

HIS WORLD ANIME-TED

With a stellar list of research and academic achievements, Jan Han had an action-packed learning journey at NTU.

TEXT LYNETTE KOH PHOTO JASON HO

There is another reason why Jan could not be an *otaku*. He simply would not have the time.

Having recently graduated with first-class honours from NTU's Wee Kim Wee School of Communication and Information (SCI), not surprising for the 24-year-old who has been on the Dean's list throughout his undergraduate years, Jan will commence his master's programme in media economics come August.

Eventually, he hopes to undertake doctoral studies in the same field.

It is a natural path for the Communication Research major, whose penchant for academic work saw him not only participating in the challenging URECA (Undergraduate Research Experience on Campus) programme but writing additional research papers "for fun".

For his URECA project, Jan carried out a study on blog readers.

His research took him far beyond the campus: In 2005, Jan attended the annual conference of the Asian Media Information and Communication Centre (AMIC) in Beijing, where he was the only undergraduate to present a paper.

Jan recalled: "My experience at the AMIC conference was really an eye-opener. It was nerve-wracking, as the only undergraduate student there, presenting my study to professors and other graduate students, and having to answer their questions!

"However, I am grateful for this opportunity which NTU had given me.

Without the guidance from my professors and fellow course mates, I believe I would not have gotten so far."

The experience spurred him on and Jan went on to write two more independent research papers, one on political podcasts, and another on media coverage of the local political elections.

As school examinations were underway, one of Jan's professors presented his research on podcasts at an international conference in the Philippines in April.

Said Jan: "I like thinking about things analytically, and I enjoy reading other people's research because I get to learn something new."

He added: "A day without gaining knowledge is a day wasted for me."

Along with his team of seven writers from all over the world, Jan updates his *THAT Anime Blog* daily with up-to-date reviews of the latest *anime* series, as well as commentaries on various hot-button *anime*-related topics.

Being part of a collective was ideal for Jan. "I like working in a group, where you can have intensive discussions together."

In addition, opportunities to gain new knowledge abound for Jan, thanks to the thousands of readers visiting his blog every day.

Jan enthused: "Sometimes, they bring up things that I'd never thought about, and it's like, 'Wow, why didn't I think of that?'"

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JAN HAN

- Pursuing master's programme in media economics at NTU
- NTU President Research Scholar

MORE FROM CLASS OF 2007



TOH MINGLIN

School of Chemical and Biomedical Engineering,
College of Engineering

- Pursuing PhD at NTU
- University volleyball player

“One of the best things about studying at NTU is its dedicated lecturers and top-notch, state-of-the-art research equipment. In fact, it made

me decide to pursue my doctorate at the School of Materials Science and Engineering.

The emphasis by the school to guide, and not to lead the students, has instilled a sense of independence and developed a self-learning initiative in us. Moreover, our industrial attachments have been specially arranged to give us better insights into the working world.”



ZHONG DE SHENG, ADRIAN

School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering (EEE),
College of Engineering

- Process Integration Engineer, Chartered Semiconductor Manufacturing
- EEE Excellence Award
- NTU President Research Scholar

“The best thing about studying at NTU is the chance to stay in the Hall of Residence. I was fortunate enough to have stayed on campus throughout my four years there and that has

made me a more mature and independent person.

My NTU education has equipped me with a set of knowledge and tools required for my area of specialisation. It has also helped me develop the necessary set of thinking and soft skills crucial for success in the workforce. The broad-based education has given me the flexibility to work in different industries yet excel in my area of specialisation.”