MESSAGE FROM NTU PRESIDENT

Dear University Community,

This message is to announce the culmination of a year-long effort to design a plan that will shape the evolution of the University over the next five years. This effort benefited from strong engagement and input from every part of the University community, from faculty and staff across all academic and administrative domains, and from the Board of Trustees to student leaders to many alumni. It also benefited significantly from the tireless efforts of colleagues who were members of the NTU 2025 Strategy Task Force. I express my profound gratitude to all of them.

NTU 2025 builds on the University’s unique intellectual assets while articulating our bold ambitions and goals for significantly enhancing and deploying these strengths. As NTU implements this plan, it will strive to play a key role in supporting Singapore’s national R&D priorities outlined in the Research, Innovation and Enterprise 2025 plan, and to address four of humanity’s grand challenges. To this end, specific initiatives, pathways, and goals have been established to strengthen NTU’s four core pillars: education, research, innovation, and community. These activities will be supported through enablers that enhance excellence to achieve NTU 2025 goals: talent, financials and technology.

The plan also specifically calls for action to maximise the potential of NTU in areas covered by the core pillars. We will foster an inclusive and cohesive OneNTU community grounded in shared values representing the unique and diverse culture of NTU and where the wellbeing of every member is a priority. This emphasis on building the OneNTU spirit requires practices and processes that ensure commitment to respect, fairness, wellbeing, and equal opportunities for all members. The plan also prioritises our commitment to environmental sustainability and by deploying our beautiful Smart Campus as a living testbed to translate our intellectual strengths into actionable pathways.

Over the next five years, NTU will introduce new initiatives with the goal of providing a systems approach experience for our undergraduate students. A carefully designed interdisciplinary core curriculum will be launched later this year to emphasise digital literacy, teamwork, communication skills, and experiential learning. Through this effort, the University will provide greater breadth and depth of intellectual, social, and cultural nourishing that will strive to prepare NTU students for impactful service and global citizenship. The University will also set new standards for recruiting, rewarding, and recognising faculty and staff dedicated to teaching and research who transcend traditional intellectual boundaries. Finally, NTU aims to be at the epicentre of pioneering research, knowledge creation, innovation, and industry engagement by serving as the academic anchor in major new infrastructure projects and ecosystems planned for development around our campuses.

This document is a summary of our ambitious agenda for NTU 2025. I very much look forward to working with our talented and committed community of scholars, students, staff and alumni to bring NTU to new heights in the service of humanity. I invite you all to participate in this extraordinary journey.

Prof Subra Suresh
President, NTU Singapore

STRATEGY IN A NUTSHELL

NTU vision
A great global university founded on science and technology, nurturing leaders and creating societal impact through interdisciplinary education and research

CORE PILLARS
Education - to nurture leaders with character, competence and cognitive agility
Research - to strengthen deep disciplinary discoveries and high-impact interdisciplinary research
Innovation - to translate knowledge into enterprise that benefits industry and society through partnerships
Community - to foster a diverse, inclusive and cohesive community

Addressing humanity’s grand challenges
• Mitigating our impact on the environment
• Harnessing the science, art and technology of learning
• Addressing technology’s impact on humanity
• Responding to the needs and challenges of healthy living and ageing

GOALS

EDUCATION
• Future-ready graduates
• Beyond grades
• Research immersion
• Lifelong learning
• Future of education

RESEARCH
• Catalyse high-impact research
• Integrate research with learning
• Six clusters

INNOVATION
• Entrepreneurial pathways
• Entrepreneurial mindset
• Maximize impact
• Influence policies

COMMUNITY
• Wellbeing
• Diversity
• OneNTU culture

ENABLERS – TALENT, FINANCIALS AND TECHNOLOGY

Academic anchor
Transforming learning
Accelerating impact
OneNTU culture
Transforming innovation
Smart campus
Strengthening interdisciplinarity

EIGHT KEY INITIATIVES DRAWN FROM THE PILLSARS

Transforming advancement
Academic anchor
Transforming learning
Accelerating impact
OneNTU culture
Transforming innovation
Smart campus
Strengthening interdisciplinarity

U
Educating and training the next generation of thinkers, innovators, leaders and lifelong learners is central to our mission.

Within this pillar our goals are:

**Future-ready graduates**
We will equip NTU students with the skills and knowledge necessary to thrive in rapidly changing work and living environments.

**Beyond grades**
To maximise learning outcomes for students, we will broaden the range of programmes outside of the classroom that offer experiential learning and unique learning opportunities to complement traditional classroom education.

NTU will intensify its focus on interdisciplinary approaches across both Education and Research, and expand holistic learning opportunities for students.

- New interdisciplinary programmes
- New learning spaces and models that tap into advances in the science, art and technology of learning
- New industry-relevant, modular continuing education course offerings
- Synergistic integration of NTU’s unique strengths with the unique capabilities of the National Institute of Education (NIE) and the National Institute of Early Childhood Development (NIEC)

**Research immersion**
We will integrate research and education activities more closely, giving students increased opportunities to engage in research and creative work in their undergraduate journey.

**Lifelong learning**
We will help students navigate through the dynamic changes in the workplace and develop a mindset that prepares them for lifelong learning. We aim to become a leading provider of continuing education.

**Future of education**
We aim to share NTU’s unique strengths in educational research, EdTech, science of learning, and pedagogical techniques through strategic collaborations with other institutions.

Harnessing the science, art and technology of learning

How can universities best equip learners of the 21st century?

This challenge will draw on approaches to the science, art and technology of learning, including pedagogical research, lifelong learning models, neuroscience, and educator training to benefit learners of all ages.
With NTU’s continued rise as a leading research university, its research has evolved to be more collaborative, global and interdisciplinary in nature. We will place greater emphasis on our pursuit of quality and uniformity of excellence in research, while also addressing Singapore’s national priorities and some of humanity’s grand challenges.

To achieve our research ambition, we will pursue the following goals:

**Catalyse high-impact research**
We will focus on these clusters with potential for significant intellectual and societal impact, which are aligned with Singapore’s national Research, Innovation and Enterprise 2025 plan:
- Health & Society
- Culture, Organisations & Society
- Artificial & Augmented Intelligence
- Resilient Urbanisation & Natural Ecosystems
- Future of Industry
- Brain & Learning

**Integrate research with learning**
We will provide greater opportunities for students to engage in research in their undergraduate programme.

**Mitigating our impact on the environment**

How do we better understand, articulate and address humanity’s impact on the environment through the interplay of technology, policy and human behaviour? How can we best do this in partnership with other academic institutions, industry, public agencies, and non-profit organisations?

This grand challenge addressing our relationship with the environment will bring together approaches that examine areas such as ecosystem resilience, food and water security, climate science, energy science, sociology, human behavioural science, business, biotechnology, pandemics, and global trade.
INNOVATION

to translate knowledge into enterprise that benefits industry and society through partnerships

Following the successful stock market listing of Nanofilm Technologies International in 2020 that made it the largest company yet built on IP created at NTU, the Innovation pillar is aimed at significantly expanding NTU’s impact on industry and society, by translating inventions and creativity into outcomes that enhance economic benefits and quality of life. We will support:

**Entrepreneurial mindset**
We will support students, faculty and researchers seeking to enhance the outcomes of their scholarly work through entrepreneurial activities.

**Maximise impact**
To become a regional hub for the sourcing of knowledge, capabilities and partnerships, we will develop a network of partnerships.

**Influence policies**
We will actively contribute to and shape the development of public policy and public sector initiatives drawing upon our research and education expertise, through increasing community engagement, and in collaboration with public agencies and industry partners.

The NTU Smart Campus initiative will encompass targeted efforts to promote sustainability and the use of the NTU campus as a testbed to demonstrate how innovative digital and tech-enabled solutions can support better learning and living experiences for members of our community:

- Support efforts for on-campus testbedding projects in areas including innovative green energy, lower carbon footprint and waste management technologies
- Convert all NTU buildings to Greenmark Platinum certification
- Undertake clean energy and autonomous vehicle development and pilot projects both on and off campus
- Set an ambitious target of halving our net energy utilisation, water usage, and waste generation each by March 2026, compared to the levels of 2011
- Encourage the use of digital technologies to improve working, learning and living experiences on campus

NTU aims to bring about a step-change in its innovation and entrepreneurship culture and ecosystem through:

- New ways to support Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) through technology transfer
- Creating specialised training for entrepreneurship at NTU
- Developing policies and practices that make it easier for interested faculty to translate research into commercial ventures
- Growing visibility of entrepreneurship on campus
- Creating and growing a seamless network of NTU’s global industry partnerships with companies

Addressing technology’s impact on humanity

How will humans, the workforce, and society respond to rapid changes in technology?

To examine technology and its relationship with humanity and society, focus areas for this grand challenge will encompass academic and intellectual disciplines catalysing Industry 4.0, business and commerce, public policy, as well as the humanities and social sciences.
to foster a diverse, inclusive and cohesive community

Diversity
As a highly diverse and cosmopolitan community, NTU is committed to treating all its members with respect, fairness and equal opportunity.

OneNTU
We will nurture a strong OneNTU spirit grounded in a set of core values shared by our community.

Community wellbeing
We will strengthen our efforts to build a community that strives to ensure the wellbeing and quality of life and work for all its members.

To continue its climb as a great global university based in Singapore, NTU must be a community that is open and welcoming to all individuals and one that provides its members a safe environment and equal opportunities for learning and working.

Three goals are set for this core pillar:

Community wellbeing
We will strengthen our efforts to build a community that strives to ensure the wellbeing and quality of life and work for all its members.

Responding to the needs and challenges of healthy living and ageing
How will the needs of a rapidly ageing society evolve and be addressed?

Disciplines that will address healthy living and ageing at NTU include healthcare, natural sciences, engineering, social sciences, humanities, business, and health sciences.
ON THE HORIZON

NTU will be at the epicentre of knowledge creation, innovation and industry engagement in the Jurong Innovation District and the new Tuas Mega Port, which is in close proximity.

The upcoming Jurong Region Line will have 3 MRT stations located within the NTU Smart Campus, providing much easier connections to the rest of the city state.

NTU’s Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine is one of the pillars of HealthCity Novena, a new holistic ecosystem that includes health services, research and education, as well as commercial, leisure and public spaces.

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