

NUS climbs to No. 31 on global MBA list

By **CALVIN YANG**

THE National University of Singapore (NUS) Business School has climbed one spot to 31 in an annual global ranking of Master of Business Administration (MBA) programmes, while Nanyang Technological University's (NTU) Nanyang Business School slipped two places to 40.

In the latest Financial Times (FT) Global MBA Ranking, Harvard Business School retained the top spot for the third consecutive year; London Business School and Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania both moved up a spot to second and third, respectively. Stanford Graduate School of Business, which was second in last year's rankings, slid to fourth, sharing the spot with Insead, a graduate business school with a campus in Singapore. Insead was in fifth spot last year.

The ranking of the world's top 100 full-time MBA programmes, which started in 1999, is based on data from the schools and a survey of their graduates of 2011. It considers alumni career progression and diversity of students. A record 159 schools took part this year, up from 153 last year.

The FT found that alumni of the NUS programme now command an average annual salary of \$137,793 – a 127 per cent increase in earnings three years following their MBA. Their NTU peers earn \$138,335 – a 107 per cent jump.

Associate Professor Susanna Leong, vice-dean of graduate studies at NUS Business School, said: "We have recruited a number of well-known academics and practitioners as our faculty members, who, in turn, have enriched our modules with their perspectives."

The MBA students get several opportunities for international exposure, such as student exchanges with elite partner universities, which employers value, she said.

Professor Ravi Kumar, dean of Nanyang Business School, said: "Slight fluctuations can happen from year to year when competing amongst the world's best. It doesn't mean there have been any fundamental changes in strategy or approach."

Professor Ilian Mihov, Insead's dean who is based at its Singapore campus with 418 MBA students, said: "The rankings are helpful in that they have also highlighted certain areas for enhancement."

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