

## TFS, NUS to fund three new projects

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TFS and the NUS announced three research projects, which are supported under their strategic alliance.

Each project could receive a grant of up to \$300,000 (Singapore Dollars) per year.

The five-year strategic alliance formed by the two parties in April 2014 has committed to sponsor both multi-year and short-term research grants to accelerate life sciences, as well as to support activities that encourage knowledge exchange among NUS researchers and TFS's scientists.

This alliance is facilitated by the NUS Industry Liaison Office, which is part of NUS Enterprise.

".....NUS will continue to forge strong collaborations with industry, to translate our research into impactful innovations for the benefit of society," said Ms Irene Cheong, director, NUS Industry Liaison Office.

The call for proposals for the multi-year grants attracted over 50 applications from various labs and investigators across NUS.

The selected research projects were chosen based on the application of the research to the request for proposal topics generated from TFS and NUS, including potential for future commercial viability.

These projects cover three areas of research: synthetic biology, analytical applications and stem cell biology.

"...Our alliance with NUS will also help to accelerate innovation from Singapore, which will benefit the people of the Asia Pacific and the world," said Dr Alan Sachs, CSO, Life Sciences Solutions, Thermo Fisher Scientific

Moving forward, the Thermo Fisher Scientific-NUS strategic alliance is now in the process of selecting projects for the Discovery Innovation Grants (DIGs).

The DIGs will support investigation of new areas or new applications of existing technologies that come under the spotlight such as: Next Generation Sequencing, Genetic Analysis, Molecular Diagnostics, Food Safety and Animal Health, Life Sciences and Chromatography and Mass Spectrometry, Rare Cells & Single Cells and Synthetic Biology.

The grant period will be for one-year and up to \$100,000 (Singapore Dollars) for each project.

The projects will be selected in May.