



PRESS RELEASE

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NUS Computing launches new programme to groom future-enabled FinTech talent

- ***Professional certificate programme developed by academia and leading FinTech industry players***
- ***Supports the Singapore government's initiative to upskill local talents and enhance employability and supports recently announced traineeships***

Singapore, 6 July 2020 - The National University of Singapore's School of Computing (NUS Computing) has launched the NUS-FinTechSG Programme today. Offered by the NUS FinTech Lab and Strategic Technology Management Institute (STMI), this new programme aims to nurture Singapore's next generation of Financial Technology (FinTech) talents and full stack developers.

The NUS-FinTechSG Programme focuses on the financial sector, where students can gain knowledge about contemporary issues in the FinTech space. They will learn the integration of financial domain know-how, consisting of lending, payments, insurance, regulation and management. Students will also learn about front-end and back-end development, cloud systems, blockchain, and algorithmic trading.

In addition, students will have the option to access SGUnited traineeships and employment opportunities with partner enterprises. The skills acquired by the students will provide them with the opportunity to switch careers, as industries such as supply chain, retail, tourism and transport depend on FinTech.

"As digitisation becomes an essential anchor for our economy, it is crucial to provide companies with a foundation – including knowledge, experience and resources – for future-ready talent and enterprises to truly succeed. The NUS FinTech Lab is at the forefront of this mission to join forces across the industry, and provide the best collective intelligence and tools for everyone to navigate the digital future," said Professor Mohan Kankanhalli, Dean of NUS School of Computing and Chairman of the FinTech Lab Advisory Board.

The launch of the programme builds upon the concerted efforts to strengthen Singapore's S\$1.2 billion (US\$861 million) FinTech market and to ensure that the industry can continue its growth momentum alongside financial institutions¹. The NUS-FinTechSG Programme is complemented by an optional trainee stipend co-funding scheme, which is supported under

¹ Fintech Fundraising Grew Strongly in Most Major Markets in 2019, Accenture Analysis Finds
<https://newsroom.accenture.com/news/fintech-fundraising-grew-strongly-in-most-major-markets-in-2019-accenture-analysis-finds.htm>

the SGUnited Traineeship Programme by the Ministry of Manpower and Workforce Singapore, to enable businesses to develop their local pipeline of FinTech talent.

“Singapore is one of the core innovation hubs in Asia, and is well-positioned to leverage FinTech to create new opportunities for the economy. We aim to harness this potential by enabling aspiring talents to learn about this fast-evolving field, and encourage innovative firms to bring their proof of concepts to life by offering on-the-job training for the students. As a part of the ongoing collaborative efforts among government, academia and the industry, we believe this programme will accelerate the nation’s digital growth and empower enterprises to leverage FinTech and bolster Singapore’s virtual economy,” said Professor Alex Siow, Director of STMI.

Students who enrol in the NUS-FinTechSG Programme will undergo a structured two-month intensive full-time course on the fundamentals of FinTech and business, subsequent programming concepts, as well as knowledge and development tools used in the FinTech industry. They can apply for a full-time traineeship of between nine to 12 months with leading financial institutions and companies such as UBS, Razer, and Bank of Singapore, which are expected to offer career paths based on merit.

For corporates and venture capitalists, the programme presents an opportunity to develop and acquire young FinTech talent.

Associate Professor (Practice) Keith B. Carter, Director of the NUS FinTech Lab, explained, “From Grab to Shopee, we are using FinTech-powered platforms everyday. Yet, many hesitate to dive in and learn about FinTech since it sounds distant. That is why the NUS-FinTechSG Programme is uniquely designed to make FinTech accessible, whether your background is in the arts, engineering, tourism, transportation or retail. The programme is designed in a pragmatic and approachable way, so that it can give everyone the skills needed to qualify for over 2,000 job openings² in the banking and finance sectors.”

NUS FinTech Lab was launched last year in collaboration between NUS Computing and Ripple, a global enterprise payments provider. The lab provides experiential education as part of NUS Computing’s Industry FinTech Initiatives (SIFI), and serves as a locus of cooperation and a broker of conversation between industry actors, government departments, regulatory bodies, and educational institutions.

Courses for the NUS-FinTechSG Programme will begin on 6 July 2020. For more information, visit <https://fintechlab.nus.edu.sg>.

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About National University of Singapore (NUS)

The National University of Singapore (NUS) is Singapore’s flagship university, which offers a global approach to education, research and entrepreneurship, with a focus on Asian perspectives and expertise. We have 17 faculties across three campuses in Singapore, as

² MyCareersFuture, 1 July 2020, https://www.mycareersfuture.sg/job/banking-finance?sortBy=new_posting_date&page=0

well as 12 NUS Overseas Colleges across the world. Close to 40,000 students from 100 countries enrich our vibrant and diverse campus community.

Our multidisciplinary and real-world approach to education, research and entrepreneurship enables us to work closely with industry, governments and academia to address crucial and complex issues relevant to Asia and the world. Researchers in our faculties, 30 university-level research institutes, research centres of excellence and corporate labs focus on themes that include energy, environmental and urban sustainability; treatment and prevention of diseases common among Asians; active ageing; advanced materials; as well as risk management and resilience of financial systems. Our latest research focus is on the use of data science, operations research and cybersecurity to support Singapore's Smart Nation initiative.

For more information on NUS, please visit www.nus.edu.sg.