NTU medical school gets $150m donation

The upcoming medical school in Nanyang Technological University (NTU) will receive a $150 million gift from the Lee Foundation, amounting to a total of $400 million with the enhanced matching offer by the Singapore Government.

The gift will establish two endowment funds, each worth $75 million, for the new medical school. One will offer students financial aid in terms of scholarships, bursaries and other forms of support, while the other will be for the advancement of medical education and clinical research.

Set to open in 2013, the new medical school will be named Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine. It is named after the founder of the Lee Foundation, Lee Kong Chian, in recognition of the gift.

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— A spokesman for the NTU Board of Trustees

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Education at the Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine will take a science-based approach, along with more modern methods such as e-learning.

According to Lim Chuan Poh, chairman of the new school’s pro-tem governing board, the medical school, which is formed through a partnership between NTU and Imperial College London, will increase opportunities for multi-disciplinary research, such as biomedical engineering, translational and clinical research, and health services research.

Mr Lim said: “Breakthroughs in these areas will not only directly benefit Singaporeans but will also contribute to the well-being of the wider regional and global community.”

The school will offer a five-year undergraduate degree to a pioneer batch of 50, eventually growing to 150 to meet Singapore’s healthcare demands.