Welcome Address for Mr Kwee Liong Keng  
Chairman of Wee Kim Wee Legacy Fund  
27 April 1007  
NTU: Cheque Presentation Ceremony for Shinnyo-en Singapore

Mr Kawabata Shogo, Director of Shinnyo-en,  
Distinguished Guests of Shinnyo-en  
Associate Prof Ang Peng Hwa, Chair of the Wee Kim Wee School of Communications and Information  
Prof Eddie Kuo, Founding Dean, SCI  
Ms Wee Eng Hwa, Daughter of Dr Wee Kim Wee, representing the Wee Family  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with great pleasure that I welcome all of you here today. Thank you, Mr Kawabata Shogo, for specially flying in with other members of Shinnyo-en and honouring us with your presence.

Dr Wee Kim Wee made many friends in his lifetime; he was so warm, sincere and humble that people could not help but like and respect him. So when the Wee Kim Wee Legacy Fund was launched in April 2006, more than 760 individuals and organisations stepped forward to honour his memory and perpetuate the values he held dear as a journalist.

The Wee Kim Wee Legacy Fund has raised over $28 million so far, exceeding the target of $25 million, thanks in no small measure to Shinnyo-en Singapore’s generous donation of $250,000. On behalf of the Wee Kim Wee Legacy Fund committee, I thank you for your friendship and generosity.

Shinnyo-en Singapore’s donation will be used to put in place more scholarships for outstanding students and to support the Going Overseas for Advanced Reporting programme, also known as GO-FAR. Shinnyo-en Singapore believes in building more caring communities by supporting educational programmes that engage and inspire young people in meaningful acts of service, and I am pleased to say that GO-FAR does just that.

Groups of students have already gone to Nepal and tsunami-hit villages in Banda Aceh and Sri Lanka. Such challenging overseas assignments have opened the eyes of these student-journalists to the real world, while their moving stories of communities torn by disaster or strife have reached out to alumni and other students.

Dr Wee once said, “The only university I have attended is the university of life.” A programme like GO-FAR puts the “life” into “university”, and with Shinnyo-en Singapore’s generous donation, more students will have the chance to take up this valuable learning opportunity, which no textbook or lecture can offer.

My sincere thanks once again to Shinnyo-en Singapore for your friendship and support, and in recognition of your generosity, NTU is privileged to name its audio rooms the “Shinnyo-en Singapore Audio Suites”.