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Latest: Over 120,000 strong alumni
Our NTU alumni family is fast expanding
– Welcome Class of 2008!

And three makes eight
Eight NTU alumni chapters in China, and still growing

Do acres go places?
University Scholars Award winners are an inspiration

Leading lady CEO at 29
Up close and personal with Leading CEO award winner
At the Alumni Affairs Office (AAO), we connect and build a strong and lifelong relationship between the University and our alumni. We keep our alumni regularly informed on the policies, progress and development of their alma mater, and involve them in the continuing development of the University. We also strive to build a strong University community, comprising alumni, students, faculty and administration.

At the AAO, the alumni come first. No membership is required; AAO is not an alumni club. You are considered an alumnus of NTU the moment you graduate from NTU, NIE or any of the predecessor institutions. And as an alumnus, you are entitled to various privileges and services!

At the AAO, relationship matters.

Led by Mr Soon Min Yam, Director, Alumni Affairs, the Office consists of four Units. To get in touch with the respective Units, please call or email:

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To know more, visit our website at www.ntu.edu.sg/alumni. You can also call us on 6790 4434/6732 or email: alumniaffairs@ntu.edu.sg.

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**Uniting a community of distinct individuals**

NTU Alumni Affairs Office

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Congrats, Class of 2008!

The University celebrates its largest ever batch of students including pioneer Humanities and Science graduates.

Addressing these graduands of the ceremony, NTU President, Dr Su Guanling said: "We are in the process of creating a Singapore university that is fortified with spirit and passion and tempered by pragmatism. We draw from our heritage and play a big role in Singapore's future by educating graduates, and conducting research on the most important topics of the future."

This year's Convocation ceremony was presided over by His Excellency, President S R Nathan, President, President S R Nathan, is also the Chancellor of NTU.

Outstanding students receive University Scholars Award

Twenty outstanding University Scholars of the Class of 2008 received the University Scholars Award from HE, President S R Nathan and President S R Nathan, President of the NTU Board of Trustees, Mr Koh Boon Hwee.

The graduates are (from left) NTU President, Dr Su Guanling, President S R Nathan, President S R Nathan, is also the Chancellor of NTU.

Distinguished luminaries receive honours

Honorary degrees were conferred on several outstanding luminaries for their outstanding contributions in the field of science and technology, and for their strong ties with the university community.

"Graduation donation" started with the Class of 2005. Collections have been rising steadily ever since. The recipients were the Honourable Dr A PJ Abdul Kalam, former President of India; Prof Yang Chen Ning, Nobel Laureate in Physics (1957); Prof Chua Nam Hai, Dr Su Guaning; Mr Yandi, who graduated from the School of Materials Science and Engineering, with Dr Ng Eng Hen, Minister for Defence, and Second Minister for Defence, in attendance.

Honorary degrees were conferred on several outstanding luminaries for their outstanding contributions in the field of science and technology, and for their strong ties with the university community; a tradition that was initiated each year with the laying of a class plaque at a special site at NTU known as The Quad. The Quad upholds the tradition of making a unique dedication to the university and is a symbol of the giving spirit of alumni of the present, past and future.

The Quad: A symbol of achievement and tradition

The Convocation ceremony is closed every year with the laying of a class plaque at a special site at NTU known as The Quad. The Quad typifies the tradition of placing for the graduating classes of the present, past, and future as well as celebrating the giving spirit of alumni of the respective Classes.

For the 2008 Convocation, Mr Yandi Ratishan, Chairperson of the Committee for Graduation Class Gift 2008, along with fellow graduates, Miss Tului Jayaprakash Girme and Mr Goh Haw Keong, laid a plaque, bearing the numbers '08'. Class gifts represent one of the ways in which the graduating class can give back to the university.

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New graduates are welcome to the circle of the NTU alumni family as they partied at St James Powerhouse on 2 August.

Happy people, happy occasion

Having graduated from their respective Schools, the Class of 2008 had every reason to celebrate. For one, they can look forward to a new chapter in their life. For another, they were the first to learn that NTU will host the athletes of the Youth Olympics.

Dr Su Guaning, President of NTU, who was told of the good news just before he arrived to launch the party, shared in his address that “It has just been decided by the Youth Olympics Games (YOG) Organising Committee that the YOG’s Village in 2010, the very first one in the world, will be on the NTU campus…and we shall see how we can-host these great athletes from all around the world, including our own Singapore athletes.” Dr Su didn’t just spread the cheer; he also got the party off to a good start.

As stated as the Class of 2008 were NTU senior management staff, including Senior Associate Provost, Secretary to the University, deans, chairs and the heads of departments, who were there to party with the graduates.

It’s time to party hard

The Class of 2008 had worked hard to earn their qualifications. They deserved to have some fun, which they did with some hard partying at the Welcome Class 2008 Alumni Party.

Happening music, happening party

With the party mood all set, the resident DJ spun his music and charged up the crowd even more. The Class of 2008 let their hair down, as they moved to the beat. Many stayed on even when the club opened its doors to the public at 10pm. After all, the night was still young and they were having a good time with their NTU buddies.

Good time, great place

With the right company and a great place, who could ask for more? Power House is Singapore’s largest nightlife destination and St James’ largest outlet set on a whopping 10,000 sq feet.
They came bright and early to enjoy a day at the multi-award winning Singapore Zoo (formerly known as the Zoological Gardens). Set in a rainforest environment, the Singapore Zoo’s world famous ‘open concept’ offered a chance for alumni to experience the wonders of Nature and be inspired by it.

Highlights of the day included a mass morning walk, fun carnival, games, and live performances by NTU’s student clubs. The day began with a 1.5km walk in the 28-hectare Zoo. Flagged off by Guest-of-Honour, Mr Anthony Teo, Secretary to the University, participating alumni were greeted by interesting exhibits along the way. Some scampered to capture snapshots of animals they came across.

“Being the first to enter the Zoo, we experienced the unique feeling of having the entire Zoo to ourselves. We enjoyed the animals and were especially glad for the different activities that catered to the different age groups,” said Assoc Prof Yow Kin Choong, Associate Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid and an NTU alumnus. He was at the event with his family, including his four-month-old baby boy.

When they reached The Pavilion By The Lake, which was transformed into a carnival site just for the day, many took a breather to take in the live performances. Those with energy to spare joined in some fun games and proved their might in a telematch. Most of the participants got to sample snacks like kacang putih, potong ice-cream and candy floss.

“The day went by great and luckily, it only rained after the telematch. A group of us who are good pals took this opportunity to have fun together,” said Yong Chin Weng, an alumnus from Class of 2005, School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering.

It was an extra special day for a group of alumni from the NTU Chinese Society Alumni Association. The event coincided with their NTU Chinese Society Alumni Back to The Hostel Stay event. This meant that they were able to come as one big happy family to enjoy the day.

A member of the Association, Tan Gim Hian, said: “We came in busload and made our way to the Zoo from Hall of Residence Two. Most of us donned our NTU red caps and together, we were like a ‘sea of red’. The sight certainly made our day.”
Celebrating the launch of NTU alumni chapters in China!

NTU extends warm welcome to three new alumni chapters in Jilin, Liaoning and Guangdong, set up to bridge China-based alumni to their alma mater.

NTU President Dr Su Guanling specially flew to China to launch three NTU Alumni Associations in Jilin, Liaoning and Guangdong on 4, 5 and 6 July 2008, respectively. This brings the number of NTU Alumni Associations in China to eight, a number deemed auspicious by the Chinese. Surely it will have significance for all parties united in a common aim to bridge China-based alumni to their alma mater. The other five NTU Alumni Associations in China are at Beijing, Chongqing, Hubei, Shandong and Shanghai.

The launch of the alumni chapter in Guangdong was made special with the presence of Singapore’s Consul General in Guangzhou, Mr Ang Chay Chuan. Other special guests witnessed the three launches included Mr Anthony Teo, Secretary to the University; Mr Soon Min Yam, Director, Alumni Affairs; Assoc Prof Wu Wei, Associate Dean, College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences; and Assoc Prof Tae Kook-Hy, Executive Director (Chinese Programmes), Nanyang Business School. Also in attendance were some alumni from Singapore.

‘Auspicious’ bridging

In his address, Dr Su shared that NTU has for the past 50 years produced over 120,000 alumni, many of whom have spread their wings overseas. Not only have they established themselves in career, but also brought glory to their alma mater.

In China alone, NTU alumni numbered over 10,000. Jilin province has at least 370 alumni, while Liaoning has 160 and more than 400 can be found in Guangdong. Having alumni associations in these three provinces will therefore serve to bridge the local alumni with their alma mater, as well as provide a platform for networking, exchange of learning experience, among others.

Dr Su also shed light on how far NTU has come. “To assure we continue to develop, we have strengthened cooperation among the University’s four colleges, which comprise Business, Engineering, Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences and Sciences. NTU is striving towards being a ‘multicultural and research university’ so as to attract overseas scholars and research professionals, whom undergraduates will benefit from. It has thus expanded its international links with USA, Europe, China and India.” Dr Su also took the chance to laud the local alumni for their hard work in making the launches successful.

Reciprocal relationship

Mr Huo Ran, an alumnus of MPA/2006, who heads the NTU Alumni Association (Jilin), paid tribute to NTU at the launch. He said: “We have gained so much from NTU. I recall the efforts of our professors, the friendships forged and the profound Nantah Spirit. I urge all NTU alumni in Jilin to render their support of the new association and renew ties with their alma mater.”

Of the alumni chapter in Liaoning, its President, Mr Zhou Li of MPA/2007, expressed thus: “The founding of the NTU Alumni Association (Liaoning) is the outcome of the love between the alumni in Liaoning and their alma mater. It also signifies a bridge to link the alumni in Liaoning with NTU and a platform to connect all the local alumni.”

As for the alumni chapter in Guangdong, it is headed by Nanyang University’s Class of 1978 Arts graduate, Mr Yeo Suan Sai. Mr Yeo, who has strong sentiment towards the University, said: “The get-together tonight has provided us with a good opportunity to recollect the good old days and cherish the memory of our alma mater. We still care for the development of NTU.”
南洋理工大学在中国的校友会又增加了三个,即南大吉林校友会、南大辽宁校友会和南大广东校友会,搭起了校友之间及他们和母校之间联系的纽带。南大校长徐冠林博士于7月4日、5日、6日分别在吉林省长春市、辽宁省沈阳市和广东省广州市主持了三个校友会的成立仪式。连同五个分别在北京、上海、山东、重庆和湖北的校友会,目前南大在中国一共有8个校友会。8对华人而言是个吉利的数字,南大也希望大家今后幸运,使校友海外大家庭的队伍更加壮大。

除了徐校长之外,新加坡驻广州总领事洪齐全先生也抽空出席了广东校友会的成立典礼。其他出席三个校友聚会的嘉宾还包括南大秘书长张顺才先生、南大校友事务处孙敏炎主任、南大文学院副院长吴伟副教授,南大南洋商学院中国项目处主任陈国辉副教授以及几位来自新加坡的校友和嘉宾。南大吉林校友会会长是2006年公共管理硕士班(MPA)校友霍岩先生;辽宁校友会会长是2007年MPA校友周立先生;而作为一名“老南大”,南洋大学文学院1978年校友杨全才先生担任了广东校友会会长的职位。在三位会长及所有校友会理事和校友们的大力支持和协助下,校友会的成立典礼得以圆满举行。

南大校长徐冠林博士在致词时对校友们帮忙筹备校友会成立热忱地付出表达了诚挚的感激之情。他提到,五十多年来,南大共培养了12万多名毕业生,他们在世界各地施展才华,为自己和母校争得荣誉。目前中国的南大校友已超过一万名,在吉林已有370多名校友,在辽宁省约有160多名校友,而在广东的校友已经有400多名。这三个校友会的成立将为校友组织联谊活动和学术交流搭建起桥梁,促进校友间的互相学习、互助合作,并加强与母校的联系。

除此之外,徐校长还向出席校友会成立仪式的校友们介绍了南大的发展动态:“南大在过去的一年中不断加深文、理、工、商四大院之间的协调与合作,以至学院为校方提供全方位教育;为了配合大学的持续发展,我们将扩大校园规模,并建立一些卓越的科研中心;南大目前的方针是朝多元文化型大学发展。”

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除了校友会的成立仪式,徐校长还向出席校友会的校友们介绍了南大在校友会成立仪式上,校友们还tract了多么激动人心的讲话。吉林校友会会长杨全才先生说:“我们非常感谢南大为我们提供了这么多的机会,让我们能够更多地了解南大,并为南大作出更大的贡献。”

除了校友会的成立仪式,徐校长还向出席校友会的校友们介绍了南大在校友会成立仪式上,校友们还讲述了他们与南大的不解之缘。杨全才先生说:“我作为南大校友,深深地感到南大是我们共同的家,我们有责任和义务去维护这个家,去让它更加美好。”

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Another point in our global alumni map

The launch of our Thailand chapter on 17 May was keenly celebrated by 80 NTU alumni and guests in Bangkok.

"To our alumni volunteers and friends, who made it possible, to set up this Alumni Association, this evening is a significant milestone. You complement the work of the University and you will provide an avenue for alumni in Thailand to connect more deeply with the developments at NTU," he added.

Heading the newly-formed Thailand Chapter is Dr Nurot Panich of Class of 2007, School of Materials Science and Engineering. Dr Panich currently works in Bangkok as a Regional Sales Manager. He, along with members of his committee, has volunteered to hold different positions in the Association.

Dr Panich said: "The Alumni Association is an extension of the University and the relationship is special. The Association will strive to cultivate and strengthen long-standing relationship between the University and its alumni. Thus, we are one of the important pillars of the University, and by forming an association, we become stronger, and will in turn make the University stronger."

A multi-cultural dinner

Close to 250 international alumni gather for an evening of networking at the third International Alumni Get-Together held on 16 May.

Organised by the Alumni Affairs Office and hosted at the NTU Alumni Club located at NTU’s One-north campus, the cheery gathering was a well-received affair. It saw a diverse group of alumni attending. There were alumni from countries such as China, Malaysia, Indonesia, Vietnam, Myanmar, Philippines, India and Pakistan. Close to 30 per cent of our total alumni population are from overseas. The good composite of international alumni brought along a rich mix of cultures at the get-together.

Guest-of-honour, Prof Er Meng Hwa, Senior Associate Provost, addressed the alumni and highlighted to them the important role that the international alumni play.

"As we move forward, the University is becoming a global University with strengths in science and technology. As alumni, you are a crucial pillar to propel the University to global excellence. Upon graduation, you go out to the working world and make a name for yourself. You become an inspiration and your support is critical in uplifting the name of the University. In turn, the University’s growing reputation will also make you proud to be our alumni," he said.

Mr Peter Chan, Singapore’s Ambassador to Thailand, also attended by His Excellency Mr Anthony Teo, Secretary to the University, officiated at the launch ceremony, which was attended by 80 NTU alumni and guests in Bangkok.

The launch also served as an alumni get-together for NTU alumni based in Thailand. Guest-of-honour, Prof Er Meng Hwa, Senior Associate Provost, addressed the alumni and highlighted to them the important role that the international alumni play.

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I urge for your support to participate in forthcoming events, which the newly-formed NTU Alumni Association (Thailand) may organise. Together, we shall maintain the ties, which we have built during our days at NTU and continue to establish a special bond," he added. The launch was an eventful evening of networking for fellow alumni and guests.

The evening gave the alumni an opportunity to make new acquaintances from various parts of the world and many were seeing chit-chatting and exchanging namecards. They were also treated to dance performances from the NTU Dance Sport Academy and the NTU Chinese Dance Club. Prof Er surprised the alumni with his vocals, performing two unforgettable songs, which received overwhelming response.

Everyone had a great time networking and the contented smiles on everyone’s faces were a clear indicator of the event’s success.

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Organised by the Alumni Affairs Office and hosted at the NTU Alumni Club located at NTU’s One-north campus, the cheery gathering was a well-received affair. It saw a diverse group of alumni attending. There were alumni from countries such as China, Malaysia, Indonesia, Vietnam, Myanmar, Philippines, India and Pakistan. Close to 30 per cent of our total alumni population are from overseas. The good composite of international alumni brought along a rich mix of cultures at the get-together.

Guest-of-honour, Prof Er Meng Hwa, Senior Associate Provost, addressed the alumni and highlighted to them the important role that the international alumni play.

"As we move forward, the University is becoming a global University with strengths in science and technology. As alumni, you are a crucial pillar to propel the University to global excellence. Upon graduation, you go out to the working world and make a name for yourself. You become an inspiration and your support is critical in uplifting the name of the University. In turn, the University’s growing reputation will also make you proud to be our alumni," he said.

Mr Peter Chan, Singapore’s Ambassador to Thailand, also attended by His Excellency Mr Anthony Teo, Secretary to the University, officiated at the launch ceremony, which was attended by 80 NTU alumni and guests in Bangkok.

The launch also served as an alumni get-together for NTU alumni based in Thailand. Guest-of-honour, Prof Er Meng Hwa, Senior Associate Provost, addressed the alumni and highlighted to them the important role that the international alumni play.

Another point in our global alumni map

The launch of our Thailand chapter on 17 May was keenly celebrated by 80 NTU alumni and guests in Bangkok.

"To our alumni volunteers and friends, who made it possible, to set up this Alumni Association, this evening is a significant milestone. You complement the work of the University and you will provide an avenue for alumni in Thailand to connect more deeply with the developments at NTU," he added.

Heading the newly-formed Thailand Chapter is Dr Nurot Panich of Class of 2007, School of Materials Science and Engineering. Dr Panich currently works in Bangkok as a Regional Sales Manager. He, along with members of his committee, has volunteered to hold different positions in the Association.

Dr Panich said: "The Alumni Association is an extension of the University and the relationship is special. The Association will strive to cultivate and strengthen long-standing relationship between the University and its alumni. Thus, we are one of the important pillars of the University, and by forming an association, we become stronger, and will in turn make the University stronger."

I urge for your support to participate in forthcoming events, which the newly-formed NTU Alumni Association (Thailand) may organise. Together, we shall maintain the ties, which we have built during our days at NTU and continue to establish a special bond," he added. The launch was an eventful evening of networking for fellow alumni and guests.

The evening gave the alumni an opportunity to make new acquaintances from various parts of the world and many were seeing chit-chatting and exchanging namecards. They were also treated to dance performances from the NTU Dance Sport Academy and the NTU Chinese Dance Club. Prof Er surprised the alumni with his vocals, performing two unforgettable songs, which received overwhelming response.

Everyone had a great time networking and the contented smiles on everyone’s faces were a clear indicator of the event’s success.
Welcoming new teachers to the alumni family

Dr Ng Eng Hen, Minister for Education and Second Minister for Defence, addresses 1,672 NIE graduates at the Teachers’ Investiture Ceremony held at NTU’s Nanyang Auditorium from 8 to 10 July.

Several batches of new teachers graduated from the National Institute of Education (NIE). They received their Bachelor of Arts (Education), Bachelor of Science (Education), Postgraduate Diplomas in Education and other Diploma certificates at three separate ceremonies.

Addressing these graduands in his speech, Minister Ng said: “An exciting career awaits you, and I hope that each of you will fulfill your full potential and realise your aspirations in this honourable vocation as a teacher, educator and nurturer that you have chosen. This ceremony is a milestone in your life. It marks a triumph after putting in the hard work to get here. Savour this well-deserved moment because you have earned it. Celebrate this achievement with your loved ones. But, today also signifies a new beginning of a different journey for you. That moment will be marked by the Teacher’s Pledge, which each of you here will make. As you utter each word, imagine yourself being transported into a new realm.”

Dr Ng also presented the National Youth Council’s Outstanding Youth in Education Award (OYEA) 2008 to three recipients. They were: Mr Luke Melvin Cher Teck Yiang, Acting Subject Head for Social Studies, Pei Hwa Secondary School; Chua Hwee Pheng, Acting Subject Head for Social Studies, Mayflower Primary School; and Quek Swee Nee, Head of Department for PE/CCA and Aesthetics, Bukit View Primary School.

Finding resonance with Minister Ng’s words was outstanding Bachelor of Arts (Education) graduand, Ms Kimberly Chow Mun Wai, 23, Kimberly, who graduated with First Class Honours and prizes to boot, observed that teachers are a source of inspiration. She said: “With people who accomplish great things in their lives... it was a teacher who taught him or her to read and write... It was a teacher who taught him or her about the world we live in... and to be the best that he or she can be.”

Congrats, Outstanding Youth in Education Awards (OYEA) 2008 recipients...

Quek Swee Nee Head of Department for PE/CCA and Aesthetics, Bukit View Primary School

Squired by the belief that sports build character and hence should be enjoyed by every student, he adopts an innovative approach to teaching and promoting sports among his students. He introduced a mass CCA programme in his school to instill confidence in students and build resilience through exciting and challenging experiences. A source of inspiration, his passion in sports motivates his students.

Luke Melvin Cher Teck Yiang Acting Subject Head for Social Studies, Pei Hwa Secondary School

Having a deep concern for foundation students, Melvin goes the extra mile to build and develop their self-esteem. He believes that every student is gifted with musical talent and his endless efforts have seen students being more engaged, open and curious in their learning. This is testimony to Melvin’s belief that discipline and values can be inculcated through music, and the aesthetics, cascaded through and beyond the academic.

Chua Hwee Pheng Acting Subject Head for Social Studies, Mayflower Primary School

She is firmly rooted in her belief that every student should be given an opportunity to start afresh in their classes. She recognises her students’ different learning needs and abilities and she tailors her lessons so as to engage them in the learning. Hwee Pheng believes in holistic development and shares an appreciation of the environment with her students. She also believes in character education; and works actively in planning activities for that purpose.

To the new teachers, the Nanyang alumni family extends a warm welcome. As for the OYEA award winners, our heartfelt congratulations.

Recognising our Student Alumni Associates

The Alumni Affairs Office (AAO) held an appreciation lunch at the Holiday Inn Park View Hotel on 14 May 2008, in recognition of the Student Alumni Associates’ (SAA) commitment and contribution. The SAA programme was initiated by the AAO last year to recognise our existing students who have played a pivotal role towards the development and cultivation of alumni relations among students and the alumni network.

The SAA programme is designed to give NTU students an insight into the important role of alumni in contributing towards the University’s vision of becoming a ‘great global university’ with excellent alumni relations.

Guest of honour, Prof Er Meng Hwa, Senior Associate Provost, and Mr Anthony Teo, Secretary to the University, presented each SAA with a Certificate of Appreciation and a souvenier watch.

In his address, Prof Er said: “As a Student Alumni Associate, you play a very important role. You are our bridge between the student population and the alumni of NTU. By helping to foster pride and tradition and promote inspiring unity, you will help alumni keep alive the friendships, associations and interests they formed as students in NTU. At the same time, you will also benefit from an extensive network of alumni-related activities.”

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The newly-appointed SAAs also turned the occasion into a celebration of an even more special day for Prof Er, his 23rd anniversary with NTU.
Creating opportunities out of obstacles

Annie has steered The GMP Group, a Singapore-born-and-bred company, from a mere player to a regional leader in staffing and HR consultancy services. Providing comprehensive and innovative solutions to human resources, she is instrumental in escalating GMP’s growth over the last 12 years, and in making the SME a force to be reckoned with, in Asia and beyond. Annie won the Leading CEO award, bestowed on her, at the Singapore Human Resources Institute’s HR Award 2007.

“Actually, I came to GMP and HR by chance,” she reveals. Annie had after all majored in Financial Analysis when she graduated from NTU with a Business degree in 1993. “Although good with figures, I realised I was not cut out for the banking or fund management industry,” she explains.

After graduation, she started out as a Recruitment Consultant. By 1998, Annie was promoted to General Manager and managing GMP’s then 50-staff strong outfit. Owing to her performance-driven business sense and loyalty to GMP, she was handpicked to be trained under the wings of the company’s late founder, Dr Giam Cheng Lan, to succeed the latter as CEO. Annie’s illustrious career in HR took off.

She recalls: “In fact, I knew nothing about recruitment in the beginning. But, Dr Giam guided me conscientiously and gradually I became a top consultant.”

Annie encountered a major challenge when tasked to assist Dr Giam on GMP’s International Recruitment initiative. She worked extra hard to make sure the company sealed their first international deal. “The experience was both challenging and different, especially since GMP was new to International Recruitment then. The overseas exposure was also memorable, as I got to experience my first winter in China!” she affirms. Since the first international venture, GMP had prevailed.

Annie was further tested when GMP lost Dr Giam to cancer by early 2001. Only 29, she had to shoulder the heavy responsibility of not just sustaining, but also developing the young and growing organisation. At that age, Annie would easily have been one of the youngest CEOs of a high-profile and fast-growing SME.

“It was an especially tough period for me when Dr Giam passed away. To make matters worse, retrenchments were frequent. It was also a period when Singapore was hit by SARS and the whole world was in a frenzy following the 9/11 attacks. Some of our clients were losing confidence, as they felt that I was too young to lead GMP. Even some of my staff left the company because they found it tough to report to someone young,” she says.

So, how did Annie pull through amid all the challenges as CEO at just 29? Sharing her tough experiences, she says: “For me, an obstacle is not an obstacle; it’s a challenge. And the one and only way to overcome an obstacle is to face it. I told myself I must be strong to face any challenges and take them one step at a time. Once overcome, you will be stronger. You must also think positive. Positive thinking leads to positive action, which in turn brings about positive outcomes.”

Sharing from experience: What’s hot, what’s not

For new graduates starting out on a career and aspiring to be like her, Annie’s advice is to never forget to look out for opportunities. Balancing, she says, “It is important to define your success. For me, success is a journey, not a destination. And being successful means being happy and being able to enjoy life and impact the lives of others positively. This is my motto in life.”

“While there are many factors to determine success, it is not just about IQ. Equally important is EQ. Building good relationships is critical, especially in the Asian context. One also needs to be a good team player and acquire leadership skills,” advises Annie. She also stresses on the importance of communication and presentation skills, both of which she picked up during her studies at NTU.

For new graduates looking out for hiring trends in today’s industry, Annie shares her views on how the various industries are doing, and where the ‘goldmines’ are. She observes: “Singapore is still very much focused on high value-added industries. Many of our high end manufacturing industries are robust. Water fabrication, pharmaceutical, research and development are still very good industries. Banking is also important for Singapore, as we turn the country into a regional banking and finance hub. Another up and coming industry is services.”

And being successful means being happy and being able to enjoy life and impact the lives of others positively. This is my motto in life.”

For a successful CEO like Annie, does she have work-life balance? Running one of the biggest HR firms in Singapore, she says she does. She makes time for family and interest. “Weekends are reserved for time with my two sons, aged six and four, and my 6-year-old goddaughter. I’m also into triathlons. The recent one I participated in was at Bintan,” she says. Annie started running three years ago, before picking up cycling and swimming. She also enjoys cooking, which she finds ‘therapeutic’.

“It is advisable to practise good time management,” she says, adding that “While there isn’t a perfect balance, you must know how to prioritise. Find time to enjoy your family and friends and mostly, be happy. Life is more than material and status.”

Having come so far in life, what does the future hold for Annie? “Hopefully, I will be able to find someone who can succeed me within the next 10 years. After which I would play a more advisory role. I think it’s only right that the younger ones get the chance to lead,” she says.
NTU alumnus, Seng Choon Meng, breathes life into cartoon characters and creates a business from interest.

An entrepreneur in his own right, he is a winner of Emerging Enterprise 2008. NTULink gets a peek into his colourful world.

Set foot into Scrawl Studios Pte Ltd at Sim Lim Tower and you will be greeted by mega-sized cartoon posters, chalk drawings illustrated across purple walls and toy figurines scattered on desktops and shelves. The creative pad is ‘office’ to NTU alumnus, Seng Choon Meng.

Graduating from the Class of 2000, Choon Meng is Scrawl Studios’ co-founder and CEO. The business was recently awarded a winner of the Emerging Enterprise 2008, a competition organised by The Business Times and OCBC Bank. Scrawl Studios is the brainchild of Choon Meng and his buddy. Their passion for drawing had brought them together.

Choon Meng explained: “Once, while working for a production house, I chanced upon an old army friend, who is an avid comic artist. We began to freelance together for an education publisher, where we handled project after project. It dawned on us that we could do our own creative design, illustrations or character design, if we have our own outfit.” Scrawl Studios was set up in 2001.

Pursuing our passion

“With our skills and the network of clients we had built up, it makes business sense for us to pursue our passion. Moreover, we weren’t able to derive the same kind of satisfaction from the jobs we had found,” said Choon Meng. “So we created a job for ourselves,” he added.

Choon Meng claimed he developed his interest whilst in NTU, where he served as Publicity Head for the School of Communications Studies Club. There, he produced promotional materials, even illustrated for The Nanyang Chronicle, a student newspaper.

Creating what’s ours

What started out as interest between two buddies saw the business expand to include two other partners, who specialised in videography and music composition. As a result of a partnership where skills complement, Scrawl Studios matured into one of Singapore’s pioneer animation studios.

Their joint effort yielded Scrawl Studios’ very own first animation series – Nanoboy. An edutainment, the 2D animation series centres on a superhero, whose size is smaller than a cell. Goes by the moniker Nanoboy, he fights off evil in the Microcosmo along with two friends – one, a reformed flu virus and the other, a neuron believed to have originated from Einstein’s brain. Packed with action, Nanoboy evolved from a concept originally created for the mobile platform. Choon Meng and his team have since transformed the cartoon character onto the platform of TV screen, making the series accessible to regional audiences. Thanks to distribution deals made by Scrawl Studios, the series has been sold to Thailand, Korea, UK, Middle East and Eastern Europe. It is also sold here in Singapore.

Planning our expansion

Today, Scrawl Studios is into its eighth year and has a staff strength of 36. With the benefit of hindsight, would Choon Meng do things differently? He said: “Come to think of it, we not only started young, but were very hung up on our passion and dreams. I must admit we have limited experience. We didn’t even have a business plan. The way we ran the business was mostly about charting growth as we go along, which had worked.”

As for the future, Choon Meng has plans to go global. “We wish to make our mark on every corner of the globe and be an international media powerhouse. We look forward to producing more compelling stories and better cartoon characters, especially evergreen ones,” he enthused.

Meet the ‘animation businessman’

NTU alumnus, Seng Choon Meng, is co-founder and CEO of Scrawl Studios.

NTU alumnus, Seng Choon Meng, is co-founder and CEO of Scrawl Studios.
University Scholars Award: The legacy has only just begun

NTU’s University Scholars Award has just turned one. What better way to celebrate than to track down those who were conferred the Award for the first time at Convocation 2007? Who better than they – pioneer recipients and university scholars of graduating class of Academic Year 2006/2007 – to speak of how far they have come a year after the Award? NTU-link finds out whether aces do go places and if they are living up the legacy of the Award. Here are their success stories…

Legacy of the Award: "I am glad we have such an Award to honour teaching excellence; behind every student’s success, there is at least one great teacher. For me, I have encountered two, both of whom I nominated for the Award last year. One of them, Mr Gilbert Lee Mun Kit, was my Economics Tutor in Junior College. He taught me the value of hard work and how I ought to strive for the best wherever I go. I also nominated Dr Kong Yoon Kee, my URECA* tutor from the Nanyang Business School, for encouraging me to think out-of-the-box. They have made me who I am today.

Since the Award: "I am extremely happy to have secured an offer to join the Government of Singapore Investment Corporation (GIC) as an Associate. In fact, I was the only local fresh graduate in the 2007 GIC Associate Programme. The year-long Programme has provided me with excellent grounding in financial knowledge. It also served as a great introduction to the world of portfolio management. The Programme comprises two months of classroom training, followed by rotations to four different departments. I recall my second rotation, where I was attached to the New York office to work on private equity investments. Add that to the White Christmas and exciting New Year countdown I had, and my overseas experience was priceless. Currently, I am deployed to the Equities Department, where I handle research and investments within the developed markets."

What’s next: “I look forward to working overseas and have plans to further my studies.”

BENNY QUEK SHIWEI, 25
Bachelor of Business (Banking and Finance) graduate
ASSOCIATE FINANCE MANAGER

Legacy of the Award: "The Award provided me with a formal platform to express my appreciation to the two teachers who have had an impact on my life.

The two whom I nominated for the Award were: Associate Professor Erin Goh Low Soen Yin from the Nanyang Business School and Mrs Lim Lin Eng, my Junior College teacher. Both of them have touched my life in more ways than one. I am glad to say that I still keep in touch withAssoc Prof Erin Goh whom I regard as a mentor and friend. We meet for dinner occasionally and I share with her the progress I make at work and the interesting things that are happening in my life."

Since the Award: "I have an interesting and rewarding job at Procter and Gamble. I am happy to be working with such a company. I am an Associate Finance Manager and I handle brand financial analysis for the region, which covers the ASEAN nations, Australia, India and South Korea. Operationally, I take care of investment analysis, budget management and forecasting. I find the job challenging, as I have to think on my feet and articulate ideas fast. I also get to experience, working with an international mix of colleagues. I enjoy travelling and was in Europe in April."

What’s next: “I look forward to working overseas and have plans to further my studies.”

LEE YU LING, 23
Bachelor of Accountancy graduate
ASSOCIATE FINANCE MANAGER

Legacy of the Award: "I keep in touch with the teachers I nominated for the Award and seek their advice on my future every now and then. The teachers who made up my nominees for the Award were: Associate Professor Liu Ai Qun and Mr He Wenhao.

From Assoc Prof Liu, NTU, I learn to stay ahead of the game regardless of circumstances. Under his supervision, I was able to have my research published for several international conferences and in journals although I was an undergraduate. Thanks to his guidance, I managed successful applications to world renowned graduate schools such as Harvard, Stanford and Cambridge, among others. As for Mr He, my high school class master, he fueled my passion for science.

Since the Award: "I am now pursuing my doctorate at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Boston, USA. At the same time, I am a Research Assistant at MIT’s department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science. I am having the time of my life, being able to pursue knowledge and experience life. Boston is the birthplace of modern technology. As much as it is technical, Boston is also rich in arts, with museums and symphony halls everywhere. So, when I am not immersed in my research topic, I get to indulge in artistic pursuits. I have also tried my hands at picking apples, which I got to do during autumn, as well as skiing in winter."

What’s next: “I hope to be an entrepreneur with an applicable technology that I develop myself, possibly in the field of optics and photonics. I hope to find opportunity within the vibrant environment of MIT.”

ZHONG TIAN, 23
Bachelor of Engineering (Electrical and Electronic Engineering) graduate
PHD STUDENT AND RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Legacy of the Award: "This Award reminds me of the two great teachers who have made a difference in my life. Mr Melvyn Lim Hong Seng was the Junior College teacher, who did not give up on me. He taught me to do things with the end in mind and that by visualising the kind of life I wanted to lead, I would know how to go about getting it. I also nominated Dr Kuan Tek Seang, Assistant Professor, School of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, for the Award. He was my final-year project supervisor. I am grateful to Dr Kuan for imparting his knowledge and values. To him, life is not always about money. Knowledge and people are more important. I do still keep in touch with Dr Kuan and Mr Lim via email and MSN.

Since the Award: "I am now working for DSO National Laboratories and am involved in aero/aerodynamic design and the analysis of air platforms. I also handle research and recently had the chance to go on an overseas wind tunnel facility. That was thrilling! I am thankful for the training I received at NTU, as it comes in handy for the tasks at hand. At DSO, I get to balance work and play. So far, I have travelled to Krabi, Hong Kong, Bali and Redang. I am an avid traveller and the company’s focus on work-life balance agrees with me."

What’s next: “I intend to pursue my master’s degree in a year or two.”

TAN KIA HOCK, 26
Bachelor of Engineering (Mechanical Engineering) graduate
ENGINEER

Legacy of the Award: "This award reminds me of the two great teachers who have made a difference in my life. Mr Melvyn Lim Hong Seng was the Junior College teacher, who did not give up on me. He taught me to do things with the end in mind and that by visualising the kind of life I wanted to lead, I would know how to go about getting it. I also nominated Dr Kuan Tek Seang, Assistant Professor, School of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, for the Award. He was my final-year project supervisor. I am grateful to Dr Kuan for imparting his knowledge and values. To him, life is not always about money. Knowledge and people are more important. I do still keep in touch with Dr Kuan and Mr Lim via email and MSN.

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22 SPECIAL FEATURE

LEXY CHEN, 24
B.S. in Chemical Engineering from the University of Illinois
B.S. in Economics from the University of Illinois
P.ENG. (Coordinating Officers) graduate

Legacy of the Award:
"I was accepted by the University Scholars Award. It is an award like no other. It gives me the chance to acknowledge the teachers who have had an impact on my life. The two whom I honoured for the Award were: Mdm Suwarini Murniati and Associate Professor Li Kwok Hung. Mdm Suwarini was the one who encouraged me to go for further studies at the university. As for Dr Li, he taught me that it is important to communicate. To him, a technical report is only good if it can be understood by others. I still apply Dr Li’s advice to my everyday work."

Since the Award: "I have a good career with Micron Technology. I am responsible for trouble-shooting and overseeing the entire quality control whose headquarters is in the US. I am responsible for trouble-shooting and overseeing the entire quality control system. I have begun exploring software development and engineering analysis so as to make sure that the products we churn out comply with customers’ demands."

What’s next: "I want to start my own business, possibly in IT services and consultancy. I have been exploring this field and have attended several seminars on entrepreneurship."

Turning the page for more...
缅怀往事，畅叙友情

南洋大学第4届和第9届校友于6月21日重返母校，参加了温馨难忘的45周年和40周年校友班级聚会活动。

第4届和第9届的南大校友被尊称为“南洋大学的大哥和大姐们”。这一天他们回到云南园校园，缅怀母校的教育之恩，并亲眼目睹了母校45年来的发展变化。大学在这些年的变化阻挡不了校友们对母校深厚的感情，他们更在周年聚会上重温了多年前真挚的友情。

很多校友们在抵达签到处时互相问候，看到多年未见的老朋友，激动得紧紧拥抱，亲切地聊起天来。还有些校友是从曼谷、吉隆坡、槟城等地远道而来，专程参加这场难得的聚会。随着越来越多的校友到来，现场变得越来越热闹，他们三五成群地畅快地聊着天，还不忘用相机拍下这欢乐的时刻。闪光灯此起彼伏，欢笑声荡漾在耳边。

使这场聚会更加有意义的是南大校长徐冠林博士的出席。徐校长向校友们表示：“南大能够取得今天的成就，与校友们的热情支持和无私奉献是分不开的。你们的继续支持和参与，将会使南大不断成长壮大。”过后他也与校友们一起见证了在南大四合院的校友牌匾放置仪式。四合院是南大一个非常有意义的地方，每届毕业班级的校友都会在这里放置他们的毕业年份的牌匾，以示纪念。

周年聚会上当然少不了对往事的追忆。作为晚会的主持人，南大1963年生物系毕业生梁普照博士和所有参加聚会的校友们将思绪一起带回到多年前他们读书学习的时光。当南大中文学会的学生们登台带领大家高唱歌曲《传灯》时，晚会气氛达到了高潮。

此外，第4届和第9届的南大校友们也参加了游览校园活动，既参观了昔日的建筑，也看到了今日南大的新建筑群。校友们还通过为他们特别播放的视频片段了解到大学最新的发展动态。

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温馨时刻

聚会的现场温馨而热闹，一些校友献上饱含深情的演唱献给他们的老朋友。来自1973年物理系的张振兴校友和他的夫人李丽珍—1973年历史系校友，就是在学生时代在南大合唱团相识相知，当晚他们也登台把歌声献给昔日同窗和老师，重温了他们的南大情怀。

南大校长徐冠林博士在聚会的讲话中向校友们回顾了南大发展历程中的重要里程碑，并介绍了南大近年来的进步与发展。他还特别向校友们提到近来在中国成立的校友会，包括在7月初刚刚成立的吉林省、辽宁省和广东省校友会。

这一年多来，他们好像从来没有像这晚这样与母校联系得这么紧密。
Get up to 3x chances* of winning dream prizes with your OCBC-NTU Visa Gold Card / OCBC Platinum MasterCard:
- New Mercedes-Benz C180 Kompressor
- Return Air Tickets on Singapore Airlines A380 to Sydney (New Singapore Airlines Suite & New Business Class)
- 6 Compact and Stylish Samsung Camcorders
* Pilot Enjoy discounts of up to $300 OFF per couple for selected worldwide package tours and a FREE Ashworth Gym Bag with a minimum spend of $500 and above.
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- 0% interest-free shopping treats at more than 800 merchant islandwide. Shopping can be made a breeze with your OCBC NTU Visa Gold Card!
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* Additional discount is valid for petrol purchases. Other Terms and Conditions apply.

OCBC Platinum MasterCard Privileges
- Participate in the OCBC Golf Series 2008, or enjoy discounted green fees* at a premier local golf club.
- Enjoy comprehensive Family, Health and Wellness benefits.
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MAY to DEC’08 USA TOUR PACKAGES SPECIAL (2 to go)

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<td>New York at Lassau Stay 3 nights at 47th Street &amp; a full day visit to Woodbury Premium Outlets!</td>
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<td>7D USA LAS VEGAS SHOPPING TOUR</td>
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<td>8D USA FANTASY ^^</td>
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<td>^ Valid for first 10,000 OCBC NTU Gold Card/Preferred Cardmembers only and while stocks last. For details, call rich holidays at 6733 1000.</td>
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Durians galore and more beckon foodies

NTU alumni embarked on a makan trip across the Causeway on 28 June.

Three hundred and forty alumni and their family members spent an enjoyable two-day trip into Malacca. "I enjoyed the durian treats so much I am looking forward to the next trip," said Ms Teo Puat Wen, a Class 2006 alumna from the School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering. "Ms Toh Tser Siong, an alumnus from the School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Class of 2004.

Many took the chance to network with fellow friends over a tea session which proved very fruitful for alumni who had not met their friends for some time. Many took the chance to network with fellow friends over a tea session which proved very fruitful for alumni who had not met their friends for some time.

Continuing on the food trail, they travelled from Kuala Lumpur to Malacca for more indulgence, thanks to AAO extending the trip for the first time to a two-day affair from 28 to 29 June. While at Malacca, the alumni and their families got a chance to savour authentic Nyonya food. Not only that, they got to enjoy a cultural walk along the famous Jonker Street. Some even visited the largest Cheng Ho Cultural Museum outside China and trailed the footsteps of the great Chinese Admiral Explorer Cheng Ho.

Two among the alumni would have especially fond memories of their makan trip. Both were treated to a surprise birthday celebration, which was planned for them by AAO. They were: Ms Zhu Liyan, a Class of 2005 alumna from the Nanyang Business School and Mr Lai Dengying, a participant of the Master of Public Administration Programme.

Indeed, great friendships were fostered amid good food and a delightful culture.

Further Happenings

Happenings calendar

Events calendar

Thrills, action and adventure with Batman and the Joker!

Alumni and friends go on an exciting journey into Gotham City and catch the latest Batman adventure at the exclusive alumni movie screening of 'The Dark Knight'.

"We enjoyed the characters in the movie and the gathering was great. It was fun catching up with friends and fellow alumni," said Mr Toh Tser Siong, an alumnus from the School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Class of 2004.

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NTU Alumni Club
Class of Your Own
林春来

(中文系/1968)

“我心深处”

我没有觉得那么深——除了“南大”！

从来没有觉得那么久——就只有“南大”！

每当听到“南大”

看到“南大”

想到“南大”

我的心愿开始升华，

飘到云南园的上空。

在彩云间，

我和“中国哲学史”，

“世界文化史”还有

“心理学”拥抱。

我的精神游走在这些科目之间，

久久不想回到现实中来。

到老了老了！所以，2004年，我收拾起行装，继续寻求我的梦想。

那是在我的硕士研究生课程中，找寻科学化学。我在1972年毕业，之后做了30年电子化学方面的研究。

我完成了我的博士学位，并且有一篇296页的论文，被提交给外部的评估。

在2007年完成我的博士学位，之后的几年我努力工作，终于在2010年被授予博士学位。

我感谢所有的支持，特别是我的家人，以及我的导师。

Chong Chin Hin

(Science/1973)

Lee Li Chin

(Arts/1970)

我们对音乐的热情是我们的特点。

我们喜欢在我们的NTU校友活动上表演，是的，我们仍然喜欢那些永恒的歌曲。

女儿，她对舞蹈有热情，有时也和我们一起表演。

郑凤桥

(工商管理学系/工业管理学组/1973)

回到南大校园，一切是那么熟悉，熟悉得令人感动。

我们在这儿度过了30年，再加上我的妻子和孩子们。

总之，这次的聚会虽然只是短短几个小时，但也让我们重温了南大的精神。

在银行职业生涯中，我总能从我的南大校友那里获得帮助。

现在我是一个顾问，为中国的业务提供帮助。

Ehr Oh Khim

(Commerce/1977)

我毕业于南洋大学，在1977年取得一个商业管理的学士学位。

我是一位顾问，为中国的业务提供帮助。

在Raffles国际学院，我工作。

蔡丽芬

(Commerce/1978)

我们在南大校园度过了三十年，熟悉但又陌生。

在云南园，我们相聚，自离开校园三十年后，我们有了一些同学。

丽莎

(Commerce/1978)

那天晚上，我们在云南园聚会，一些同学才首度重逢。

熟悉又陌生的同学，有些老同学才首度重逢。

我们的心里有着莫名的激动与欢欣。

有一些同学才首度重逢，望着陌生又熟悉，熟悉又陌生的同学，我们的心里有着莫名的激动与欢欣。

现在我担任国家主席，我的工作。

我在巴黎的著名学府，法国国家政治院，作为荣誉主任。

Yvonne是政治科学专业的二年级学生。

Eugene目前在服兵役，而Yvonne的年龄是19和20。

我们在南大校园度过了三十年，熟悉但又陌生。

我们的心里有着莫名的激动与欢欣。

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Yvonne是政治科学专业的二年级学生。

Eugene目前在服兵役，而Yvonne的年龄是19和20。
After graduation, Patricia went to the US where she completed her Masters in Applied Economics and will soon be completing her Masters in Mathematics in Michigan. She is currently an Analyst at an institution affiliated to the University of Michigan’s Business School. She will be starting her PhD programme in International Economics and Finance at Brandeis University in a few months’ time. Her husband, Desmond is also an NTU alumnus. He worked in TI and Micron for a few years before enrolling in University of Michigan’s Masters of Science and PhD in Electrical Engineering, which he has since completed. He will start work at GE Global Research as a Scientist in International Economics and Finance at Brandeis University in a few months’ time. Patricia and Desmond met in NTU 15 years ago, got married, and they now have a daughter. They have fond memories of NTU and visit the campus during most of their trips back to Singapore. They credit NTU for equipping them with strong academic foundation to tackle their respective fields of expertise.

Eddie Ng Yin Kwee
(NIE/1995)

It has been 13 years since I did my postgraduate diploma in Higher education teaching. It still seems as though I have not formally graduated from NTU! Being a faculty in NAE, I reside as Resident Counselor of Hall 6 and prior to this, the Senior Hall Fellow of Hall 5. I am married for 16 years and blessed with four energetic sons. I take the family away from campus to visit my dad and spend some ‘makan’ time together with him on Sundays. I am very fortunate to have a dad who not only treasures me, but who is also proud of me until today!

Jerry Siah Eng Kiat
(EEE/1997)

I graduated from NTU in 1997 with a First Class Honours in BEng (Electrical). In 2000, I went to the US to set up a consumer electronics company and submitted a patent. I returned to Singapore in 2003 to fulfill my passion – to get involved in Singapore’s community development.

I was working full-time in the IT and Education sectors when I started a voluntary group. I am currently the Honorary Producer of a musical performance. The musical was put up by more than a hundred disabled performers. We had two successful shows in 2005 and 2006 at the Esplanade. Our next performance will be on 11 and 12 October 2008 at the Victoria Theatre. The show has had an impact on the lives of both the audience and performers. More information on the performance can be found at www.anationinconcert.com.

I believe that each of us could accomplish great things if we go after our passion. By putting our individual effort together, we will make a significant difference in our society. Getting involved also gives new meaning to our existence.

Currently, I am also an honorary member of the governing committee of the micro-finance assistance scheme for the Muslim Kidney Action Association and the Handicaps Welfare Association.

I hope all my classmates and friends are doing well and I hope to hear from you guys. My email is jerry@anationinconcert.com. Stay in touch!

Josh Goh Koon Hao
(NBS/1998)

A few months back, a video footage capturing what was supposedly a ghost sighting in a lift of a building in Pakistan, surfaced on YouTube. Within a few days, the video made headlines. On Labour Day, a staffing and HR consultancy claimed ownership of the video and admitted that it was a hoax. The ‘ghost video’ was part of the company’s campaign to advocate work-life balance. The campaign was a resounding success, with the local and international media covering the story. And now, it is on its way to win advertising awards around the world.

What you may not know is that the campaign is one of my projects at GMP, the staffing and HR consultancy. In my eight years as a Marketing and Communications professional here, I must say this is the highlight of several of my successful campaigns. It is a big part of work that I enjoy because it allows me to gain insight into consumer behaviour from which I develop marketing strategies to engage the target audience. Work aside, I enjoy running and travelling. Both are my sources of inspiration.

It has been 10 years since I graduated. My special mention goes to Dr Roger Marshall whose classes were most enjoyable. It was his teaching that reinforced my interest in consumer behaviour. In fact, coming to NTU was my first choice because of the University’s rich heritage. I’ve always regarded it as people’s university, as people from all walks of life had helped to raise funds to set up the campus. Till today, NTU still holds a place in my heart.

Aaron Ong Chong Yang
(NBS/2001)

When I first graduated, I did what quite a few of my fellow graduates would do. I went pack to Europe. I had no idea what I wanted to do even though I majored in Human Resources.

Having job hopped for a while, the offer that changed my life came in December 2002, one-and-a-half years after I graduated. I was offered a Business Development Executive job in Shanghai by a Singapore manufacturing company that deals in tool-making and plastics injection moulding.

I have been in this industry for nearly five years and I enjoy my work tremendously. I like going out to meet new people (customers and suppliers alike) and presenting the company’s best side to the customers. There is also great job satisfaction when I’m able to bring in revenue for the company and knowing that all my customers’ needs are met, efficiently and promptly.

NDG has given me the fundamentals, which served as the backbone to what I am doing today. I believe that a solid foundation coupled with an adventurous mindset, Business graduates can survive in any industry.

P/S: To all my former classmates and lecture mates, I do miss you guys… ;)

I am contactable at aaronong@innocent.com.

Justin Tan Wee Kwang
(SCE/2001)

In the last four years, I have worked at NatSteel Asia since graduation. I started out as a Systems Analyst in the IT department and am currently the Head of Electrical, Maintenance and Automation.

On 2 May 2008, I married Wong Jun, whom I met at the NTU Traditional Teawon Do Club. As we were both graduates of NTU, it was fitting that our marriage was solemnised by Mr Soon Min Yam, Director of Alumni Affairs. Whenever our schedule permits, we still train with the Teawon Do Club at NTU on Wednesday evenings.

Jack Wang Ying Yang
(NBS/2001)

Recently, following my career as a Banker with Citibank, I had ventured out and set up an investment advisory company, Lexico Advisory. The company specialises in private equity investments and accounting advisory services. To friends and old classmates, who are keen to catch up with me, I can be contacted at jack.yy.wang@gmail.com.

Daniel Wen Guotai
(COE/2001)

My NTU days have equipped me with technical knowledge, which I found useful during my six years in construction. More importantly, the University tuned me to Singaporean culture and prepared me better for my current career in real estate. I’m excited about being in a very different yet closely related field.
I welcome anyone who wants to call me to chat about their housing needs. Finally, having met this sweet girl called Angel has greatly changed my life. Of course, it’s for the better.

Ong Soon Eng
(MAE/2003)

NTU is like a second home to me. I have been here for a total of eight years: 2000-2003 (BEng), 2003-2007 (PhD), and 2007-present (research staff). I also graduated twice from the University.

On 9 September 2008, I will be holding my marriage solemnisation ceremony at Nanyang Auditorium. This is very meaningful, especially since I met my wife-to-be here. We were introduced to one another through my then PhD Supervisor, Prof Sam Zhang (MAE). Having the ceremony on 9 September has triple meaning for us – first, 99 means ‘久久(情缘)’ – second, it is the date when we first started dating; and third, it is my birthday.

Special mention goes out to: Prof Sam Zhang, who is our cupid; Ms BB Goh, who has graciously cancelled her bookings to free up the venue for our solemnisation; Mr Soon Min Yam (Director, Alumni Affairs), who has agreed to preside the ceremony; Prof Su Guaning (President of NTU); and Ms Min Yam (Director, Alumni Affairs), who has agreed to preside the ceremony. This is very meaningful especially since I met my wife-to-be here. We were introduced to one another through my then PhD Supervisor, Prof Sam Zhang (MAE). Having the ceremony on 9 September has triple meaning for us – first, 99 means ‘久久(情缘)’ – second, it is the date when we first started dating; and third, it is my birthday.

Ong Soon Eng
(MAE/2003)

Joanne Song Lin
(NBS/2005)

After I graduated from Nanyang MBA in 2005, I have been working in PwC Singapore for about three years. I still remember the valuable MBA days. I learned a lot from professors and experienced classmates who came from diverse industries. I’m proud to hear that the MBA programme is ranked among the top 100 MBAs in the world. I also enjoyed the networking I had with fellow alumni.

The experience in PwC has been wonderful. I’ve learned a lot and am confident that I would learn more in the future. At times, there were also challenges and things can get very tough. But, I still learn something different every day, which is great. All the best to the friends I have known through NTU, and hope we can catch up with one another regularly!

Yeo Jhong Ren
(ImPE/2004)

We only live once; just do it! I decided to follow my calling the year I graduated and ended up doing something completely non-Engineering. I turned to Social Work! Many people thought it was ‘insane’ or a ‘COMPLETE waste of my four years in NTU’, I felt otherwise. This is because the time I spent in NTU has helped develop my interpersonal skills.

I started by working in a Family Service Centre that helps single-parent families, and have been there ever since. I took up a Graduate Diploma course in Social Work and completed it just a few days before my wedding.

I am also a wedding blogger and I own Singapore’s most popular wedding blog. The blog provides wedding and marriage advice to couples all over the world, including US and Singapore.

I have no regrets turning to Social Work and wedding blogging and playing my part in helping couples understand the real commitment of marriage. You can get free content from my blog www.romance-free.com. ‘Live today as if it is my last day’ is my daily reminder.

Yeo Jhong Ren
(ImPE/2004)

Joanne Song Lin
(NBS/2005)

Parida Subhajeet
(SSB/2008)

Recently, I was given the opportunity to move to the Fixed Income, Futures and Options business (FICC) business, more often known as the Trading floor in the financial circle) within Citibank Corporate and Investment Banking group. This was a huge opportunity for me, considering my lack of professional qualification in finance.

After graduating from Biological Sciences and having ventured into the consumer banking business, moving into the Sales and Trading environment has definitely been challenging. However, I must say that the all-round education I obtained in NTU has certainly helped me cope with the stressful environment.

Given the level of talent – many of my colleagues on the Trading floor boast of excellent qualifications such as MBAs from Ivy-league schools and some are graduates from the Indian Institute of Technology and Indian Institute of Management equipped with Masters/PhDs in various academic disciplines – I find the working environment great. That I am able to work alongside some of the best in the industry is an honour. Surely, this is the highlight in recent months for me and the experience is thrilling.

I look forward to doing well after completing my one-and-half years’ stint with Citibank’s consumer business.

Nurot Panich
(MSE (PhD)/2007)

As an Operations Research student, I have been exposed to a variety of industries, and have the opportunity to work in a variety of environments. This experience has helped me develop a holistic view of the world. I have also had the opportunity to work with a wide range of people, from world-class people and experienced classmates who came from diverse industries. I’m proud to hear that the MBA programme is ranked among the top 100 MBAs in the world. I also enjoyed the networking I had with fellow alumni.

The experience in PwC has been wonderful. I’ve learned a lot and am confident that I would learn more in the future. At times, there were also challenges and things can get very tough. But, I still learn something different every day, which is great. All the best to the friends I have known through NTU, and hope we can catch up with one another regularly!

Nurot Panich
(MSE (PhD)/2007)

Sim Teong Chuan
(EEE/2006)

It has been two years since I graduated from EEE. While most of my peers are either working for big companies, or yearning to join one, I am happy working in a small outfit, as I am put in-charge of technical sales. Although a one-man army, I have to juggle my FYP* and media commitments!

Some of you might have seen me on TV. Before graduating from NTU, I participated in the first season of Project Superstar and emerged as one of the five male semi-finalists.

I spent two years in media, which gave me many invaluable memories and unforgettable experiences. That was the turning point in my life.

Jason Tan Kok Khian
(MAE/2005)

I am currently working in the Office of Students Affairs, NUS, as an Officer, managing the Faculty Clubs. It is a great job, considering that I love to interact with people. I’m making plans to pursue an MSc in the near future.

I have not had the time to personally do this – extend my gratitude – although I would like to put on record that I am grateful to A/P Hoong Kay Hiong, A/P Yeo Song Huat and A/P Wu Zhang for their assistance and encouragement when I was juggling my FYP* and media commitments!

Contact me? Find me at www.nus.edu.sg/osaa/activities. Cheers!

*Final-year project

Ong Soon Eng
(MAE/2003)

Parida Subhajeet
(SSB/2008)

JoAnne Song Lin
(NBS/2005)

Nurot Panich
(MSE (PhD)/2007)

Sim Teong Chuan
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Jason Tan Kok Khian
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JoAnne Song Lin
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Nurot Panich
(MSE (PhD)/2007)

Alvin Teo Chien Hong
(RGIS/2007)

Ong Soon Eng
(MAE/2003)

Parida Subhajeet
(SSB/2008)

JoAnne Song Lin
(NBS/2005)

Nurot Panich
(MSE (PhD)/2007)

Alvin Teo Chien Hong
(RGIS/2007)
I constantly strive to improve myself so I am able to assure my clients value added services. Since I graduated from the NTU master’s degree in International Political Economy, I have a better understanding of the interaction between wealth and the global environment. The way wealth is produced, distributed and used is intricately linked with politically organised rules and institutions across the globe. I find that with a broader perspective, I am in a better position to advise my clients, as well as expand my clientele base.

What’s more, I have also turned into my parents’ ‘unofficial’ Business Consultant. My parents run their own businesses and are constantly on the lookout for opportunities to diversify. So who do they turn to? Their son, naturally. It keeps me busy; but I am never too busy to keep in touch with fellow alumni. I am just an email away: alvin.teo@cmib.com

Kahar Hassan
(TIP 6/2008)
Salmon & Such

It was a chilly Saturday morning in Seattle, as we took a bus headed for Issaquah State Salmon Hatchery. TIP 6 also had the good fortune of having Mr Anthony Teo, Secretary to the University, with us that morning. Mr Teo alluded to the natural habitat of salmon. It travels thousands of miles and returns home to spawn. At that point, he paused for effect and cautioned thus: “I want you guys to come back to NTU, walking tall as a proud graduate.” (I understand Mr Teo is still actively looking up NTU alumni all across the globe.) And that’s what struck me – I can still contribute to my alma mater in small ways even if I’m not back in NTU.

I have actually begun doing my bit for NTU; I make a point to share the positive learning experience I gained from NTU to whoever I meet, be it an Arab Sheikh on a plane or a youngster in a café. I have a business venture that takes me to the Southeast Asia region and Middle East. Though I am busy, but I am never too busy to keep in touch with fellow alumni. I am just an email away: alvin.teo@cmib.com

In my four years at NTU, the best times were those spent with the Sports Club. Without the Club, life would have been boring. Three cheers to the Club!

Heng Wei Jing
(CEE/2008)
Graduation signifies an official end to my four years of university life. Though campus life has ended, friendships that were forged never ceased. I am sure some of these friends will stay with me for the rest of my life.

My special mention goes out to my friends and buddies in the NTU Sports Club who went through the thick and thin with me. Some of the meaningful and memorable things we did together were the organising of events when we were in the committee and going for gatherings and outings. There were also the jokes we shared, which don’t seem to have ‘expired’.

Over the years, I have grown and matured along with this awesome bunch of people and this has definitely changed my life forever. I am grateful to have met them. I wish to thank them sincerely for being such a huge part of my life. Without them, my university life would have been different and somewhat empty.

I appreciate them for adding colours to my life. I wish them all the best in their future undertaking.

Alvin Lee Jia Qing
(BIE/2008)
I’m going to miss my Sports Club buddies. I will always remember the late night suppers, meetings that last into the night, partying, mahjong sessions, muggings at the library and many more. Keep in touch.

I recently went to the US with my buddies. It was very fulfilling. I visited Las Vegas, Los Angeles, New York, Ohio, and Florida. Seeing the Niagara Falls was amazing. It offered the most spectacular, majestic view I’ve ever seen.

Loh Hui Shan
(NBS/2008)
Graduating with a double major in Banking & Finance and Marketing, Hui Shan is now with DBS Asset Management, working as a Management Associate. While a student in NTU, she spent six months at the University of Washington, as part of NTU’s Global Immersion Programme. During that period, she also managed to travel to places such as Mexico, Florida and Las Vegas. These were trips she enjoyed tremendously. She also enjoys Fine Arts and has taken up sewing as a hobby.

“NTU has taught me the importance of maintaining my professional integrity and representing myself well in the working world,” she says.

I am most grateful for the relationships that I have forged with my professors and friends while a student at NTU. I have set my heart on becoming a professor, as I realised that I enjoy the intellectual challenges that are part and parcel of being a Lecturer.

Tan Lie Na
(SCBE/2008)
“Stay in touch with fellow alumni and keep your Class Notes coming.

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Just fill up the form below and fax it to us at 6792 5048 or drop us an email at alumniaffairs@ntu.edu.sg.

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“NTU has taught me the importance of maintaining my professional integrity and representing myself well in the working world,” she says.

I am most grateful for the relationships that I have forged with my professors and friends while a student at NTU. I have set my heart on becoming a professor, as I realised that I enjoy the intellectual challenges that are part and parcel of being a Lecturer.

After my research stint at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, I will be embarking on a PhD programme at the University of Wisconsin Madison. One day, I would like to be remembered as someone who loved and, in turn, lived.

**Stay in touch with fellow alumni and keep your Class Notes coming.

To share, email alumniaffairs@ntu.edu.sg or call 6514 1078. We reserve the right to edit for clarity and brevity. **

Interesting news and personal quotes 趣闻分享/个人感言:

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Contact no 联络号码: (H) (O) (HP)

Name 姓名:
School/Year of graduation 院系/毕业年份:

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### Personal Particulars Update

更新个人资料

To help us serve you, our alumni, better, kindly update your particulars here, and send the form to:

NTU Alumni Affairs Office
Nanyang Technological University
#02-08 Nanyang Executive Centre
Singapore 639773

Fax: +65 791 1036
Email: alumniaffairs@ntu.edu.sg

### Alumni Associations

**SCHOOL-BASED**

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<td>Ms Cheryl Wong</td>
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