

NTU launches two ageing-focussed research centres



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SINGAPORE – Two centres focussed on research into ageing-related issues were launched on Friday (May 6) at the Nanyang Technological University (NTU).

The S\$12 million Ageing Research Institute for Society and Education (Arise) aims to improve the lives of the elderly through research and education while the S\$7 million Centre for Population Health Sciences (CePHaS) will focus on developing practical solutions to tackle pressing medical problems and improve overall health of the population.

So far, over S\$33 million in funding has been secured for ageing-related research from industry partners.

In addition, a Memorandum of Understanding was also signed on Friday between Arise and Tan Tock Seng Hospital's Institute of Geriatrics and Active Ageing, kick-starting Arise's research programme in geriatrics.

NTU President Professor Bertil Andersson said he believed an integrated and an interdisciplinary approach towards ageing research could solve the challenges faced by an ageing society. "NTU will develop quality research to enhance our understanding of how Singapore is evolving as a society, and find the most effective solutions to sustain vibrant and resilient families, and communities," he said.

The multidisciplinary nature will bring together expertise from various fields, ranging from engineering to business, humanities, medicine and sports science.

Health Minister Mr Gan Kim Yong, who was present at the launch, said he was encouraged to see local universities take up a multidisciplinary approach towards researching ageing and population health. "At the end of the day, research findings must be translatable and work on the ground, so that we can reap the real benefits of research," he said.

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