Singapore, 11 September 2007

NTU partners Lien Foundation to launch $20M endowed Lien Ying Chow Legacy Fellowship
- Latest joint initiative to strengthen ties and promote trust between Singapore and China through greater intellectual, cultural and social exchanges

Nanyang Technological University (NTU) has received $20 million ($10 million from the Lien Foundation and dollar-for-dollar matching from the government) to establish the Lien Ying Chow Legacy Fellowship 连瀛洲纪念奖学金.

This latest joint initiative follows the setting up of the Lien Foundation-NTU Environmental Endeavour in April 2006 and the Lien Chinese Enterprise Research Centre in December 2006.

The Fellowship is established to honour and cherish the legacy of Dr Lien Ying Chow, one of the founding fathers of Nantah, predecessor of NTU, who made significant contributions to the growth of Singapore. The programme is modelled after the prestigious Eisenhower Fellowship. It aims to facilitate the professional development of rising leaders in Singapore and China, as well as broaden their horizons by focusing on the cultural, business and communal aspects of the two countries. The Fellowship is targeted at high-profiled senior government officials as well as established professionals from the private sector and academic circles who can make a difference in their respective fields. Lien Fellows from the two countries will have the opportunity to be exposed to each other’s unique environment and culture. They will also help to forge viable partnerships and foster positive changes that will have a lasting impact on both countries.

Leveraging NTU’s extensive global network, Lien Fellows 连瀛洲纪念奖学金得主 can develop their research topics with the help of their mentors from NTU and other
participating institutions in Singapore and China. The duration of a fellowship term is about a year, with its core programme lasting about three months. Administered by Programme Director Associate Professor Tan Teng Kee 连瀛洲纪念奖学金项目主任陈丁琦副教授 and the specially appointed Executive Director Mr Ong Lay Khiam 连瀛洲纪念奖学金执行主任王励谦先生, the main deliverable of the Fellowship is a research project that spells out concrete and actionable solutions which will help to alleviate some of the more intractable issues of our time. The true measure of the programme lies not in academic theorising but the tangible benefits it can bring to the community at large.

Mrs Margaret Lien, Chairman of Lien Foundation 连氏基金会主席陈文贤女士, says, “The Lien Ying Chow Legacy Fellowship programme is the latest Lien-NTU collaborative effort, which is established against the backdrop of a very close and mutually beneficial relationship between Singapore and China. This fellowship is also a reflection of the strong business and emotional links between Dr Lien and China. The flow of talent between the two countries will create deeper mutual understanding and better appreciation of the distinctive elements of each country’s culture.”

NTU President Dr Su Guaning 南洋理工大学校长徐冠林博士 says, “The Lien family’s ties with the University have remained strong. The family has continued Dr Lien’s legacy of contributing to the University. The establishment of the Fellowship programme is a milestone in the collaboration between NTU and the Lien Foundation. We are proud that the Foundation has chosen NTU as the university to contribute in a significant way to foster cultural and intellectual exchanges between Singapore and China. It is perhaps not surprising given the extensive links NTU has with China through major programmes engaging the elite of China.”

The Lien Ying Chow Legacy Fellowship Council 连瀛洲纪念奖学金理事会, which is involved in the selection of Lien Fellows, is chaired by Mr Ngiam Tong Dow, Chairman of Surbana Corporation Pte Ltd 盛邦新业集团主席严崇涛先生. The seven members are:

- BG(Ret) Chin Siat Yoon, Singapore Ambassador to China 新加坡驻中国大使陈燮荣准将
- Mr Cheng Tong Fatt, former Singapore Ambassador to China 前新加坡驻中国大使郑东发先生
- Ms Lien Siaou-Sze, NTU Board of Trustees Member 南洋理工大学校董会董事连萧思女士
“Established in the spirit of Dr Lien Ying Chow’s business and diplomatic links with China, the Lien Ying Chow Legacy Fellowship will help to strengthen ties and promote trust between Singapore and China through greater intellectual, cultural and social exchanges. We are confident that the Council is able to provide strategic insights and help create networking opportunities for Lien Fellows”, says Mr Ngiam Tong Dow.

The Fellowship programme is officially launched today at NTU. Among the special guests are Her Excellency Madam Zhang Xiaokang, Chinese Ambassador to Singapore, Mrs Margaret Lien, Mr Ngiam Tong Dow, and members of the Lien Ying Chow Legacy Fellowship Council.

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About Nanyang Technological University

Nanyang Technological University (NTU) is a research-intensive university ranked among the top 20 technological universities. The university has two campuses in Singapore. The Yunnan Garden campus, NTU’s main campus, is located in the southwestern part of Singapore. The NTU@one-north campus, home to educational and alumni clubhouse facilities, is located near Singapore’s biomedical research hub, Biopolis; and the new infocomm and media hub, Fusionopolis.

NTU has four 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

About Lien Foundation

The Lien Foundation was founded by Dr Lien Ying Chow, an eminent Asian business leader, banker and hotelier. The Foundation pioneers new ground in philanthropy by investing in innovative solutions, convening strategic partnerships and catalysing action on social and environmental challenges.

The Foundation seeks to enhance educational opportunities for the disadvantaged and the development of nascent fields of studies; excellence in eldercare; and environmental sustainability in water and sanitation.

For more information, visit www.lienfoundation.org