



## **NEWS RELEASE**

**Singapore, 30 August 2024**

### **NTU Singapore launches new development programme to nurture aspiring changemakers**

Aspiring changemakers at **Nanyang Technological University, Singapore (NTU Singapore)** can look forward to a new programme aimed at empowering students to turn their passion into purposeful action.

Open to all NTU Singapore undergraduates, the new **Student Talent Development Programme (STDP)** is designed to help students use their non-academic strengths to champion worthy causes and drive positive change in society. This will be done through curated learning opportunities aligned to students' interests, as well as leadership and capability development modules.

At the end of the year-long programme, participants will implement an 'impact initiative' project that benefits the NTU community and beyond.

The STDP was launched today by **Mr Chan Chun Sing, Minister for Education** as part of the inaugural **OneNTU Day**, an event that honours and celebrates the contributions of the NTU community.

At the launch, Mr Chan participated in a panel discussion on how students can maximise their talents for the greater good. Also on the panel were NTU Deputy President and Provost **Professor Ling San**, NTU alumnus and robotics start-up founder **Rahul Nambiar**, and NTU student and rising singer-songwriter **Shareefa Aminah** (who goes by the name **Shazza**).

**NTU Deputy President and Provost Prof Ling San** said: "At NTU, we recognise that success can look different for everyone, so we have been gradually moving away from an emphasis on grades only to take on a broader, more inclusive definition of success that considers an individual's skills and talents through initiatives such as aptitude-based admissions and our NTU Talent Scholarship, the University's first scholarship to focus on students' non-academic achievements. The new Student Talent Development Programme underscores NTU's commitment to foster a holistic learning environment that celebrates students' diverse strengths, instils in them the joy of

learning, and helps them to excel in ways that go beyond the metrics of academic achievements.”

### **Translating passion into action**

The STDP is open to all NTU undergraduates who aspire to use their talent to make a difference in society.

The STDP goes hand in hand with the NTU Talent Scholarship, which was first awarded in February this year to undergraduates who are outstanding in their own fields and have made significant societal impact representing the University or the country.

Participants in the STDP will have curated learning opportunities such as **learning journeys**, **capability development sessions** in the form of masterclasses and workshops, and **conversations with industry experts** in the form of panel discussions and dialogue sessions, along with mentorship sessions by leaders in various domains.

To provide more effective and targeted learning, these learning opportunities are designed to fall under **five thematic learning domains**:

- **Tech disruptors** who aspire to digitally transform organisations and boost the quality of life in communities through disruptive technologies and innovations such as AI;
- **Eco champions** who advocate for sustainability through the lens of innovation, economy, and community engagement;
- **Innovation entrepreneurs** who are passionate about turning innovations into sustainable business or social ideas;
- **Well-being and healthcare advocates** who are dedicated to building skills and knowledge to empower others to improve their physical and psychological wellbeing, and address the challenges associated with ageing; and
- **Culture and society specialists** who enhance social fabric by the vibrant expression and creativity of the arts, the communal spirit brought forth through sports, and by engaging the community through building social cohesion and civic participation.

At the end of the programme, participants will come up with an ‘**impact initiative**’, a project that addresses a specific gap or pain point, with the goal of positively impacting the NTU community and beyond. Upon completion of the programme, participants will receive a certificate and a digital badge.

The programme, which will commence in September, is aimed at undergraduates who have the aspiration and passion to develop their talents or have experience using their talents to do good, and have relevant skills or experience in any of the above mentioned thematic learning domains.

It will have an inaugural cohort of up to 200 students, including 24 full- and mid-term NTU Talent Scholars who are required to be part of the programme.

\*\*\*END\*\*\*

**Media contact:**

Lester Hio  
Assistant Director, Media Relations  
Corporate Communications Office  
Nanyang Technological University  
Email: [lester.hio@ntu.edu.sg](mailto:lester.hio@ntu.edu.sg)

Foo Jie Ying  
Assistant Director, Media Relations  
Corporate Communications Office  
Nanyang Technological University  
Email: [jieying@ntu.edu.sg](mailto:jieying@ntu.edu.sg)

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

A research-intensive public university, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore (NTU Singapore) has 35,000 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, S Rajaratnam School of International Studies and Singapore Centre for Environmental Life Sciences Engineering – and various leading research centres such

as the Earth Observatory of Singapore, Nanyang Environment & Water Research Institute 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, 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)