

30 May 2014

**ALL STAFF AND STUDENTS
SINGHEALTH INSTITUTIONS
DUKE-NUS GRADUATE MEDICAL SCHOOL SINGAPORE**

Dear Colleagues and Students,

ADVANCING THE SINGHEALTH DUKE-NUS ACADEMIC MEDICINE PARTNERSHIP



In 2010, the SingHealth Board of Directors and Duke-NUS Governing Board endorsed our partnership in Academic Medicine, paving the way for a shared pursuit to innovate care so that patients' lives can be improved.

In just four years, we have made tremendous progress in advancing our Academic Medicine vision! We marked the maturing of our partnership with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) at the SingHealth Duke-NUS Joint Board Retreat yesterday.

Key Achievements

Since we embarked on this journey, we have rolled out 10 Academic Clinical Programs (ACP) to strengthen cross-institution integration and synergies in clinical care, education and research, with another four coming up.

Joint institutes such as the Academic Medicine Education Institute (AM•EI), Academic Medicine Research Institute (AMRI), and National Neuroscience Research Institute Singapore (NNRIS) were set up, to advance medical teaching and catalyse clinical research.

We now have 68 Clinician Scientists, on track to meet our target of 80 by 2015. New research core platforms and programmes such as POLARIS were launched, and we are proud that since FY2001, we have secured \$1.04 billion in competitive grants and also had more than 7,000 research papers in peer reviewed journals!

Expanding our talent pipeline, we now have 892 Residents supported by a 1,085-strong faculty in 34 programs. AM•EI has seen a steady growth of membership since its launch in 2012, with more than 1,500 members currently and a total of 2,095 training places offered. We celebrated with our first cohort of the AM•EI Fellows Program at a recent showcase of their scholarly projects and teaching initiatives. As we welcome the second intake of educators, the spirit of generativity has truly taken flight.

We took the first step in philanthropy with the Benjamin Sheares Professorship in Academic Medicine in 2011. In the past one year, we launched the Tan Cheng Lim Research and Education Fund by Paediatrics ACP and established two new professorships – Arthur Lim Professorship in Ophthalmology; and Lee Seng Teik and Lee Hoo Leng Professorship in Plastic Surgery and Regenerative Medicine. With one more in the pipeline – the proposed Balachandran-Kajima Professorship in Academic Medicine – we are well on our way to nurturing outstanding academic leadership in medical research and teaching.

Forging Ahead

As we continue to grow our partnership in Academic Medicine, there are many areas that we are jointly building on.

For example, more integrated multi-disciplinary centres focusing on disease areas will be formed, leveraging on the synergies of education, research and the Cluster's combined clinical volume.

As part of the recent recommendations by the Academic Medicine Advisory Council (AMAC), we will strengthen our innovative culture and enhance education and mentoring efforts. These would include having visiting professorships by international experts to share on their experiences in research and education leading to better patient outcomes.

We are making good progress on our Joint Research Master Plan in six research focus areas and are looking forward to widening our research capabilities with the upcoming launch of the National Heart Research Institute Singapore (NHRIS).

Significance of MOU

This MOU affirms the shared commitment between SingHealth and Duke-NUS by formalising the framework which both organisations can build on to accelerate our Academic Medicine transformation journey.

More importantly, our success is a result of your strong conviction and enduring desire to make a difference in our patients' lives.

Thank you for sharing our conviction that a better tomorrow awaits our patients as we focus on improving their lives through transforming Medicine and keeping patients at the heart of all we do.

Warmest regards,



Prof Ivy Ng
Group Chief Executive Officer
SingHealth
Co-Chair
Academic Medicine Executive Committee
(AM EXCO)



Prof Ranga Krishnan
Dean
Duke-NUS Graduate Medical School Singapore
Co-Chair
Academic Medicine Executive Committee
(AM EXCO)