

Third medical school gets \$20m gift

SINGAPORE'S third medical school, the Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine, has received \$20 million from the Toh Kian Chui Foundation.

The gift – the second-largest received so far by the school – will be used to set up endowments to fund a Distinguished Pro-

fessorship, a Gold Medal student award, scholarships, and research and education efforts.

Mr Toh, a philanthropist and noted businessman in the construction industry, died in 2000.

The Distinguished Professorship initiative aims to attract world-renowned clinicians and

scientists who can help spur the school to greater heights in medical education and research.

The Gold Medal, to be given to the top medical student from each cohort, comes with a cash award of up to \$10,000, while scholarships will cover tuition fees and provide some allowances.

An endowment of \$10 million will also be set aside to support medical education and research.

In recognition of the gift, an upcoming three-storey annex at the school's headquarters building will be named after Mr Toh.

Lauding the contribution, Nanyang Technological University

(NTU) president Bertil Andersson said it is "deeply privileged" to be the recipient and the gift will go a long way towards helping young Singaporeans acquire a quality medical education.

Ms Toh Keng Choo, the daughter of Mr Toh, said: "We're honoured to be part of a noble mis-

sion to produce doctors in Singapore who will put patients at the heart of their exemplary care."

The school, a tie-up between NTU and Imperial College London, will open in August with 50 students. The annual intake will rise to 150 over the longer term.

PAIGE LIM