

NEWS RELEASE

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NTU's high-profile MSc (Managerial Economics) and Master of Public Administration programmes continue to attract senior Chinese officials - Scholarship boost from CapitaLand and EnGro Corporation

Some 129 government officials from China have enrolled for Nanyang Technological University (NTU)'s highly-regarded Master of Science in Managerial Economics (MME) and Master of Public Administration (MPA) programmes which commence in March 2008. This is the largest number of senior officials from one country coming to pursue postgraduate studies in Singapore.

This is also the largest intake since the inception of the MME and MPA programmes in 1998 and 2005 respectively to meet the needs of Chinese leaders, many of whom were going beyond local shores to keep abreast of the political-economic developments in the region. Among the 46 MME and 83 MPA students are leaders from the public sector such as vice-mayors, chiefs and divisional directors of government departments. They come from various Chinese provinces and municipalities, including Chongqing, Sichuan, Fujian, Guangxi, Hubei, Hebei, Liaoning, Shanxi, Inner Mongolia, Beijing, and Shandong. Some of the high-level officials are nominated by China's Central Organisation Department.

While the MME programme trains Chinese leaders in economic policy management and business strategies in East Asia, the MPA programme helps to enhance the participants' skills and effectiveness as public administrators by examining best practices in public administration in Asia. Participants of the programmes are given the opportunity to network with government officials and business leaders in Singapore.

Prof Lawrence Wong, Dean of NTU's College of Humanities, Arts, & Social Sciences, and Chair of School of Humanities and Social Sciences, says: *"NTU has established strong links with China, which provides us with special insights to the country and its people. NTU has also developed many diverse programmes for the China market. The university is able to provide a multi-cultural learning environment and expertise in offering the best of east and west in education. Our graduates play a significant role as*

NTU ambassadors in China. They help forge better understanding between China and Singapore and open up more avenues for collaboration."

Over the years, the MME and MPA programmes have received strong industry support in the form of scholarships and gold medals for the participants. The sponsors include Lianhe Zaobao, Singapore Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Nantah Alumni Association, Tan Chin Tuan Foundation, renowned bilingual writer Madam Li Lien Fung, and renowned entrepreneur Mr Ng Ghit Cheong. This year, seven full scholarships – five from CapitaLand, South-east Asia's largest property group, and two from EnGro Corporation, leading slag-cement producer – will be offered to promising Chinese officials from Sichuan, Chongqing, Shenyang and Tangshan, who demonstrate excellent leadership capabilities. The scholarship boost is a clear recognition of the quality of the programmes that meet real world needs. These new scholarships also illustrate the role that NTU continues to play in the global economy by nurturing global leaders for industry.

"The CapitaLand China Leadership Scholarship is in line with CapitaLand's credo of 'Building People'. Apart from this, CapitaLand also offers various other scholarship opportunities to promising talents in countries where we operate, including China, India, Vietnam and Singapore. As an international company, CapitaLand believes in the importance of having talents in both the private and public sector, as they are the bedrock for economic growth and political stability," says Mr Liew Mun Leong, President and CEO of CapitaLand Group. "Operating in China since 1994, CapitaLand takes a long term view of the country's growth potential. We believe that the CapitaLand China Leadership scholarship programme will provide opportunities for the public sector talents to further develop themselves and build new friendships in Singapore."

"As Singapore's pioneer investors in Tangshan, we are pleased that we are able to play a role in bringing the governments of Singapore and Tangshan closer. We are thankful to NTU for giving us the opportunity to contribute to the growth of the Tangshan Municipal Government and the Tangshan community by sponsoring the officials. The Tangshan government has been instrumental in the success of our joint venture with the Tangshan Steel Group," says Mr Tan Cheng Gay, Chairman and CEO of EnGro Corporation Ltd.

To date, 640 senior and middle-ranking Chinese officials from diverse provinces and cities across China have graduated from the two programmes. They are committed to leveraging their political sphere of influence and putting the best practices learnt in Singapore to bring about positive transformation in China, both socially, and economically. Over the past 16 years, NTU has also been offering short-term executive training programmes for some 5,000 mid- to senior-level Chinese officials.

The opening of the eleventh intake of the MME programme and the fourth intake of the MPA programme will be marked by a ceremony at NTU on 12 March. The event will be officiated by Mr Chua Thian Poh, President of Singapore Chinese Chamber of

Commerce and Industry, and Chairman of Business China. Among the special guests are Her Excellency Madam Zhang Xiaokang, Chinese Ambassador to Singapore, and senior representatives from CapitalLand and EnGro Corporation.

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About Nanyang Technological University

Nanyang Technological University (NTU) is a research-intensive university ranked among the top 25 technological universities in the world. The Yunnan Garden campus, NTU's main campus, is located in the south-western 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, namely:

- The College of Engineering, with six schools focused on technology and innovation and a research output among the top four in the world
- The College of Science which offers Singapore's only direct-honours bachelor's degree programme
- The Nanyang Business School (the College of Business), the first and only Singapore business school to be ranked in the top 50 of the Financial Times Global MBA 2008 rankings
- The College of Humanities, Arts, & Social Sciences, home to 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 S Rajaratnam School of International Studies, one of two autonomous institutes of NTU, is 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.

As Singapore's main science and technology university, NTU makes significant contributions to the nation's renewed drive for research and innovation spearheaded by the Singapore National Research Foundation (NRF). NTU's strengths in biomedical sciences, environmental and water technologies, and interactive and digital media mirror the NRF's research focus.

NTU has a strong and broad international reach covering academic and research partnerships with top institutions in the US, Europe and Asia, such as MIT, Stanford University, Cornell University, Caltech, University of Washington, Georgia Institute of Technology, and Carnegie Mellon University; Cambridge University, Imperial College and Swiss Federal Institute of Technology; and Peking University, Shanghai Jiaotong University, Waseda University, and Indian Institute of Technology.

For more information, visit www.ntu.edu.sg