HEY!

JOURNEY TO SUCCESS

SECRETS OF HOT HIRES

What’s on the NTU President’s phone?
Hacks for every season

WIN
an 8-day vacation, grad shoots, contact lens hampers, smart earbuds, and more

SCAN THIS PAGE to join the celebration

AN AUGMENTED REALITY MAGAZINE
EVERY CIRCLE NEEDS A CENTER

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Class of 2023 graduates share how they landed coveted roles in sizzling sectors

Eager to secure a summer internship in his second year of studies at the Nanyang Business School, Luke Loo jumped on social media network LinkedIn to look for new opportunities as applications he made to top banks and accounting firms did not pan out.

What caught his eye was a business development opening at Binance, the world’s largest cryptocurrency exchange.

Luke applied for it partly because he had nurtured a keen interest in the blockchain technology that underpins how cryptocurrencies and tamper-proof documents like vaccination certificates work, specifically in one use of the tech called non-fungible tokens (NFTs). NFTs are akin to digital certificates of ownership for physical or virtual items.

“During the interview, I shared candidly about my interest in NFTs, which shocked the human resources person that was hiring me back then as it had nothing to do with the job scope advertised,” he tells HEY!.

Impressed with Luke’s NFT knowledge, the recruiter recommended him for a different role in NFTs. Luke got the internship and he credits his Binance experience for landing him a full-time work-from-home job with American blockchain company Polygon Labs when he was still in his second year at NTU. The graduating student is now helping to lead Polygon Labs’ NFT efforts.

“I knew the sector as it had nothing to do with the job that was hiring me back then,” says Luke, who had initially wanted to head into banking and finance when he jumped on social media network LinkedIn.

“While NTU undergraduates only need to do one mandatory job attachment to graduate, some NTU students get the bug and score as many as seven internships,” says electrical and computer engineering student Megan Chong, who bagged multiple internships.

“For instance, final-year marketing student Rochelle Tan planned seven internships and attachment programmes throughout her four-year course at Nanyang Business School,” says Rochelle, who has a variety of marketing experiences from her stints at German certification company TÜV SÜD and Mandai Wildlife Group, which manages wildlife parks like the Singapore Zoo.

Mandai eventually hired her on a full-time basis while she was still a student and Rochelle believes that her strong marketing portfolio – built from her internships, work and co-curricular activities – helped her nail the job and perform her work well despite being an undergrad.

Rochelle does freelance social media marketing for other companies on the side too, and she has her freelance work in Singapore photobooth company Dollop Photobooths to thank for opening doors to these opportunities.

“Impressed with Rochelle’s contributions and experience, her Dollop supervisor continues to engage her and even recommended her to other companies that needed freelance help with their social media efforts.,” she adds.

For students like environmental engineering and economics student Megan Chong, taking on four internships in the private and public sectors – which she found through LinkedIn and NTU’s Career and Attachment Office – helped her to zero in on the type of sustainability work that she felt cut out for.

“During an internship at Climate Impact X, a carbon credit exchange, Megan helped to educate businesses on the value of pursuing sustainable practices. Her time there encouraged her to apply for a position at Boston Consulting Group, as she became passionate about helping companies in their fight against climate change.

She clinched the job and will be joining a team of consultants to develop management-level solutions for organisations, such as how they can produce goods sustainably while still being profitable.

Having a good understanding of hot sectors and related fields also helped other final-year students like Luke and his friends land vital internships which later got them hired in high-demand fields such as energy and health sciences.

Biological sciences student Low Ann Don believes French cosmetics giant L’Oréal hired her as a microbiology research assistant mainly because of her knowledge and laboratory skills that she honed during her internship at the Singapore Centre for Environmental Life Sciences Engineering in NTU.

And she thinks she got that internship partly because of her good understanding of microbiology. Such was her passion for the field in university that she would read journal articles and watch online research videos in her own time outside of school.

“If you have the knowledge and skills that prospective employees are looking for, you’ll have a higher chance of being hired,” she adds.
GET DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES WITH AN INTERDISCIPLINARY EDUCATION

Megan also believes dipping her toes in different disciplines as an undergrad helped her stand out from other candidates applying for the same job at Boston Consulting Group. In her case, Megan’s environmental engineering courses taught her how to approach problems in a systematic way, while her economics modules sharpened her understanding of business needs as well as her communication skills. “In my job application, I leveraged the fact that I’m a double degree student with an interdisciplinary outlook when tackling problems,” she adds.

HONE HANDS-ON SKILLS THROUGH CCAS

Picking up relevant job skills is not just limited to attachments. Just ask final-year bioengineering student Muhammad Safwan Bin Burhanudin. For four years, he was the president of CCEB Makerspace, a student club in the School of Chemistry, Chemical Engineering & Biotechnology (CCEB) that inspires creative engineering projects. And in his third year, Safwan led a 14-strong student team to win a gold medal in an international student competition for the COVID-19 test kit they developed.

Through these, Safwan developed technical know-how like proficiency in operating 3D printers, as well as soft skills such as project and people management. And he feels his suite of skills was a key factor in the Agency for Science, Technology & Research hiring him as a research officer to work on medical devices for diagnostic applications.

“Expose yourself to a range of hands-on experiences. For example, there are many competitions and workshops that NTU students can join to brush up their technical skills,” he advises.

ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING AND ECONOMICS STUDENT MEGAN CHONG SAYS AN INTERDISCIPLINARY OUTLOOK HELPS HER TACKLE PROBLEMS BETTER.

NETWORK LIKE A BOSS

The adage that “your network is your net worth” could ring true.

Chemical engineering student Shubh Sethi says that building connections and networks with people from booming sectors is vital for getting a foot in the door of these fields, since it can be difficult to stand out on paper. He went to an NTU career fair several months ago and met a senior human resources officer at American oil and gas company ExxonMobil, whom he later connected with on LinkedIn.

ExxonMobil later invited Shubh to a recruitment event where he met other company employees and learnt how he could fit in while pursuing his interests. This was his chance to articulate how he saw himself contributing to ExxonMobil, which he did in his job application and interview with the company. He was hired.

“Networking is more important than ever. It’s important for hiring managers to attach a face to the application on paper.”

PRIORITY CRUCIAL DAILY TASKS TO BALANCE WORK AND STUDIES

After their internships, some students continue working part-time. But juggling work and studies is challenging, to which Rochelle says careful planning and time management are key.

“I keep a list of to-dos for each day and will identify my most important tasks and deadlines to focus on first,” she says. “I also have a weekly schedule that outlines my work hours, study hours and commitments.”

Even so, balancing work and school may become unmanageable at some point, so being able to say no or cut back is necessary.

Shubh, for instance, continued his internship at Singapore business management consulting firm Unimas Consulting Solutions on a part-time basis when the new semester began. However, when his schoolwork became too heavy, he told his company supervisor that he had to shorten his stint to focus on his studies.
CONGRADS!
WE MEME IT

It’s graduation! Immortalise your moment with these wacky augmented reality (AR) filters with the NTU HEY! AR app. Take pointers from graduating students Amandeep and Yipeng, who show us how to meme it.

Watch out, world! National netballer and sport science and management graduate Amandeep Kaur Chahal from the Class of 2023 is ready to unleash herself.
HEY! INSPRIATION

ME AND MY HOMIES

BACK TO THE FUTURE
If you were at the Freshmen Welcome Ceremony back in 2019, you would have met our little friend here, who popped out of HEY! and into the Nanyang Auditorium. Those days must feel prehistoric now!

WHAT A RIDE IT HAS BEEN

Designed and built by NTU students, the Nanyang Venture 11, an electric car with a design inspired by a killer whale, is part of a series of award-winning concept cars that have raced on tracks around the world.

PULLING UP TO GRADUATION LIKE...

“ALL MY MUM WANTED WERE ‘NORMAL’ GRADUATION PHOTOS”

Bioengineering graduate Ma Yipeng has tamed dragonboats and faced ancient predators. And he’s all ready for his next challenge.

“ALL MY MUM WANTED WERE ‘NORMAL’ GRADUATION PHOTOS”

for your chance to be among four lucky winners of a graduation studio photoshoot (for up to four people) at White Room Studio worth $490 each.

WIN
TECK TALK
WHAT’S ON NTU PRESIDENT HO TECK HUA’S PHONE?

In today’s world, it’s no longer what makes you tick, but what makes you tap. To better understand Prof Ho Teck Hua, who took office as the fifth President of NTU in April, HEY! invited him to show us what’s on his phone. He gamely agreed.

Prof Ho is a 62-year-old man on the move. The NTU President is a prominent behavioural scientist who is also the founding Executive Chairman of AI Singapore and President of the Academy of Engineering, Singapore, just to name a few of his national appointments.

Outside of work, Prof Ho is a devoted family man and doting grandfather. You may catch him looking at photos of his three grandkids in between work appointments.

“I’m an impatient man. I like to move quickly to get things done. But with my grandchildren, I’m exceptionally patient,” he says with a smile.

Lock Screen Wallpaper
Prof Ho’s lock-screen wallpaper is a photo of himself (taken recently) by NTU’s communications team. “I’m not narcissistic,” he says immediately. “It’s so that if I misplace my phone, people who pick it up know who it belongs to and can return it to me.”

Food Delivery Apps
Prof Ho makes it a point to go for a delicious sit-down meal once or twice a week. On other days, the suite of food delivery apps he has downloaded does the job. Breakfast is usually a bowl of his favourite wonton mee from Old Airport Road ordered through Grab and shared with his wife, or some yong tau foo which he eats together with oatmeal. “I’m picky about food, not in terms of price but taste… I hope to persuade people to come forward to sell good quality food in NTU. I want people in NTU to eat well,” he says.

Health App
Outside of work, he stays active with yoga, strength training and going on the stationary bike. The Health app on his iPhone 14 doubles up as his personal health assistant that tracks the rhythm of his daily activities. Aside from exercise, Prof Ho, who is usually in bed by 10pm, monitors the quality of his slumber through his sleep ring, a nifty tracker worn like a wedding band, that is synced to the Health app.

E-Commerce Apps
Prof Ho is also a savvy user of e-commerce apps. Sussing out the good deals comes naturally to him as he is a marketing professor by training who did his doctoral studies in decision sciences at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. He recently bought six shirts in different colours! He lives on campus and often shops at Prime Supermarket at the North Spine, where he often goes unnoticed when he dons a face mask.

Work Apps
A man of many hats, Prof Ho is adept at time management. Little wonder that Outlook is one of his most heavily used apps – he likes to check his inbox on the go so he can reply to e-mails promptly or hop on a quick WhatsApp call with his colleagues to be updated on urgent matters or resolve issues. He believes in engaging the ground, and the importance of teamwork. “That’s why I enjoy meeting faculty and staff,” he explains. He also recently met some student leaders to hear their concerns and suggestions for improvement.

HEALTH APP

FOOD DELIVERY APPS

WORK APPS

E-COMMERCE APPS

Favourite colour:

Favourite superhero:

HEALTH APP

Line App
With his two children and three grandkids – Daphne, Ethan and Kyrie – based in the United States, Prof Ho stays in close contact with them through chats and calls on the Line messaging app. Family has always been a priority for the doting granddad – in fact, he is treating the entire family of nine to an overseas holiday in Asia at the end of the year for some quality family time.

Instagram
Aside from following NTUsg on Instagram and other social media platforms for the latest buzz, Prof Ho eagerly refreshes his Instagram feed for posts and stories of his family in the United States, especially of Kyrie, one of his grandchildren who was 15 years old.

Favourite Photos from His Camera Roll
One cherished photo in his camera roll is a handwritten letter he received for his birthday from his daughter, a former high school teacher. “I have been receiving these letters from her each year since she was 15 years old,” he beams. Prof Ho says he is an “American parent” who gave his children a lot of privacy and space growing up. “I didn’t check their grades. I’m just their cheerleader,” he adds.

E-COMMERCE APPS

FOOD DELIVERY APPS

HEALTH APP

WORK APPS

Line App

Instagram

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see what’s on the home screen of Prof Ho’s iPhone 14

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Favourite Photos from His Camera Roll
Dear INTERNET,

HOW DO I EXPLAIN TIKTOK TO MY PARENTS?

When you think of TikTok, you think of dancing clips, reaction videos and ridiculous storytelling squashed into a short minute. You think of your uni mates, even teenagers.

It’s a platform predominantly used by us, the younger generation. There was even a time when anyone beyond their mid-twenties was, horrifyingly so, deemed too old for the app.

But TikTok has become a family affair.

Tonnes of videos feature family members of TikTokers, including millennials who have hopped onto the app to create and share their own content.

TikTok’s influence has bled into everyday life, so much so that TikTok’s influence has bled into everyday life, so much so that TikTok trends are shared in the households.

In a way, TikTok doesn’t make us detached from life – it helps us connect with those around us.

Making TikToks also helps us bond.

As no one has ever said: “When inspiration strikes, make TikToks and share them!”

The best part is, TikTok is packed with both crash courses and entertainment, and its unique algorithm keeps bringing you the stuff you want to see.

Some videos have beauty filters, funny facial distortions or visual aids overlaying video clips. We’ve seen countless TikToks where parents are shocked when they see a filter applied, usually as a prank by their children.

Yet, don’t be surprised to find boomers and grandparents who have aced trends like the Wes Anderson aesthetic.

3. PARENTS, YOU CAN BE TIKTOK FAMOUS TOO.

Fame is, well, technically just a click away.

Some parents have blown up on the internet. On TikTok, we see people posting their parents in videos, with some encouraging young people to ask their folks to share their life stories. The “Material Girl” trend that caught on earlier this year overlays pictures of parents in their younger days with Madonna’s 1984 hit song, and got many swooning over unearthed photos of Mum and Dad looking unexpectedly like catalogue models back in the day.

(Speaking of music, an integral part of TikTok trends is the use of popular hits, audio clippings from movies, or soundbites from another TikTok video – all for free.)

Young people do want to hear advice and the experiences of older people; we hear stories from books to films to documentaries. In her free time, she hunts for the best teh peng in town.

4. IT’S A COMMUNITY – JUST ONE SPREAD ACROSS THE GLOBE.

With how vastly connected TikTok is, hearing someone share a relatable experience just makes us feel less alone. When we see students miles away overcome the same struggles we face in school, we are inspired to push through our own challenges.

When we are inspired to push through our own challenges, when we are inspired to push through our own challenges.

5. THE TLDR OF IT…

TikTok is far from perfect, and can be confusing to those unfamiliar with the way such social media platforms work. But it brings people together, and it sustains us in these crazy times.

After all, it’s basically Facebook for a new generation.

Bernadette loves storytelling, from books to films to documentaries. In her free time, she hunts for the best teh peng in town.
COUNT ME IN

1 NTU by the numbers

We take the lead in walking the talk when it comes to fighting climate change. In 2021, NTU became the first university to issue a publicly-offered sustainability-linked bond. The proceeds from this bond go towards wide-ranging efforts to create a low-carbon campus that’s also ahead of the curve in solving global sustainability challenges – the kind of environment you’d like to live, learn and play in.

2 NATIONAL MONUMENTS

We treasure our cultural heritage. Don’t be surprised to find two national monuments on campus. Sited at the recently rejuvenated Yunnan Garden, both hark back to the days of the former Nanyang University, which was on the grounds of the current NTU campus from 1955 to 1980. Past graduation ceremonies of Nanyang University have even taken place at one of them, the beautifully restored “Shaolin temple”, which today houses the Chinese Heritage Centre.

3 MRT STATIONS

NTU – a town unto itself? By 2029, there will be three new MRT stations at our doorstep as part of the new Jurong Region Line. These new stations will shorten the travelling time by 25 minutes if you are coming from Jurong East or Choa Chu Kang MRT stations. Even better news for the Easties: your commute to campus from Pasir Ris MRT station could be 35 minutes shorter with these new additions.

4 SHUTTLE BUS ROUTES

Wondering how to get around NTU’s 200-hectare campus? Hop on an electric shuttle to get from hall to class and back, or to Pioneer MRT station. Three shuttle bus routes ply the campus on weekdays, with one more running only on weekends. Tip: Download the NTU Omnibus app to check when your shuttle is arriving and its occupancy rate in real time.

5 1ST PUBLICLY-OFFERED SUSTAINABILITY-LINKED BOND BY A UNIVERSITY

Bubble tea Shops

Nothing quite hits the sweet spot like a cup of bubble tea on a hot day. Take your pick from the five different options found around campus, depending on your flavour of the day. Each-A-Cup, one of the bubble tea OGs here, serves up some reliable and classic flavours, while tea connoisseurs may appreciate the varieties available at CHICHA San Chen. For those who prefer an indulgent treat, the newest kid on the block, Yilin Likes Tea, specialises in tea lattes topped with whipped cream.

6 ICC COURSES

Transferable skills and an awareness of global challenges matter even more in these fast-changing times. Sometimes, this means nudging you out of the comfort zone of your chosen discipline to broaden your understanding of the world. As part of the Interdisciplinary Collaborative Core (ICC) curriculum, undergraduates take seven mandatory courses covering topics like critical thinking and writing, ethics, navigating the digital world, innovative enterprise, sustainability and wellbeing.

7 ZERO-ENERGY BUILDINGS

NTU has the greenest campus in Singapore, and we’re not just talking about the swathes of trees on our grounds. We are also home to eight zero-energy buildings – the most among universities here. These zero-energy buildings produce enough energy to run themselves, making them a better option for the planet. Some of the buildings, like Gaia and The Wave, have become iconic landmarks.

8 CORPORATE LABS

Grab a front row seat to the inner workings of industry heavyweights. NTU has partnered nine prominent companies such as Rolls-Royce, Hewlett Packard and Continental to set up corporate laboratories practically next to your classrooms. These labs create impact with cutting-edge solutions for problems faced by industry – and you can be part of it all.

9 SATELLITES

Does designing, building and testing a satellite sound out of this world? Not at NTU, which has been pushing new frontiers in space. X-SAT, the first made-in-Singapore microsatellite, was borne out of research at NTU’s Satellite Research Centre and launched into space in 2011. Since then, nine more NTU satellites have taken to the skies. This includes the shoebox-sized SCOORY-1, a joint effort involving more than 50 students over four years. And there’ll be more such student-built satellites. Watch this space.

10 HEY! INSIDER

Core values

Our values define us. NTU’s six core values – Integrity, Care, Respect, Impact, Service and Partnership – serve as the compass for the NTU community, guiding our daily actions and decisions. These values anchor the OneNTU culture, a collective spirit that fuels a sense of camaraderie and fosters an environment where we come together to inspire and uplift one another. Wear our core values by bagging a free T-shirt at the next HEY! event.

11

12

HEY!

SCANN THIS VISUAL to stand to win a sleek pair of JBL earbuds (worth $269)

13

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COOL HACKS FOR A HOT DAY: DO THEY WORK?

With the blistering heat getting many of us hot and bothered, we got NTU experts to weigh in on common methods for keeping cool on warm days. Find out which ones really work.

DOES KEEPING INDOOR PLANTS AT HOME HELP WITH THE HEAT?

There are many benefits to keeping such plants. They perk up your home and are fun to tend to. But do they help with the heat? Not necessarily, says Asst Prof Kelly Andersen from the Asian School of the Environment.

“It might be ‘cool’ to stock your home with houseplants, but they may make your home less comfortable. Plants release water into the air as they conduct photosynthesis, adding to the humidity level in your home. And high humidity can make it feel warmer than it actually is,” she says.

However, it might be a different story if they provide shade from the harsh sun outside.

“Just like trees in the forest, large plants can keep indoor temperatures from rising by blocking the sun’s rays from heating up your home,” says the ecologist.

DOES AVOIDING “HEATY” FOOD OR HAVING “COOLING” DRINKS WORK?

Would you raise your eyebrows at your mum and dad if they tell you not to have curry on hot days? They might not be entirely off the mark, says Dr Tjioe Yan Yin, a senior physician at the NTU Chinese Medicine Clinic.

“In Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM), the heat on hot days can increase the body’s yang qi (flow of energy) and result in symptoms such as increased body temperature, thirstiness and sore throats. If we consume food that is hot or ‘heaty’, such as fried or spicy food, this can add burden to the body’s defence mechanism in fighting the heat, which increases the likelihood of these symptoms.”

What about “cooling” drinks from TCM shops that are touted to be remedies for “heatiness”?

“Take them in moderation,” says Dr Tjioe. “They help keep the body cool by balancing out the ‘heat’ within the body, but can be taxing on your digestive system.”

WILL DIPPING YOUR FEET IN COLD WATER COOL YOU DOWN?

Putting your feet in a basin of water or washing them could help you feel less warm. But according to Dr Fabian Lim from Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine, this might be an illusion.

“Your hands and feet have a large volume of sensory nerves for temperature, making them highly sensitive to surface or ambient temperature. Dipping them in cold water ‘tricks’ your brain into thinking that your body is cool and promotes a sense of thermal comfort. However, this method has limited effects on the actual amount of heat removed from the body,” he suggests.

“You can cool your body more effectively by taking a cold shower or wiping yourself down with a cold towel and bringing a fan near you,” he suggests.

CAN YOU PLACE A PAIL OF ICE WATER IN FRONT OF A FAN TO COOL A ROOM?

Behind air conditioning, the electric fan is man’s best friend on hot days in Singapore. In the sweltering heat, some people have resorted to placing pails of ice water in front of fans to cool their rooms. What’s the science behind this?

This is based on the principle of evaporative cooling and works to an extent, says Assoc Prof Wong Teck Neng and Asst Prof Ho Jin Yao from the School of Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering. It relies on the same concept as the mist-blowing fans you see at some outdoor eateries.

Water absorbs heat from the surrounding air as it evaporates, which reduces the air temperature, say the thermodynamics experts.

“But in a humid climate like Singapore’s, its effectiveness is limited,” notes Asst Prof Ho.

SCAN THIS PHOTO

for a chance to beat the heat in style with these limited-edition NTU coasters

With each coaster made from 75 recycled chopsticks and containing 110g of captured carbon, the set is environmentally friendly too.
Starting at Yunnan Garden, propel yourself up two separate flights of stairs out of the garden and into NTU’s Chinese Heritage Centre.

Turn right. The side stairs there exit into the Singapore Hokkien Huay Kuan Building, which houses the College of Humanities, Arts, & Social Sciences.

Continue climbing up until you step outside and towards a long red-brick staircase. This final stretch will bring you to the back of the Student Services Centre, and the end of the climb.

Your reward for completing all 257 steps – equivalent to climbing a 12-storey building – is a gorgeous view of Yunnan Garden and the Jurong neighbourhood that stretches into the horizon.

Pro tip: If you make the climb in the evening (when the weather is cooler as well), you may be up for a beautiful sunset.

THE ROUTE

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TIPS FROM THE DUO

**It’s longer than it seems, so pace yourself well and don’t go all out right from the start.”**

**Keep your eye on the stairs for safety.”**

*This steep staircase workout requires pacing yourself. Seek advice from your doctor if you have any health concerns.

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**TOTAL NUMBER OF STEPS**: 257  
**LIKE CLIMBING**: 12 storeys (3m per floor)  
**ELEVATION GAIN**: ~37m

**ARE YOU UP TO IT?**

If you need a dash of excitement in your daily 10K – this is it. Make it a fun challenge by seeing if you can beat the times set by business undergrad and national sprinter Xander and sport science master’s student Clencye. (The accomplished sprinters aren’t going to make it easy for you though!)

**SEND HEY! YOUR BEST TIME AND YOU COULD WIN A PRIZE.**

**HOW FAST CAN YOU GO?**

Under 2 min – Stair master  
Under 3 min – Rising respect

**HEY! SCAN THIS PHOTO**

to watch Xander and Clencye casually crushing the route in record time

**HEY! SCAN THIS PHOTO**

to see what awaits you at the top

**SCAN THESE PHOTOS**

for tips on completing the climb

**LIKE CLIMBING**: 12 storeys (3m per floor)  
**ELEVATION GAIN**: ~37m

**STAIR MASTERS, STEP UP**

Here’s a 257-step challenge that promises a glorious view of the campus at the end. Can you better the times of NTU athletes Xander and Clencye?

**HEY!**

**ARE YOU UP TO IT?**

If you need a dash of excitement in your daily 10K – this is it. Make it a fun challenge by seeing if you can beat the times set by business undergrad and national sprinter Xander and sport science master’s student Clencye. (The accomplished sprinters aren’t going to make it easy for you though!)

**SEND HEY! YOUR BEST TIME AND YOU COULD WIN A PRIZE.**

**HOW FAST CAN YOU GO?**

Under 2 min – Stair master  
Under 3 min – Rising respect

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10 THINGS TO DO BEFORE YOU GRADUATE

2 SPICE UP YOUR LIFE WITH MALA

Fire off your taste buds by challenging yourself and your friends to da la, the highest spice level in mala xiang guo. (If da la has been your go-to spice level, hats off to you. You are a winner.) Aromatic, spicy and mouth-numbing, the mala spices will definitely jolt you awake from a sleepy afternoon of schoolwork. Highly-raved mala spots include A Hot Hideout, located at the North Hill halls, and the mala stall in Tamarind Hall’s canteen. Hot tip: Make your experience more bearable with a drink by your side. My go-to is either a nice cold Thai milk tea (Team Green Milk Tea!) or good ol’ water.

3 PICNIC UNDER THE STARS

The iconic School of Art, Design & Media (ADM) building has a sloping green roof that not only looks aesthetic, but also cools the surrounding air on hot days. At night, the open space becomes a great spot for stargazing. So grab a friend, some food and a picnic mat, and head down to ADM for some heart-to-heart conversations under the stars. This is definitely something worth ticking off your student bucket list.

4 SNAG A LIMITED-EDITION NTU TEE

You know you are a true-blue NTU student if you wear your NTU T-shirts to classes, to sleep and to hang out. Stand out from the crowd with exclusive NTU tees in limited-edition designs and colours, only up for grabs at HEY! roadshows where you can have fun with augmented reality.

5 GRAB THOSE ‘GRAM-WORTHY PHOTOS

NTU is one of the most beautiful universities in the world with no shortage of Instagrammable spots. Put on your influencer hat for the day and go on a fun photoshoot, or

6 CANTEEN-HOP

You have heard of cafe-hopping, but what about canteen-hopping? Make it your new goal to try out food from every one of NTU’s 11 hall-based canteens and come up with a list of your personal top picks before graduation. Discover unusual food like the “Chinese Hamburger” (minced meat sandwiched in flaky pastry) sold by the Wonderful La Mian Xiao Long Bao stall at Canteen 2, or the underrated bak chor mee in the NIE canteen, affordably priced under $4. The NIE Malay stall’s tasty traditional fare is also a winner.

7 DO THE GREAT NTU WORKOUT

Sweat it out by going on a run, jog or walk with friends around the expansive university grounds. Carry a mobile screenshot of the campus map with you and cross out a landmark each time you pass by one, whether it’s a building or an outdoor sculpture. The one with the most crosses marked gets bragging rights! As you set out on your mini-adventure, take in the lush surroundings and keep an eye out for furry friends like cats and otters.

8 PULL AN ALL-NIGHTER

The quintessential university experience is one of rushing through projects and assignments till the sun rises, with your friends in tow. The opening hours of enclosed study spaces like those at The Hive and The Arc are extended during exam season but not beyond midnight (look out for updates on the NTU Students’ Union’s Instagram page). So if you plan to pull an all-nighter with friends, look for open study spaces on campus, such as the benches at North Spine outside the Lee Wee Nam Library. Remember to catch up on sleep!

9 TAKE PART IN A RESEARCH STUDY… AND GET PAID

Chances are, you would have received emails inviting you to be rewarded for participating in research studies. If you have time to spare, why not sign up with your friends and find out what it is like? You get to contribute to science, and most studies are “chill” and straightforward. The best part? You get paid for your time.

10 BEFRIEND AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT

Get to know exchange students through classes or special interest groups and play tour guide by bringing them to your favourite hangout spots in Singapore. Your international friends will surely expand the way you see things. Try to pick up some handy words and phrases in their language for when you visit them next time. Learning the lingo of another country is always fascinating.
These three undergraduates did what their professors do – advancing knowledge through research and publishing their research in journals. Find out how they earned their first research bylines.

**The electrical engineering whizz**

**WHO**
LEE JINHENG
Graduating electrical & electronic engineering student

**WHAT**
As an NTU undergraduate, I published five international conference papers as first author, one of which won the Best Student Paper Award at an international conference.

**PET TOPIC**
I specialise in optimising power management systems for Internet of Things (IoT) devices like smart appliances.

**BEST REWARD**
The very process of innovation and discovery. I am also heartened that my research as an undergraduate can be published and flourish.

**BIGGEST SACRIFICE**
Spending countless Sunday evenings designing circuits and reading lots of research papers. The literature review process is the hardest part. You read intensively to understand the research problem and to advance previously published work, knowing this painstaking effort may not yield immediate results.

**MEMORABLE MOMENT**
Meeting pioneering figures – giants in the field of electrical engineering – as a young researcher at one of the world’s leading integrated circuits and systems symposiums held in Monterey, California.

**PROUDIEST MOMENT**
When one of my papers on designing a new voltage regulator for IoT applications was selected as the Best Student Paper at a major international conference attended by researchers, engineers and industry professionals worldwide. This was work I did under the supervision of Assoc Prof Chan Pak Kwong as part of the Research Apprentice Programme at my school that lets us interact with faculty members and gain research experience.

**WHAT’S NEXT**
When I started university, I thought I would graduate and be an electrical engineer. But thanks to my undergraduate research experience, I’m now looking forward to becoming a researcher and will be pursuing my PhD at NTU in August.

**DISCOVERING MY FLAIR FOR RESEARCH**
Towards the end of my freshman year, I was shortlisted for NTU’s Undergraduate Research Experience on Campus (URECA) programme, which lets students work on research projects under the mentorship of faculty. Back then, I was not very interested in research and only wanted to fulfil the requirements of my degree. Embarking on a URECA project on power converter integrated circuits under the supervision of Prof Joseph Chang at my school changed everything. My passion for research was ignited, and I was given the opportunity to work on my own ideas and publish research papers, which was exhilarating and fascinating. I am grateful to Prof Chang and research scientist Dr Victor Adrian for jumpstarting my journey in research.

**RESEARCHER’S DNA**
Apart from being passionate about my work, I am results-oriented. I enjoy pushing myself beyond my comfort zone and exploring new things.

**WHAT**
In my final year at NTU, I published a research paper as a co-first author, having discovered the function of a protein in regulating oil production in sunflowers.

**PET TOPIC**
I am interested in the molecular pathways and processes that plants use to synthesise oil. It is exciting to think we can use technology to improve plant growth.

**BEST REWARD**
Seeing my experiments yield positive outcomes motivates me. My work is meaningful and can be applied to bioengineer crops such as sunflower and soybean to produce more oil to meet the growing demand for plant oil in everyday products like food and detergent.

**HARDEST PART**
When experiments don’t work out and you have to troubleshoot to find out what went wrong.

**MEMORABLE MOMENT**
I remember FYP poster day fondly, when I shared my research with my peers and NTU professors. Now that COVID-19 travel restrictions have lifted, I look forward to attending conferences overseas to present my work and meet other scientists.

**WHO**
AUDREY LIM
2022 biological sciences graduate

**WHAT**
My senior who took Asst Prof Ma Wei’s module on plant biotechnology enjoyed his lessons and suggested I join his laboratory. So I reached out to Asst Prof Ma, who teaches at my school, to ask if I could volunteer at his lab as a part-time student assistant. Although I didn’t have any research experience, he took me under his wing and patiently guided me, as did my laboratory mentor, Dr Kong Que. They both sparked my passion for research. Later, I did my final-year project (FYP) in Asst Prof Ma’s lab.

**RESEARCHER’S DNA**
I’m passionate about understanding how living things work. I think it helps that I’m hardworking and motivated, and greatly enjoy the process of doing research. I’ve never once felt that I made sacrifices to reach this stage. In fact, I got the valuable learning experience I was looking for.

**WHAT**
As a nature lover, I wanted to get a head-start on plant research when I was in my third year. But I didn’t know which research group to join. My senior who took Asst Prof Ma Wei’s module on plant biotechnology enjoyed his lessons and suggested I join his laboratory. So I reached out to Asst Prof Ma, who teaches at my school, to ask if I could volunteer at his lab as a part-time student assistant. Although I didn’t have any research experience, he took me under his wing and patiently guided me, as did my laboratory mentor, Dr Kong Que. They both sparked my passion for research. Later, I did my final-year project (FYP) in Asst Prof Ma’s lab.

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**PROUDIEST MOMENT**
When the paper I co-authored was published by a well-regarded journal. This made the long hours spent in the laboratory and the hard work worthwhile!
WHO
LIM KAI PENG
Graduating biological sciences student

DISCOVERING MY FLAIR FOR RESEARCH
Asst Prof Wilson Goh’s module on data science sparked my interest in bioinformatics – the analysis of biological data using computational tools. I was so fascinated that I reached out to him and asked if I could do bioinformatics research in his laboratory at my school for my final-year project (FYP). I am grateful for his mentorship and NTU’s excellent research facilities, which made everything possible.

WHAT
I co-authored a journal paper discussing how to correct unwanted data variation in large protein studies.

PET TOPIC
I worked on my prof’s method for removing unwanted variation in protein data. My research helps ensure that reliable biomedical conclusions are drawn when the data is analysed further.

BEST REWARD
My FYP allowed me to follow my curiosity and, in my opinion, there is no better return than becoming an expert in your favourite topic.

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HARDEST PART
It’s a juggling act to balance research, studying and running a business, all at the same time. My social life took a hit.

PROUDEST MOMENT
When I solved a tricky problem that I was stuck at for a long time. Seeing your research published after months of hard work is also indescribable.

RESEARCHER’S DNA
If you are interested in doing something, take a leap of faith and give it a shot. I am not afraid of challenges and I relish trying new things. In fact, my passion for photography, videography and entrepreneurship led me to start my own venture. There are many parallels between research and entrepreneurship. I’m glad that through my deep dive into research, I learnt how to solve tough problems and think critically – skills that are also important for being a successful entrepreneur.
STARRY NIGHT

The night is young. Discover the allure of the campus and the NTU community’s explorations after the sun sets.

Cosmic nights on campus: It all starts at Tamarind Hall.

Moonlit manoeuvres.

Safe stops on every journey.

Line up for stardom.

Moving to the rhythm of the night.

Lit creations from NTU’s Media Art Nexus class.

No matter how dim it looks, your path will shine bright.

Find photo ops that leave a lasting impression.

A storeybook evening.

Scan this photo to see how NTU students have lit up Ten Square.

The night is young. Discover the allure of the campus and the NTU community’s explorations after the sun sets.

Clockwise from top right of the page: @ntu_astro (two photos), @holosame_boi, @shanyin_xy (two photos) and @wxzhao060

Clockwise from top right of the page: @ntuusp, @shawn_xlin, @lightfactor92, @tjocelyn and Monica Lee
**TOMORROWLAND**

How made-in-NTU technologies are changing our future

**NOW**

NTU's electrical & electronic engineering scientists have developed a way to harness the salinity – or salt content – in tears to generate a small electrical charge that can sustain wearable electronics such as smart contact lenses or sensors.

**FUTURE**

Imagine smart contact lenses fuelled by tears could be a lifesaver.

**SCAN THIS ILLUSTRATION**

to see how smart contact lenses powered by tears could be a lifesaver

---

**NOW**

Say goodbye to conventional cooling fans in data centre servers, and hello to the next generation of cooling tech for high-end computers. Housed in a metal leak-proof cabinet, NTU’s prototype uses sprays of non-conductive fluid to cool down sizzling hot computer chips directly and efficiently. The used fluid then gets collected, cooled down with ambient air, and reused by the system, wasting nothing.

**FUTURE**

This spray cooling technique could be adapted to supercharge small performance computers like gaming rigs – allowing PC enthusiasts to achieve their wildest overclocking dreams. The NTU research team from the School of Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering joined forces with Aftershock PC to explore innovative and sustainable cooling methods to scale up computer performance. Picture transparent cases with liquid elegantly cascading over the electronics. This could be the future of gaming rigs – a refreshing twist to the usual noisy RGB-lighted fans.

**SCAN THIS VISUAL**

for your chance to win a FreshKon contact lens hamper worth $400

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**NOW**

3D printing scientists from NTU and industry partner Panasonic have developed a groundbreaking machine that effortlessly prints thin, flexible electronic circuits. Picture a milk carton label that alerts you when the milk turns bad, or a smart sports band that flexes while you move. And here’s a game-changer: a smart IV drip bag with embedded electronics that makes life easier for both patients and nurses.

**FUTURE**

Electronics will soon break free from the constraints of hard circuit boards. Imagine embedding electronics on curved or soft surfaces: you’ll have smart patches that seamlessly blend with your skin, or electronic T-shirts and sweatbands that do double duty. And your phone or tablet could be as rollable as a map, ready to unfurl at your command, just like in sci-fi movies.
**Gen Z Speak**

**You, think you know Gen Z Speak?**

The lingo we use changes, sometimes quite drastically, from generation to generation. The result: something you use in everyday speech can sound completely foreign to someone else.

**Hey!** student writer Bernadette Toh shares a list of popular Gen Z slang words and how to use them, because, as she notes, using them wrongly can be embarrassing.

**Slay**

This word has less to do with violence, and more to do with the idea of doing a good job or being great at something. It’s saying “you’re killing it”, but figuratively. While it originated from the 1970s, the term is now a staple of the Gen Z dictionary.

**Ate (and left no crumbs)**

Of course, it’d be so boring to have only one way of saying “good job” in Gen Z lingo. Often seen on TikTok, “ate” is another catch-all term to express praise and admiration, with words such as “gobbled”, “served” and “delivered” carrying the same meaning.

**Jibol**

Move along, it’s time for a new way of saying you laughed really hard. Gen Zs now abbreviate the phrase “I just burst out laughing”, ever since LOL and LMAO have become uncool among the new generation. In fact, there’s a general consensus among the Gen Zs that using LOL and LMAO is a sign of passive aggression.

**Understood the assignment**

You get an A when you understand your prof’s assignment and do it perfectly. That’s basically what this phrase means. Popularised by American rapper Tay Money’s 2021 song The Assignment, the phrase is used to commend someone who did something perfectly, such as dressing well and appropriately at an event or having a good comeback to someone else’s remark.

**Lowkey**

“Lowkey” refers to being subtle or keeping something on the downlow. It’s used when you want to express your feelings about something, but don’t feel too strongly about it or don’t want to appear overly eager. For instance, you might tell a friend you’re lowkey excited about Greta Gerwig’s Barbie movie or Taylor Swift’s upcoming concerts (which is wrong, because tell me who isn’t super excited about these?).

**Goat**

You might wonder how this animal made its way into Gen Z’s dictionary. Despite being pronounced the same way, “goat” here doesn’t actually refer to the horned mammal, but is an abbreviation of “greatest of all time”. For example, you can say Lionel Messi is the “goat”, or Kylain Mbappé’s hat trick is “goated”.

**L**

That’s it. Just a singular letter “L”. Short for the word “loser” or “loss”, and pronounced like the letter in the alphabet, “L” is most commonly used as an insult. Gen Zs sometimes also refer to having a bad day or having something unfortunate happen to them as “taking an L”.

**Mid**

Not everything is fantastic and not everything is awful, so Gen Zs introduced a word to refer to that: “mid”. Short for the word “middle”, “mid” refers to something that is average or mediocre. It’s not the worst, but it’s not the best either, so you can use it when your hall room has no aircon but is free of uninvited wildlife – very mid indeed.

**Vibe/Vibing**

“Vibe” refers to the overall mood of a situation, while “vibing” means to have a positive feeling about something or someone. When you cannot put a name to the atmosphere you experience, you just call it “vibes”. Simple, but effective.

**It’s giving...**

The phrase is most often used as a way to compare someone or something to another person or thing. An example would be “Your outfit is giving Bella Hadid”, which means your outfit is something Bella Hadid would wear or that gives you the vibe of the supermodel. Used alone, it can also suggest that something is well received.

**Simp**

To “simp” for someone means to like them or have a crush on them. Originally a short term for simphon, the word often has the implication that the person who is “simping” is overly affectionate and is used in mockery. The word has since evolved to take on positive connotations, after numerous people on TikTok shared that they would love to have a “simp” for a partner.

**Red flag, green flag, beige flag**

Speaking of dating, Gen Zs now have an entire modern dating lingo. Red flags refer to deal breakers in relationships and are warning signs people find in their partner. Green flags, on the other hand, are positive traits and healthy behaviours. And then we have the beige flags, middle ground between the previous two. Beige flags can be described as those little quirks in someone that seem a little off, but aren’t terrible enough to give you pause.

**Rizz**

Taking “rizz” right out of “cha-rizz-ma”, the word means to have charisma. A person who has “rizz” is able to attract and charm someone, perhaps a romantic interest. So I guess chivalry is dead – there’s only “rizz” left.

**Red flag, green flag, beige flag**

The best part about this lingo is that many of the slang words can be conjugated and take a different form. For example, you can say “this is slayful” or “that is slaying” or “you slayed”. There are so many more terms in Gen Z lingo, ever changing with the trends. A slang commonly used among Gen Zs today may become obsolete tomorrow. Let’s just hope “slay” never goes out of style.

**Gas**

Nope, this is not about petrol, nor is it about the states of matter in science. “Gas” is used to describe something or someone that is appealing (“That prof – she’s gas”), whereas “gassing” is the act of hyping someone up. And if someone says they are “gassed”, don’t panic! That just means they’re excited and overwhelmed, in a good way.

**Ick**

Used to describe something gross or unpleasant, the meaning of the word “ick” now ranges from a pet peeve to something utterly disgusting. Gen Zs also use the phrase “give me the ick” to talk about traits or habits that turn them off from someone.

**Hey! student writer Bernadette Toh**

Bernadette loves storytelling, from books to films to documentaries. In her free time, she hunts for the best teh peng in town.

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EXPLORING THE FROZEN FRONTIER

Two cool young NTU researchers, Yan Yu Ting and Toh Yun Fann, were part of a group of scientists on board a state-of-the-art Norwegian research vessel that sailed the Barents Sea to investigate the changing conditions of the Arctic Ocean. The duo will adapt the techniques learnt on the vessel, such as seafloor mapping and sampling methods, for use in their study of Singapore’s seabed.

HEALING WITH A TWIST

If you’re going for surgery in future, don’t be alarmed if the incision isn’t a straight one. In fact, wavy or zig-zag incisions have been observed to heal quicker than straight ones, a phenomenon that has puzzled the medical world — until now. NTU scientists have found that wavy wounds heal nearly five times faster than straight ones due to the complex cell movement induced in them. This not only sheds light on patient recovery time, but contributes to strategies on minimising scarring as well.

VISUAL AWAKENING

Does this photo of NTU stir something in you? An NTU study has found that attractive images of nature can help build concern for environmental issues. The research, which used computer vision techniques to identify aesthetically pleasing images, revealed that sharing these photos on social media sparks engagement on the platforms and makes people care more about the Earth.

TWINNING TRIUMPH

Sometimes, two is really better than one. HEY!’s double AR cover issue won a Silver award from an international education professional body. The dual cover issue, published last year, was handed out at the Convocation and Freshmen Welcome ceremonies, and featured communication graduate Regene Lim in different scenes to represent graduation and fresh first-year journeys. As convo and freshmen season rolls around again, scan each cover image – taken with a mobile phone – to see Regene’s special messages.

SUPER COMPUTING CHAMPS

A group of NTU students fended off competitors from Asia, Europe and the US to take the top spot in an international supercomputing contest. Culminating in an in-person event in Hamburg, Germany, over three days in May, the competition saw the team improving the performance of a variety of engineering applications, including fluid dynamics simulations and materials modelling.

MAYBE MER-MADE

There’s a new – yet ancient – reason to catch the latest remake of The Little Mermaid. Researchers from Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine and their international collaborators have uncovered evidence that our arms and legs could have evolved from the fins of ancient fish. This research finding could help pave the way for regenerative outcomes like regrowing organs.

RAISING THE GREEN BAR

Gaia, The Wave and The Hive aren’t just photogenic, they’re also good for the Earth (did someone say, the whole package?). Our world-leading green campus bagged an award from the International Sustainable Campus Network for its “whole systems approach” to sustainability. Using mass-engineered timber to construct two of Asia’s largest wooden buildings is just one of the many examples of NTU’s wholehearted commitment to sustainable practices.

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Our planet is in a climate emergency. What can we do to change this world in crisis? See how NTU is showing the way as a leader of sustainability – from its groundbreaking research and innovations to its efforts to groom the next generation of environmental champions – in this new TV series produced in partnership with Mediacorp.

“On my research trip to Antarctica, I saw just how fragile the environment is. It was a stark reminder that we are really in a climate crisis.”
Tan Fangyi, PhD student at Asian School of the Environment and NTU’s Earth Observatory of Singapore

“We have finite resources on Earth. Finding ways to refurbish, reuse and recycle waste, and to use it over and over again, is very important and the key to sustainability.”
Prof Madhavi Srinivasan, Executive Director of NTU’s Sustainability Office

“The choices we make today will determine our path to the future. It is crucial that each of us play a part by taking small steps. Each individual action, taken collectively as a community, has a significant impact on the environment.”
Prof Ho Teck Hua, NTU President

“NTU is home to over 400 species of animals and two of them are critically endangered. By getting the NTU community to come for tree-planting events, we hope they will feel inspired to maintain the NTU campus for future generations of students.”
Eliph Goh, environmental earth systems science student and Co-chair, NTreeU

Our World to Change

Catch the three-episode documentary series on NTU’s sustainability efforts, “Our World to Change”, which supports the SG Green Plan, on CNA. It airs on 20 and 27 July and 3 August at 7.30pm, with repeat telecasts. You can also watch it on Channel 5 and meWATCH after its run on CNA.

Visit chrysalis.com.sg to start your journey toward beautiful, healthy skin.

For a limited time only, enjoy the Pimples and Pores facial treatment at the exclusive price of $73.44 per session

Scan this picture for your chance to be among 10 lucky winners of the Pimples and Pores facial treatment from Chrysalis Spa worth $432. Terms and conditions apply.

Tired of dealing with stubborn clogged pores that take a toll on your confidence?

Say hello to Chrysalis Spa Pimples and Pores, a facial treatment that will help you embrace your inner radiance by unclogging your pores and preventing acne.

And it’s not just about looking good; the treatment takes care of your skin’s health too.

When your pores get clogged with dirt, oil and dead skin cells, it becomes a breeding ground for bacteria, leading to annoying pimples, whiteheads and blackheads that threaten to leave rough bumps and scars.

By unclogging and refining your pores, you’re not only reducing the chances of future breakouts, but you’re also giving your skin a much-needed boost in appearance and overall health.

During the Chrysalis Spa Pimples and Pores treatment, which lasts an hour, the spa therapists work their magic by manually removing whiteheads, blackheads and comedones, the bumps that give skin a rough texture.

The treatment goes the extra mile by exfoliating your skin and hydrating it as nourishing nutrients penetrate deeply and do their work.

You’ll discern visible improvements with each session. So why wait? Say goodbye to clogged pores and hello to a healthier, happier complexion that you’ll love to flaunt. Your skin will thank you.

Terms and conditions apply.
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