NTU strengthens its presence in China in bid to be a Global University of Excellence

Nanyang Technological University (NTU) is strengthening its presence in China in its bid to be a Global University of Excellence. It is doing so on the educational and economic fronts.

NTU is opening the NTU Beijing Office on 6 June, 2005 in Zhongguancun. On 10 June 2005, it will open the NTU Shanghai Office in Zhangjiang Hi-Tech Park. Zhongguancun is China’s largest business incubator while Zhangjiang is Shanghai’s hotbed for high-tech companies. This is a strategic decision for NTU as both locations are close to top universities and key centres of business start-up activities and where major Chinese companies and MNCs congregate. It is also the first time a Singapore university has opened two offices in two of China’s most popular hi-tech parks.

The NTU Beijing Office and the NTU Shanghai Office were established to strengthen NTU’s presence and initiatives in China. Through its Chinese offices, NTU hopes to:

a) further increase its understanding and depth of expertise in the Chinese education market
b) create opportunities for students and alumni to set up, manage and expand their businesses in China
c) identify even more opportunities for professional and industrial attachments in China for NTU undergraduates through NTU’s Global Immersion Programme, as well as for NTU’s graduate students
d) strengthen NTU’s ties with its alumni in China
e) create opportunities for educational programmes, research, entrepreneurship, and cultural and student exchange activities

Says Assoc Prof Tan Teng Kee, Director, China Strategy Group, and Director, Nanyang Technopreneurship Centre, “We will leverage on the NTU Beijing Office and the NTU Shanghai Office for yet stronger ties with top Chinese universities and industries to help enhance Sino-Singapore business relations. This will boost the already strong ties that NTU enjoys with the Chinese government and industry.”

NTU’s close links with the Chinese government are well-illustrated through Chinese government officials’ attendance of such NTU programmes as:

- the M.Sc in Managerial Economics, which is dubbed the “mayors’ class” because Chinese deputy mayors and mayors attend the programme
- the Master of Public Administration for senior Chinese officials, which was launched in April this year
- an Executive MBA programme offered by NTU in collaboration with Shanghai Jiaotong University, rated among the top in Asia, and a forthcoming Executive MBA programme majoring in hospital management offered to senior hospital managers in collaboration with China's Ministry of Health

Today also sees the signing of an MOU between NTU’s Nanyang Technopreneurship Centre and Beijing's Zhongguancun International Incubator Inc in the area of entrepreneurship.

Through the collaboration, Nanyang Technopreneurship Centre will provide entrepreneurship training and consultancy to start-ups in Zhongguancun to help them attract venture capital and launch their companies in Singapore and other countries overseas. NTU will also capitalize on its connections with start-ups in other parts of the world and connect these start-ups with those in Zhongguancun through investment projects.

In turn, Beijing Zhongguancun International Incubator Inc will assist companies introduced by NTU to set up or expand their businesses in China. They will also help attract talents from Chinese universities for these business ventures.

Many Chinese start-ups at Zhongguancun and companies introduced by NTU are expected to benefit from this arrangement.
On 7 June 2005, NTU will enter into separate agreements with Peking University and Beijing Foreign Studies University in the areas of teaching, education and research.

Says Dr Su Guaning, President, NTU, “NTU recognizes the significance of China in this era of globalization. The setting up of the NTU offices in China, and NTU’s collaboration with Zhongguancun, Peking University and Beijing Foreign Studies University augur well for NTU’s bid to be plugged into an international network of leading universities and industry partners. Our plans in China form a significant part of NTU’s larger initiative to be a global university of excellence with ties with key partners throughout the world.”

NTU already has a presence in the United States, Europe and India through its Global Immersion Programme, India Strategy Group and various academic and exchange initiatives.

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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 23,500 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, please visit us at [www.ntu.edu.sg](http://www.ntu.edu.sg).