



NANYANG
TECHNOLOGICAL
UNIVERSITY

High achievers

soar to new heights

NGIAM SONG WEE

- Future educator
- School of Physical and Mathematical Sciences
- College of Science

"There are many opportunities for interaction and exchanges among my course mates and faculty staff. A somewhat informal atmosphere is fostered in NTU and it has proven to be very healthy."

KELVIN CHIA

- Public Service Commission Scholar
- Able to play two Chinese traditional instruments
- School of Humanities and Social Sciences
- College of Humanities, Arts, & Social Sciences

"Although NTU's Division of Sociology is relatively new, many of the professors have decades of education experience in other renowned institutes. I find that they are especially committed to the quality of education."

HONG LIYING

- CN Yang Scholar
- Community volunteer
- School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering
- College of Engineering

"I chose NTU because of the university's strong reputation in the field of engineering."

MICHAEL AUGUSTINE RODRIGUEZ

- Secured a job before graduation
- Accountancy
- Nanyang Business School

"NBS has the most prestigious accountancy programme with the best track record in Singapore. It also has excellent networks and career services, which I felt helped me secure a good job."

Set for a glowing future

Nurtured in a vibrant environment at NTU, these bright sparks are inspired to achieve more, reports **Kimberly Koh**

His passport to success

HE'S got the brains and soon, Michael Augustine Rodriguez will have a freshly minted accountancy degree from one of the world's leading business schools to validate that. The 23-year-old even made the New York University's Dean Honour Roll during the semester he spent in the United States as an exchange student in 2008. Now just weeks away from graduation, Michael has been snapped up by one of the top international accounting firms in Singapore, although he is likely to be spoilt for choice when it comes to career options even in the current recession. He has NTU's Nanyang Business School (NBS) to thank for laying a solid foundation for his future. "NBS has the most prestigious accountancy programme with the best track record in Singapore. It also has excellent networks and career services, which I felt helped me secure a good job."

"The three-year Bachelor of Accountancy direct honours programme developed my critical thinking and provided me with the capabilities to work within various industries. The skills learnt are very applicable in real life." NBS is also the only Singapore business school that is accredited by both AACSB and EQUIS — the most widely recognised American and European quality assurance standards for accounting and business education. But it's not all work and no play for Michael, who loves travelling and made full use of his six-month study stint in the US, which was facilitated by NTU's International Student Exchange Programme (INSTEP), to broaden his horizons. "Immersing myself in the diverse cultures during my stay in cosmopolitan New York City has enabled me to truly appreciate diversity and has also given me a global perspective." "During my break, I ventured across 15 cities in the US. It was an enriching eye-opener."



Winning formula

HE MAY only be 25 but Kelvin Chia already has a place in Singapore's education history by bagging a mid-term scholarship from the Public Service Commission in 2007, becoming the second undergraduate from a local university to achieve this. He also fended off tough competition to clinch a scholarship awarded by the New Zealand International Aid Development Agency to attend the five-day Asia-Pacific Model United Nations Conference 2007 held at the University of Auckland. Kelvin believes his vast research experience gave him an edge over the other candidates vying for this prestigious scholarship.

He elaborates: "I was a President Research Scholar under NTU's Undergraduate Research Experience on Campus (URECA) programme and worked on a project on social problems in a global context. This allowed me to add depth to the debates at the conference."

Kevin realised his passion for sociology after attending a course conducted by NTU's Division of Sociology. The university's flexible curriculum structure allowed him to switch majors from accountancy to sociology.

"Although the division is relatively new, many of the professors have decades of teaching experience in other renowned institutes. I find that they are especially committed to the quality of education," says Kelvin.

"Sociology is not something you can cram the night before the exam. My personal interest in the course also makes studying an enjoyable discovery process. Dedicated lecturers sustain my interest and inspire me to read beyond the prescribed materials."

Beyond studies, Kelvin is keen on music and has been formally trained in two Chinese traditional instruments, the ruan and the guzheng.

What's in a scholarship?

IN RECOGNITION of academic excellence and leadership potential, NTU offers a variety of scholarships to students pursuing their full-time undergraduate studies in NTU. Scholarships are generally awarded to students based on academic merit and good Co-Curricular Activities records.

Nanyang Scholarship
The Nanyang Scholarship is a bond-free scholarship that has great flexibility as scholars can choose their course and take charge of their future career. They can look forward to personal development opportunities, including the chance to participate in unique leadership training programmes. Scholars will also be given priority for NTU's Global Immersion Programme (GIP) which allows them to experience studying and working abroad.



CN Yang Scholars Programme
The prestigious CN Yang Scholars Programme, named after 1957 Physics Nobel Laureate Professor CN Yang (above left), is especially designed with talented science and engineering students in mind.

It aims to give students a strong foundation in science and mathematics while fuelling their interest in specialised fields of science, mathematics and engineering. Upon graduation, students under the programme will be awarded a special certificate, on top of their degrees.

For more information on undergraduate scholarships, visit <http://admissions.ntu.edu.sg/undergraduate/scholarships>

Following his passion

PHYSICS may be challenging to some but to Ngiam Song Wee, the subject is "fun" and brimming with possibilities. Soon, the 22-year-old scholar with the Ministry of Education will embark on a teaching career to share his knowledge on the wonders of physics. His love for the subject was sparked during his pre-university days, says Song Wee. "Almost every phenomenon we observe or employ in our world boils down to physics. It is very enlightening to be able to connect and pinpoint the applications of physics in many of the other subjects taught in school. For me, this was the 'cool' factor in physics, it being so influential and fundamental," he enthuses. Song Wee, who is now pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Physics and Applied Physics, credits NTU and its faculty at the College of Science for his achievements.

"There are many opportunities for interaction and exchanges among my course mates and faculty staff. A somewhat informal atmosphere is fostered in NTU and it has proven to be very healthy. I am also given full autonomy in tackling research-level issues." Having great lecturers inspired him to follow in their footsteps, says the future educator. "I hope to be able to make an impact on some of my future students and encourage them to make their own leap of faith in pursuing an education in science and, better still, in physics." Like how he enjoys linking physics to real-life applications, Song Wee's hobby also involves piecing together a puzzle of sorts. In his leisure, he dabbles in assembling hardware for personal computers for friends who seek him out for his IT expertise.



Ready to make her mark

HONG Liying wants to prove that women do get it, even in the male-dominated field of engineering, and is unfazed by the competition. "Although men and women may differ in certain aspects, a fusion of two different perspectives might just be the key to scaling greater heights," she says. With her string of A's for her O and A levels, the former Hwa Chong Institution alumna could have picked any university to further her studies but her heart was set on NTU because "of the university's strong reputation in the field of engineering." "I have always been interested in science and I feel that the beauty of engineering is in its application of science to solve problems, and its versatility in producing practical applications," she says. The 20-year-old is also a CN Yang Scholar.

As part of the programme, she did a research project on photonic crystal fibre, for about half a year in 2008. Lying is midway through her studies for a Bachelor of Electrical and Electronic Engineering degree but the budding researcher has set a higher goal. "After graduation, I plan to pursue a post-graduate degree in electrical and electronic engineering. I believe that a degree is just the start and I have to constantly keep myself up-to-date and remain relevant especially in this exciting field, where new technologies are continuously evolving and emerging." Despite her heavy course load, Liying takes time to give back to the society. She is a member of the Welfare Services Club and has been volunteering at a family service centre for two years, as a mentor and tutor to secondary school students.



'Let's Talk NTU 2009' for A Level Students

Saturday, 14 February 2009, 11.00 am to 6.00 pm | Suntec City Convention Centre, Meeting Rooms Level 2 | Free admission

Time	Theatre	Meeting Room 201	Meeting Room 202	Meeting Room 203	Meeting Room 204	Meeting Room 208 & 209
11.00 am – 12.00 pm	Accountancy/ Accountancy & Business/ Business	Arts (Education)/ Science (Education)	Chinese/ Economics/ English/ Linguistics/ Multilingual Studies/ Psychology/ Sociology	Chemical & Biological Chemistry	Sport Science & Management	Mechanical Engineering/ Aerospace Engineering
12.00 pm – 1.00 pm	Admission Matters/ Scholarships/ Financial Aid Schemes	Physics & Applied Physics	Materials Engineering	Electrical & Electronic Engineering/ BEng (EEE) & MS (ECE)/ Information Engineering & Media	-	Communication Studies
1.00 pm – 2.00 pm	Biological Sciences/ Biomedical Sciences & Chinese Medicine	Civil Engineering/ Environmental Engineering/ Maritime Studies/Maritime Studies with Business Major	Business & Computing/ BEng (CS) & MS (CS)/ Computing Engineering/ Computer Science	Mathematical Sciences/ Mathematics & Economics	-	Bioengineering & Media Bioengineering/ Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering
2.00 pm – 3.00 pm	Chinese/ Economics/ English/ Linguistics & Multilingual Studies/ Psychology/ Sociology	Mechanical Engineering/ Aerospace Engineering	CN Yang Scholars Programme (Science & Engineering)	Chemical & Biological Chemistry	-	Art, Design & Media
3.00 pm – 4.00 pm	Admission Matters/ Scholarships/ Financial Aid Schemes	Materials Engineering	Physics & Applied Physics	Ministry of Education	-	Communication Studies
4.00 pm – 5.00 pm	Accountancy/ Accountancy & Business/ Business	Business & Computing/ BEng (CS) & MS (CS)/ Computing Engineering/ Computer Science	Electrical & Electronic Engineering/ BEng (EEE) & MS (ECE)/ Information Engineering & Media	Chinese/ Economics/ English/ Linguistics & Multilingual Studies/ Psychology/ Sociology	-	Biological Sciences/ Biomedical Sciences & Chinese Medicine
5.00 pm – 6.00 pm	Sharing session with parents	Art, Design & Media	Bioengineering & Media Bioengineering/ Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering	Civil Engineering/ Environmental Engineering/ Maritime Studies/Maritime Studies with Business Major	-	Mathematical Sciences/ Mathematics & Economics