

**Speech by Professor Gillian Yeo, Interim Dean, Nanyang Business
School on Nanyang Business School Forum 2009**

5th September 2009, Chengdu, China

NTU President, Dr Su Guaning,

**Distinguished Guests,
NTU Alumni and Participants,**

NBS faculty,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good afternoon,

On behalf of Nanyang Business School, NTU, it is my great pleasure to welcome all of you to this biennial NBS forum in Chengdu.

We hold this forum as platform to unite all NBS as well as NTU alumni in China so that there continues to be a vibrant link between the University and our alumni.

This forum also serves as a platform to foster dialogues and exchange views among the distinguished speakers, academics, industry leaders, NTU alumni and participants from a diverse background on major current business topics.

Two years ago when we held the forum in Shanghai, we invited Nobel Laureate Finn E Kydland and other prominent academics and industry leaders to discuss the emerging economy and financial markets development in China. The forum was well-received.

With your support and encouragement, we organized this year's forum with a very timely theme – *The New World Economic Order and its Implications for Businesses*. This afternoon we have 7 distinguished speakers from academia, government institutions and industry, 5 are from China and two from Singapore.

Today, I am very happy and encouraged by your participation – it reflects your commitment and support to Nanyang Business School and the University. I hope you will make full use of this rare opportunity to acquire new knowledge, exchange views with the experts and network.

Nanyang Business School has grown from strength to strength and I am pleased to update you with some of the exciting developments recently.

Just two months ago in July, we have been awarded a five-year re-accreditation by the European Quality Improvement System (EQUIS), the prestigious international system of quality assessment, improvement and accreditation of management and business schools. NBS remains as an EQUIS accredited school together with 115 institutions in 33 countries. This re-accreditation is a hallmark of NBS's commitment to quality and excellence.

In January this year, our MBA program has jumped more than 20 places to be ranked 24th among the top MBA programs in the Financial Times 2009 Global MBA Rankings. With this quantum leap, NBS is now in the league of the world's top 25 elite business schools.

NBS is committed to creating world-class knowledge with an Asian focus and with special interest in China and India. NTU's engagement with China includes the prestigious Nanyang EMBA, in collaboration with Shanghai Jiaotong University, MSc (Finance) Program, and the Executive Development Program, the "Mayors' Classes" - Master of Public Administration and MSc (Managerial Economics). We are also developing new programs that cater to the increasing needs for China's entrepreneurs to network with the world's business community. With all these exciting developments, we need your continued support to make our vision a reality.

Finally, I wish you a meaningful and fruitful discussion ahead and, once again, thank you for your unwavering support to Nanyang Business School and NTU. (END)