Singapore, China varsities team up

Joint programme by NUS, Tsinghua will see exchanges of law students

SINGAPORE – Students attending law schools of two leading universities in Asia, the National University of Singapore (NUS) and Tsinghua University, will soon be able to earn degrees from both institutions.

The concurrent degree programme, based on a “3+1” model, allows selected students from both schools to spend part of their course time at the partner institution to earn a Master of Laws (LLM) degree.

Each home institution will send five of its current Bachelor of Laws (LLB) candidates who have completed at least three years of study to the partnering university. These students will then spend at least one year there.

Admission will be based on interviews conducted by both institutions. The fees will be set and the assessment carried out by the institution in which the students are studying at. When they complete the programme, they will receive an LLB degree from their home institution and an LLM degree from the partner institution.

Faculty of both law schools could also teach at the partner institution. The two law schools, which inked the agreement earlier this month, have also agreed to discuss cooperation at the graduate level, including a possible joint LLM degree.

Vice-Dean of Research and International Programmes at NUS Law School, Professor Stephen Girvin, said the programmes will deepen students’ understanding of Chinese law, which is an integral consideration for doing business with Asia’s most populous nation and largest economy.

Dean of Tsinghua University’s Law School, Professor Wang Zhenmin, believed that the partnership has profound implications for the legal profession.

He said it will provide a platform for both universities to contribute to the continuing development of law and order, and peace. CHANNEL NEWSASIA