NEWS RELEASE

Singapore, 20 July 2022

NTU Singapore celebrates the Class of 2022

- *Mr Marcus Wallenberg, Chairman of Swedish bank Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken AB's Board of Directors, conferred honorary doctorate*

More than 10,600 in the Class of 2022 from **Nanyang Technological University, Singapore (NTU Singapore)** will graduate in 25 ceremonies starting today till 30 July.

The first ceremony is presided by **President Halimah Yacob,** as **Chancellor of NTU**.

A preliminary survey of about 4,500 graduates revealed that eight in 10 of them have secured jobs before graduation.

Among those at the first convocation ceremony held today was the inaugural batch of Data Science and Artificial Intelligence graduates.

The double major degree programme, one of the University's many interdisciplinary programmes, was introduced to meet the growing demand for digital skills in the 4th Industrial Revolution. Rolled out in 2018, this joint programme by the School of Computer Science and Engineering and the School of Physical and Mathematical Sciences was named by Forbes in 2020 as one of the Top 10 data science programmes in the world. It is among the initiatives implemented in response to the University's goals outlined in the **NTU 2025 strategic plan.**

Cari He, a graduate of this new interdisciplinary degree programme, said: "The Data Science and Artificial Intelligence programme allowed me to pursue my interests in both mathematics and computing, and allowed me to work on the direct application of both subjects. The course gave me key foundational knowledge in understanding the state-of-the-art models that I encountered in my internships and projects."

"The programme and my various internships in the tech sector showed me that there are vast possibilities and still a lot more for me to learn in this field of study. These experiences inspired me to consider further research in computer vision and Natural Language Processing in my career," added Cari, who will be working at DSO National

Laboratories upon graduating.

In his address to the Class of 2022, **NTU President Professor Subra Suresh** said: "Class of 2022, despite the challenges posed by the pandemic for more than half of your stay at NTU, you have excelled in your work, made the best out of adversity, and built a close-knit community here at NTU to support one another. You have demonstrated remarkable resilience and innovation in overcoming formidable challenges, and we are immensely proud of what you have achieved."

"My request to you is this: Contemplate, cultivate, and elevate your global and historical perspective with patience and compassion, always. Combined with the strong education you have received from NTU, you will have an impact on not just your local community or country, but on the entire humanity," said Prof Suresh.

One such student who made an impact during the pandemic years is Dervin Rochi, who is graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Applied Physics.

"I realised that it was vital to be surrounded with good social support, and to keep busy. During my time as President of the School of Physical and Mathematical Sciences club, we actively pushed for the spread of mental health awareness campaigns. Our initiative advocated for empathy and understanding, and to encourage students to speak up and seek help when they need to. I'm pleased that this campaign won an award for student initiative last year," said Dervin, who is currently working at a chemical cosmetics company.

Prominent Swedish business leader and donor awarded honorary doctorate

This year, NTU also conferred an honorary doctorate on well-recognised Swedish business leader **Mr Marcus Wallenberg** for his contributions to NTU and Singapore.

Mr Wallenberg is currently the Chairman of the Board of Directors for Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken (SEB), a North European financial group with 400,000 corporate customers, and five million private customers. He also served on the Board of Singapore's Temasek Holding Ltd between 2008 and 2020.

As Chairman of Swedish aerospace and defence company Saab AB, Mr Wallenberg was a strong supporter of the partnership between Saab AB and NTU. This collaboration, the first of its kind in Asia for Saab, resulted in the establishment of the Saab-NTU Joint Research Centre, which focuses on the development of collaborative research projects and programmes in high-end digital technology.

Through the Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation, Mr Wallenberg also established a major partnership with NTU in 2018 to nurture young scholars through the Wallenberg-NTU Presidential Postdoctoral Fellowships. NTU is only the third

university in the world and the first in Asia to be chosen for such collaboration aimed at supporting young scholars.

NTU and the Foundation also established the Wallenberg-NTU Postdoctoral Fellowship, which supports outstanding young Swedish scientists to carry out postdoctoral research and studies over two years at NTU in a broad range of interdisciplinary activities and programmes.

For his passionate contributions in nurturing talent and collaborations through various partnerships between Sweden and Singapore, and for catalysing many impactful efforts in Singapore and NTU, Mr Marcus Wallenberg was conferred an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Letters.

Celebrating top graduates

The first ceremony of NTU Convocation 2022 also recognised **Lee Kuan Yew Gold Medal** recipients, awarded to students who have demonstrated academic excellence; and **Koh Boon Hwee Scholars Awards**, which allows exemplary students to honour both an NTU faculty member and a teacher from their previous schools or institutions.

Koh Boon Hwee Scholar **Alexis Goh**, who is graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Earth Systems Science, said: "NTU gave me the opportunity not only to learn in the classroom, but to step outside and apply these lessons in the real world. My favourite parts about my degree programme were the plentiful outdoor field experiences and overseas field courses that we got to go on."

"Exploring new frontiers and trying out fieldwork techniques first-hand, all while bonding with our batchmates, are such precious memories to me. We even got to satiate our curiosity by initiating our very own mini research projects during these field courses," said Alexis, who is looking to pursue further studies in wildlife conservation.

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NTU Convocation 2022 by the numbers:
- 10,616 graduates
- 6,078 Bachelor's Degree graduates and 4,538 Higher Degree graduates
- 191 Bachelor's graduates receiving double degrees
- 4,002 graduates receiving Master's degrees
- 536 graduates receiving Doctorate degrees

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About Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

A research-intensive public university, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore (NTU Singapore) has 33,000 undergraduate and postgraduate students in the Engineering, Business, Science, Medicine, Humanities, Arts, & Social Sciences, and Graduate colleges.

NTU is also home to world-renowned autonomous institutes – the National Institute of Education, S Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Earth Observatory of Singapore, and Singapore Centre for Environmental Life Sciences Engineering – and various leading research centres such as the Nanyang Environment & Water Research Institute (NEWRI) and Energy Research Institute @ NTU (ERI@N).

Under the NTU Smart Campus vision, the University harnesses the power of digital technology and tech-enabled solutions to support better learning and living experiences, the discovery of new knowledge, and the sustainability of resources.

Ranked amongst the world's top universities, the University's main campus is also frequently listed among the world's most beautiful. Known for its sustainability, over 95% of its building projects are certified Green Mark Platinum. Apart from its main campus, NTU also has a medical campus in Novena, Singapore's healthcare district.

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