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NANYANG TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY, SINGAPORE

A research-intensive public university, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore (NTU Singapore) has 33,000 undergraduate and postgraduate students in the Engineering, Business, Science, Humanities, Arts, & Social Sciences, and Graduate colleges. It also has a medical school, the Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine, established jointly with Imperial College London.

NTU is also home to world-renowned autonomous institutes – the National Institute of Education, S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Earth Observatory of Singapore, and Singapore Centre for Environmental Life Sciences Engineering – and various leading research centres such as the Nanyang Environment & Water Research Institute (NEWRI) and Energy Research Institute @ NTU (ERI@N).

Ranked amongst the world's top universities by QS, NTU has also been named the world’s top young university for the past six years. The University’s main campus is frequently listed among the Top 15 most beautiful university campuses in the world and it has 57 Green Mark-certified (equivalent to LEED-certified) building projects, of which 95% are certified Green Mark Platinum. Apart from its main campus, NTU also has a campus in Singapore's healthcare district.

Under the NTU Smart Campus vision, the University harnesses the power of digital technology and tech-enabled solutions to support better learning and living experiences, the discovery of new knowledge, and the sustainability of resources.

For more information, visit www.ntu.edu.sg
Nanyang Centre for Public Administration (NCPA) at NTU is Asia’s leading institution in public administration education and research. It is the first higher learning institution in Singapore that is certified by China’s State Administration for Foreign Experts Affairs to conduct executive development programmes for Chinese government officials and professionals.

As a premier education and research institution, NCPA promotes good governance and public services, facilitates knowledge exchanges, and strengthens cooperation among governments across the world.

While NCPA is fully aligned with NTU’s high-quality teaching, it also places equal emphasis on its research direction and has formed strategic collaborations with world-renowned institutions and governments in various emerging fields worldwide while working on creating new partnerships constantly.

NCPA offers six graduate programmes, namely Executive Master of Science in Managerial Economics (EMME, Chinese), Executive Master of Public Administration (EMPA, Chinese), Master of Science in Managerial Economics (MME, Chinese and English), Master of Public Administration (MPA, English), and Master of Social Sciences in China and Global Governance (MCGG, English). In addition, NCPA’s Executive Development Programmes provide theme-based learning in public administration and public policy, urban planning and management, social management, and higher education management and internationalisation development.

Among its about 20,000 alumni, many are holding decision-making positions at all levels of government in their countries, including ministerial-level leaders, mayors and heads of organisations. NCPA has received students from all over China, ASEAN, and other regions and countries including Europe, Latin America, India, Australia and Ukraine.

NCPA also conducts and facilitates interdisciplinary fellowship and research programmes focusing on public administration, economic policies, environmental issues, health care and social management. In 2018, NCPA set up the Lien Research Programme on Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) with the aim to conduct policy-relevant research and education pertaining to the BRI from Singapore’s perspective and its role in the initiative. NCPA will continue to pursue excellence in education and research standards as it sets the foundation to build a world-class institution in public governance.
Welcome to the Nanyang Centre for Public Administration (NCPA) at Nanyang Technological University, Singapore (NTU Singapore)! As one of Asia’s leading institutions in public administration education and research, NCPA offers wide-ranging education and research programmes pertaining to public governance and economic development. NCPA is dedicated to inspiring future leaders for the public, private, and non-profit sectors through its global perspective on developments in Asia and through its multidisciplinary approaches to researching and teaching important policy issues. We aim to enhance the quality of governance with our holistic curriculum, top-quality research, and extensive engagement in the policy community.

Located in Singapore, a dynamic business and communications hub in Asia, and being an integral part of NTU, a rapidly-growing global university, NCPA provides world-class education and research in public administration in the context of contemporary Asia. Our strength is built upon the following four pillars:

**The Best Practices of Governance in Singapore**

Singapore is globally recognised for its excellence in public policy and public governance. To leverage this unique advantage, NCPA incorporates Singapore’s successful experience in all our course planning. Students have the opportunity to learn the Singapore’s model of governance from interdisciplinary angles in a diverse set of policy areas, including public management, urban and housing development, economic growth, social management, market regulation, health care, transportation and logistics, public finance and budgeting, as well as talent and human resource management.
NCPA is dedicated to inspiring future leaders for the public, private, and non-profit sectors through its global perspective on developments in Asia and through its multidisciplinary approaches to researching and teaching important policy issues.

Synergy of Faculty Resources across NTU and beyond
Home to many outstanding global academic leaders and scholars, NTU is one of the fastest-rising universities in the world. NCPA integrates and consolidates policy-relevant multidisciplinary faculty resources across different colleges and schools at NTU. Our faculty strength is further enhanced by the presence of distinguished practitioners from the Singapore government and senior civil servants, many holding former cabinet ministerial appointments and having extensive responsibilities in policy making and implementation.

Research Excellence in Public Governance
Our students work closely with faculty members on research, both in the classroom and through a series of research programmes. The Lien Ying Chow Legacy Fellowship, a high-level exchange programme between Singapore and China, supports leaders from public, private, and non-profit organisations in their cutting-edge research on various policy issues. The Lien Conference on Good Governance held in Singapore every other year is attended by leading academics and has produced impactful insights on good governance.

A Well-established Tradition in Public Administration Education and Extensive Alumni Network
In 1992, NTU was designated as one of the first overseas universities to provide executive education programmes for middle-level and senior Chinese government officials. The programme gained momentum with the launch of the Master of Science in Managerial Economics (MME) programme in 1998. It received a further impetus with the launch of the Master of Public Administration (MPA) programme in 2005, the incorporation of the Master of Arts in Contemporary China (MACC) programme in 2015 (subsequently renamed as Master of Social Sciences in China and Global Governance (MCGG)), and the introduction of other programmes that are conducted in both Chinese and English.

Today, NCPA has an extensive alumni network of about 20,000 in China, ASEAN and beyond. This extensive alumni network not only enhances the careers of our graduates, but also facilitates NCPA to scale new heights in public administration education and research.

NCPA welcomes students with diverse backgrounds and inspiring ideals to improve the world through better governance. I encourage you to learn more about NCPA by visiting our website at www.ncpa.ntu.edu.sg or by meeting us personally in Singapore.
Our Milestones

Executive Training Programme for Chinese officials was introduced.

Master of Science in Managerial Economics was launched by Mr Tang Guan Seng, the then Senior Parliamentary Secretary for Trade and Industry.

Master of Public Administration was launched by Mr Tharman Shanmugaratnam, the then Minister for Education.

The Lien Ying Chow Legacy Fellowship Programme was launched.

NCPA celebrated its 25th anniversary of development, as well as the 10th anniversary of Lien Ying Chow Legacy Fellowship. Mr Ong Ye Kung, the then Minister for Education was the Guest of Honour at the celebration event.

NCPA successfully organised the IIAS-LIEN 2019 Conference: Effective, Accountable and Inclusive Governance. Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance Mr Heng Swee Keat was the Guest of Honour and delivered a keynote speech at the opening ceremony.

Master of Science in Managerial Economics (Chinese) and Master of Public Administration (Chinese) were upgraded to Executive Master of Science in Managerial Economics (EMME, Chinese) and Executive Master of Public Administration (EMPA, Chinese) respectively. Master of Arts in Contemporary China was renamed Master of Social Sciences in China and Global Governance (MCGG).

Lien Ying Chow Legacy Fellowship received the 2017 Business China Enterprise Award.

Launch of the Lien Research Programme on Belt and Road Initiative.
Nanyang Centre for Public Administration (NCPA) was officially established by Mr Gan Kim Yong, the then Minister for Manpower.

NTU "Mayors’ Class" received the 2011 Business China Enterprise Award.

NTU celebrated its 20th anniversary of training Chinese government officials.

NCPA designated as the first base in Asia for the Executive Study Programme on Higher Education for the University Administrative Officials commissioned by China Scholarship Council.

NCPA had run EDPs for six Asian countries (i.e., Vietnam, Myanmar, Cambodia, the Philippines, Laos, and Malaysia), with the total of EDP participants exceeding the 1,000 mark.

Master of Arts in Contemporary China programme celebrated its 10th anniversary and was officially incorporated into NCPA.

Launch of Master of Science in Managerial Economics November intake, targeting at fresh graduates from top universities.

NCPA introduced the Master of Public Administration in English.
Graduate Programmes

NCPA offers six graduate programmes, namely:

In Chinese:
- Executive Master of Public Administration (EMPA)
- Executive Master of Science in Managerial Economics (EMME)
- Master of Science in Managerial Economics (MME)

In English:
- Master of Public Administration (MPA-E)
- Master of Social Sciences (China and Global Governance) (MCGG)
- Master of Science in Managerial Economics (MME-E) - starting January 2021

The Master of Science in Managerial Economics (MME) and the Master of Public Administration (MPA) were launched in 1998 and 2005 respectively. These two Chinese programmes used to be commonly known as “Mayors’ Class”, and received the 2011 Business China Enterprise Award for its exemplary contributions in promoting Singapore-China bilateral ties.

In 2019, MME (February intake) and MPA were upgraded to executive graduate programmes, namely, Executive Master of Science in Managerial Economics (EMME) and Executive Master of Public Administration (EMPA) to better reflect the seniority and profile of the students. The MME (Chinese) programme that commences in July and the new MME (English) programme are targeted at fresh graduates from top universities.

The graduate programmes focus on improving the students’ analytical, management and leadership skills. By incorporating real-life case studies and experiences into the curriculum, the programmes equip students with the most current and practical skills and knowledge to address national issues. In addition, they have opportunities to attend seminars by Singapore leaders and industry experts. Also, visits to government agencies, statutory boards, and private corporations are arranged for them to get a first-hand experience of Singapore’s public governance, thus enhancing their effectiveness as public administrators, and enabling them to apply best practices to bring about positive social and economic transformation in their country.

From 2019, Singapore Citizens and Permanent Residents (PRs) admitted into the EMME or EMPA programme are eligible for scholarships provided by Temasek Foundation. The scholarship aims to promote more mutual learning, exchange and understanding between Singapore and China students while they pursue graduate studies in NTU.
As Ambassador of Ukraine to Singapore, I was keen to learn about Singapore’s best practices in public administration and economic policies that have led to the country’s remarkable success. NCPA’s MPA programme has enriched my knowledge in various fields of public management. The topics such as government’s talent strategies in the face of globalisation and whole-of-government approach, definitely contributed to a better understanding of how the Singapore government works.

— Dmytro Senik | Deputy Foreign Minister, CDTO, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine
Former Ambassador of Ukraine to Singapore, Brunei and New Zealand
MPA (English) Class of 2019

I enrolled in the MACC programme thinking it would be practically useful in my work involving China, but it proved to be far more than that. I gained deeper insights into the rich culture, history and outlook of China than I expected, making for a more interesting and useful program. Learning from and beside these interesting people, from a culture so different from my own, gave a complete new dimension to the experience and brought it to a very human, personal level. I know of no other course where one is learning both from and beside the people whose country and customs one is studying. I thoroughly recommend the program to provide not merely knowledge about China but a better understanding of what has made her and a deeper feeling for her people.

— Cameron Ford | Partner
Squire Patton Boggs, Australia
MACC Class of 2015

NCPA’s carefully designed curriculum has expanded our horizons and provided us with a holistic learning experience. The learning experience at NCPA has far-reaching significance in that it helps to further the friendship between China and Singapore, and to prepare myself better for my future supervisory and management work back in China.

— Li Wenying | Director of Legal Department
Tianjin Securities Regulatory Bureau, China Securities Regulatory Commission
MME (Chinese) Class of 2019

Many times, our knowledge on China gleaned from different online sources and acquired out-of-context is narrow, shallow and biased. The modules are conducted by China specialists who discuss Chinese politics, current affairs, economic miracles, and demystify Chinese characteristics such as cultural roots, party governance and mixed ideologies. Research, insights and anecdotes shared by fellow classmates and professors deepen my understanding of China’s economic, socio-political and geopolitical development. This programme has strengthened my knowledge of China and it greatly facilitates my communication and interaction with Chinese counterparts, planning of marketing strategies, and the curation and development of content for relevant programmes.

— Lim Wenxin | Assistant Manager
Business China, Singapore
MCGG Class of 2020
NCPA’s Executive Development Programmes (EDPs - formerly known as Executive Training Programmes) are geared to senior government officials from Asia and beyond. We have offered our EDPs to over 17,000 Chinese government officials since 1992. Starting from 2011, NCPA has been working closely with and offering EDPs to central government organisations in Southeast Asia and beyond. To date, we have conducted EDPs for over 1,000 senior government officials from Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, the Philippines, Malaysia, India and Ukraine.

Our executive development programmes focus on practicality and applicability, drawing from the public administration successes of Singapore over the past five decades. We have a strong pool of professors, lecturers, practitioners and senior Singapore government officials to share their expertise and experience. Our programmes include learning beyond the walls of the classroom, with site visits to government and corporate organisations.
We design and customise our programmes to meet the specific requirements of different organisations, focusing on these 4 themes:

- Urban Planning and Development
- Higher Education Management
- Public Governance in Singapore
- Belt and Road Initiative

"It has been a valuable opportunity to study Singapore’s experience in anti-corruption strategies and good governance, and it came in perfect timing as Ukraine puts fighting corruption among its top priorities. The visit has proved to be a great success, thanks to your support, as well as the dedication and professionalism of the NCPA team."

— Judge Yevgen Kruk | Deputy Head
High Anti-Corruption Court of Ukraine (HACC)

"The Executive Development Programme by NTU’s NCPA is a world-class programme for innovation in local governmental organisations. It has enhanced our civil servants’ knowledge and encouraged capability development through learning activities from Singapore’s experiences, which will, in turn, benefit the public. This collaboration programme has created positive impacts on area-based management for our local government in Thailand."

— Prof Orathai Kokpol | Deputy Secretary-General
King Prajadhipok’s Institute, Thailand

"This training (NTU Executive Training Programme) was organised and timely. It met the needs of our government to build and strengthen human capacity and institutions to promote effective leadership in the public sector. Thus it served as a means to achieving the Royal Government’s objectives on growth, job, equity and effectiveness in Cambodia as set out in the Rectangular Strategy Phase 3."

— H.E. Keat Chhon | Permanent Deputy Prime Minister of Cambodia

"Participants have found the programme (NCPA Executive Training Programme) very useful and effective. They are able to apply what they have learnt from Singapore in their work. In fact, the second batch of participants from Vietnam General Confederation of Labour reported that they had started a new project to build about 1,700 blocks of affordable housing which would benefit more than 8,000 workers and their families. This project was conceptualised and inspired by Singapore’s experience of building public housing for the populace, but in our case, for our union members."

— Mr Nguyen Hoa Binh | Vice President
Vietnam General Confederation of Labour
Participant of the 2012 NCPA Executive Training Programme
Lien Ying Chow Legacy Fellowship Programme

The Lien Ying Chow Legacy Fellowship is a joint initiative by NTU Singapore and Lien Foundation to groom established and emerging leaders in Singapore and China.

The Fellowship was established in September 2007 to honour the legacy of the late Dr Lien Ying Chow, who not only made significant contributions to the growth of Singapore, but also co-founded Nantah, the predecessor of NTU. Former Deputy Prime Minister of Singapore Mr Wong Gan Seng had served as the Fellowship Council Chairman, and the current Chairman is former Cabinet Minister of Singapore Mr Lim Chee Onn. In 2017, as the Fellowship celebrates its 10th Anniversary, it was awarded the 2017 Business China Enterprise Award. It was the second time that NCPA received the prestigious award. The first time was in 2011 when the award was given to NCPA’s “Mayors’ Class”.

The programme is targeted at high-profile senior government officials and established professionals and academics from Singapore and China, who can make an impact on policy issues in their respective fields. It provides a platform for the Lien Fellows from both countries to gain useful insights from each other’s expertise in public administration, corporate governance and management. Lien Fellows will undergo a one-year customised programme that includes networking, workshops, seminars and coursework. They will also undertake a short-term study in China or Singapore, as well as study tours to institutions to pursue policy research in their areas of expertise. Drawing on their insights into

“Although the Lien Ying Chow Legacy Fellowship is a very young programme, Lien Fellows are already playing a more meaningful role in their respective domains. The Fellowship is closely linked to the developments in bilateral relations between Singapore and China in the past 30 years.”

— Mr Lim Chee Onn | Chairman, Lien Ying Chow Legacy Fellowship Council
Former Cabinet Minister of Singapore
the two countries’ economic, social policies and governance, Lien Fellows will formulate policy recommendations to address issues and concerns and foster positive changes in their countries.

In 2009, the Lien Ying Chow Legacy Fellowship launched another high-profile fellowship — the Lien Distinguished Fellows Programme. It aims to provide a platform for distinguished leaders, scholars and scientists from China to engage and interact with government institutions, academia, the business community and relevant professional bodies in Singapore. Invited distinguished fellows will conduct at least one lecture to share their experience, knowledge and insights with the public in Singapore.

To date, invited distinguished fellows include Mr Chen Yuan (Vice Chairman of the CPPCC National Committee), Mr Xiang Huaicheng (former Minister of Finance of China), Dr Ma Weihua (former President of China Merchants Bank), and Mr Liu Chuanzhi (Founder and former Chairman of Legend Holdings Corporation).

"The Lien Ying Chow Legacy Fellowship is of great significance to Singapore and China. It allows officials from one country to go to the other for practical fieldwork, thus grooming a new generation of leaders who are well informed about China and Singapore."

— Mr Xiang Huaicheng | Former Minister of Finance, China
2010 Lien Distinguished Fellow

"My research is on the development of Chinese enterprises since the Reform. This project allowed me to do an in-depth study into the Chinese policies driving this development. It is helpful in my efforts to promote collaboration between the two countries."

— Mr Teo Eng Cheong | Chief Executive Office (International), Surbana Jurong
2009 Singapore Lien Fellow
Research & Public Engagement

Building upon our experience and achievements in public administration education, NCPA promotes interdisciplinary research to uphold our strengths in public administration and policy education. This is achieved through, among other things, conducting research projects, organising international conferences and forums, and establishing institutional links with leading global universities.

Research clusters in NCPA are broadly categorised into Asia Governance and Public Administration, Belt and Road Initiative, Social Management, and Transnational Knowledge Transfer.

Asia Governance and Public Administration
In the ongoing quest to promote good governance and public services, this cluster of research focuses on inter-disciplinary research areas that cut across social sciences and public administration that impact on international and global scale, particularly through a comparative perspective between Asia and other parts of the world.

Social Management
This cluster of research offers a unique perspective and insights from Singapore and China in the governance of the social sector, social management and social policy. Research topics include but not limited to cross-border philanthropy, social sector governance, elder and palliative care, and poverty alleviation.

Transnational Knowledge Transfer
Supported by the Singapore’s Ministry of Education Tier 2 grant (2017 to 2020), this research area focuses on the dynamics, processes and implications of two-way transnational knowledge transfer in the Global South, for the formation and fostering of dynamic governance that emphasises peer-learning, innovation, foresight and adaptability in policy-making.

Belt and Road Initiative
Launched in 2018, the Lien Research Programme on Belt and Road Initiative focuses on conducting policy-oriented research on the BRI. In line with the NTU’s Peaks of Excellence, i.e., “Global Asia”, “Healthy Society” and “Secure Community”, this cluster of research aims to understand BRI from Singapore, global and holistic perspectives.

"NTU is one of SAFEA’s most important overseas partners. We have had many fruitful collaborations such as expert exchanges, fellowship visits and training for government officials. Over the years, NCPA has built its reputation on providing training programmes for government officials and on public service research. In 2010, NCPA introduced the Lien Service-Oriented Government Index for Chinese cities. This research has made a significant contribution to China’s public service delivery and development.”

— Mr Lu Ming
Former Deputy Administrator
State Administration of Foreign Experts Affairs (SAFEA), China
Member of the Chinese Communist Party Leading Group, Ministry of Science and Technology, China
I am glad that NTU has organised the Lien International Conference on Public Administration. I hope this event will help participants to learn more about Singapore, and also create an opportunity for all participants to learn about each country’s problems, systems, and in the process, we might be able to pick up new ideas and insights to improve the general public service delivery.

— Mr S R Nathan | The 6th President of the Republic of Singapore

In December 2018, NCPA launched the Lien Research Programme on Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). This is Singapore’s first and only research and development centre on BRI housed in a higher learning institution. The Centre focuses on conducting policy-oriented research and education on the BRI from the perspective of Singapore and its role in the initiative. It aims to serve as a reference point for BRI research and strengthen bilateral exchanges and cooperation between Singapore and China.

In the last three years, NCPA has organised a good number of international conferences and workshops. The more significant ones are:

**September 2018:** 4th Lien China Development Forum (Beijing, China)

**December 2018:** International Conference on “Singapore as a Nexus of the Maritime Silk Road: Knowledge Exchange and Capacity Building (Singapore)”

**February 2019:** 4th Tan Chin Tuan Foundation (TCTF)–NTU Advanced Leadership Development Forum (Singapore)

**February 2019:** International Workshop on “The Belt and Road Initiative and Singapore-Myanmar Collaborations: Enhancing Policymaking for Economic Development”

**June 2019:** IIAS–Lien 2019 Conference on “Effective, Accountable and Inclusive Governance” (Singapore) and 7th NTU-Stratagem Sino-Singapore Dialogue (Singapore)

**October 2019:** SG Bicentennial in NTU Conference “SG200: Heritage, Identity, Progress” (Singapore)

**November 2019:** Joint Workshop with London School of Economics and Political Science–IDEAS on “The Dynamics of Knowledge Transfer and Governance in the Global South” (London, UK)
Publication Highlights


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