

## BIOENGINEERING CORRIDOR AT THE FACULTY OF ENGINEERING



Figure 1: Briefing on the Bioengineering Corridor by Assoc Prof S Ramakrishna (2nd from right) to Mr Peter Chen, Senior Minister of State for Education (4th from right).

*Biomedical* Sciences is now a strategic area for development in Singapore. In this respect, a Division of Bioengineering was set up at the Faculty of Engineering to oversee a Bioengineering Programme in both education and research to advance the development of Biomedical Sciences in our country.

In order to facilitate research in bioengineering, the Faculty has just set up a Bioengineering Corridor using a multi-disciplinary joint-lab concept. This Corridor physically brings together the various bioengineering research groups from the departments of Chemical & Environmental Engineering, Electrical & Computer Engineering and Mechanical Engineering into one location.



Figure 2: From left: Dr CT Lim (Programme Manager, Division of Bioengineering), Assoc Prof SK Chou (Head, Dept of Mechanical Engineering), Prof WJ Ng (Dean, Faculty of Engineering), Prof Chien Shu (International Advisor), Assoc Prof S Ramakrishna (Director, Division of Bioengineering), Prof N Phan-Thien (Head, Bioengineering Division, Dept of Mechanical Engineering) and Assoc Prof SS Feng (Dept of Chemical & Environmental Engineering).

“This Bioengineering Corridor is the first of its kind at our Faculty and University. The aim is to facilitate exchange of ideas among the various research groups not only within but outside of the university and in the process, foster multi-disciplinary teaching, learning and research.” says Dr Lim Chwee Teck (Programme Manager, Division of Bioengineering) who is in charge of setting-up and managing this Corridor.

The Corridor seeks to develop core competencies in the areas of Biomaterials, Biomechanics, Computational Bioengineering, Biomolecular/Cell Engineering, Nano/Micro Characterisation and Biosignal Processing with applications in Biopharmaceutical Engineering, Biomedical Imaging, Biosensors and Instrumentation, Cancer Therapy, Medical Devices and Tissue Engineering.

This Corridor was setup within a short span of four months and is located at E3-05. It comprises of nine new as well as existing laboratories:

- Biomaterials Lab
- Biomechanics Lab
- Biophysics Lab
- Biosignal Processing & Instrumentation Lab
- Computational Bioengineering Lab
- Chemotherapeutic Engineering Lab
- Nano/Micro Characterisation Lab
- Tissue Engineering Lab
- Vascular Bioengineering Lab.

Within two weeks of its operation, the Corridor was visited by a delegation headed by Mr Peter Chen, Senior Minister of State for Education on 20 August 2001. The delegation was briefed on the various projects being done at the Corridor. Professor Chien Shu, one of the world’s most renowned bioengineers also visited the corridor on 31 August 2001. Professor Chien is from the University of California, San Diego whose Bioengineering Programme is rated one of the best in the US. Professor Chien is also the International Advisor for the Division of Bioengineering.

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