Singapore, 4 August 2005

EDUCATION PROFESSIONALS LAUNCH SUMMIT AT NTU

As part of its 50th anniversary celebrations, Nanyang Technological University (NTU) is hosting a first-of-its-kind conference for the expanding education industry. The QS Asia Pacific Professional Leaders in Education Conference sees a gathering of academics and professionals from Europe, North America, the Middle East, Africa and Asia. The summit is held for the first time outside North America and Europe.

More than 400 higher education professionals from over 35 countries are at NTU from 4 – 6 Aug 2005 to tackle issues relating to the globalization of the education industry, such as student support, cultural and academic priorities, and forge partnerships with each another. The delegates will also witness an award ceremony officiated by Minister for of Education, Mr Tharman Shanmugaratnam.

Mr Sonny Lim (林博贤), NTU's Director of International Relations, says: "For a first-time event, we've got a great number of delegates coming because innovation and growth in this industry depend on collaboration and cooperation. The organizers and sponsors see great potential for Asia's universities and I'm very glad that they chose to come to Singapore and to NTU. It will be a huge opportunity for our students, faculty, and staff."
Tony Martin of QS Quacquarelli Symonds, London-based organiser of the event, adds: “We were delighted when NTU offered to host the first QS Asia Pacific Professional Leaders in Education Conference because it is a progressive, outward looking university in a country that is leading the region in internationalising its student community. We sense a dynamism in higher education here that is creating ripples not just around the universities of the region, but around those of the Western world.”

The conference has lined up a list of influential speakers, including Dr Su Guaning, President of NTU, Prof Dato’ Dzulkifli Abdul Razak, Vice Chancellor of Universiti Sains Malaysia, Dr Pornchai Monghonvanit, President of the International Association of University Presidents (and President of Siam University), Mr Ron Perkinson, Education Specialist for the International Finance Corporation of the World Bank and Dr Robert Locke, President of NAFSA – the Association of International Educators (USA).
About Nanyang Technological University

Nanyang Technological University (NTU) is an established international institution in tertiary education.

Our university has a distinguished lineage with roots that go back to 1955. We began as Nanyang University, a private university set up with donations from people of all walks of life, from Singapore and the region. The university grounds, Yunnan Garden Campus, was donated by the Hokkien Clan Association as part of this campaign.

We were reborn as Nanyang Technological Institute, established on the same campus in 1981 with government funding to educate practice-oriented engineers for the burgeoning Singapore economy. In 1991 we became Nanyang Technological University with the absorption of the National Institute of Education.

Today, we are a research-intensive university ranked among the top 50 universities in the world. We have a strong engineering college ranked among the best globally, 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.

Undergraduate enrolment will swell from 17,500 to over 22,000 with the establishment of three new schools – the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, School of Art, Design and Media, and School of Physical and Mathematical Sciences.

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 realising 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.

For more information, visit www.ntu.edu.sg

About QS

QS Quacquarelli & Symonds Ltd is a global specialist in international education concept, research and communication. QS inspired the World University Rankings survey published in 2004 by The Times Higher Education Supplement. QS is the organiser of the largest series of postgraduate education fairs in the world, the World Grad School Tour and also of the largest series of business schools fairs, the World MBA Tour.

For more information visit www.qsnetwork.com