Singapore, 09 October 2006

Bertil Andersson, Chief Executive of the European Science Foundation, to be appointed Provost at Nanyang Technological University

Singapore – Nanyang Technological University (NTU) today announced the appointment of Professor Bertil Andersson as Provost (教务长). Professor Andersson will assume office on 1 April, 2007. This is a new position at NTU and his appointment is the result of an international search by the university, during which many distinguished academic leaders were considered.

Professor Andersson, 58, brings to NTU an extensive set of experiences and accomplishments in academe and research. Since January 2004, Professor Andersson has been the Chief Executive of the European Science Foundation (ESF), where he was responsible for the coordination of various scientific funding actions with national research funding organisations. Professor Andersson was elected Vice President of European Research Advisory Board (EURAB) in early 2005.

Prior to his appointment at ESF, Professor Andersson held the position of Rector of Linköping University in Sweden1. He is a Professor of Biochemistry at Linköping University and is a visiting Professor and a Fellow of Imperial College London. Professor Andersson has been a member of the boards of several Swedish and international foundations and learned societies. He is also an advisor to the Swedish Minister of Education and Science. He was a member of the Nobel Foundation Board and the Nobel Committee for Chemistry, serving as the Committee’s Chairman in 1997. Professor Andersson is now a Trustee of the Nobel Foundation.

1: The post of Rector is equivalent to that of President of the university
His research has focused on molecular aspects of plants, in particular structure, function and regulation of photosynthesis, as published in about 300 articles in international journals. In his research he has frequently interacted with the biotech industry.

(Please refer to attached fact sheet for Professor Andersson’s curriculum vitae).

Says Dr Su Guaning, President, NTU, “The appointment of Professor Bertil Andersson as Provost is a highly significant milestone for NTU. Professor Andersson comes to us with an internationally prominent academic reputation, a solid academic leadership experience as Rector of Linkoping University in Sweden, and international scientific administration experience as Chief Executive of the European Science Foundation. He also serves on the Scientific Advisory Board of the Singapore National Research Foundation. He shall be serving as the Chief Academic and Budget Officer of NTU, at a time when NTU is rising rapidly as a research university of international prominence. When he takes office in April 2007, Professor Andersson will be taking charge as the number two officer in NTU, similar to a Chief Operating Officer. I look forward to working closely with him on boosting NTU’s academic standings and research output. His vast experience in university and research foundation environments, as well as his extensive connections and networks, will be of great value to NTU.”

Professor Andersson says, “I am delighted to be joining NTU. NTU has made remarkable progress in a very short time. When I visited NTU as a member of the Scientific Advisory Board of the National Research Foundation, I was deeply impressed with the University’s achievements and promise. I am happy to join the team led by the President, and will do my very best to bring the University to greater heights through our academic programmes and research. I intend to leverage my experiences and networks from my time at European Science Foundation, to promote interaction between NTU and research institutions in Europe.”

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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 is located in a garden campus in western Singapore, tracing its roots back to 1955.

NTU has 4 colleges comprising 12 schools. The College of Engineering comprises six schools focused on technology and innovation. Its research output ranks among the top four in the world. The College of Science pushes the boundaries of Singapore’s life sciences initiatives. The Nanyang Business School (the College of Business) offers one of the world’s top 100 MBA programmes. The College of Humanities and Arts boasts Singapore’s first professional art school offering degree courses in art, design and interactive digital media, the Humanities and Social Science School, and the School of Communication and Information, a top journalism and media school in Asia.

The 13th school, S Rajaratnam School of International Studies, will be inaugurated in 2007. An important component of this autonomous school is the Institute of Defence
and Strategic Studies, long recognised as a world authority on strategic studies and terrorism.

NTU is also home to the internationally-acclaimed National Institute of Education, Singapore’s only teacher-training institute.

NTU has in place multi-country programmes and initiatives with established institutions worldwide. Key partners include MIT, Stanford University, Cornell University, Caltech, University of Washington, Carnegie Mellon University in USA, Peking University, Shanghai Jiaotong University, Waseda University, Indian Institute of Technology in Asia, Cambridge University, Imperial College and Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Europe.

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