NEWS RELEASE

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NTU signs agreement with Sweden’s Karolinska Institute
- Partnership kicks off with joint symposium on biomedical structural biology

The first joint Nanyang Technological University – Karolinska Institute symposium commences today at NTU. The 2-day symposium, on Biomedical Structural Biology, features participants from both countries exchanging ideas on how to prevent malaria, dengue and cancer at the molecular level, among other topics. NTU and KI will sign an agreement for student and faculty exchange during the symposium tomorrow.

Karolinska Institute (KI), a prestigious medical university in Sweden is one of Europe's largest medical universities. KI is also Sweden’s largest centre for medical training and research and the Karolinska Institute Nobel Assembly awards the Nobel Prize in Physiology and Medicine.

As part of the agreement, the two institutions will host exchange visits for study and research for their undergraduate and graduate students and faculty from the KI Biomedicine Program and the NTU School of Biological Sciences.

In the near future, the two institutes will also explore research collaboration in areas of mutual interest.

Professor Alex Law, Acting Chair of NTU School of Biological Sciences, says, “We are excited to work closely with Karolinska Institute, a world-class medical university. NTU’s School of Biological Sciences and Karolinska Institute have much common ground in research. The agreement will allow us to tap each other’s strengths in the study of Infectious Medicine, Molecular Medicine and Structural Biology.”
More information on the NTU-KI Symposium:

Some of the more interesting subjects presented at the symposium include:
- the determination of 3D structures of important dengue virus proteins and how this information will be used to develop antivirals;
- computer simulations of protein-protein interactions in p53 pathway, which is critical to cancer development;
- the Structural Genomics Consortium, a not-for-profit organisation, which works on structures of proteins from its target list which comprises 2,400 human proteins associated with disease such as cancer, diabetes, genetic diseases and proteins from human pathogens such as those that cause malaria. This work leads to new hypotheses and new directions for biomedical research;
- There are also several NTU and KI researchers talking about different aspects of developing malaria vaccine.

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About Nanyang Technological University

Nanyang Technological University (NTU) is a research-intensive university ranked among the top 25 technological universities in the world. The Yunnan Garden campus, NTU's main campus, is located in the south-western part of Singapore. The NTU@one-north campus, home to educational and alumni clubhouse facilities, is located near Singapore's biomedical research hub, Biopolis; and the new infocomm and media hub, Fusionopolis.

NTU has four colleges, namely:
- The College of Engineering, with six schools focused on technology and innovation and a research output among the top four in the world.
- The College of Science, a key driver of Singapore’s life sciences initiatives.
- The Nanyang Business School (the College of Business), offering one of the world's top 100 MBA programmes.
- The College of Humanities, Arts, & Social Sciences, which boasts Singapore’s first professional art school offering degree courses in art, design and interactive digital media; the Humanities and Social Science School; and the Wee Kim Wee School of Communication and Information, a top journalism and media school in Asia.
The S Rajaratnam School of International Studies, one of two autonomous institutes of NTU, is a world authority on strategic studies and terrorism. NTU is also home to the internationally-acclaimed National Institute of Education, Singapore’s only teacher-training institute.

As Singapore’s main science and technology university, NTU makes significant contributions to the nation’s renewed drive for research and innovation spearheaded by the Singapore National Research Foundation (NRF). NTU’s strengths in biomedical sciences, environmental and water technologies, and interactive and digital media mirror the NRF’s research focus.

NTU has a strong and broad international reach covering academic and research partnerships with top institutions in the US, Europe and Asia, such as MIT, Stanford University, Cornell University, Caltech, University of Washington, Georgia Institute of Technology, and Carnegie Mellon University; Cambridge University, Imperial College and Swiss Federal Institute of Technology; and Peking University, Shanghai Jiaotong University, Waseda University, and Indian Institute of Technology.

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