



## **JOINT NEWS RELEASE**

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### **Hwa Chong International School gifts NTU Singapore \$5 million to set up new Professorship in Education and AI**

**Nanyang Technological University, Singapore (NTU Singapore) and Hwa Chong International School (HCIS)** will establish a new Professorship in education and artificial intelligence (AI), aimed at attracting leading international scholars to advance transformative education and shape the future of teaching and learning through AI.

The **Hwa Chong International School - Tooh Fee San Distinguished Professorship in Education and Artificial Intelligence** at NTU's National Institute of Education (NIE) is supported by a \$5 million gift from HCIS.

The Professorship honours the legacy of former Hwa Chong Institution principal and HCIS founding CEO, **Mr Tooh Fee San**. A Nanyang University graduate, Mr Tooh was an extraordinary educator and leader who passed away in 2023.

It will support the appointment of an internationally recognised academic who will drive interdisciplinary research, foster global collaborations, and translate cutting-edge AI innovations into impactful educational practices.

**NTU President Professor Ho Teck Hua** said: "Mr Tooh was truly a visionary educator and leader. In the early 1980s, he saw the great potential in technology and mandated computer classes for all students. We are proud to name this distinguished professorship after Mr Tooh, for his outstanding contributions to Hwa Chong and the educational sector in Singapore. This distinguished professorship will allow NTU to attract a world class scientist and educator to advance the responsible use of AI in education."

**Dr Sia Nam Chie, Chairman of the HCIS Board**, said: "This Professorship is a tribute to Mr Tooh's enduring legacy and his belief in the transformative power of education. Through our partnership with NTU and NIE, we hope to inspire new frontiers in teaching and learning, and empower both educators and students to thrive in an AI-driven future."

## **Advancing the future of learning through AI**

The endowed Professorship will drive interdisciplinary research and innovation that harnesses AI to enhance educational outcomes, strengthening AI literacy and readiness among students and educators.

The Professorship supports research and innovation in the design and evaluation of intelligent technologies to enhance pedagogy, curriculum development, assessment, and learner engagement.

The appointed Professor also foster global collaborations by bringing together leading researchers, educators, and industry partners to strengthen Singapore's position as a global hub for AI-enabled education.

As part of its applied research and outreach mission, the Professorship will collaborate closely with schools as real-world testbeds for innovation. Such partnerships may include leading seminars and masterclasses, driving collaborative education technology research projects, or test bedding AI-enabled pedagogical tools in schools.

**NIE Director Professor Liu Woon Chia** said: "The Professorship and partnership with HCIS bring together research and practice in a meaningful way. By working closely with schools, we can translate new ideas into real-world applications that support teaching, enrich learning, and better equip educators and students for what lies ahead."

## **Honouring a legacy of educational excellence**

The Professorship seeks to carry forward Mr Tooh's unwavering commitment to excellence, which left a lasting impact on countless students and educators.

Mr Tooh dedicated 21 years of his life to Hwa Chong, where his visionary leadership transformed the school into a leading institution known for both academic excellence and holistic development.

He nurtured a strong culture of resilience and perseverance, instilling in generations of students a deep sense of pride and belonging to the Hwa Chong family.

An alumnus of Hwa Chong himself, Mr Tooh embodied the school's enduring values of lifelong learning, courage in embracing challenges, and strong bonds within the community.

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***About Nanyang Technological University, Singapore***

A research-intensive public university, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore (NTU Singapore) has 40,000 undergraduate and postgraduate students in the Business, Computing & Data Science, Engineering, Humanities, Arts, & Social Sciences, Medicine, Science, and Graduate colleges.

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

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, NTU has achieved 100% Green Mark Platinum certification for all its eligible building projects. 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](http://www.ntu.edu.sg)

***About Hwa Chong International School***

Established in 2005, Hwa Chong International School (HCIS) is a member of the Hwa Chong family of schools. Building on over two decades of educational excellence,

HCIS offers a unique six-year integrated curriculum that eventually prepares students for the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma.

Widely known as a school that inculcates Asian values with a contemporary global outlook, HCIS prides itself on its value-add to student learning and holistic development. Every student has the opportunity to explore their passion while honing their unique strengths, and this is best exemplified in our School's philosophy 'Education for All, According to Each'.

Guided by our School Values — Honour, Empathy, Accountability, Respect, and Tenacity — HCIS fosters a dynamic environment where every student receives strong support in academic pursuits, leadership opportunities, and character formation.

In HCIS, we embrace the IB goal of developing students to become global citizens with the knowledge, understanding, attitudes and skills necessary to participate actively and responsibly in an ever-changing world. HCIS will continue to strive to be a leading IB World School, with a mission to empower our learners with character and global competency to be individuals of impact through a value-add education.

For more information, visit [www.hcis.edu.sg](http://www.hcis.edu.sg)

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