Singapore, 3 July 2006

NTU dragon boaters triumph at annual Prime Minister's Cup Challenge

The NTU dragon boat team won both the men's and women's Prime Minister's Cup Challenge Trophies at the annual Dragon Boat Festival, held at the Bedok Reservoir yesterday.

The men's team beat long-time rivals from the National University of Singapore and new-comers from the Singapore Management University and the Singapore Institute of Management, clocking in at 4 minutes and 50.73 seconds over the 1000-metre race.

The women's team had a clear lead from the beginning and took the top prize at the inaugural women's category of the Prime Minister's Cup, with a winning time of 5 minutes and 43.06 seconds.

The rowers also did NTU proud by bagging awards in the following categories:

- Tertiary (Mixed) – 2nd (3m 54.51s)
- Tertiary (Men) – 3rd (3m 38.25s)
- Tertiary (Women) – 1st (4m 51.26s)
- National Championship (Men) – 3rd (3m 27.30s)
- National Championship (Mixed) – 2nd (3m 35.01s)

The dragon boaters received the much-coveted trophies and medals from guest-of-honour Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong.

Also at the event was a 500-member strong crowd of NTU supporters. The supporters, comprising alumni, students and staff cheered the teams to victory.

First mooted by then-Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong in 1999 as a race between NTU and NUS, the Prime Minister's Cup race may be likened to the highly contested annual boat race between Oxford University and Cambridge University.

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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 with established institutions worldwide. Some examples of key partners include MIT, Stanford University, Cornell University, Caltech, University of Washington, Carnegie Mellon University; world-class universities in Asia such as Beijing University, Shanghai Jiaotong University, Waseda, IIT of India; and top European universities like Cambridge University, Imperial College, Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne, University of St. Gallen, University of Technology of Compiegne and the University of Technology of Troyes.

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