Singapore, 26 April 2005

NTU’S GOOD WISHES FOR DEPUTY PRESIDENT WHO WILL HEAD NEW UNIVERSITY

Professor (Prof) Cheong Hee Kiat, Deputy President of Nanyang Technological University (NTU), will leave the university to helm the new SIM University as President.

Prof Cheong, who is concurrently Dean of the School of Civil & Environmental Engineering (CEE) and the Graduate Studies Office at NTU, has served the university for close to 20 years. As Deputy President, he played a key role in mapping out the future directions of the university. He also oversaw the early planning for the School of Biological Sciences Building and the implementation of e-learning in NTU. During his tenure as Dean of CEE, he set up several research centres and established a strong collaboration with Stanford University, including the Singapore-Stanford Partnership, an educational initiative which brings the best of Stanford and NTU together in graduate studies at MSc and PhD levels and leading edge research in environmental engineering.

Dr Su Guaning, President of NTU, pays tribute to Prof Cheong Hee Kiat: “Hee Kiat has been a key member of the leadership team at NTU that has brought it to the present status of top 50 world universities. He has been part of the NTU family for a long time, and we will definitely miss him, his academic leadership and his contributions. On the other hand, we are very proud that he has been picked to lead SIM University as the university charts new frontiers in higher learning especially for the working population of Singapore. We deeply appreciate his contributions to NTU and we wish him all the best in his new challenges.”
In view of the university turning autonomous in 2006 and subsequent organizational changes, the position of Deputy President, relinquished by Prof Cheong, will not be filled.

Prof Tony Woo (伍正祥), Vice President of Research, will oversee the Graduate Studies Office.

Prof Pan Tso-Chien (潘则建), currently the Director of Protective Technology Research Centre (PTRC) and Dean-designate CEE, will be appointed Dean with effect from 1 June 2005.

Curriculum Vitae

Prof Pan Tso-Chien
Director, PTRC
BSCE, MSCE, PhD

Academic history and professional experience

- PhD, University of California, Berkeley, California, USA
- MSCE, University of California, Berkeley, California, USA
- BSCE, National Cheng-Kung University, Tainan, Taiwan
- Advanced Technology Division, Bechtel National, Inc., San Francisco, California, USA
- John A Blume & Associates, San Francisco, California, USA
- Seismological Society of America,
- Earthquake Engineering Research Institute,
- American Society of Civil Engineers,
- Structural Engineers Association of Northern California
- Earthquake Society (Singapore)

Research Interest

- Damage assessment of buildings subjected to dynamic loading
- Structural design for blast loading and missile impacts
- Vibration isolation for structures and equipment.
- Seismic hazard, vulnerability and risk assessments
- Seismic soil/fluid/structure interaction analysis of surface and underground structures

Prizes and awards
