New school for researchers and scholars from Asia

By Karen Ng | Posted: 09 January 2012 1738 hrs

SINGAPORE: Researchers and scholars from Asia can stay in the loop of the latest advances and discoveries in science at a winter school in Singapore.

The school is called the Institute of Advanced Studies on Particle Physics and Cosmology and Implication for Technology.

It has been set up by Nanyang Technological University (NTU), with support from the European Organisation for Nuclear Research (CERN), which is renowned for inventing the World Wide Web.

The first course at NTU will run for three weeks until Jan 31 for about 120 scholars and researchers from the region.

The course will be held once every two years.

It provides academics with another high-level platform to keep up-to-date with the frontiers of their fields of study.

Previously, such courses were only available in Europe - where CERN is based - or the US.

Deputy Prime Minister Teo Chee Hean, who launched the school on Monday, is confident the move will boost Singapore's science and technology plans.

Mr Teo, who is also Home Affairs Minister, said: "The government's investment in R&D (research and development) has grown significantly, with S$16.1 billion set aside for research, innovation and enterprise for the current five-year period from 2011 to 2015."

"This reflects the important role that research and innovation play in underpinning the competitiveness of our industries, catalysing new growth areas, and transforming our economy."

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