NTU Singapore breaks into global top 50 in Times Higher Education rankings

Nanyang Technological University, Singapore (NTU Singapore) has achieved a new high by breaking into the top 50 of the world’s best universities in this year’s Times Higher Education World University Rankings.

NTU has risen three places to be placed 48th in the world. NTU improved its scores in teaching and research, as its academic reputation in both areas continued to be on the uptrend.

Within the past year, NTU has climbed to its highest position in every major international league table. Providing the North American perspective, the US News and World Report listed NTU among the global top 50 universities for the first time at 49th place last October. UK-based Times Higher Education and QS World University Rankings this year have ranked NTU at its highest position at 48th and 11th, respectively, among the world’s leading universities.

In Asia, ShanghaiRanking found NTU climbing 23 places from 2018 in its latest Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU) published last month, at 73rd place.

Professor Subra Suresh, NTU President, said: “While the NTU community is pleased with its rapidly growing reputation around the globe by very different metrics and assessments, we are primarily driven by our passionate pursuit of impactful work in education, research and innovation. The global recognition of NTU is a clear acknowledgement of the hard work of the University community, the support of our collaborators from academia and industry, and the strong commitment of Singapore government to education and research.

“The University is pioneering new models for learning and upskilling, nurturing new discoveries that will have a major impact on Singapore and the world, and equipping millennial learners with 21st century skills and knowledge to solve real world situations and challenges.

“The University is also deepening its research expertise to address the world’s most complex challenges, such as energy, food security, cybersecurity and climate change. Our passion for learning, research and knowledge creation has drawn more than 200 companies, including global leaders such as Rolls-Royce and Alibaba to set up labs on our campus and work with our faculty and students on technologies that will make an impact on the future,” Prof Suresh said.

NTU on upward march

This latest achievement in the Times Higher Education reflects NTU’s continued upward march and strong positive momentum in the last year in international indices managed by independent agencies which use distinctly different criteria and metrics for evaluating universities.
The US News and World Report not only listed NTU among the global top 50 universities for the first time last year, but also placed NTU in the world’s top five in four major subject areas: engineering, materials science, computer science, and chemistry.

In August 2019, NTU vaulted 23 places in the ARWU by independent consultancy ShanghaiRanking, to be placed 73rd. This followed NTU’s strong showing in ShanghaiRanking’s Global Ranking of Academic Subjects in June this year, in which NTU was the only Singapore university ranked No.1 in the world in two academic fields – Nanoscience & Nanotechnology, and Energy Science & Engineering – for the third consecutive year.

NTU is also the only Singapore university with five subjects ranked among the world’s top 10 in the ShanghaiRanking’s league table of 54 subjects. Besides the two No.1 subjects, NTU was in the global top 10 for Telecommunication Engineering, Instruments Science & Technology, both at No.6, and Materials Science, which climbed 9 places to No.10.

In June this year, NTU was jointly ranked 11th with the National University of Singapore in the QS annual global rankings, making both universities jointly the top in Asia.

In the same month, NTU was ranked 49th among the Top 100 Worldwide Universities that received the most US utility patents in 2018, published by the National Academy of Inventors and the Intellectual Property Owners Association. NTU was the only Singapore university in the global top 50 list.

Separately, NTU climbed 11 places to No.15 this year, from No.26 in 2018, in Reuters’ ranking of the Asia Pacific’s Most Innovative Universities, compiled in partnership with Clarivate Analytics. The annual ranking lists the educational institutions doing the most to advance science, invent new technologies and power new markets and industries.

The Times Higher Education ranking assessed some 1,400 universities from 92 countries on 13 performance indicators that are grouped into five areas: teaching (the learning environment); research (volume, income and reputation); citations (research influence); international outlook (staff, students and research); and industry income (knowledge transfer).