

Grooming the best and brightest

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First intake of six students in the NTU-Imperial College London Joint PhD Programme will pursue research in the fields of Bioengineering, Chemical Engineering and Chemical Technology, and Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering.

NTU and Imperial College London – two leading universities with an edge in science and technology – have taken their long-standing partnership in education a step further with the signing of an implementation agreement in November to launch a series of landmark joint doctoral programmes in engineering and science.

The academic alliance was first announced in April this year, with the sealing of a Memorandum of Understanding by the Rector of Imperial College London Sir Roy Anderson and NTU President Dr Su Guanng. It marked the first time both Imperial College and NTU were offering a joint PhD programme with a partner university.

NTU and Imperial College will offer PhD degrees initially in the subjects of Bioengineering, Chemical Engineering and Chemical Technology, and Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering. Conducted on a full-time basis over four years, the Joint PhD Programme will eventually be extended to include all engineering and science disciplines. Successful candidates will receive a PhD degree awarded under the seals of both NTU and Imperial College, after spending two years at each institution. Up to ten students will be accepted from each university every academic year.

Offering a synergistic combination of research resources, including world-class talent and cutting-edge facilities, the Joint PhD Programme is expected to draw the best students, while top faculty will be involved as academic supervisors. Six students have been selected to join the programme as the pioneer intake.

The implementation agreement was signed on 13 November by Prof Mary Ritter, Pro Rector for Postgraduate and International Affairs, and Prof Lam Khin Yong, Associate Provost (Graduate Education & Special Projects). Prof Richard I Kitney, Director of Imperial College's Graduate School of Engineering & Physical Sciences, and Prof Ching Chi Bun, Chair of NTU's School of Chemical & Biomedical Engineering (SCBE), witnessed the signing.