

Singapore

NTU student team top in global Shell innovation competition

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SINGAPORE: A team of students from Nanyang Technological University (NTU) have emerged first in a global Royal Dutch Shell competition, winning them a trip to Antarctica, said a joint press release by the local university and the multinational oil and gas company on Monday (May 25).

A mobile application designed by the three students – Alex Chen, May Lim and Nitya Anthony – was picked as the winner by a panel of experts at the finals of the international innovation competition, Shell Ideas360.

Shell Ideas360 calls on young people to submit inventive solutions to the planet's energy, water and food challenges. The team beat more than 1,000 entries from 55 countries to win the first prize.

Their app, Food Basket, aims to reduce the 1.3 billion tonnes of food wasted globally each year – which costs the average household US\$1,500 a year. It allows consumers to track their groceries and, by monitoring foods' expiry dates, it will suggest recipes to cook. Users can also trade items amongst themselves through an in-app market place to reduce over-buying of groceries and in turn reduce food wastage.

"We don't often realise the enormous impact of wasting food, so we hope our Food Basket app can create more awareness and help to reduce such wastage," said the 24 year-old Chen.

The NTU team has won an all-expenses-paid National Geographic Adventure of their choice, and they have said that they plan to choose Antarctica.

Chen, Lim and Anthony are all from NTU's top engineering programme, the Renaissance Engineering Programme.

Source: CNA/ek

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