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NTU STUDENTS RAISE SOME $150,000 FOR TSUNAMI RELIEF

Nanyang Technological University (NTU) students have raised close to $110,000 in cash and $40,000 in kind towards tsunami relief, under the university’s “Operation Moving Hearts”, a campaign in aid of tsunami survivors.

A three-week long campus-wide fund-raising drive, which started on 3 January 2005, the first day of term, has raised close to $110,000 in cash. The drive, an initiative by the NTU Chapter of the Red Cross Humanitarian Network (NTU RCHN), had no lack of manpower with many staff and students eagerly stepping forward as volunteers.

At the same time, volunteers from the NTU Students’ Union, the NTU Welfare Services Club and the NTU Rotaract Club also pitched in, raising some $40,000 worth of donations-in-kind in just a week, which were sent to tsunami-hit areas through relief agencies such as Mercy Relief.

The cash donations were presented by second-year Nanyang Business School undergraduate and NTU RCHN chairperson, Mr Elisha Peterson Teo Soon Kwan, to Mrs Geri Lau, Secretary-General, Singapore Red Cross, on 22 January 2005 at the Singapore Red Cross headquarters.

Says Mr Teo, “It was very heartwarming and encouraging to see fellow NTU students and staff members rise up to the challenge of helping the tsunami victims. We saw many people eager to do their bit whether in monetary terms or
in kind. Seeing everyone working together and supporting one another was truly touching."

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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.