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Dear NTU alumni,

It has been an exciting time of the year for the University as we celebrated the graduation of our Class of 2014, and welcomed our freshmen into our community. Our students’ Union and it clearly showcased the high quality of our education, research and innovation programmes. In another earlier ranking, the QS World University Rankings released in September, NTU climbed two spots and is now ranked 99th in the world. NTU has also risen to 8th place in Engineering and Technology, improved by three places to be ranked 33rd in Social Sciences and Management, and made a remarkable jump of 31 places to No. 86 in Arts and Humanities. NTU’s standing with international employers also went up by seven places to No. 35.

NTU also leapt 15 places to 61st spot in the 2014 Times Higher Education World University Rankings released this month. To date, NTU has made a quantum leap of 108 places in the last three years. Also, for the second consecutive year, NTU maintained its No. 1 global position for industry income and innovation.

All of us have much to be proud of these significant milestones. I applaud our NTU community for giving their best to build NTU into the world-class institution that it is today.

During the Convocation ceremonies this year, NTU conferred bachelor and higher degrees on 9,141 graduating students. The NTU degree continues to hold in high regard amongst many choice employers. Two in three NTU graduates in the Class of 2014 have secured jobs even before graduation, with a number receiving multiple job offers. I am confident that with the well-rounded education our graduates receive at NTU and their varied experiences, they are well-equipped with the skills and knowledge to excel in their next chapter of success.

Dr Wee Cho Yaw, Pro-Chancellor of NTU and Chairman Emeritus and Adviser of United Overseas Bank Limited, was conferred the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Letters for his exceptional achievements in the Singapore business community, his enduring contributions to the Chinese community and his continual support and contribution to education. Dr Wee has been a long-time supporter of NTU and has made numerous generous gifts to NTU.

Professor Bengt Norden, Chair Professor of Physical Chemistry of Chalmers University of Technology, was presented the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Science for his world-class interdisciplinary research, his leadership in various high level international scientific committees and the key role he played in the rise of NTU’s academic research.

We are heartened to see many bright students making NTU’s Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine their first choice. Our intake this year for the second cohort at LKCMedicine increased to 78 from the inaugural batch of 54. Our medical school continues to attract the very best students who wish to commit their lives to medicine and be amongst the pioneers who go through our world-class medical education developed jointly with Imperial College London. It is also an honour to have with us, world-renowned endocrinologist Professor James Best from University of Melbourne, who has been appointed as Dean of LKCMedicine. Prof Best brings with him 30 years’ experience in research, teaching and medical leadership.

NTU’s two new halls of residence, Pioneer and Crescent Halls opened their doors to students at the start of the new academic year. Designed as ‘Y-shaped’ blocks resembling tree branches, the halls will be a vital test-bed for innovative green technologies. Last year, these halls achieved Green Mark Platinum status – the highest level which an individual building given by the Building and Construction Authority (BCA) for environmental sustainability.

The highlight of this year’s NTU Freshmen Welcome Week was the mega charity event, NTU Fest, held at the Padang on 16 August. More than 8,000 people packed into the event which included a fun-run, carnival and free concert. Kang Gary, one of the seven hosts of the immensely popular entertainment show Running Man and his singing partner, Jung-H, performed for the first time at the Padang in Singapore during the free concert in the evening. Proceeds from this event went towards the ITE Endowment Fund. This was the biggest event ever organised by the NTU Students’ Union and it clearly showcased how our students and other members of the NTU community came together for a good cause.

As a research intensive university, NTU continues to excel in research breakthroughs and innovations. One of our start-ups, Blacksmith Group, recently launched Singapore’s first 3D printer cum scanner which allows a user to easily scan any item, edit and print it out in 3D. Another young start-up at NTU, Nano Sun, has developed the first ever multifunction filtration membrane which brings with it cost savings and superior performance not found in current membranes in the water industry.

We are pushing new frontiers in space technologies with four NTU satellites orbiting in space today. After the launch of X-SAT – Singapore’s first locally built satellite – in 2011, and VELOX-Pi which was launched last year, two new satellites, VELOX-IV and VELOX-PiII recently took off into space in June this year. This highlights NTU’s strengths in applied research and engineering, strengthening Singapore’s position as an aerospace hub.

An international team of researchers led by Professor Dean Nastic from NTU’s Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine, recently made a key finding which is expected to open up improved treatment possibilities for children suffering from leukemia. This breakthrough will allow scientists to design better tailored treatment protocols, which may then include lower doses of anti-cancer drugs thus leading to fewer side effects.

Another team of scientists from NTU and the Singapore-MIT Alliance for Research and Technology (SMART) have invented a new technique to detect malaria within minutes, using just a drop of blood. This innovative technology will allow hospitals to save time in screening and monitoring patients, at a lower cost per patient. We continue to expand our partnerships globally. Last month, NTU and the Singapore Business Federation (SBF) jointly established a new centre to provide Asian executives, entrepreneurs and policymakers with in-depth insights on African markets. The new NTU-SBF Centre for African Studies, the first of its kind in South-east Asia, will provide Asian companies keen on opportunities in Africa, with a distinct business advantage. We also signed Memorandums of Understanding with two African business schools, Lagos Business School, Nigeria, and Strathmore Business School, Kenya, allowing for collaborations in research, executive and leadership training, and student exchange programmes.

Last month, as per the tradition for the past eight years, NTU celebrated the achievements of 360 Chinese government officials and industry professionals who graduated from seven NTU Master’s programmes and the prestigious Lien Fellows programme, at NTU’s China Convocation held in Beijing. NTU has long played a leading role in fostering close ties with China through our various China-focused programmes. The large number of senior officials trained at NTU reflects the Chinese government’s confidence in Singapore’s public policy and administration, and the quality of the University’s programmes.

At the same time in Beijing, I was pleased to meet our alumni in China during the second Conference of China-based NTU Alumni Associations which was attended by 140 alumni representatives from various parts of China. The event also included a talk by Professor Kerry Sieh, Director of Earth Observatory of Singapore, which saw the participation of some 150 alumni. More than 500 alumni and guests were present at the alumni dinner which concluded the fantastic event in Beijing. It was heartening to witness the close camaraderie amongst the alumni and how much they value their relationship with NTU even when being miles away.

We value the support and dedication of all our alumni. Regardless of where our alumni may be working and residing, everyone plays an important role in the advancement of the University. Thank you for your invaluable contributions and I look forward to your continual support.

PROFESSOR BERTIL ANDERSSON
PRESIDENT
NANYANG TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY
NTU’s College of Engineering has a rich history of producing quality engineers and research breakthroughs. NTUlink learns more about the College’s development and success.

NTU’s College of Engineering (CoE) has advanced remarkably since the early days of the former Nanyang Technological Institute (NTI) in 1981, which started with three Schools – Civil and Structural Engineering, Electrical and Electronic Engineering and Mechanical and Production Engineering.

CoE aims to develop and nurture a new generation of engineers to lead the industry to bring a brighter tomorrow. With a strong emphasis on research and innovation, students are able to hone their analytical and creative abilities to overcome the challenges of today’s competitive world.

In the recent Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings released in September 2014, NTU was ranked 39th in the world. And in its best showing ever, NTU’s Engineering and Technology rose to 9th place. In the 4th QS World University Rankings (WUR) by specific subjects published in February 2014, NTU’s Engineering subjects were ranked amongst the top 25 worldwide: Material Sciences (8th), Electrical Engineering (10th), Mechanical Engineering (12th), Civil Engineering (21st), Computer Science (21st) and Chemical Engineering (25th).

Today, CoE is NTU’s largest college and one of the largest engineering colleges in the world. It now comprises six Schools:

- School of Chemical and Biomedical Engineering (SCBE)
- School of Civil and Environmental Engineering (CEE)
- School of Computer Engineering (SCE)
- School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering (EEE)
- School of Materials Science and Engineering (MSE)
- School of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering (MAE)

NTU’s Engineering climbs rankings!

- NTU’s Engineering & Technology 9th in the world (QS World University Rankings, September 2014)
- Materials Science 8th
- Electrical Engineering 10th
- Mechanical Engineering 12th
- Civil Engineering 21st
- Computer Science 21st
- Chemical Engineering 25th (4th QS World University Rankings by subjects, February 2014)

EDUCATION

These six Schools under CoE offer undergraduate and graduate programmes focused on technology and innovation, as well as the only aerospace engineering programme in Singapore from the School of MAE.

Besides offering programmes with just single majors, CoE also offers Engineering with a Business minor, and double degree programmes in Computing and Business, and Engineering and Economics. Whilst students study subjects focusing on technical competencies, they also acquire communication and management skills which are important for their holistic development.

With numerous successful research projects, CoE is a recognised leader in innovation and technology creation. The College offers programmes which are closely related to the industry requirements, as well as world-class research facilities. Collaborations and partnerships with industry giants and other international engineering colleges provide CoE students a well-rounded education transcending traditional academic boundaries, allowing the students to successfully pursue a global career.

With a strong emphasis on research and innovation, students are able to hone their analytical and creative abilities to overcome the challenges of today’s competitive world.

CoE advocates learning beyond the classroom through a multi-disciplinary approach which inculcates analytical, problem-solving and entrepreneurial skills necessary for the future. Students also have the opportunity to explore cultural exchange through NTU’s Global Immersion and International Student Exchange. This may last from two-week summer exchanges to semester-long internship programmes, providing students global perspectives and connections that will enrich their educational experience at NTU.

The College has produced more than 76,000 graduates, which includes the most recent Class of 2014.

RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

For students who wish to explore various avenues for research, NTU’s Undergraduate Research Experience on Campus (URECA) programme allows them to experience research opportunities at an unprecedented level. Through URECA, the most able undergraduates are able to better understand and gain an appreciation of the rigour and challenges of research.
CoE is home to two world-class research centres that offer students the opportunity to engage in advanced research in the areas of sustainable energy and the environment – the Energy Research Institute @ NTU (ERI@N) and Nanyang Environment and Water Research Institute (NEWRI).

ERI@N focuses on sustainable energy and provides a unique inter-disciplinary platform where students from different disciplines come together to tackle the issue of energy conversion without damage to the environment. At NEWRI, students are exposed to research and development projects in the Environment and Water Technology landscape, where research in cutting-edge environmental and water technologies is translated into relevant applications.

NTU’s multi-award winning Nanyang Venture VI setting the pace at the Shell Eco-marathon Asia.

“Wooden Wonder” as it was hand-built by Engineering students from wood, the car achieved an impressive 338 kilometres per litre for its fuel efficiency. It also beat over 100 other international entries to win the Award in Vehicle Design and Award for Safety.

This was the fifth time NTU participated in a Shell Eco-marathon event. The first Nanyang Venture I solar car debuted in the marathon held in Germany in 2009, coming in fourth out of eight in the prototype solar category and winning the off-track award for safety.

UAV technology in airshow

NTU showcased its latest R&D expertise in Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) technology at the Singapore Airshow 2014. Visitors to the Singapore Airshow were able to see 12 drones, programmed by NTU scientists and researchers, flying in formation within inches of each other and executing complex indoor aerial manoeuvres. Leader of the team, Professor Low Kin Huat from NTU’s School of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, said they hope to bring scientific R&D closer to the public, in order to let them better understand the importance of science and engineering and what it can achieve.

Mr Joshua Chao (MAE/2013), Member of Technical Staff / Research Engineer at DSO National Laboratories

“I took the Physics S’ paper in JC and I found the questions challenging and exciting. It was then that I knew I wanted to study Engineering for my undergraduate studies. I am very intrigued by how planes and helicopters work, instead of reading up on how they work, I challenged myself to find out how they work by observing them. It was an amazing experience and I knew NTU’s Aerospace Engineering programme was the choice for me.

“MAE was where I discovered my passion. The lessons gave me greater insights and I was exposed to hands-on practical applications from the first semester. Since then, I have not stopped creating new planes and helicopters with unique functions and applications. The lectures provided me the foundation, the professors encouraged me to push the boundaries, and the projects allowed my creativity to soar and create the unimaginable.

“The foundation is important as the problems encountered during prototype development and flight tests at work require good understanding of engineering principles. When you start to experience failed attempts or prototypes, you know you are starting to push the boundaries. It is easy to choose to give up, but my professors taught me to never give up.”

Mr Rubayn Goh (MSE/2014), who is pursuing the National Science Scholarship awarded by A*STAR and is currently doing his research attachment as a research officer under the Molecular Engineering Lab in A*STAR

“Looking back as I step into the workforce, I have never been more grateful for the choice of doing my undergraduate at MSE. By being embedded in a culture of innovation and being among world renowned faculty mentors, I was given a platform to better prepare myself for a career in research & development. Through countless opportunities such as URECA, final year projects and industrial attachments, my education at NTU has given me the leverage needed to be part of the vibrant R&D culture at A*STAR.

“One of the greatest perks of being a student at MSE is that no student is left behind. Professors are passionate and helpful, and the school is pro-active in helping weaker students. This provided me with a challenging yet nurturing environment that has ultimately shaped me to be an even more resilient and able person.”

Hear from CoE alumni and students
CHARTING NEW TERRAIN

Professor Ng Wun Jern, Dean of CoE, shares his views on Engineering as an education option.

NTU has its roots in engineering since the inception of the former Nanyang Technological Institute (NTI) in 1981 with three Schools of Engineering. Fast-forward to more than two decades later, engineering in NTU and NTU itself have grown. In 2001, the College of Engineering (CoE) was established, and today, has progressed from three to six Schools.

The present Dean of CoE, Professor Ng Wun Jern, has articulated high hopes for CoE, in terms of the quality of education and research – both locally and internationally. The College is now the best engineering college in Asia (Shanghai Jiaotong 2014 rankings).

Says Prof Ng: “I am looking forward to the College becoming the place of choice for our Singaporean students to get the best engineering education.”

In addition, CoE aims to become a “global college of engineering” which offers highly regarded undergraduate and postgraduate programmes for international students as well.

AN UPHILL BATTLE

While CoE has a significant student population – of around 10,000 undergraduates and 3,000 postgraduates – attracting top students has always required effort. According to the Dean, engineering had not been as popular an education option over the past two decades.

“The gloss sort of came off it for a while,” he says. “But he is optimistic and is excited by what the future now holds.”

Adds Prof Ng: “But I think we have seen the nadir, we have turned the corner, and we are seeing increasing numbers of very, very bright students wanting to do engineering.”

The Dean attributes this trend to developments in engineering research, industry, and consequently the opportunity to “rebrand” the discipline. According to him, there was a time when the public perceived engineering to be “static” and hence unexciting by way of career prospects.

“But now excitement hums in engineering…with respect to the new things that are entering the markets and consciousness of the public, and these have roots in engineering,” he says.

For example, new medical assistive devices and robotic systems are being designed with new materials with strength quite in conceivable not so long ago. Such cross-boundary enterprises give engineers the opportunity to work in areas beyond the discipline itself and so have very much expanded the intellectual horizons and career prospects of engineers.

“The engineering ladies and men now also have opportunities to contribute very directly to efforts which have meaning to mankind and to society,” he says.

As such, engineering now includes exposure to learning of subjects beyond the scientific domain (30% of the curriculum). CoE places emphasis on its students being technically competent, but they should also be able to think beyond the box and have the wherewithal and courage to explore other fields to gain as holistic an education as is possible.

“They [students] should, at the very least, take a peek over the top of the box and see what is happening outside and see if they might want to explore that as well. It this broadening of the mind which can be so useful in later career,” says the Dean.

To this end, the College worked with the Nanyang Business School to launch the Engineering with Business second major. In the same mould, there shall be other double major programmes brought onstream progressively.

“Differentiation is important, and it becomes even more important when we are dealing with better and better students. This gives them a head start in life. We want to help our students differentiate themselves from students trained elsewhere while they explore for themselves how they would wish to differentiate themselves,” says Prof Ng.

THE TWO FACETS OF ENGINEERING

According to the Dean, there are two facets of engineering that people have to be aware of – the international and local aspects.

It is without a doubt that CoE has to be internationally relevant in terms of its research and education – only then can it gain global recognition.

However, there is also an aspect of engineering which is local. The College has to serve its local stakeholders, and this includes the Singapore community, its industry, and its public sector.

“For this reason, engineers have to be aware of the directions the international scene is pursuing, and yet simultaneously be very aware of national requirements,” explains Prof Ng.

He adds that CoE has been aware of national security issues, such as water and energy needs.

“I’m talking beyond defense-type security as the word may be commonly understood…there are other security issues we should be no less sensitive to. We import substantial amounts of our energy, water and food requirements, and so may then be seen as national security issues,” he says.

In response to this, the College has formed major research platforms. The Nanyang Environment and Water Research Institute (NEWRI) and the Energy Research Institute @ NTU (ERI@N) to which the CoE has contributed much to as examples.

He sees engineering as having played and continues to playing a huge part in Singapore’s continued development.

“We have significant constraints and the reason why the country has been able to thrive is of course the leadership it has and to a substantial extent, the technological and engineering solutions developed,” he says.

A VALUES-BASED EDUCATION

While CoE is focused on improving its education and research, it has not neglected the importance of inculcating values.

“We are very anxious that they have a more holistic view of what life is, not just about examinations, and fantastic grades,” says the Dean. Examinations and grades are important but there is much more than these.

To achieve this, the College has adopted the five ‘Cs’ of NTU – character, competence, communication, creativity and civic-mindedness.

Community development projects have been introduced, which give engineering students opportunities to work with less privileged communities in the region.

The benefits of these projects are twofold: firstly, students put what they learn in classrooms into practice – that is, a reality check. Secondly, according to the Dean, they “inculcate a level of understanding of differences and tolerance that is not necessarily easy to impart in the classroom”.

“As an engineer, we must be able to understand the fundamentals, business requirements, and cultural and social norms which may be different from ours, and be able to move our projects to the stage where we can realise real value for society, industry, and ourselves,” says Prof Ng.

In addition, engineering students should possess four important character traits – curiosity and the desire to investigate; the courage to enter unchartered territories in the engineering field; a strict work ethic and honesty to admit when things go wrong; and the ability to work effectively in teams.

Through this, Prof Ng hopes to cultivate thinking adults who are socially responsible and sensitive to other cultures in an international work environment.

“This creates diversity. Otherwise, we and our students become just a bunch of automatons, and that’s not what we’re looking for,” he says.

With the upswing in the quality of engineering students and the CoE’s efforts to push boundaries in its education and research programmes, the Dean is optimistic about the future of Singapore’s engineering education and industry.

Shares Prof Ng: “I see a very bright future for the engineers who are now entering the industry. In a decade or so, they will be senior engineers and they will chart new directions for the country. There are moments I wished I can be young again and have any shot at my career in such exciting times”
Congratulations,
CLASS OF 2014!

NTU confers honorary doctorates on NTU Pro-Chancellor Dr Wee Cho Yaw and Chair Professor of Physical Chemistry of Chalmers University of Technology Professor Bengt Nordén.

NTU conferred bachelor and higher degrees on 9,141 graduating students during its annual Convocation ceremonies held from 29 July to 5 August 2014.

Singapore President and NTU Chancellor, His Excellency Dr Tony Tan Keng Yam presented Honorary degrees to Dr Wee Cho Yaw, Pro-Chancellor of NTU and Chairman Emeritus and Adviser of United Overseas Bank Limited; and Professor Bengt Nordén, Chair Professor of Physical Chemistry of Chalmers University of Technology on 29 July.

Dr Wee Cho Yaw received the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Letters for his outstanding achievements in the Singapore business community, his enduring contributions to the Chinese community and his long-standing support and contributions to education. Dr Wee has been a long-time supporter and benefactor of NTU. Over the years, Dr Wee has made gifts of more than $5 million to NTU for the establishment of scholarship, professorship, endowment and bursary funds.

Professor Bengt Nordén was conferred the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Science for his world-class interdisciplinary research, his leadership in various high level international scientific committees and the key role he played in the rise of NTU’s academic research. As chair of the NTU Research Council, an external peer review panel, Professor Nordén played a key role in NTU’s success in securing the highest number of awards and funding under the Ministry of Education’s competitive research funding programmes.

Newly minted degrees were also given out to the pioneer cohort of 39 graduates from the Master of Science (Marketing & Consumer Insight) programme, jointly offered by the Institute on Asian Consumer Insight and Nanyang Business School, and the National Institute of Education’s Master of Teaching and Master of Arts (Leadership & Educational Change), a joint degree programme with Columbia University.

SHOWCASE OF SUCCESS
The Class of 2014 are seeing bright employment prospects in an optimistic job market although each year, a number chose to be entrepreneurs, to continue with higher studies or have the freedom to choose assignments through freelance work over full-time employment. Two in three NTU graduates in the Class of 2014 have secured jobs even before graduation, with a number receiving multiple job offers.

Internships have proven to give graduates an edge when it comes to landing an attractive full-time job, with many receiving multiple job offers after valuable exposure in their various internship companies.

Each year, NTU has close to 4,300 undergraduates who undergo internship or industrial attachment at about 1,500 companies, both at home and abroad. About 3 in 10 graduates are offered jobs by their internship and attachment companies annually.
NTU FEST 2014 - SEEING BEYOND YOURSELF

More than 8,000 participants throng NTU Fest at the Padang in the name of charity.

The mega one-day event, NTU Fest, held at the Padang on 16 August included a carnival, charity run and free concert headlined by Korean stars Kang Gary and Jung-In. It was the biggest event the NTU Students’ Union has ever organised, and marked the highlight of the NTU Freshmen Welcome Week.

More than 8,000 people converged at the Padang for the event, which was graced by Education Minister, Mr Heng Swee Keat. Minister Heng launched the carnival and flagged off the 4.8km 5TYLO MILE-O Run in the afternoon.

Proceeds from the sale of carnival coupons for use at the 55 booths, and the $10 registration fees for the 5TYLO MILE-O fun run were channelled towards the Ite endowment Fund which provides financial assistance to needy ITE students.

The carnival booths run by NTU and ITE students featured a variety of cuisines, games and fun activities for all ages. NTU and ITE students also showcased their creativity, dynamism and energy on stage earlier in the day.

A number of celebrities met fans at MediaCorp’s Toggle booth at the carnival. These included Jayley Woo, Zhang Zhen Huan, Chua Enlai, Ian Fang, Tracy Lee, Ye Hui, Desmond Tan and Julie Tan. The free evening concert was hosted by 987FM’s radio deejays Gerald Koh and Kimberly Wang.

Kang Gary, one of the seven hosts of the immensely popular entertainment show Running Man and his singing partner, Jung-In performed for the first time at the Padang in Singapore during the free concert in the evening.

Homegrown bands The Huckleberry Friends and District 12, The Final 1 champion Farisha Ishak and the finalists of Project Superstar, Singapore’s popular singing competition also performed at the concert, whilst the new cast of Mata-Mata, including Rebecca Lim, Pan Ling Ling, Priscelia Chan, Cynthia Koh, Divian Nair, Fish Chara and Rayve Tay took to the stage to entertain and play games with the crowd.
WE ARE NO.1!

NTU ranked the world’s best young university in the latest QS Top 50 Under 50 ranking.

For the first time, Nanyang Technological University (NTU) has topped the list of the world’s most dynamic young universities, pushing Hong Kong University of Science and Technology down to second place.

NTU is ranked No. 1 in the latest Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) Top 50 Under 50, a ranking of the world’s top 50 universities established within the last 50 years which was released on 24 September. It is the only Singapore institution listed on the QS Top 50 Under 50.

The University was propelled to the top spot by its superior reputation among international employers and the diversity of its faculty and student populations. It also scored high marks for its reputation among global academics and student/faculty ratio.

NTU President, Professor Bertil Andersson, said: “NTU is proud to plant the Singapore flag at the top of QS’ global list of Top 50 young universities this year. This honour comes on the heels of breaking into the QS Top 50 Under 50 for the first time, Nanyang Technological University (NTU) has topped the list of the world’s most dynamic young universities, pushing Hong Kong University of Science and Technology down to second place.

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NTU President, Professor Bertil Andersson, said: “NTU is proud to plant the Singapore flag at the top of QS’ global list of Top 50 young universities this year. This honour comes on the heels of breaking into the QS Top 50 Under 50.

NTU is at the top! The University was propelled to the top spot by its superior reputation among international employers and global academics, the diversity of its faculty and student populations, and also for its student/faculty ratio.

These rankings reaffirm the high quality of our education, research and innovation programmes. I am confident that our students, professors and graduates will continue to create value for Singapore, contributing to its competitiveness and enabling the nation to prosper well into the future.”

In another earlier ranking released on 16 September, the QS World University Rankings, NTU was ranked 39th among the world’s top universities. The University significantly improved its scores in its reputation among international employers, student faculty ratio, and faculty citations. It also scored top marks for its internationally diverse faculty and student communities.

NTU’s Engineering and Technology rose to 9th place. The University improved by three positions to rank 33rd in Social Sciences and Management, and made a remarkable jump of 31 places to No. 86 in the Arts and Humanities. NTU’s standing with international employers rose by 7 places to No. 35, its highest ever.

NTU also rocketed up to the 61st spot in the 2014 Times Higher Education World University Rankings released on 2 October. Leaping 15 places, NTU’s growing international reputation and its continued solid performance in terms of citations, teaching environment and research were behind this upward trend.

For the second consecutive year, NTU also maintained its No. 1 global position for industry income and innovation which measures a university’s knowledge transfer by looking at how much research income an institution earns from industry, scaled against the number of its academic staff.

PIONEER AND CRESCENT HALLS WELCOME STUDENTS

NTU recently opened its doors to two new residential halls, named Pioneer and Crescent Halls. These halls will allow the University to pilot new pedagogical models which will integrate learning both within and outside the formal curriculum for its residents.

Headed by two senior faculty-in-residence, the students will be mentored and guided by experts, with programmes that provide for deep experiential learning. Students will benefit from real world leadership and teamwork opportunities and a broad range of events and activities to enhance their life skills.

Designed as Y-shaped blocks resembling tree branches, the halls will also be a vital test-bed for innovative green technologies, and plans are already underway to make the entire facility a model of sustainable living for the 21st century. In 2013, the two new halls achieved Green Mark Platinum status – the highest award for an individual building given by the Building and Construction Authority (BCA) for environmental sustainability.

Among the environmentally-friendly features at the new halls is a biowall or rain garden planted with native vegetation to help slow down and filter rainwater, which can then be pumped back as clean water in the upstream pond and recycled to water the plants in the vicinity. All rooms have also been fitted with double-glazed windows, while burners on selected floors further shield the hall from direct sunlight, thus reducing the need for air-conditioning. The halls will also tap on solar power for its energy needs.

Working together with the Students’ Union, NTU project managers incorporated the students’ ideas into the design of the hall. These include the addition of a sports plaza comprising a half-basketball court, and barbecue pits.

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Boardwalks, gazebos, and barbecue pits are just some of the cultural areas which encourage student interaction.

▲ An NTU student moves into Pioneer Hall and prepares his room for his stay on campus.

▲ Among the environmentally-friendly features include specially designed towers to improve natural ventilation and to keep the building cool, thus reducing the need for air-conditioning.

▲ NTU is ranked 9th in the world for engineering, climbing 5 places from last year.

▲ NTU’s two new residential halls will allow the University to pilot new pedagogical models and promote environmental sustainability.

▲ NTU is at the top! The University was propelled to the top spot by its superior reputation among international employers and global academics, the diversity of its faculty and student populations, and also for its student/faculty ratio.
RESPECTED MEDICAL LEADER APPOINTED AS NEW DEAN OF LKCMEDICINE

World renowned endocrinologist Professor James Best’s appointment will boost medical research and education in Singapore.

Professor James Best, a distinguished medical leader who has dedicated his career to improving treatments for diabetes and kidney disease, has been appointed to the position of Dean at the Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine (LKCMedicine).

Professor Best has 30 years’ experience in endocrinology, teaching and medical leadership. He succeeds Professor Darmot Kelleher who has been Dean of both LKCMedicine and Imperial’s Faculty of Medicine for the last two years. Prof Kelleher, who retains his position as Imperial’s Vice-President (Health), will work together with Prof Best to ensure the activities of both institutions will continue to be closely and strategically aligned, and helping to realise the education, research and healthcare opportunities offered by the partnership between two world-class universities.

A graduate of the University of Melbourne in 1972, Prof James Best has practised in the discipline of Endocrinology in Australia, Hong Kong, the USA and the UK. Having worked as an Endocrinologist at St Vincent’s from 1982 to 1989, he joined the University of Melbourne staff as Deputy Head of the Department of Medicine (St Vincent’s Hospital) and in 1999 was appointed as Professor of Medicine and Head of Department. In July 2007, he was appointed as Head, Melbourne Medical School (MMS), a School that was established in 1862, and today ranks among the top 20 medical schools worldwide by the Times Higher Education.

Looking forward to his full-time stint in Singapore, Prof Best said: “I am excited to embark on this new challenge where there will be a wealth of opportunities to develop collaborations, partnerships and other academic initiatives. I am joining a School that has a highly skilled and dedicated team from NTU, Imperial and partner health organisations and I hope to build on the strengths of these institutions as the School moves towards fulfilling its ambitious goals to redefine and lead the world’s highest standards to gain admission and we thank them for entrusting their training to us,” said Prof Best.

“The medical school has continued to attract the very best students from Singapore, who wish to commit their lives to medicine and be among the pioneers to go through our world-class medical education developed jointly with Imperial College London,” said Prof Andersson.

Professor James Best, the medical school’s new Dean, presented each student with a white coat and the promise that they can expect to be immersed in clinical settings from the onset of their medical education.

“I am delighted to mark the start of the medical journey for the Class of 2019, our second cohort. All of them have met the astonishingly high standards to gain admission and we thank them for entrusting their training to us,” said Prof Best.

“In return, we will provide them with opportunities to learn from the most outstanding professors using the most innovative tools. Throughout their time with us, we will reinforce the clinical importance of what they learn, and cultivate in our students a patient-centred approach to the practice of medicine.”

The second cohort of NTU medical students recite their Declaration of a New Medical Student during the White Coat Ceremony, which symbolises the freshmen’s initiation into medicine, was held on 13 August at NTU’s School of Art, Design and Media. It was presided over by Mr Lim Chuan Poh, Chairman of LKCMedicine’s Governing Board who is also the Chairman of the Agency of Science Technology & Research (A*STAR).

NTU President Professor Bertil Andersson said it was heartening to see so many bright Singapore students making LKCMedicine their first choice.

MYSTERIOUS MEMBRANES PRINT ANYTHING IN 3D – ANYTHING IN 3D

Two-year-old startup achieves breakthrough with innovative multifunction membranes.

A young NTU start-up has developed a first-of-its-kind multifunction water filtration membrane. With its expected cost savings and superior performance, the new invention has the potential to render current membranes in the water industry obsolete.

A young NTU start-up has developed a first-of-its-kind multifunction water filtration membrane. With its expected cost savings and superior performance, the new invention has the potential to render current membranes in the water industry obsolete.

“This made-in-NTU membrane lasts twice as long when compared to conventional membranes, is highly resistant to breakage, and has anti-bacterial and anti-biofouling properties. Another groundbreaking characteristic – it allows for an unprecedented flow rate of at least ten times faster than current water filtration membranes. Developed by NTU start-up Nano Sun, at the centre of this breakthrough multifunction membrane is a patented titanium dioxide nanotechnology. Titanium dioxide nanoparticles are proven to kill bacteria and to break down organic compounds in waste water with the help of sunlight or Ultra Violet (UV) rays. Invented by Associate Professor Darren Sun, from NTU’s School of Civil and Environmental Engineering, the start-up is cofounded by Adjunct Professor Wong Ann Chia from NTU’s Nanyang Business School.

Mr Fang, CEO of Blacksmith Group, said that most 3D printers are not really useful for the average consumer, as they will not know how to design a 3D model from scratch on the computer.

“3D printing will be much easier with Blacksmith Genesis, because our users won’t need to design an original work from scratch using 3D software. By scanning any physical item, the digitised object can be used as a base for them to customise or even combine with other existing models to form their own 3D object,” said Mr Fang.

Another unique feature of Blacksmith Genesis is its remote live monitoring and automatic error detection using an in-built camera. Users can also monitor the printing process on their smartphones from anywhere in the world through an Internet connection, and will be able to start or stop printing at any time.
Some $100 million will be committed to establish the Rehabilitation Research Institute of Singapore (RRIS), which is a collaboration between the Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR), Nanyang Technological University (NTU) and National Healthcare Group (NHG). This is the second landmark clinical research collaboration between the three parties, following the launch of the Skin Research Institute of Singapore (SRIS) in 2013.

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed at the Singapore Health and Biomedical Congress (SHBC) 2014 Opening Ceremony on 26 September, and witnessed by Guest-of-Honour, Health Minister Gan Kim Yong.

RRIS will leverage on the expertise of scientists, clinicians and engineers to develop innovative technology solutions for better patient outcomes. Key areas of study include stroke and neurological rehabilitation, clinical robotics and biomechanics, as well as the development of computer games for rehabilitation.

A*STAR will provide a wide range of expertise in Biomedical sciences and Physical sciences, including its Brain-Computer Interface (BCI), wearable and neuroimaging technologies from the Institute for Infocomm Research (I2R).

NHG, through its flagship Tan Tock Seng Hospital (TTSH), will lend clinical expertise from Singapore’s largest team of rehabilitation physicians. A multi-disciplinary team of therapists will also provide expertise to bring research from bench to bedside, and develop practical solutions for patients.

Scientists at NTU will play a key role in translating basic science and clinical findings into real-life applications, through the use of cutting-edge technology. NTU Provost, Professor Freddy Boey, said that NTU’s strength in robotics and biomedical applications will contribute greatly to the interdisciplinary research conducted by RRIS. The Institute can also leverage on the world-class research expertise from the Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine which has NHG as its primary clinical training partner.

RRIS builds on existing partnerships in rehabilitation innovation. In the past six years, NTU and NHG have successfully collaborated on eight projects in the area of rehabilitative care. This includes the development of a robotic exoskeleton to help stroke patients recover their balance; and an upper limb rehabilitation robot that assists patients according to their different stages of recovery.

Some 3,000 delegates from Asia, Australia, United Kingdom and the United States, witnessed the signing of the MOU. They were in town for the two-day SHBC 2014, which is themed “Redefining Healthcare for the Future – Educating, Innovating & Leading for Progress.”
WE LIKE TO MOVE IT MOVE IT!

Team Move It Move It, comprising NTU alumni Mr Lim Zhen Long (SCBE/2013) and Ms Zhou Mi (NBS/2013), participated in a 250km 7-day ultra-marathon at Madagascar from 31 August to 6 September this year. At the same time, they raised funds for NTU Student Bursaries through the run.

The TEAM

Zhou Mi and Zhen Long were active NTU students back in their undergraduate days. Zhou Mi was active in her hall and extra-curricular activities and when she pursued a minor in entrepreneurship, she even started and sustained her start-up business for a year.

“My time in NTU was one of the most defining moments of my life,” shares Zhen Long. It was at NTU where he met inspirational mentors and highly motivated peers who challenged him to bring out the best in himself.

Their first experience of a desert race series was during their graduation trip in 2013, when they joined the Gobi March 2013 race as volunteers. What a unique and adventurous graduation trip – truly reflective of their personalities. They were both awed by the sheer beauty of the vast landscape and inspired by the runners. They heard humbling stories of how some of the runners were running the race to support various charitable causes.

A year later, this duo came back to participate in another desert race – this time not as volunteers, but as competitors! They aptly chose the name “Team Move It Move It” as it tied in with what they were trying to do, and the race was held in Madagascar.

The PREPARATION

This ultramarathon was no walk in the park, and preparation began six months before the 7-day race.

ZHOu MI’S TRAINING REGIME

50-80km per week for 6 months

Training with backpack for 6 weeks

ZHEN LONG’S TRAINING REGIME

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weekdays</th>
<th>Saturdays</th>
<th>Sundays</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7-8km (2 or 3 times)</td>
<td>+ 30km</td>
<td>+ 20km</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strength training @ gym on non-running days</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Training with 6kg load 2 months before race</td>
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The duo also took the effort to document their trainings on their website and Facebook page, to update their supporters and to encourage more people to come forward and donate. Kudos to them!

The CAUSE

Together, Team Move It Move It set up a website and a donation link, for donors to support their cause and contribute to NTU Student Bursaries. It was not a difficult decision of which charity they should raise funds for. “I always felt that I owe it to NTU for who I am today. This is just my way of expressing my gratitude – what better way than paying it forward?” shared Zhen Long. Zhou Mi agreed fully, adding that both of them had great experiences as undergraduates in NTU and it was a great opportunity to give back to their alma mater.

The CAUSE: a great opportunity to give back to their alma mater.

The PREPARATION: This ultramarathon was no walk in the park, and preparation began six months before the 7-day race.

The CAUSE: The team’s goal was to raise funds for NTU Student Bursaries.

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The VICTORY

Both team members completed the race in victory, with Zhen Long ranking 52nd overall among 239 registered participants, an impressive feat for a first-timer. Zhou Mi and Zhen Long are now safely back in Singapore, more alive than ever. Glad to have done their part to give back to society, they strongly encourage others to do so too.

Sharing more about their future plans, Zhou Mi says: “I have some ideas on compiling 50 interesting 10km routes in Singapore. I will also work on creating opportunities to give back to NTU Student Bursaries again.”

“Running ultra-marathons would probably become a part of my life. Long distance running can be rather therapeutic and meditative for me. In future, I also hope to have the honour to run alongside NTU alumni ultra-marathoners Mr Lim Nghee Huat and Mr Yong Yuen Cheng, to raise funds for NTU,” adds Zhen Long.

If you would like to support their cause by donating towards the NTU Student Bursaries, please visit teammovemove.it.wix.com/main.

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Welcome, Class of 2014!

The Welcome Class of 2014 Alumni Party organised by the NTU Alumni Affairs Office was held at Zouk, one of Asia’s hottest nightspots, on 8 August. More than 1,000 alumni and guests attended the party which has become an annual celebration to welcome the University’s newest graduates after their convocation.

Guest-of-honour NTU President Professor Bertil Andersson congratulated the graduates and encouraged them to continue staying in touch with their fellow alumni and the University. He went on to officially launch the party together with four alumni representatives – Mr Tran Quoc Nguyen (SCE), Mr Ahluwalia Kunal (MAE), Miss Hnin Nu Aye (WKWSCI) and Miss Zhang Shuya (NTC).

Students from NTU’s Cultural Activities Club then took to the stage with their amazing dance performances showcasing the students’ slick moves and dance steps. Prof Andersson and other guests also went on to join the students on stage, whilst leading everyone else onto the dance floor, grooving to music from Top 40s hits.

SPORTS FOR ALL!

Alumni return to campus to enjoy sports and games at NTU Alumni Sports Fiesta 2014.

It was a morning of friendly fun as NTU alumni gathered with fellow alumni for some healthy sports competition. Decked out in their sports gear, some 300 participants and their supporters made their way to NTU’s Sports and Recreation on 28 June for the annual NTU Alumni Sports Fiesta organised by the Alumni Affairs Office.

Mr Soon Min Yam, Director of Alumni Affairs, welcomed the participants and thanked them for their support. He then declared the Sports Fiesta open, which was followed by a thrilling performance by the NTU ACES Cheerleading Team.

The first competition of the morning was a closely fought 4 x 100m relay run. There were loud cheers and applause from supporters as runners of six teams raced to take home the coveted first prize, which was won by the team ZHPK comprising alumni friends from different programmes. Following the relay, participants headed to different sports stations to take part in 3-on-3 basketball, tennis doubles, badminton doubles and table-tennis doubles.

Alumni participants at the NTU Alumni Sports Fiesta enjoy a morning of friendly sports competition in games such as badminton and basketball.
I've strengthened over the years through networking events and hopes that this relationship will continue to grow. The bond and connection between NTU and its alumni is one that is life-long, Prof Andersson emphasised the importance of maintaining a strong relationship an NTU alumnus has with his/her alma mater is one that is life-long, Prof Andersson said he is proud to be an NTU alumni in China. The huge number of senior officials trained at NTU reflects the Chinese government’s confidence in Singapore’s public policy and administration, and the quality and effectiveness of the University’s programmes. Today, our China-based graduates are growing into an important and influential group of decision-makers with established ties to Singapore. Looking ahead, NTU remains committed to fostering and maintaining strong ties with our alumni in China. "The huge number of senior officials trained at NTU reflects the Chinese government’s confidence in Singapore’s public policy and administration, and the quality and effectiveness of the University’s programmes. Today, our China-based graduates are growing into an important and influential group of decision-makers with established ties to Singapore. Looking ahead, NTU remains committed to fostering and maintaining strong ties with our alumni in China." Mr Song Zhaorui, the valedictorian representing the Class of 2014, said he is proud to be an NTU graduate given its international standing and rankings. "NTU, with its high quality of teaching and a curriculum that has combined the best of East and West within a multicultural context, has given us an international perspective as well as honed our strategic thinking," said the graduate from the Master of Science in Managerial Economics, who is working as a project manager at the China Aerospace Science & Industry Corporation. The first NTU China Convocation was held at Qinhuangdao City in 2006. Since then, this highly-anticipated annual event has become a tradition for the University where the China-based graduates commemorate this special day with their loved ones and their alma mater.

NTU alumni based in China meet for second Conference of China-based NTU Alumni Associations in Beijing held in conjunction with NTU’s China Convocation 2014.

In conjunction with NTU’s 2014 China Convocation, NTU held its second Conference of China-based NTU Alumni Associations, alumni talk and alumni get-together dinner on 13 September at the capital city Beijing.

NTU President Professor Bertil Andersson delivered a speech at the start of the conference which was attended by 140 alumni representatives. He emphasised the importance of maintaining a strong bond and connection between NTU and its alumni. As the relationship an NTU alumnus has with his/her alma mater is one that is life-long, Prof Andersson hopes that this relationship will continue to grow stronger over the years through networking events such as this conference.

Ms Sun Xia, President of NTU Alumni Association (AA) (Beijing), gave a warm welcome to NTU’s senior management, alumni and guests, who had travelled from Singapore and various parts of China to convene in the Chinese capital, Beijing. She also spoke about the AAs mission, which is to serve alumni, maintain the relationship, develop together, and to give back to the community. After the introduction of the AA representatives, Professor Lee Sing Kong, NTU’s Vice-President (Education Strategies), gave a talk on NTU Education and provided his in-depth views about ‘Shaping Higher Education for the 21st Century’. Mr Terry Alan Fanis, NTU’s Chief Development Officer and Mr Page Hong Gancheng, Assistant Director, Development Office, spoke about the importance of giving back to NTU after a presentation on NTU AAs development by Mr Soon Min Yam, Director of NTU Alumni Affairs, Ms Qing Linmei, President of NTU AA (Shaanne), Ms Liang Jing, Secretary General of NTU AA (Henan), Mr Cao Hongming, Executive Vice-President of NTU AA (Shijuan) and Mr Wang Minzheng, Honorary President of NTU AA (Yunnan) shared more about managing their AAs and connecting with alumni.

Following the conference, about 150 alumni attended a talk on ‘The Geohazard challenge facing China in the 21st century’, delivered by Professor Kerry Sieh, Director, Earth Observatory of Singapore.

At the alumni get-together dinner which concluded the full-day event, Prof Andersson congratulated the new Class of 2014 graduates and expressed his delight in seeing alumni from all over China gathering in one location to celebrate a grand occasion. He encouraged all alumni to come forward and play an active role in alumni relations cultivation, and to be more engaged with the University, hence growing the NTU alumni family stronger.

During the dinner which was attended by more than 500 people, alumni networked amongst fellow alumni and caught up with their professors. They were entertained by song and dance performances, and made a toast wishing success of NTU and its alumni.

NTU CHINA CONVOCATION 2014

In the morning of 13 September, NTU celebrated the achievements of 360 Chinese government officials and industry professionals who graduated from seven NTU Master’s programmes and the prestigious Lien Fellowship programme this year. This included 50 senior government officials who received their Master of Science in Managerial Economics and Master of Public Administration, better known as “The Mayors’ Class”. Held annually in different Chinese cities, the 9th China Convocation ceremony was held in the Chinese capital, Beijing, for the first time.

Seven established and emerging Chinese leaders from the prestigious Lien Ying Chow Legacy Fellowship programme also received their certificates during the ceremony. This included a ministerial-level government official, Dr Han Fangming, the Vice Chairman of Foreign Affairs Committee of the National Committee of Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference, who was also the guest speaker for the ceremony.

“NTU has long played a leading role in fostering close ties with China through our various China-focused programmes. Since 1992, NTU has been providing training to Chinese senior officials in diverse areas such as public administration, economic management, urban planning and the management of higher education institutions,” said NTU President, Professor Bertil Andersson.

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The first NTU China Convocation was held at Qinhuangdao City in 2006. Since then, this highly-anticipated annual event has become a tradition for the University where the China-based graduates commemorate this special day with their loved ones and their alma mater.
The launch of S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS) Alumni Association (AA) was held in conjunction with the 11th RSIS alumni dinner at Intercontinental Hotel on 22 August. With its formation, RSIS alumni now have a new platform to stay in touch with each other and also with the Institute.

RSIS was established in January 2007 as an autonomous school within Nanyang Technological University (NTU). It was previously known as the Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies (IDSS) when it first started in July 1996.

The Guest-of-Honour, Ambassador Barry Desker, Dean of RSIS, updated the 170 alumni, faculty and guests on RSIS’ new developments, such as their new programmes, international collaborations and increasing students’ intake.

He expressed his appreciation to Mr Phillip Ee Kwang Yong (EEE/1998; RSIS/2004), the President of RSIS AA, and the committee members for their contributions in leading the AA, and for contacting their classmates in Singapore and overseas.

Mr Phillip Ee shared on the key objectives and future plans of the AA. He urged the alumni to stay connected via the various social media platforms and to actively participate in the activities such as an upcoming networking trip to Jakarta.

On 4 August, the NTU Sport Science and Management Alumni Association (NTU SSM AA) was formally inaugurated at its first event, the SSM graduation dinner. Held within the cozy confines of The Gallery @ SCAPE, the event was special as it was also the first SSM graduation dinner combining the first two batches of SSM graduates. Incidentally, the Classes of 2013 and 2014 shared a close relationship throughout their time in NTU and so it was particularly apt that they share a graduation dinner as well.

In total, 94 graduates and staff attended the dinner which was graced by Guest-of-Honour, Dr Quek Jin Jong, the former Principal Officer of the National Institute of Education (NIE). Dr Quek presented the Quek Jin Jong book prizes for Best Science and Management students, which were awarded to Alexander Mok and Bernice Low respectively. The valedictorians for each class, Mervyn Chan (2013) and Alexander Mok (2014) were also present at the event.

The night was filled with entertainment and activities ranging from performances by talented graduates to humorous project videos and quirky awards. The NTU SSM AA was formally launched via a combusive torch-passing ceremony, with reference to the actual Olympic ritual. This was followed by a speech by Ms Jayalakshmy, President of the SSM AA, who then rounded off the night with an SSM cheer that is known only to the first two batches of SSM students.

It was a night to remember for the graduates. Reminiscing the past four years and having a good chuckle at the silly things they did. The dinner was a great opportunity for everyone to come together again and hopefully the renewed bonds would be carried over into the next phase of their lives.

The NTU SSM AA is formally inaugurated at the programme’s first graduation dinner.
A CELEBRATION OF HOSTEL CAMARADERIE

Former and current residents of Hall of Residence 11 gather for the official launch of the Hall’s Alumni Association.

NTU students staying on campus forge long-lasting friendships with fellow hostel residents. This relationship stays strong long after the students have graduated and moved out of the hostel, to start a new journey.

This evergreen camaraderie amongst hostel mates was clearly apparent as alumni who previously stayed at NTU’s Hall of Residence 11 came together for the official launch of the Hall of Residence 11 Alumni Association (AA).

Held on 1 September at the Hall’s Reading Room, the event was graced by former Senior Hall Fellow, Associate Professor Koh Chong Lek. At the event, the alumni and students learnt more about the Association and its objectives.

Initiated by Mr Norton Ng (EEE/2014), President of the AA and former President of the 19th Junior Common Room Committee (JCRC), the AA is the realisation of a collective vision to foster a greater sense of belonging and camaraderie within the hall. It functions as a platform for passionate ex-hall residents who wish to continue contributing back to the hall to connect with the current residents.

The main committee includes vice-presidents Mr Alan Phua (SCE/2010) and Mr Tom Lim (NIE/2013), financial consultant Mr Alvin Lye (NBS/2010), and honorary generals Ms Daphne Teh (SCBES/2013) and Ms Lee Mei Rong (HSS/2012).

The primary objective of the AA is to provide a means of networking with the past, current and future batches of hall residents. The alumni can provide contacts to aid the hall’s committees in their canvassing for various events, such as the annual Dinner and Dance. Simultaneously, the alumni can provide a hall-based support network to exchange information and contacts with one another, for both professional and social purposes. Through this initiative, past residents can keep in touch with current residents and fellow alumni to preserve the hall culture and spirit.

The AA committee is also working on a membership system, with possible benefits including the use of hall facilities, such as the barbecue pit and dance room, and a discount coupon system for bundled hall events.

Some 80 residents, alumni and guests attended the launch event which included a buffet dinner and lucky draw. The alumni and current residents of the hall also donated towards the JCRC fund as part of an effort to raise funds for future occasions.

GUTEN TAG FROM MUNICH!

Round 30 NTU alumni based in various countries in Europe gathered at the Munich Westin Grand on 22 September in Munich, Germany, for the second Annual General Meeting (AGM) of NTU Alumni Association (AA) (Europe). There was heightened excitement in the air as the meeting date coincided with the region’s most popular event, Oktoberfest, also known as Wiesn to the locals.

The event was kick-started by NTU AA (Europe) President, Dr Vinay Kalia (NBS/2003) who outlined the chapter’s journey which started with the AA’s launch in Zurich, Switzerland in March 2013, followed by a visit to the Swiss Parliament in July 2014, and Dr Vinyar’s return visit to NTU’s Nanyang Business School in January 2014 where he interacted with current MBA students.

Dr Vina also outlined the challenges ahead to strengthen the alumni network, and shared how the ownership has to come from the alumni themselves to make the NTU alumni family a reflection of their own collective spirit and personality.

The tempo of the afternoon was further enhanced by the presence of and presentation by NTU President Professor Bertil Andersson who highlighted the latest achievements of NTU. It was a proud moment for the alumni as they learnt how their alma mater has progressed rapidly in terms of university rankings and research collaborations.

Prof Andersson also thanked the Vice-President of the Germany Chapter, Mr Vijayakumar Vijesh (EEE/2010) for his support in organising the event. He once again reiterated his commitment to the alumni amid loud cheers and appreciation from the participants.

The event was also attended by NTU President Professor Bertil Andersson (front, centre), NTU Chief of Staff & Vice-President (Research) Prof Lam Khin Yong (front, right, in light blue shirt), Acting Chair of SBS Prof Peter Preiser (back, right, in tie) and Prof Maria-Elisabeth Michel-Beyerle from SPMS (not in photo).

Mathematical Sciences (SPMS) were present at the event as well. They briefly presented their areas of specialisation, collectively representing more than 100 years of research, and also took questions from the inquisitive alumni.

The official event ended with a networking afternoon for building bonds and carrying combined aspirations forward for the University and alumni.

The work part of the event was over but the party had just begun. It was then time to hit the Oktoberfest arena, where the alumni let their hair down and were on high spirits enjoying the celebrations with premium German beer and food.

Whilst concluding the event, Dr Vina announced that next year’s annual event will be held in Singapore itself, in conjunction with the NTU Alumni Homecoming during the period of 15 to 18 October 2015. Reserve the dates as excitement continues at NTU’s Alumni Association (Europe) in its third year of existence.

Cheers to a lively NTU alumni gathering in Munich!
REUNION TO REMEMBER

Classes of 1970 to 1975 alumni return to alma mater to catch up with fellow alumni and reminisce their student days on campus.

held at NTU’s Nanyang Auditorium Foyer on 5 July, the reunion event was attended by some 300 alumni and guests. Starting in the morning, the get-together saw alumni from the Classes of 1970 to 1975 returning to campus and catching up with fellow alumni.

The event started with a health forum session chaired by Mr Tay Boon Suat (1974/Commerce) which featured alumni speakers Mr Fong Cheng Ek (1970/Arts) and Mr Tan Hong Leng (1975/Arts). Mr Fong and Mr Tan, both of whom are Traditional Chinese Physicians, spoke on ‘Preventing dementia with Traditional Chinese Medicine’ and ‘Gastrointestinal health’, respectively. Alumni and guests were seen listening intently to their very informative presentations which provided important knowledge on how Traditional Chinese Medicine can be beneficial for good health and curing illnesses.

During the lunch following the forum, Guest-of-Honour Professor Er Meng Hwa, NTU’s Vice-President for International Affairs, welcomed the alumni and provided an update on NTU’s recent developments. He also thanked all the committee members and alumni for their continuous support and contribution.

Chairman of the Classes of 1970 to 1975 Alumni Reunion Organising Committee, Mr Liew Shin Liat (Science/1974) thanked all the committee members and alumni for their support and dedication.

Mr Tay Boon Suat (1974/Commerce) (right) chairing a forum session which featured alumni speaker Mr Fong Cheng Ek (Arts/1970) (left) sharing his views on preventing dementia with TCM.

Six alumni couples renew their vows during the reunion event. Also seen on stage are, Prof Er Meng Hwa (far right), NTU’s Vice-President for International Affairs; and Mr Soon Min Yam (far left), Director of Alumni Affairs, NTU, who presided over the renewal of vows ceremony.

Alumni from the Class of 1970 to 1975 enjoy a memorable afternoon catching up with fellow alumni.

This reunion celebration was made more significant as six alumni couples from these classes renewed their vows. The renewal of vows ceremony was presided by Director of Alumni Affairs, Mr Soon Min Yam, who is a licensed solemniser and alumnus from Class of 1975.

Throughout the lunch, alumni had an enjoyable time chatting with their friends and former lecturers. They were also entertained by performances by NTU students and alumni.

NTU Alumni Association (Anhui)

NTU alumni in Anhui gathered at the Westin Hotels & Resorts in Hefei, the capital city of Anhui Province, on 27 July for the NTU Alumni Association (AA) (Anhui)’s election and annual gathering. Although heavy rains caused flooding on some of the roads in the city, the alumni did not shy away from their plans to meet their fellow alumni again since the last gathering held three years ago.

During the election meeting in the afternoon, the President of NTU AA (Anhui), Ms Liu Jun (NBS/2007) and Mr Zhang Qilin (Exec Prog/2010) were re-elected as the AA’s new President and Secretary, respectively. The committee agreed to appoint Ms Liu Jun as the honorary President of the AA instead. Mr Yue Chuanjing (NBS/2007) was elected as the AA’s new President whilst Mr Zhang Guo (Exec Prog/2010) and Mr Zhu Ge (Exec Prog/2010) were re-elected as the Treasurers. A total of 121 NTU alumni are based in the Anhui province, with 27 of them serving as committee members.

NTU Alumni Association (Shaanxi)

NTU Alumni Association (AA) (Shaanxi) launches its new activity area at Mount Taibai Base.

With the support of the AA Vice-President, Mr Li Zhiyuan, who is also the Secretary of the Party Committee of the Taibai Mountains Tourism Zone and Secretary of Meixian County, the new area will provide a conducive environment for activities organised by the AA. The activity area was given a personal touch, decorated with information posters about NTU, NTU AA (Shaanxi), photographs of NTU alumni in Shaanxi and AAs activities.

GATHERING OF FRIENDS IN HEFEI AND SHAANXI CITY

NTU Alumni Association (Anhui) holds election and annual gathering in Hefei and NTU Alumni Association (Shaanxi) launches its new activity area at Mount Taibai Base.
MR LIM THIAN FATT
(CEE/1989)

It’s wonderful to share that I graduated from NTU in 1989 when it was known as the Nanyang Technological Institute (NTI). It has been 25 years since then. But, if I would like to feel younger I would say that I graduated in 1998 after completing my MBA majoring in Business Law. After having worked continuously for 25 years, I recently decided to call it a day and left the working world.

Right now, I am now busy travelling to various parts of the world for missionary work. Other than Singapore and Malaysia, I have been to the Philippines, Indonesia, India, USA, Mexico and Chile. Other than my missionary work, I am also keeping a look out for investments and strategic business opportunities given my global connections and experience which I have gained in the past years whilst working. Speaking of 25 years, my fellow alumni from the Class of 1969 are excited and looking forward to coming together for a grand 25th anniversary reunion celebration on 8 November. A few of us from the various Schools are sitting in the organising committee and we have planned this event exclusively for our fellow Class of 1969 alumni. It is going to be an amazing day as some of us have not met each other since we graduated and I can imagine all the catching up we will be doing! We even have friends from Australia, Vietnam, Malaysia and China coming back to be with us.

And since the reunion is being held on campus, it will be great to see how far NTU has developed. We have lined up some special programmes to add colour and flavour to the gathering. The next 25 years is a bit too far away. So we might as well catch up now.

I am looking forward to meeting not only with friends from my engineering school but also those of other schools from hostel days, sports, and club activities. In fact, a day would hardly be enough to catch up.

“Excited of the days ahead. Living a purposeful life.”

MR LIU HONG
(NIE/2014)

I remember when my trip to Singapore to pursue a programme at NIE was confirmed. There was hope and joy, somewhat like in the poem “Amid the lingering cries of monkeys from both sides of the river banks, my skiff has since sailed through tens of thousands of mountains”, from Libai, a prominent poet during the Tang Dynasty era.

In March 2013, I left my hometown where I have lived and worked for more than 40 years, to study abroad in Singapore. My half year spent in NTU are some of my fondest memories in my life. Singapore is an amazing picturesque country, with modern facilities. I love the abundant greenery everywhere and the sandy beaches.

When I was studying in the beautiful green campus of NTU, I remember meeting other students who always had ready smiles. I spent my time here studying and having discussions with my fellow classmates. I also attended sports networking sessions organised by the NTU Alumni Affairs Office. I learnt to play tennis and badminton, and it was fun playing together with my classmates.

The NIE professors who taught me made the lessons very vibrant and allowed me to learn more about an international university’s education concept and management. I am grateful to all my classmates who showed me care and concern. We spent a lot of time together, helping each other and learning from one another. It is a friendship I truly cherish.

I also gained very practical and useful knowledge. It is valuable to experience a new way of teaching and learning. My classmates and I would approach problems in various ways – listening to experienced professors in class, brainstorming problems together in a team, studying at the library, and participating in extracurricular programmes. Through these ways, we learnt how to manage and solve challenging problems. I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to all my professors and classmates who have given me wonderful memories of my time in NTU.

MS LE THI THANH NGUYEN
(EXECUTIVE PROGRAMME/2006)

I was one of the students who came to NTU in 2007 to pursue the English for Administrators in Vietnam programme. My time in NTU was unforgettable.

I forged friendships with many students from around the region, such as Singapore, the Philippines, Thailand, India and others. Through this, I learnt more about the different cultures of the various countries. It was nice seeing everyone being very united whilst studying and even after the completion of the programme.

I recently graduated with a Bachelor Degree of Business from NBS in 2011. Throughout my three years in NTU, I stayed at the on-campus hall of residence. By living on campus, I had a great opportunity to participate in many school activities and one of the best extra-curricular activities for me was the Modern Jazz (MJ) dance club as dancing was always my passionate hobby as well as my good cure for stress relief. I was also honored to be a vice-captain of the dance team “SIREN-GIE” for Hall of Residence 8 during my last year in NTU. After graduation, I relocated back to my hometown in Bangkok, Thailand, leaving my Singapore life behind.

However, my “NTU” journey has never ended. I continued to stay in touch with NTU through the NTU Alumni Association in Thailand. I was selected as a committee member of the Association in 2012. It has always been a great networking opportunity and fun time to be in contact with other alumni.

I never imagined having another chapter of life in NTU but here I am once again! Currently, I am a graduate student pursuing the Nanyang MBA degree because Nanyang Business School has such a great academic curriculum. I hope to have another great year in NTU and would like to take this opportunity to “thank” this university for being such a great learning hub for me.

MS FENG RONG RONG
(NBS/2013)

Time flies, one year has passed since my graduation. I still remember the first day I came to NTU. In the first day itself, I felt the bond that we shared amongst our classmates. We helped each other in school work and even went shopping together. The first class we attended gave us a very good impression. It was the subject of Statistics, taught by Professor Wu Yuan. I have the utmost respect for all the professors from the Master of Finance programme.

I remember studying very hard and there were some of my classmates who would go for their classes much earlier before the start of lessons. After class, we would often have discussions on what was covered in the lesson. Sometimes, we would continue studying till late in the evening. The education my classmates and I received in NTU gave me a unique experience and it was a turning point in my life. During the one year programme, I learnt more about the comprehensive and practical knowledge of finance. I became more mature and confident, believing in myself that I could handle future challenges at work and in life.

And of course, I made a lot of good friends. Thanks to NTU, I received an opportunity to learn from outstanding professors, and gain an unforgettable experience as a student.

I recently graduated with a Bachelor Degree of Business from NBS in 2011. Throughout my three years in NTU, I stayed at the on-campus hall of residence. By living on campus, I had a great opportunity to participate in many school activities and one of the best extra-curricular activities for me was the Modern Jazz (MJ) dance club as dancing was always my passionate hobby as well as my good cure for stress relief. I was also honored to be a vice-captain of the dance team “SIREN-GIE” for Hall of Residence 8 during my last year in NTU. After graduation, I relocated back to my hometown in Bangkok, Thailand, leaving my Singapore life behind.

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ALUMNI PARTICULARS UPDATE

To help us serve you better, kindly update your particulars, and send the form to us via fax, email or mail:
Fax: +65 67941036
Email: alumniaffairs@ntu.edu.sg

(Information Management)
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Nanyang Technological University
60 Nanyang View #02-08
Nanyang Executive Centre
Singapore 639673

If you receive duplicate copies of NTULink, or know of fellow alumni who are not receiving the magazine, please call us at +65 6513 8073 or email us at alumniaffairs@ntu.edu.sg.

At NTU, we treasure our relationship with alumni! Do provide Alumni Affairs Office your latest contact details and stay connected!

Full name as in NRIC
(Mr/ Ms/ Dr/ Prof/ Others)

NRIC/FIN/Passport no.

DOB (dd/mm/yy)

Race

nationality singapore
PR
Marital status
Religion

Year of Graduation
School / Department

Address

Postal Code
Email Address
Home No.

Mobile No.
Facebook Page
Twitter Account

LinkedIn User Name
Company Name
Designation

Company Address

Postal Code
Industry

Office No.
Fax No.

aluMni Particulars uPdate

(b) send me such alumni-related marketing, advertising and promotional information through the following modes of communication:
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(ii) to my following telephone number(s): ____________________ by way of:
(1) [ ] Voice call / Phone call
(2) [ ] SMS/MMS (text messages)
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Please indicate that you agree to NTU and its employees, agents and third party service providers using that mode of communication by inserting a √ in the box.

I hereby represent and warrant that I am the user and/or subscriber of the telephone number(s) provided by me above, and that I have read and understood the above provisions.

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AAO is committed to keeping all alumni’s personal information private, safe and secure. To view AAO’s personal data protection policy, please visit www.ntu.edu.sg/alumni.

I hereby authorise, agree and consent to allow Nanyang Technological University (NTU) and its employees and agents (collectively “NTU”) and NTU’s third party service providers to:

(a) collect, use and/or process personal data about me that I had previously provided NTU, that I now provide NTU, that I may in future provide NTU with and/or that NTU possesses about me including but not limited to my name, my identification number, my telephone numbers, my address, for the following purposes:
- To maintain a lifelong relationship with its alumni;
- To create awareness and promote alumni relations;
- To understand and study the profile of its alumni community for NTU’s policy making and planning;
- To involve alumni in NTU’s continual development and progress through the engagement of voluntary services and giving back to their alma mater;
- To assist ministries and government agencies in the development of national policies and guidelines through the sharing of necessary data.

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EVENTS CALENDAR

October to December 2014

18 OCT
Alumni Homecoming Dinner

15 NOV
NTU Class of 1989 25th Anniversary Reunion Celebration

15 - 19 NOV
NTU Alumni SDN Discovery Tour to Taiwan

21 DEC
NTU Alumni Movie Screening
Hobbit: There and Back Again
Learning Differently Leading Change

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