student organisers from Stanford, our faculty gave advice on the programme to ensure that it suits the Singapore audience. We also provided the contacts for them to reach out to the local students, entrepreneurs, industrialists, academics, venture capitalists, and government officials who have similar interests in entrepreneurship.
Luminaries from Silicon Valley and Singapore will attend the one-day conference and engage the participants, exploring the applications and opportunities in the post dotcom era. The conference will provide an overview of the phenomenal growth of biotechnology worldwide and allow participants to discuss Singapore’s efforts to be a biotech hub. Participants will also have a dialogue session with the industry, including Mr Roderick Chia, a graduate of NTU’s Technopreneurship and Innovation Programme. Entitled *Entrepreneurship Q&A: Perspectives from Entrepreneurs*, the session serves as a platform for participants to interact with industry representatives and learn more about their experiences.

The Global Entrepreneurship Conference 2004 is held at the Nanyang Executive Centre today, 25 August 2004. Officiated by Mr Raymond Lim, Acting Second Finance Minister and Senior Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, it is attended by some 150 students and industry representatives.

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**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)*

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