The decade, 2008-2017, has seen an almost doubling of research publications listed in Web of Science, rising from 3,716 in 2008 to 7,020 in 2017.

As Prof. Bertil Andersson, the third President of NTU, who had joined NTU first as a Provost in 2007 remarked: "NTU was a little in the shade when I came but I saw the potential. My job was to get research on the main agenda."

A new tenure system with higher standards was set up. About 20 per cent of faculty were let go over a period of two years because they did not meet the standards of the university’s new ambitions. With new faculty of high quality, NTU was better able to compete for external research funding, produced more and higher quality research, and rose rapidly in the league tables that ranked universities.

Today, NTU has been ranked 11th in the world and 1st in Asia in the latest 2018 QS World University Rankings. The QS Asia University Rankings 2018 ranked NTU 1st in Asia.

NTU had four subjects ranked in the world Top 5. NTU’s Materials Science continued to be ranked 1st position in the world for the second consecutive year. Its Chemistry was ranked 2nd position (1st position in Asia order rank) and its Computer Science was ranked 2nd position in the world (2nd position in Asia order rank) with Engineering ranked 5th position (3rd position in Asia order rank).