

## NTU rises in varsity ranking

NANYANG Technological University (NTU) has climbed four positions to reach No. 73 in a ranking of the world's top 200 universities.

It appears to be making its way back up after tumbling from 69th in 2007 to 77th last year.

The National University of Singapore (NUS) kept its 30th spot in the Times Higher Education-Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings.

Times Higher Education is a magazine, while QS is a company which provides information on higher education and career choices.

The annual survey, in which American and British universities took the top 10 spots, assesses institutions in six areas: Academic peer review, employer review, international faculty ratio, international student ratio, student-faculty ratio and the number of citations its teaching staff have garnered in academic journals.

Head of the QS intelligence unit Ben Sowter said NTU moved up the table by improving on its number of citations; NUS lost out slightly in this aspect, but improved on its student-faculty ratio.

He noted that both universities made

incremental improvements in international faculty and student ratios.

The top position went to Harvard University, followed by Cambridge University. Yale University fell one spot to No. 3. University College London came in fourth, ahead of Oxford University, which was joint fifth with Imperial College London.

NTU president Su Guanng, reacting to the rankings, said NTU would "continue to focus on systematically improving the quality of our research, education and learning environment - things that make a university great".

He said NTU has always believed in pursuing improvements so its students and faculty can excel, while "letting the rankings take care of themselves".

NUS president Tan Chorh Chuan said the university will continue to build strong ties with its partners from around the world and leverage on its insights and expertise in Asia.

While universities around the world aim to excel in these rankings, higher education experts have panned the survey for being unscientific in its data collection.