Engaging industry players as partners in education. Engaging students in a meaningful learning journey to hone their skills and leadership qualities. And staying engaged with the students to help them meet their aspirations and realise their true potential. This principle underpins our endeavours at Ngee Ann Polytechnic, a brand synonymous with quality in education. Our unwavering commitment to stakeholders has enabled us to unlock talents, connect minds and create value. “Engaging” and “staying engaged”. That says it all for Ngee Ann.
About Ngee Ann

Ngee Ann Polytechnic has grown into one of Singapore’s premier institutions of higher learning. From its humble beginnings as a small college with only 116 students in 1963, the polytechnic now has an enrolment of 15,762 students and a vibrant alumni community of over 100,000.

Ngee Ann offers 39 full-time diploma courses and a wide range of part-time courses through its eight academic schools. The Polytechnic gives students a balanced and broad-based education through the enhanced Ngee Ann Learning Model (eNLM). With myriad overseas attachment, exchange and community programmes, students immerse themselves in a global classroom that opens their minds to the diversity of opportunities beyond our shores.

Ngee Ann was the first polytechnic in Singapore to pioneer the Mobile eLearning (MeL) initiative. With the use of laptops in a wireless campus, students are empowered to learn anytime, anywhere. The polytechnic also maintains close industry links and devotes resources to promote student innovation and entrepreneurship.

To enrich every student’s learning experience and social development, Ngee Ann offers a wide variety of activities through its more than 100 student clubs and societies.
Council Chairman’s Message

It has been yet another eventful year of achievements, breakthroughs and triumphs for Ngee Ann Polytechnic. We made headway on all fronts, from curriculum and student development, to working alongside industry partners to bring about the best learning experience for our students.

The unique brand of Ngee Ann’s education has taken many years to mould. We have moved decisively to pioneer a pervasive e-learning environment; we have embraced broad-based learning through interdisciplinary modules; we have built up a campus that gives students a conducive environment to mingle and learn from one another; and we have provided a fertile ground to nurture innovative ideas and a spirit of enterprise.

For these efforts, more than 9 out of 10 NP graduates gained ready employment within a few months of graduating, with increased starting salaries. Between 2003 and 2006, there was a five-fold increase in our fresh graduates admitted to universities, with a good number entering our top three local universities. Our graduates continue to be our pride with many securing top scholarships, including the highly prestigious PSC Singapore Government Scholarship (Open), the NUS Global Merit Scholarships, UNSW Golden Jubilee Scholarships, NTU Nanyang Scholarships, and SMU Lee Kong Chian Scholarships.

The NP brand and reputation have become more prestigious. We made our mark as a premier polytechnic with our excellent showing at the 2007 Joint Admissions Exercise. We achieved a 14-year record of 6,864 first-choice applicants – confirming Ngee Ann as the most preferred polytechnic.

We are cognizant of the fact that our students will have to cope with constant change, great uncertainty and keen competition against the dynamic global backdrop. Our education must therefore prepare them beyond their core professional skills. Fundamentally, it is about how we teach and how our students learn, so that they develop a robust attitude to life, and an entrepreneurial spirit that embraces passion, risk-taking and creativity.

Thus, working alongside the best in the industry is core to our students’ learning experience. NP continued to nurture relationships with strategic partners like the Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR), National Instruments, Symbol Technologies and Sun Microsystems, which will give our students extensive exposure to research, development and commercialisation, and cutting-edge software.

Our new Centres of Innovation (COIs) – in Environmental & Water Technology, Marine & Offshore Technology, and Photonics & Nanotechnology – will not only give small and medium enterprises a leg up by offering NP’s strong technology development and application capabilities, but crucially, they allow our students to enhance their educational experience through collaborative work, research and industry attachment.

Acquiring industry and professional exposure must be coupled with acquiring resilience in character. In this, we remain focused in ensuring that our students continue to be actively engaged on the local and global stage. Our film students helmed a series of travelogues for the Shaoxing Tourist Promotion Bureau in China, while our engineering students worked with the Singapore Association of the Visually Handicapped and Land Transport Authority to improve the lives of the handicapped. Many more students have set out beyond the comforts of our home ground for community projects, immersion and work attachment programmes.

We are confident that we are on the right path to providing diversity and depth to our students’ learning journey with us. That means striving for innovative approaches to learning, never wavering from insisting on the best curriculum possible, ensuring an industry focus and relevance, and relentlessly pursuing total student development.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our industry partners, Council Members and Advisory Committees for their valuable insights and contributions, and the staff and management of Ngee Ann for their commitment to achieve our strategic goals. We look forward to another exciting and fruitful year ahead.

Tan Hup Foi
Chairman
Ngee Ann Polytechnic Council
The year in review has been a pivotal one for Ngee Ann Polytechnic. We announced five new full-time courses – the Diploma in Aerospace Electronics, Diploma in Audio-visual Technology, Diploma in Digital Visual Effects, Diploma in Environmental & Water Technology, and Diploma in Psychology & Community Services. These will empower our graduates to be key drivers in niche sectors and multi-million-dollar industries.

This was hot on the heels of the launch of our first degree tie-up – the Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Educational Studies and Leadership. We became the first polytechnic to move into uncharted waters with a foreign specialised institution to offer degree courses in niche areas. With this, we have opened up another gateway for our graduates to pursue further education right here on our own campus, at a significantly lower cost. Ngee Ann is on course to offer similar degrees in marine & offshore technology, advertising & integrated marketing communications, and film & television.

We also launched two new part-time diplomas: the Specialist Diploma in 3D Animation & Visual Effects and the Advanced Diploma in Early Childhood Intervention (Special Needs). To keep abreast of industry developments and trends, we continued to fine-tune our courses. For example, the Diploma in Tourism & Resort Management now includes new modules such as Spa & Lifestyle Management and Industry Project in Tourism. We also introduced an electronics option in the Diploma of Electrical Engineering course to emphasise core electronics knowledge and skills.

Several Diploma Plus Programmes in Innovation & Enterprise, Applied Science and Advanced Engineering Mathematics were also launched to help our university-bound students acquire greater breadth and achieve a stronger conceptual foundation.

Moving beyond the curricula, we continue to build on our students’ learning experience by strengthening our industry focus and introducing real-life elements. Our tie-up with Cheers Holdings to run our campus outlet presents our students with the perfect opportunity to manage a real-life business. The Caterpillar’s Cove, our child development and study centre modelled after renowned overseas child study centres, allows our Early Childhood Education students to conduct child observations and research studies in a natural setting. We also recreated a hospital environment for our Health Sciences (Nursing) students with an operating theatre, simulation laboratories and wards.

Even as these initiatives were being implemented, we were heartened to see our students and graduates excelling in diverse fields. Our School of InfoComm Technology students shone at the National Infocomm Competition after seven months of gruelling competition. Our Electrical Engineering students made history at the Green Wave Environmental Care Project for Schools Competition by winning the first-ever top prize awarded for the tertiary category. Our Smart Bed system has won the support of hospitals and is being commercialised while our film students continued to excel at international festivals, beating entries from traditional film giants.

Behind the polytechnic and our students are many industry partners and philanthropic organisations, which readily share their expertise and generously support many student initiatives and needy students. The $10.5 million Lien Ying Chow Education Initiative has created 240 more bursaries each year for our needy students, increased the number of scholarships to nearly 120 each year, and will provide interest-free study loans for our top graduates who pursue niche degrees abroad. The $13.7 million contribution from Ngee Ann Kongsi in 2006 will go to fund many local and overseas student development programmes.

Core to our students’ education is instilling this same charitable spirit. Our students have selflessly helped communities here and across the region, including Laos, China and Vietnam. Locally, they have made meaningful improvements to lives a top priority through their award-winning projects. The NP community and many industry partners also chipped in to set up the $1.1 million Student Aid Fund to help needy NP students.

Moving ahead, we will continue to forge strategic industry partnerships, while remaining focused on our mission of providing the best-possible learning experience for our students.
Chairman
1. Mr Tan Hup Foi
Chairman of the Ngee Ann Polytechnic Council, Mr Tan has over three decades of experience in the transportation industry. He was the Chief Executive of Trans-Island Bus Services Ltd, Deputy President of SMRT Corporation Ltd, a Vice-President of the International Public Transport Association (UITP) and the Chairman of UITP’s Asia-Pacific Division. Mr Tan also served as the Managing Director of TIBS Taxis Pte Ltd, TIBS Motors Pte Ltd and Singapore Shuttle Bus Pte Ltd.

Deputy Chairman
2. Mr Wee Tew Lim
Mr Wee is a Principal / Director with Spear Consultancy Pte Ltd, a business development consultancy. He has served on the Skills Development Fund (SDF) Board. An IT veteran, Mr Wee was also a Board member of the National Computer Board (NGB) as well as Director and CEO of NETS. He was a President of the Singapore Computer Society and the South East Asian Regional Computer Confederation, an organisation of IT professionals in South East Asia.

Members
3. Mr Goh Kim Hock
Mr Goh, Managing Director of Chiat Si Industrial (Pte) Ltd, has more than 28 years of experience in the manufacturing industry. He is a Council Member of Ngee Ann Kongsi and the Singapore Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industries. Mr Goh is also a member of the management committee for Ngee Ann Secondary School and Ngee Ann Primary School.

4. Mr Richard Lee Sew Iam
Mr Lee is the Honorary Treasurer of Ngee Ann Kongsi (NAK) and a Director of Ngee Ann Development Pte Ltd, the property arm of NAK. Having been with NAK since 1990, he is also Chairman of its Education Sub-Management Committee. He is also the Honorary Secretary of the Orchard Road Business Association.

5. Mr Teo Miang Yeow
In his current capacity as the Deputy Chief Executive Officer of Singapura Finance Ltd, Mr Teo is involved in various aspects of the organisation, from strategy to credit control to information technology. He was instrumental in the banking system upgrade and rebranding of Singapura Finance. Mr Teo has also worked with Ernst & Young Consultants, assisting small & medium enterprises in business planning and strategy implementation.

6. BG Gary Ang
BG Ang, Commander of Tengah Airbase, was formerly Director (Policy) in the Ministry of Defence. In his previous capacity, BG Ang was responsible for formulating defence policies to achieve the strategic interests and intents of Singapore’s overall defence policy. His other appointments in the Republic of Singapore Air Force include Head of the Air Intelligence Department, and Commanding Officer of the 111 Squadron.

7. Mr Michael Chia Hock Chye
Mr Chia, the Executive Director of Keppel FELS Ltd, has been with the company for the past 26 years. He is the President of the Association of Singapore Marine Industries and a Board member of the Singapore Maritime Foundation. He is also a member of the Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers Singapore, Society of Petroleum Engineers, and the American Bureau of Shipping, USA.

8. Mr Chia Mia Chiang
Mr Chia is the Principal of Ngee Ann Polytechnic. Prior to this appointment, he held various senior positions in the Environmental Engineering, Public Health and Environmental Management Divisions of the Ministry of the Environment.

9. Prof Khoo Li Pheng
Prof Khoo, a full professor and an associate dean of the College of Engineering, Nanyang Technological University, oversees undergraduate programmes. He has been active in research and the promotion of engineering education for more than twenty years. He is a fellow of the Institution of Engineers Singapore.
10. Ms Lim Huay Chih
Ms Lim is the Director of the School Planning and Placement Division in the Ministry of Education. She has headed the Corporate Development and Personnel Departments, and formulated policies in Telecommunications, Land Transportation, Schools Infrastructure Planning and Pupil Placement. Ms Lim has held various policy and leadership positions in her 15 years with the Singapore Public Service. She is also a Council Member of the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts and a member of the Public Transport Council.

11. Prof Andrew Nee
Prof Nee is a professor of manufacturing engineering in the Department of Mechanical Engineering and the Director of Office of Research at the National University of Singapore. He has authored and edited 7 books, and published over 220 papers in refereed journals. Prof Nee is currently a Fellow and Council Member of the International Academy for Production Engineering (CIRP) and Chairman of its Scientific Technical Committee Design (STC-De).

12. Mrs Deborah Ong
Mrs Ong, a partner (Assurance and Human Capital) at PricewaterhouseCoopers, Singapore, has over two decades of public accounting experience. She has been the lead partner in many of PricewaterhouseCoopers’ major audit engagements, and heads the Human Resources and Training departments at PricewaterhouseCoopers Singapore.

13. Mr Ong Beng Lee
Mr Ong is the Chief Executive of the Competition Commission of Singapore, which promotes competitive markets in Singapore and curbs anti-competitive business practices. Prior to this appointment, he had served in the Ministries of Community Development, Trade and Industry, Home Affairs, Defence and National Development.

14. Mr Suhaime Salleh
Mr Suhaime, Chief Executive Officer of SSA Consulting Group, has more than 30 years of experience in public accounting, management consultancy and training. He was an auditor with Price Waterhouse and an accountant with Hume Industries. Mr Suhaime is also active in other public and community organisations including Charity Council, Institute of Management Consultants (Singapore), Malay Heritage Foundation and PMBM Scholarship Fund Board.

15. Mr Seng Han Thong
Mr Seng is the Assistant Secretary-General of the National Trades Union Congress. A Member of Parliament since 1996, he is also the Chairman of the Singapore Taxi Academy and Educare Cooperative Ltd, and the Chief Executive Officer of NTUC Media Cooperative Ltd. Mr Seng was a journalist with the Singapore Press Holdings for two decades.

16. Mr Kenneth Tan
Mr Tan is the Managing Director of Golden Village Singapore. A specialist marketer and entertainment industry veteran, he has held several top management positions, previously heading MediaCorp TV, MediaCorp Radio, and Acorn Marketing & Research Consultants. Mr Tan is also Chairman of the Promote Mandarin Council, and of Ngee Ann Polytechnic’s School of Film & Media Studies Advisory Committee, in addition to serving as a member of many arts and educational institutions’ advisory boards.

17. Prof Tan Ser Kiat
Prof Tan is the Group Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the SingHealth (eastern cluster) group of hospitals and national specialty centres, and CEO of Singapore General Hospital (SGH) as well as Clinical Professor at the National University of Singapore’s Faculty of Medicine. Prior to this, he was Chairman of the Medical Board of SGH. He was also the past Master of the Academy of Medicine of Singapore.

18. Mr Tok Kian You
Mr Tok is the Chief Executive Officer of AEM Holdings Ltd and has over two decades of experience in the manufacturing industry. In 2000, he was named one of the Top Ten Rotary-ASME entrepreneurs of the year and awarded the Visionary Entrepreneur of Year 2000 by Ngee Ann Polytechnic.