

NUS, NTU are top 5 Asia-Pacific universities in inaugural regional ranking



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SINGAPORE – The National University of Singapore (NUS) and Nanyang Technological University (NTU) have made it to the top five spots in an inaugural university ranking list for the Asia-Pacific (APAC) region.

The list, published by Times Higher Education (THE) on Tuesday (July 4), has NUS in the top spot and NTU in fifth place.

The others in the top five, in order of ranking, are China's Peking University, Australia's University of Melbourne and China's Tsinghua University.

The ranking, released to reflect the region's growing strength in the higher education sector, analysed universities across 38 nations. It uses the same performance indicators as the more well-known THE World University Rankings, but weightings were adjusted to reflect the younger profile of some of the universities in the region.

The final ranking features just over 200 universities from 13 different nations.

Speaking of Singapore's performance, THE rankings editor Phil Baty said that NUS is "particularly strong when it comes to its research and teaching environments and international outlook".

He added that NTU "excels when it comes to its research impact" and that it "ranks in third place when judged on this indicator alone".

NUS President Professor Tan Chorh Chuan said this accolade, together with the THE Asia University Ranking released earlier this year, "strongly affirms our vision and long term strategy of building broad-based excellence across a comprehensive range of disciplines".

NUS was placed first in THE's Asia University Rankings for the second consecutive year in March.

"The deep and broad impact of NUS' high quality education and research has been achieved through the excellent work of our outstanding faculty and researchers, as well as our talented students," said Prof Tan, adding that NUS was "fortunate to have strong support from the Singapore government".

"I have always said that Singaporeans should be proud that there are two top universities in Singapore," said NTU President Prof Bertil Andersson, adding that NTU had always "created a conducive environment for world class education and research excellence".

Earlier this year, NTU came in tops in nanoscience and nanotechnology, and in energy science and engineering at the Shanghai Rankings of academic subjects.

Prof Andersson added that NTU will continue to build on their strengths in "education, research and industry collaborations that will create value for Singapore and the world".

Universities in China, Hong Kong and South Korea all made it to the top 20.

Japan is the most represented nation in the list with 69 universities, followed by China with 52 universities. Other countries with strong presence include Australia (35 universities), Taiwan (26), South Korea (25) and Thailand (nine).

The full results of the Times Higher Education Asia-Pacific University Rankings are available at <https://www.timeshighereducation.com/student/best-universities/best-universities-asia-pacific-region-2017>.