

# Preface

THIS SPECIAL issue on 'The Approach to Engineering Education at Nanyang Technological University' gives the NTU an unique opportunity to share with others the aspirations, experiences and efforts involved in building up a university from scratch. This is no small achievement especially in a university where the main thrust is engineering. While it is not possible for other aspiring institutions to copy exactly the process the NTU went through, the example should nevertheless be useful in giving some insights into pertinent issues.

Engineering education is viewed with great importance in many countries especially those with emerging economies. Engineers are considered as creators of wealth and therefore an adequate supply of good quality engineers is fundamental. Such is the attitude of Singapore. The NTU is pleased to play an important role in the economy of Singapore.

The NTU is grateful to the editors of the *International Journal of Engineering Education* in allocating an entire special issue to the University.

CHAM TAO SOON

President, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore