Dr. Hallam Stevens, is an Associate Professor at the School of Humanities at NTU. He is also the Co-Director for Artificial Intelligence Research Institute (AI.R), Data Science and Artificial Intelligence Research Centre, NTU (DSAIR). His research centers around genomics, the life sciences, big data, and the history of computers.

This month, I am stepping down as the Associate Director of NISTH. In 2017, the then Dean of the College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences, Alan Chan, conceived of the idea of a university institute that would serve to promote “science and technology for humanity.” Bringing social scientists and humanists into discussions about science and technology, NISTH would serve partly as a research institute and part think-tank and particularly as a space where academia, industry, and the public and non-profit sectors could come together to think about important questions and problems that are facing humanity.

Since the time of this initial planning, I worked closely with Dean Chan – and later with NISTH’s director, Professor Vanessa Evers – to realize this vision. Over the last four years, I am proud to say, NISTH has realized many of its goals. It has hosted countless events – lectures, debates, and seminars -- covering a range of topics of public interest. It has fostered a multitude of new partnerships with public, private, and not-for-profit institutions. It has raised and distributed substantial research funds for science and technology “for humanity.” Most importantly, it has become a locus for bringing together novel interdisciplinary teams that demonstrate NTU’s potential for meeting humanity’s “grand challenges.”

No doubt, there is still more work to be done. Especially in Singapore, the need for more humanist and social science voices in public and policy conversations about science and technology is greater than ever. NISTH has a role to play not only in facilitating such conversations but in fostering a broader role for public deliberations and “citizen science” around innovation and technological rollout. NTU can and should be leaders in these domains as a technological university with a strong commitment to humanist values and ideals. I look forward to seeing what NISTH’s contributions will be.

*Dr Hallam Stevens will assume his new position as Professor of Interdisciplinary Studies at James Cook University, Townsville, Australia.*
CONGRATULATIONS to our NISTH Fellows

Prof LEE Pooi See

President’s Chair in Materials Science and Engineering
Dean of the Graduate College

NISTH congratulates Prof Lee, Pooi See on her new leadership role as the Associate Provost (Graduate Education).

This is in addition to her current roles as President’s Chair in Materials Science and Engineering, and Dean of the Graduate College. In this new role, she will help bring synergy to NTU’s graduate education initiatives and streamline the provision of these efforts across the University.

She is also an elected Fellow of the National Academy of Inventors, the highest professional distinction accorded solely to academic inventors.

Well known for her contributions to the field of nanomaterials, Prof Lee has been a leader in interdisciplinary research in materials science and instrumental in breaking down traditional barriers between disciplines. She encourages sustainable and innovative solutions for electronic, energy and healthcare applications, as she is keen on translating research into practical real-life applications.

Prof Shirley HO

Professor at Wee Kim Wee School of Communication & Information (WKWSCI)
Research Director for Arts, Humanities, Education and Social Sciences
Co-Director of the Science, Environmental, & Health Communication Research Lab at WKWSCI
Cluster Director of the Smart & Sustainable Building Programme at ERI@N

Our congratulations to Prof Shirley Ho on her appointment as the Associate Vice President (Humanities, Social Sciences & Research Communication).

In her new role, Prof Ho will help develop and implement NTU’s strategy for advancing social sciences and humanities research at NTU, which includes fostering collaborations with NTU’s science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) colleagues. With Prof Ho’s role as the NTU’s Research Director for Arts, Humanities, Education and Social Sciences since 2020, she is ideally suited for the new role.

As the Cluster Director of the Smart & Sustainable Building Programme at ERI@N and co-Director of the Science, Environmental, & Health Communication Research Lab at WKWSCI, Prof Ho, specialises in cross-cultural public opinion dynamics related to science and technology. Being the Principal Investigator of several large-scale, interdisciplinary government-funded research projects, she is currently leading studies to examine public perceptions of nuclear and renewable energies, social applications of artificial intelligence technologies, as well as novel food products that will be used to inform policies.
The NTU Global Digital Art Prize is back and now open!

Taking the form of a biennial competition, the Nanyang Technological University Global Digital Art Prize (NTU-GDAP) is where artistry, technological innovations and scientific interests collide. It recognises global artists, technologists and scientists with extraordinary creativity in digitally mediated art, design and cultural heritage. The Prize aims to nurture and catalyse the vast potential of creativity in digital art, culture and technology to better the human condition. In the inaugural NTU-GDAP, held in 2019, the competition received 459 entries globally.

This year, the theme for NTU-GDAP 2022 is **Sustainable People, Inspiring Change**. We seek creative projects at the intersections of science, technology and art that contribute to building more equal, inclusive and sustainable economies and societies to tackle the global challenges.

NTU-GDAP is open to interdisciplinary teams of artists, technologists, engineers, scientists, researchers, students and professionals worldwide. The best submissions will be invited to showcase at the exhibition in December 2022, with logistics, insurance, installation costs, travel and accommodation covered. Shortlisted teams will also be able to further develop their projects towards the finals with the financial support of up to S$2,000 and technical support (e.g. 3D printing of components from partnering research labs and centers at NTU.

The deadline for submission is 2359 hrs GMT+8 on 15 June 2022. Visit [https://blogs.ntu.edu.sg/gdap](https://blogs.ntu.edu.sg/gdap) for details and submission. Should you need more information you can email us at NTU-GDAP@ntu.edu.sg

We are looking forward to your submissions.
As of October 2021, more than half of the world's population uses social media, 57.6%, to be precise (Research done by Global WebIndex). With about 4.51 billion active users, it provides for an inexpensive, fast and effective means to reach global audiences. It has now become an essential way to directly engage with customers, gain product insights, build brand loyalty and get valuable feedback, almost instantaneously. Businesses are spending time, effort and money in creating advertising campaigns to build and promote their brands, products and services. That said, social media has also become one of the more popular channels for academics and researchers to publicize and share their research, stay abreast with the latest research finding in the field and interact with the research community at large.

Over the last few weeks NISTH's Social Media platforms, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram (occasionally LinkedIn) have been showcasing our Fellows, their expertise, achievements and publications, in an earnest effort to promote them and to showcase the prominent and impactful research each of them is involved in. You can find us @NtuISTH (Facebook) and @n_isth (Twitter and Instagram)

PAST EVENTS

NISTH ThinkOut: Metaverse, for better or worse? - 3 March 2022

Is the Metaverse a big game room? Will it be a passing fancy, a new form of entertainment, or will it change the world of communication and interaction? All these questions were discussed and answered by our expert panelists, Assoc Prof Cai Yiyu (MAE, NTU) and Assoc Prof Vivian Chen (WKW, NTU). While Prof Cai gave us an in-depth view of the technology used and that which is being developed to make this new alternate universe more interactive, Prof Chen, examined and explained the psycho-social impact on human interactions and communication. The event had a good response, with participants very interested in how the new medium will address inclusivity and accessibility, impact on relationships and what kind of government involvement will be necessary (if any). The discussion, moderated by Prof Vanessa Evers and Assoc Prof Hallam Stevens, began with 53% of the audience agreeing that the Metaverse will lead us to a better future, but fell to 47% at the closing.

Watch the webinar at NISTH YouTube Channel and listen to it at NISTH Podcasts

NISTH Social Media: Fellows Showcase
HAPPENINGS: Get Involved!

2nd Global Digital Art Prize (GDAP)

Taking the form of a biennial competition, the NTU Global Digital Art Prize (NTU-GDAP) is where artistry, technological innovations and scientific interests collide. It recognises global artists, technologists and scientists with extraordinary creativity in digitally mediated art, design and cultural heritage. The theme for NTU-GDAP 2022 is Sustainable People, Inspiring Change. We seek creative projects at the intersections of science, technology and art that contribute to building more equal, inclusive, and sustainable economies and societies to tackle the global challenges.

**Deadline for submission:** 2359hrs GMT+8, 15 June 2022
Visit [https://blogs.ntu.edu.sg/gdap](https://blogs.ntu.edu.sg/gdap) for details and submission.

NISTH ThinkOut: Metaverse, for better or worse?

NISTH ThinkOut: Metaverse, for better or worse? was held on the 3rd of March 2022. If you missed it, you can now watch and listen on: [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com) or [Podcast](https://podcast). Assoc Prof Vivian Chen, Assoc Prof Cai Yiyu, Prof Vanessa Evers and Asst Prof Hallam Stevens, discussed the ‘Metaverse’ which is envisioned to disrupt and transform every aspect of the human experience, how it is or is going to, benefit or adversely effect our lives. Prof Chen highlighted the social affects of it while Prof Cai described the technology involved and its benefits and drawbacks.

Get SOCIAL, Be SEEN

In this digital era, social media has become a critical tool for communication and engagement for academics and researchers. Getting the word out through the digital medium, from engaging students, promoting research, sharing latest findings and publications to simply highlighting aspects of their department, has given many an academic a competitive edge. A larger scientific community is just a ‘post’ away! NISTH would like to create each of our Fellows into a professional brand, to showcase their expertise and make them visible to the global audience. If you would like us to create and share your research and help you become a part the bigger network, reach out to us at: nisth-events@ntu.edu.sg