NTU launches new award to honour inspiring teachers

Nanyang Technological University (NTU) launches a new award, the first of its kind in Singapore, to recognise and honour teachers who have inspired NTU's top graduates, and who have left an indelible mark on them.

The University Scholars Award will recognise the achievements of up to 20 graduating NTU students from the Class of 2007, while honouring the teachers and faculty members who have been an inspiration to them.

To pay tribute to the key roles that teachers and faculty members play in contributing to their success, the winners of the award will each nominate a teacher from his/her former junior college/ polytechnic (or equivalent) and a faculty member of NTU to be honoured.

A one-time cash grant of S$5,000 will be set up in the name of each teacher honoured. The teacher in turn nominates a prospective student from his/her college or polytechnic (or equivalent) who will receive the S$5,000 grant on admission into NTU. The cash grant will be administered by NTU’s Office of Admissions and Financial Assistance. For foreign student winners whose teachers are based abroad, the scholarship will be set up for prospective NTU students from the teachers' schools or region.

Dr Su Guaning, President, NTU, says, “Inspirational teachers leave their legacy in the outstanding students they educate. NTU is proud to create the first university award in Singapore that recognises the impact of our teachers. My own values and beliefs, for example, owe much to my Chinese teacher in Catholic High, the late Mr Tan Lam San.

“The NTU University Scholars Award celebrates the top all round student achievers in the graduating class and the teachers who inspired them. We recognise their most inspirational teachers in the university and high school or
polytechnic. We also provide a cash award for the teacher from high school or polytechnic to encourage one of their promising students to excel at NTU.

“This is our contribution to creating the virtuous cycle in education that is so vital for the future of our country.”

Winners of the prestigious award must have demonstrated outstanding scholastic achievements in their course of studies at NTU, strong leadership abilities and potential for contributions to society.

Shortlisted NTU candidates have to go through a rigorous selection process that includes an interview by a high level panel, as well as a presentation to showcase their achievements and outstanding qualities. To highlight their strengths, candidates may choose to present a complete portfolio showcasing their academic achievements, leadership experience and contributions to the community at large.

The nominated teachers will be invited as guests of the university to participate in the convocation festivities, joining the university in celebrating the achievements of the graduating class of 2007. The inaugural University Scholars Award will be presented to winners at the first Convocation 2007 ceremony, held on 23 July 2007. Award winners will receive a gold medal at the ceremony, which will be presided by President S R Nathan as Chancellor of the University. Besides the cash grant set up in their names for a prospective student of NTU, the nominated honourees will be presented with a Certificate of Honour. Award recipients and their nominated teachers and NTU faculty member will also be invited to a dinner hosted by the NTU President to commemorate the occasion.

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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, 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](http://www.ntu.edu.sg)