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**Ratan Tata on advisory board of Cornell-Nanyang Hospitality Institute Ithaca, N.Y., USA/Singapore:** Nanyang Technological University (NTU) and Cornell University have appointed industry stalwarts and leading academic administrators as members to the Joint Advisory Board of the Cornell-Nanyang Institute of Hospitality Management (CNI).



CNI is an alliance between Cornell's School of Hotel Administration and NTU's Nanyang Business School, offering a first-of-its-kind joint graduate degree program in hospitality management.

The members of the board are Michael Chiu, Ms Marge Ferguson, Professor Hong Hai, Professor Sheryl Kimes, Kwek Leng Beng, Edward Kuok, Kevin McGovern, James Mingle, Ratan Tata and Philip Yeo.

Ratan Tata is the Chairman of Tata Sons Limited, the apex body of the Tata Group. One of the major Tata Group companies is Indian Hotels, which operates the Taj hotels, palaces and resorts, and is the largest hotel chain in India. Tata Group also manages the Institute of Hotel Management, Aurangabad.

In addition, Dr Judy Siguaw, Lim Neo Chian and Gong Wee Lik will serve as non-voting ex officio members of the Joint Advisory Board.

The Joint Advisory Board provides advice to the Deans of CNI, Cornell University's School of Hotel Administration and NTU's Nanyang Business School, as well as to the parties' governing boards. The Joint Advisory Board is primarily responsible for the review and evaluation of the joint masters program and other activities of CNI. The board will assist local operations at the Singapore venue and will help secure fund raising support for the joint program. The board will meet twice annually, with members serving for three years.

The inaugural Joint Advisory Board meeting will commence on 21 Sep 05.

The Cornell-Nanyang Institute of Hospitality Management will offer Asia's first graduate hospitality management program beginning July 2006. Up to 50 students per class will spend equal periods of time at NTU's campus and at Cornell's campus in Ithaca, New York.

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**Sunanda Lahiri is United Bank of India's first woman ED Kolkata:** The United Bank of India has got its first woman Executive Director since nationalisation with Sunanda Lahiri joining the bank on June 18.

A engineering graduate from Jadavpur University, Ms. Lahiri joined the UCO Bank in 1971 and rose to the position of General Manager in 2001. At UBI, she steps into the position left vacant by KN Prithviraj who was appointed as CMD of Oriental Bank of Commerce, according to a release.

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