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NTU offers new joint Master’s Degree to train engineers for the silicon wafer fabrication Industries

Nanyang Technological University (NTU) has signed an agreement with Technische Universität München (TUM), Germany and German Institute of Science and Technology Pte Ltd (GIST) to offer a joint Master of Science (MSc) degree programme in Microelectronics. The NTU-TUM MSc (Microelectronics) is a highly specialised programme offered on a full-time basis. It provides advanced training for engineers to prepare them for work in silicon wafer fabrication industries and related research institutions, and to upgrade their skills through further studies.

“NTU has been positioning itself as a global university of excellence, and is renowned for its research, especially in the area of technology. On the other hand, TUM, which is one of the most innovative institutions in Germany, is dedicated to generating and communicating highly specialised research and to providing excellent academic education. This collaboration is a perfect example of how two established universities can come together and draw on their respective strength to address the real-world needs,” says Prof Kam Chan Hin, Chair, School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering (EEE) of NTU’s College of Engineering. “We value this partnership and we look forward to more strategic educational exchange and research opportunities between NTU and TUM in the future.”

According to the Singapore Economic Development Board (EDB) Wafer Fab Manpower Survey 2006 Report, there will be continued interest from more wafer fabrication companies to establish their plants and research centres in Singapore. It is therefore necessary to train more wafer fabrication engineers through this joint programme to sustain and support the growing semiconductor industry in Singapore.

The NTU-TUM MSc (Microelectronics) programme is jointly taught by international faculty members from NTU and TUM, who have extensive experience in university research and education. It will be managed and operated by GIST. Upon completion of the course, students will be awarded a joint Master’s degree from NTU and TUM.

“GIST believes in the concept of combining the scientific knowledge and cultural diversity of East and West thereby offering a truly global educational experience,” says Dr Markus Wächter, Director, Head of Education and Research of GIST. “Since our inception in 2002 we have achieved remarkable results through cooperation with the some of the best universities in Asia. Our collaboration with the School of EEE at NTU
on the new Master’s programme in Microelectronics takes us closer to our mission of increasing the number of high end programmes offered and opens new areas of academic exchange in fields of science, engineering and technology.

The courses offered under the new NTU-TUM MSc (Microelectronics) programme include microfabrication technology, modern semiconductor devices, integrated circuit manufacturing, optomechatronics measuring systems, and physical electronics. Students will also be exposed to cross discipline modules such as international patent law, business management and administration, as well as aspects of culture, history and globalisation.

Ms Anbumalar d/o Manickam, a NTU graduate in 2007 and currently pursuing the NTU-TUM joint MSc programme says: “After my one and half years of wafer fabrication training in NTU, I decided to further my education in the same field of study. I am very happy that NTU offers this new programme, which is exactly what I was looking for. The curriculum and the training in this programme are very comprehensive. I believe I’ll get all the knowledge and training required to prepare myself for the challenge in this industry.”

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Media contact

Esther Ang, Manager, Corporate Communications Office, NTU
Tel: 6790 6804; Mobile: 9113 9654; Email: estherang@ntu.edu.sg

Siddiqua Ovais, Marketing Communications Manager, GIST
Tel: 6777 7407; Email: Siddiqua.ovais@gist.edu.sg

About Nanyang Technological University

Nanyang Technological University (NTU) is a research-intensive university ranked among the top 20 technological universities. The university has two campuses in Singapore. The Yunnan Garden campus, NTU’s main campus, is located in the southwestern part of Singapore. The NTU@one-north campus, home to educational and alumni clubhouse facilities, is located near Singapore’s biomedical research hub, Biopolis; and the new infocomm and media hub, Fusionopolis.

NTU has four 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, Arts, & Social Sciences 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 Wee Kim Wee School of Communication and Information, a top journalism and media school in Asia.

The 13th school, S Rajaratnam School of International Studies, was inaugurated on 1 January 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, Georgia Institute of Technology, 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

About German Institute of Science and Technology

The German Institute of Science and Technology (GIST) commenced operations in Singapore in 2002 as a subsidiary of Technische Universität München (TUM). GIST offers joint Master of Science programmes in Industrial Chemistry, Integrated Circuit Design and Microelectronics together with leading universities of Germany and Asia: Technische Universität München, (TUM), National University of Singapore and Nanyang Technological University

GIST is supported by the Singapore Government through the Economic Development Board (EDB), and by the German Government through the Federal Ministry of Education and Research and the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). Technische Universität München (TUM) is one of the most innovative institutions of higher education in Germany and is dedicated to generating and communicating highly specialized research and to providing excellent academic education.

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