ASIA PACIFIC EDUCATION



Global hub of learning and innovation

The world's fastest-growing region, Asia has remained the main driver of the global economy for nearly half a century. At the heart of the continent's impressive growth have been value-added manufacturing, high tech innovation and, in the last decade, education.

As the leaders of Asian technological innovation, Japan, South Korea and mainland China continue to impress the world with life-changing gadgets and planet-saving technology developed by locals in laboratories and R&D centers at home. That strength has naturally spread to neighboring Asian economies, like Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand.

With the emerging dominance of Asia, the West found itself looking East, strengthening trade ties and forming partnerships with the education sector. Today, some very prestigious universities in the United States have established a presence in the region, like NYU in Abu Dhabi and Shanghai; and Yale and Johns Hopkins University in Singapore.

Belying its size and defying the consequent geographical limitations, Singapore has evolved into a formidable economic power that many countries across the world aspire to become. Without the abundant natural resources, The Little Red Dot focused on developing its human resources, building over many decades a knowledge-based economy.

"We have been providing development programs that enable our workforce to update their skills or acquire new ones. This prepares them for moving from years of formal education into continuing education while they are in the workforce," explained National University of Singapore Institute of Systems Science CEO Khoon Chan Meng.

With the emergence of high-tech industries in the 1980s and digitization of industries today, the city-state's universities have played a crucial role in strengthening its economy. In the latest QS world university rankings, National University Singapore (NUS) topped all its Asian counter-

parts, while Nanyang Technological University (NTU) came in second place.

The second-oldest public autonomous university in Singapore, NTU also was ranked No. 1 in the QS Top 50 Under 50 index and No.1 in the Times Higher Education Young Universities list.

"As a public university, NTU plays an important role in developing the workforce and nurturing the economic vibrancy of Singapore. As a globally acclaimed university, we seek to address some of humanity's grand challenges through our research, education and innovation. We strive for impact within the borders of Singapore, across the re-

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



Global hub of learning and innovation

gion, and around the globe," said NTU President Subra Suresh.

"The Ministry of Education certifies every school teacher in Singapore. The Singapore curriculum is very highly ranked. That, combined with lifelong learning and engaging alumni for upskilling and reskilling, gives us an opportunity to leverage the power of education in new and unique ways," Suresh added.

The SARS-COV2 pandemic hit the global educational sector very hard in 2020. But fortunately, for millions of students, some schools were more agile than others in adapting to the unprecedented health crisis.

By establishing strict safety protocols and investing in hybrid class capabilities, Nanyang Business School was able to increase its enrollment of international students.

"The university worked with immigration authorities to bring in students in a batch system, so that entry was controlled. We provided quarantine facilities for students. Our students were able to come and spend about two-thirds of their program here," said Nanyang Business School Dean Christina Soh.

On the other hand, Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine sees this time as an opportunity to increase international collaboration and capitalize on its strong reputation as a research partner.

"LKCMedicine is a joint venture between NTU Singapore and Imperial College London, one of the world's top medical schools. We have been working together in establishing the medical curriculum and focusing on various research areas like neuroscience andinfectious diseases. Moving into our second phase of development, we want to expand our international partnerships with other medical schools in different parts of the world," said LKCMedicine Dean Prof. Joseph Sung.

Because its history, Hong Kong became a leading center of trade and finance between the East and the West and a melting pot of several cultures. Positioning itself as "the world city of Asia," Hong Kong continues to attract international students looking for a world-class education in a diverse

environment.

"There is an element of Hong Kong being an attractive place. It has this interesting blend of Chinese culture and the influence of the British educational system. Hong Kong also has a very distinct, inclusive and global atmosphere," said Hong Kong University of Science and Technology President Wei Shyy.

In neighboring Taiwan, the ministry of education stepped up efforts to attract more international students to partially address its decreasing birth rates. International students are vital in keeping Taiwan universities. To achieve that objective, universities have implemented changes to make their programs more inclusive.

"We are pushing very hard to make our university bilingual. The only reason is we want to draw more attention from foreign students and hopefully welcome them to Hualien County," said National Dong Hwa University President Dr. Han-Chieh Chao.

Like other universities dealing with the SARS-COV2 global pandemic, Taiwanese universities had to adopt digitalization strategies, such as equipping all classrooms and laboratories with 5G Wi-Fi to be able to conduct lectures within the campus.

"We need to keep the university running and adapt to this new normal. So, we are establishing a so-called new era classroom where we can do physical teaching activities and conduct remote online teaching simultaneously," explained Ming Chi University of Technology President Dr. Thu-Hua Liu.

Perhaps not on the radar of the typical international student, Brunei boasts an excellent education system funded by its multibillion crude oil and natural gas exports. Since gaining independence in 1984, the sultanate has ensured that higher education remains affordable.

"Our mission is to nurture socially responsible individuals with a deep respect for the Malay Islamic Monarchy. We are committed to building a global and entrepreneurial society that pursues innovation and industry-relevant capabilities," said Universiti Teknologi Brunei Vice-Chancellor Dr. Hajah Zohrah binti Haji Sulaiman.

DIRECTORY

Universiti Teknologi Brunei pursues a vision to become a global university that positively impacts society. UTB is the nation's only 5-Plus QS Star University and is ranked 344th in the OS World University Rankings. It is the sultanate's key provider of higher education in engineering, as well as in business, computing, applied sciences & mathematics, and design.

http://www.utb.edu.bn Nanyang Technological University, Singapore (NTU Singapore) is a research-in-

Singapore) is a research.

tensive public university with TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY and postgraduate students

in its engineering, business, science, humanities, arts, social sciences, and graduate colleges. It also set up a medical school, Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine, in partnership with Imperial College London.

https://www.ntu.edu.sg

Nanyang Business School (NBS), ranked among the world's top business schools, has been nurturing leaders for business and public service and advancing global management knowledge and practice for decades. Fully integrated into NTU, it draws on the strengths of one of Asia's most comprehensive research-intensive universities to provide holistic, interdisciplinary business education. https://www.ntu.edu.sg/business

Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine is a partnership between Nanyang Technological University, Singapore and Imperial College London. Offering undergraduate and graduate programs, the school aims to be a model for innovative medical education and a center for transformative research.

https://www.ntu.edu.sg/medicine

HK University of Science and Technology, which just marked its 30th anniversary, is a world-class research university that focuses on science, technology, business, as well as humanities and social science. In 2021, HKUST ranked 3rd in the Times Higher Education's Young University Rankings. https://hkust.edu.hk/home

Ming Ching University of Technology is one of Taiwan's top vocational universities, best known for its Practical Cooperative Training Program. The ulti-

mate educational goal of MCUT is to cultivate professionals who can apply theory and put it into practice.

https://www.mcut.edu.tw

National Dong Hwa University (NDHU), which offers 35 college degrees and 17 Ph.D. programs, is widening its student exchange programs and research



https://www.ndhu.edu.tw

MCUT: A SOLID REPUTATION AT HOME AND ABROAD

Founded in 1963, Ming Chi University of Technology (MCUT) has become one of Taiwan's top vocational universities, best known for providing hands-on cooperative training and facilitating compulsory one-year, full-time internships. The school provides internships with local industries, as well as with international partners through its Overseas Practical Cooperative Training Program.

MCUT offers undergraduate and master's degrees under the College of Engineering, College of Environment Resources, and College of Management and Design. Students can specialize in multiple degrees, including chemical engineering, digital marketing, and mechanical engineering.

To keep up with rapid innovation around the world, MCUT established research centers that specialize in film technologies, organic engineering research, artificial intelligence, and data science. Through these centers, the university wants to nurture students with a wider global perspective and more proficient English language skills.

MCUT has also developed an extensive global network with international universities to create diverse opportunities to improve its position, like academic exchanges, study abroad programs and scientific research partnerships.

www.mcut.edu.tw





Developing credible responses to promote sustainability

By Prof. Wei Shyy, President of The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

The massive social and economic disruptions caused by the recent pandemic, along with international disagreements, have shown that changes can happen at an unprecedented speed that induce unpredictable situations and fundamentally transformative conditions.

The new normal is placing increasing pressure on higher education institutions to accelerate discovery and innovation in the interest of society, especially in the global mission of building a sustainable future. The issues on hand demand that we consider and adopt fundamental changes across all sectors in the way we operate. We must focus on the availability of and access to resources, wealth distribution, and equity among regions and societies.

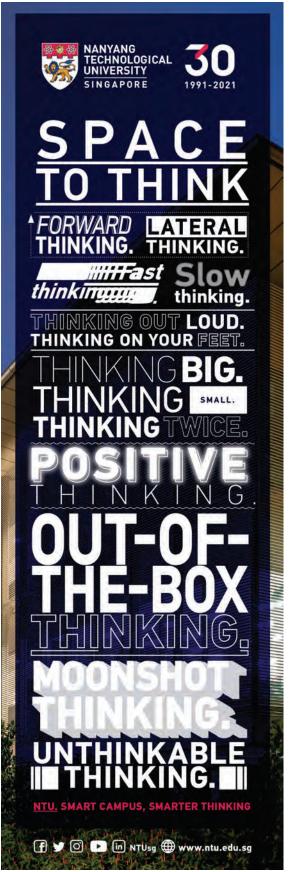
Leading universities around the world are committed to meeting the net-zero carbon goal by 2050, if not earlier. In order to achieve such a serious goal, we have to not only develop solutions that are scalable and life-cycle-oriented, but also consider vast differences in the stage of economic development and local natural conditions between regions and countries.

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) promotes curiosity-driven and mission-encouraged teaching and research, under a cross-disciplinary framework to connect students, researchers, businesses, industries and governments and to motivate them to act collaboratively in addressing these challenges facing humanity.

More than 30 university-funded projects have been developed by HKUST members under "Sustainable Smart Campus as a Living Lab" initiative. These projects include developing self-cleaning nanocoatings to improve photovoltaic panel efficiencies, autonomous greywater treatment, water leakage detection technologies, and digital twins of all campus buildings for streamlined operations and planning.

Hong Kong faces both global and local issues. With its deep and rich international history, meaningful responses to sustainability need to be developed based on open, collaborative and original ideas. Universities are at their best when they engage stakeholders across the spectrum for collaboration and partnership, empower and enable future leaders, foster novel ideas, innovations and practices. HKUST will work with our global partners to fulfill our missions and societal responsibilities.

https://hkust.edu.hk/home





Redefining Medicine, Transforming Healthcare.

The Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine (LKCMedicine), a partnership between Nanyang Technological University.
Singapore and Imperial College London, is a young, thriving medical school dedicated to redefining medicine and transforming healthcare.

We champion the best in medical education and research, built on the foundation of synergistic partnerships and organisational excellence.



For all the latest news and happenings, follow us on:

- NTU Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine
- MTU_LKCMedicine
- ntu_lkcmedicine
- in Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine
- **►** LKCMedicine

https://www.ntu.edu.sg/medicine