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More than 300 graduates gathered in Shanghai on September 19 for the 18th China Graduation Ceremony of Nanyang Technological University, Singapore (NTU Singapore), as the Singapore-based university highlighted the global career opportunities and changing skills landscape facing its graduates.



NTU has held its China graduation ceremony in different cities across the country every year since 2006. This year's ceremony in Shanghai saw graduates from several Chinese-taught master's programs receive their degrees, including finance, education management, entrepreneurship and innovation, and public administration.

According to the university, more than 94 percent of its Chinese master's graduates from the Class of 2025 were employed. Speaking to ShanghaiEye, Professor Christian Wolfrum, Deputy President and Provost of NTU, said the employment figure reflects opportunities for graduates not only in Singapore, but also in China and other international markets. "Getting a degree from Singapore means that you are really ready for the international market, not just Chinese but also others," Wolfrum said.



He attributed the strong employment outcomes in part to NTU's project-based and problem-based learning approach, which is designed in close cooperation with industry. The university works with industry partners to identify real-world projects and problems, allowing students to develop skills closely connected to their future careers.

This approach is becoming increasingly important as artificial intelligence reshapes the job market. Wolfrum said some entry-level positions could become easier to replace as AI develops, making practical experience and problem-solving skills increasingly important for new graduates.

“If they work together with the universities already during the education and work on these problems that are associated with what the company is doing, the people who come actually already at one level higher,” he said.

NTU says it is expanding this approach across both master's and undergraduate education, with the aim of preparing students not only for employment in Singapore or China, but also for opportunities in the wider global market.



The university is also deepening its links globally, including with Chinese institutions and industry. According to the university, more than 50,000 NTU alumni currently live and work in China, while NTU has more than 331,000 alumni worldwide. This year, NTU and Shanghai Jiao Tong University also launched an engineering undergraduate dual degree program, giving students opportunities to study and gain industry experience in both Singapore and Shanghai.

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