ALUMNI DAY 2003
29 NOVEMBER, 2003

Many NTU alumni members, staff and families gathered in the campus’s auditorium in a cheerful and relaxed mood to celebrate the University’s Alumni Day 2003. This event drew over 400 EEE alumni members, together with their families, 60 EEE staff members and their families as well as 70 students who are our future alumni. Smiles of welcome and recognition filled the air as the academic staff members greeted their former students who stood patiently in a queue with their spouses and toddlers waiting to register. A foldable chair was given to each alumni member and staff as a souvenir. The guests were then ushered to tables designated for specific Schools which were identified by huge colourful balloons looming in the air.

After a sumptuous lunch Dr. Su Guanin delivered an opening speech welcoming the 1000 members from engineering schools alone, the business school alumni, the teacher alumni as well as the 150 guests from Nantah who are the embodiment of the pioneering spirit of NTU. He then presented the Alumni Service Award 2003. One of the proud recipients is Dr. Tay Beng Kang (EEE’85) from the School of EEE. Prior to being the Sub-Dean (Alumni Affairs), has been very involved in alumni activities. He was a member of NTU Alumni Town Club since its early days in Bukit Timah Campus. He was also one of the pioneer-graduating batch in the setting up of the EEE Alumni Association, which was officially registered on 3 December 1996. He plays a critical role in planning and supporting the activities of the NTU EEE Alumni Association. After the award presentation the engineering alumni took a short walk to the impressive-looking Research Technology Plaza (RTP) for School-specific events. In the School of EEE, the Dean, Professor Er Meng Hwa welcomed the alumni members and stressed the importance of strengthening the bonds between the School and the Alumni members. He spoke of the valuable contributions that the School’s 10,000 strong alumni have made to the economy and the country. He envisioned how the School can tap on the alumni network to foster the entrepreneurial spirit of the present group of students. He was happy to see the Alumni take time to visit their alma mater and hoped that they enjoy themselves at the carnival planned for them.

Mr. Inderjit Singh, President of NTU EEE Alumni Association and member of School Council Advisory Committee further emphasized the importance of the alumni. He represents both the significance and tradition of the alumni, being a graduate of the first cohort of NTU who later started and promoted the cause of the Alumni committee and also a past recipient of the Alumni service award. He spoke of the beautiful NTU Alumni clubhouse that is planned in One North, Buona Vista and which will be ready by the middle of 2005. He encouraged the alumni to join the NTU EEE Alumni Association and help build up the strength in numbers. He spoke with much enthusiasm outlining the Alumni’s events and offers. He was especially grateful to the school management for its strong support of Alumni activities. A logo contest to reflect the mission and vision values of the NTU EEE Alumni Association was organized recently. Miss Dawn Yeong submitted the winning entry. The logo is designed with 3Es placed within a pyramid structure. It represents the stability in the EEE alumni society, the industry and the Singapore society as well as the nation as a whole. Each of the three arms is structured closely to promote networking among the alumni members and its alma mater. The Dean, Professor Er Meng Hwa and Mr Inderjit Singh unveiled the winning logo design. A group photo of the EEE alumni members, staff and their families were then taken to commemorate the happy occasion.

At about 3.30pm, the other engineering alumni joined the EEE alumni for the College of Engineering (COE) Family carnival. Prof Er, who is also the Dean of COE, activated two confetti guns to open the carnival. The little ones were treated to a magic show on the stage while the rest of the older guests tried their hands at the 12 game stores. There were a lot of fun at the carnival and there were prizes for nearly all who took part. Some research centres within the RTP had an open house and Alumni members were treated to demonstrations of some of the latest research work that are carried out in NTU.

It was certainly a pleasant occasion to remember that the University is one big family, so it was not surprising that the homecoming day ended at about 5.30 pm with everyone reluctantly bidding farewell. Till we meet again.