PRESS RELEASE

12 JUNE 2015 | FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NUS Institute of Systems Science and School of Computing jointly launch a new Master's programme for next generation IT leaders

Singapore, 12 June 2015 – The National University of Singapore's (NUS) Institute of Systems Science (NUS-ISS) and School of Computing today announced the launch of a new graduate degree programme aimed at equipping next generation IT leaders with both technical skills and professional knowledge for effective business leadership and IT management. The programme will commence in January 2016.

The comprehensive programme will be jointly designed and delivered by NUS-ISS and NUS Computing. It will lead to a Master of Technology in IT Leadership (MTech ITL) awarded by NUS – the only locally conferred Master's degree focused on grooming strategic and forward-thinking IT leaders with the competencies needed to steer their organisations through fast-changing business and technology landscapes.

The first IT Leadership Master's degree in Singapore

Mr Khoong Chan Meng, Director and CEO of NUS-ISS said, "Although there are many IT and business graduate programmes available today, senior IT professionals in Singapore and the region have not been able to benefit from an integrated programme with a strong blend of IT, business and leadership curriculum for well-rounded development."

Mr Khoong added, "Our goal is to nurture IT leaders who are not only capable, but possess the foresight, confidence and drive to leverage technology, integrate business and IT strategies, and build agile, innovative and effective IT organisations in an increasingly digital world."

The MTech ITL programme offers an academic and practice-based curriculum to help IT practitioners exploit digital opportunities and broaden their strategic role.

Professor David S. Rosenblum, Dean of NUS School of Computing, believes that a collaborative effort with NUS-ISS would bring forth a new generation of MTech graduates who are better prepared for business challenges of tomorrow.

Prof Rosenblum said, "Both the Institute of Systems Science and the School of Computing have been actively engaged with the IT community to meet various facets of their manpower development needs. By combining our strengths in academic, industry-oriented and practice-based pedagogies, MTech ITL graduates can be assured of a pragmatic programme that is relevant to real-world needs."

A comprehensive practice-oriented curriculum

The curriculum is structured to develop the critical business, management, info-communication and leadership skills necessary to take on key IT leadership positions and responsibilities. In addition to the coursework, MTech ITL students can apply their newly acquired competencies to solving IT issues confronting today's organisations through a capstone project for an organisation.

The IT Management Association (ITMA) is committed to supporting the new MTech ITL programme by fielding practising CIOs to share industry experiences and provide mentorship to the students.

Mr Steve Lee, President of ITMA and CIO / Senior Vice President (Technology) of Changi Airport Group (Singapore) said, "In line with ITMA's mission to nurture new generations of CIOs, we support NUS MTech ITL in providing a good platform for aspiring IT professionals to develop their IT leadership and capabilities. ITMA members and leaders will contribute by sharing our experiences and knowledge with the students. We will also sponsor book prizes for outstanding students. This programme is much needed to develop the next IT leaders, a key and vital component in Singapore's continual push to exploit the use of ICT."

Classroom lectures will be combined with a multi-modal learning approach that covers case studies, group assignments to encourage peer sharing, and mentorship by senior practitioners. Briefings and workshops will be conducted or facilitated by industry thought leaders and business practitioners, so that students can gain first-hand insights on current IT trends and challenges.

Ms Janet Ang, Vice President, Systems of Engagement & Smarter Cities for IBM Asia Pacific believes that MTech ITL will achieve the outcomes with its intensive practice orientation.

Ms Ang said, "The programme offers a solid foundation in digital business transformation, understanding of the interplay between IT and business, and leadership in IT. Students will be groomed to become more strategic, agile and innovative under the mentorship of industry leaders and through industry projects."

Taught by seasoned practitioners

Commencing in January 2016, the MTech ITL programme will be available for both full and part-time study. Organisations are encouraged to support the enrolment of their high-potential future leaders into this programme.

Topics will be instructed by highly qualified and experienced teaching staff, who would either have held CIO and IT leadership positions in industry, or are career information systems and leadership academics. These include seasoned practitioners who bring many years of experience as CEOs, CIOs and entrepreneurs to the MTech ITL programme, such as:

- Alex Siow, Practice Professor of NUS Computing. *Formerly MD (Health & Public Services), Accenture; CIO/VP, Starhub; CIO, Housing Development Board*
- Dr Francis Yeoh, Professorial Fellow of NUS Computing. *Formerly CEO, National Research Foundation; ACE, National Science & Technology Board*
- Mr Khoong Chan Meng, Director and CEO of NUS-ISS. *Formerly Group CIO, RGE; Government CIO, Qatar*
- Dr Leong Mun Kew, Deputy Director, NUS-ISS. *Formerly CTO & Deputy CIO, National Library Board*
- Ms Lim Hooi Ling, Chief of MTech in IT Leadership Programme, NUS-ISS. *Formerly CIO, Accountant-General's Department, Ministry of Finance*
- Mr Stuart Smith, Chief of Service Innovation Practice, NUS-ISS. *Formerly CEO & Chairman, Wood Holmes*
- Mr Yap Chee Yuen, Adjunct Professor of NUS Computing; EVP, Corporate Services, Genting Singapore. *Formerly Head of Innovation Technology, Resorts World Sentosa; CIO, Jurong Town Corporation*

For more details on the MTech ITL programme, please visit www.iss.nus.edu.sg/MTechITL.

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About National University of Singapore (NUS)

A leading global university centred in Asia, the National University of Singapore (NUS) is Singapore's flagship university, which offers a global approach to education and research, with a focus on Asian perspectives and expertise.

NUS has 16 faculties and schools across three campuses. Its transformative education includes a broad-based curriculum underscored by multi-disciplinary courses and cross-faculty enrichment. Over 37,000 students from 100 countries enrich the community with their diverse social and cultural perspectives.

NUS has three Research Centres of Excellence (RCE) and 26 university-level research institutes and centres. It is also a partner in Singapore's fifth RCE. NUS shares a close affiliation with 16 national-level research institutes and centres. Research activities are strategic and robust, and NUS is well-known for its research strengths in engineering, life sciences and biomedicine, social sciences and natural sciences. It also strives to create a supportive and innovative environment to promote creative enterprise within its community.

This year, NUS celebrates its 110th year of founding together with Singapore's 50th year of independence. As the island's first higher education institution established by the local community, NUS prides itself in nurturing generations of leaders and luminaries in Singapore and Asia.

For more information on NUS, please visit www.nus.edu.sg. Details on NUS' 110th Anniversary celebrations are available at nus110.sg.

About Institute of Systems Science (NUS-ISS)

Established in 1981, NUS-ISS provides graduate education, professional development courses, consultancy and research services. Its objectives are to develop infocomm and digital business leaders, to drive organisational innovation and business transformation.

To date, over 94,000 infocomm professionals, 5,200 corporate customers and 4,500 post-graduate alumni members have benefitted from NUS-ISS's suite of services. Its programmes are delivered by staff with an average of more than 10 years of industry experience.

The institute is also the leading Continuing Education and Training Centre supported by the Singapore Workforce Development Agency, with specialties in the areas of the infocomm, design thinking and service innovation.

For more information on NUS-ISS, please visit www.iss.nus.edu.sg

About NUS School of Computing (NUS Computing)

NUS Computing began with the establishment of the first tertiary-level computing department in Singapore in 1975. It currently offers six undergraduate degree programmes, various double and concurrent degree programmes, as well as advanced Masters and PhD degree programmes that allow specialisations in emerging areas of importance.

Its community is comprised of 200 faculty members, 2,000 students and over 15,000 alumni. The excellent education students experience at NUS Computing, coupled with the reach and demand for computing talent in all fields and industries, make its graduates highly sought-after. Together, the faculty members, students and alumni engage in diverse, relevant, innovative and award winning work, and thus NUS Computing is consistently ranked as one of the world's leading computing schools.

For more information on NUS Computing, please visit www.comp.nus.edu.sg