

MEDIA RELEASE  
08 February 2019

## Entrepreneurial Students from Polytechnics to be identified for Discretionary Admission into NUS

Singapore, 08 February 2019 — Starting from 2019 university admissions exercise, the National University of Singapore (NUS) will work with all five polytechnics to identify graduating students who have exhibited entrepreneurial traits and provide a pathway for them to realise their entrepreneurial ambitions.

*NUS and polys will work together to identify entrepreneurial poly students to be considered for admission into NUS.*

These graduating students whom the polytechnics would nominate must also apply to NUS. If their academic results do not meet the NUS admissions requirements, they will be interviewed and considered for admissions to their first-choice courses<sup>1</sup> via the Discretionary Admissions Scheme.

### **Entrepreneurial Pathway Extends from Polytechnic Years to University Years**

The grooming of young entrepreneurs has been a focus for polytechnics and NUS. Signature programmes include the NUS Overseas College Programme, Ngee Ann Polytechnic's Global Entrepreneurial Internship Programme, Temasek Polytechnic's Launchpad and Singapore Polytechnic's Entrepreneurship@SP. This collaboration between NUS and the five polytechnics paves the way for talented polytechnic students with an aptitude for entrepreneurship to continue to develop their skills, work on their start-ups and build relevant internship experiences from the

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<sup>1</sup> This does not apply to courses such as Medicine and Law, where students are assessed on their aptitude and interests through interviews.

polytechnic years into the university years. For example, they can take part in long internship experiences, typically six months to a year in start-up ecosystems, once in the polytechnics and again in the University. By age 25, some of these students may have picked up two Asean languages on top of English and their mother tongue, and would have lived and worked in two other cities besides Singapore.

“We encourage polytechnic students to seize the initiative to take part in overseas internships, to work in and among start-ups, and find their life’s purpose in disrupting the way we live and work,” said Mr Clarence Ti, Principal of Ngee Ann Polytechnic.

### **Recognising Entrepreneurial Talents**

This entrepreneurial pathway provides an additional avenue for talented polytechnic graduates who have displayed strong entrepreneurial abilities to be considered for admission into NUS.

Students nominated by the polytechnics will need to demonstrate that they have diligently applied themselves to gain and develop entrepreneurial skills and relevant work experiences working in the innovation ecosystems either locally or abroad. Hence, students who have worked hard in building a compelling portfolio that showcases their entrepreneurial skills and experiences would have an added advantage.

The Polytechnics are expected to nominate up to 200 students to be considered for admission under this collaboration.

*Nominated polytechnic students will be interviewed by the faculties and schools that offer their first-choice non-interview courses.*

Media release issued by:  
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**About Ngee Ann Polytechnic's Global Entrepreneurial Internship Programme**

The Global Entrepreneurial Internship Programme (GEIP) is an initiative by NP introduced in 2016 to provide our students with opportunities to experience life in vibrant start-up ecosystems abroad where they intern for six months to a year. Internships are available in Silicon Valley, London, Helsinki, Sydney, Beijing, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Jakarta, Bangkok and Ho Chi Minh City. In 2018, NP was appointed by EDB as a partner of the Innovators Academy, part of the Global Innovation Alliance initiative to strengthen Singapore's connections to the major innovation hubs around the world. NP's role is to create more opportunities for students in the entrepreneurship and innovation arena, and to groom future entrepreneurs, business leaders and innovators for Singapore.

**About Temasek Polytechnic's Launchpad**

Temasek Launchpad is an initiative by Temasek Polytechnic to drive Innovation & Entrepreneurship by providing startup incubation. It offers comprehensive programmes, facilities and mentorship starting

from idea development all the way to Initial Public Offerings/Mergers & Acquisitions and beyond. Supporting a significant cohort of more than two hundred startups in various stages of development, many have since successfully gone on to become contributors in many ways to the economy of Singapore.

### **About Singapore Polytechnic's Entrepreneurship@SP**

Entrepreneurship@SP is an initiative at Singapore Polytechnic that drives innovation and entrepreneurship on campus within SP and regionally across APAC. It oversees academic programmes, incubation & accelerator programmes and all other activities related to I&E which are open to all full-time and part-time students at SP. The focus is largely on helping all students develop an entrepreneurial mind-set and providing additional support to those keen to build their early stage start-ups.

### **For more information on the various institutes, please visit:**

Nanyang Polytechnic

[www.nyp.edu.sg](http://www.nyp.edu.sg)

Ngee Ann Polytechnic

[www.np.edu.sg](http://www.np.edu.sg)

Republic Polytechnic

[www.rp.edu.sg](http://www.rp.edu.sg)

Singapore Polytechnic

[www.sp.edu.sg](http://www.sp.edu.sg)

Temasek Polytechnic

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