

NISTH INnovation and TRansformation for Outstanding ECRs (INTRO-ECR) Grant

Global society is rapidly pivoting towards recognising and taking at face value the problem-solving skills, opinions, and expertise of its youth. In the 21st century, young people are recognised as bastions of commitment to societal causes, unconventional approaches to solving global problems, and collaboration. Incidentally, here, the youth share a similar mission to academics: To innovate collaboratively to solve the world's most pressing issues. At NISTH, we thought that this raises a curious question: *Who* are the youth in academia, and what can we do to support their work? The answer that we arrived at is Early Career Researchers (ECRs).

This grant call therefore intends to empower to the youth of academia. This is because ECRs are a vital portion of an increasingly literate and savvy youth movement. Young researchers boast a childlike curiosity about the world whetted with a keen sense of rational and critical thinking. Thanks to modern advents in education and technological opportunities that their predecessors never had, they are well-equipped with domain-specific knowledge and skillsets to accelerate shaping scientific breakthroughs, technological innovations, and policy recommendations. That, and modern emphases on interdisciplinarity and interconnectedness serve to call to the fore a priority for collaborative problem solving among a diverse group of academics. In NISTH's programmes involving ECRs, we see that bringing ECRs with interdisciplinary research interests together can spark well-rounded all-encompassing conversations that collate research-backed opinions. This confluence of expertise gives rise to thought-provoking and unexpected development of solutions that enable questioning established science paradigms for their value in facing modern-day challenges.

Championing interdisciplinary research and promoting the collaborative approach to address the most pressing needs of the present, NISTH is proud to launch a grant call *"INnovation and TRansformation for Outstanding ECRs (INTRO-ECR)"*.

This grant enables NTU early career researchers to leverage intra- and inter-university networks to branch their current research topics with the aim of developing ideas within and beyond their research training. Unlike other grants, this grant will aid in building bottom-up, cross-university, and multidisciplinary connections in research area.

* Required

* This form will record your name, please fill your name.

Eligibility

- A team of at least two principal investigators (PIs) who are ECRs* can apply for the NISTH Grant, both of whom must be from NTU. ECRs must have at least 6 months of their contract remaining at the time of application.
- The team should have at least one ECR from either the College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences (CoHASS), S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS), National Institute of Education (NIE), Nanyang Business School (NBS) or S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS) AND at least one ECR from LKC School of Medicine (LKCMed), College of Science (CoS) or College of Engineering (COE).
- The team is encouraged to invite ECRs from other Singapore's universities as Collaborators. Collaborators from other external parties are highly encouraged.
- The team must prepare the Endorsement Letter from the NTU faculty member, who agrees to act as a supervisor, advise the project, and serve a supervisory or consultatory role.
- The team must report to NISTH about their research progress at intervals identified and agreed upon by ECRs and NISTH. This includes, but is not limited to, providing written updates to NISTH about the progress of the team's work along the grant period.

1. Colleges & Institutes *

The team must comprise at least two full-time ECRs from NTU with at least 6 months of their contract remaining at the time of application.

The team should have at least one ECR from either the College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences (CoHASS), S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS), National Institute of Education (NIE) or Nanyang Business School (NBS) AND at least one ECR from LKC School of Medicine (LKCMed), College of Science (CoS) or College of Engineering (COE).

Please indicate the colleges from which the applying ECRs come. For other institutes, research labs and centres, departments in NTU, indicate under Others.

- ☐ College of Engineering
- ☐ College of Science
- ☐ College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences
- ☐ College of Business / Nanyang Business School
- ☐ Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine
- ☐ National Institute of Education
- ☐ S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS)
- ☐ Other

Applicant Details

For each of the applicants indicated above, please provide the following information:

- Name
- Designation
- School/Division/Institute
- Email

NISTH encourages interested ECRs to approach us if they have ideas, but face difficulties in putting together the requirements to meet this grant call (e.g., finding a co-PI).

2. Principal Investigator 1 *

3. Principal Investigator 2 *

4. Other PIs and/or collaborators, external or internal (if any)

Please indicate their involvement in your project.

E.g., John Doe, ABC University College of XYZ - Co-PI
E.g., Jane Doe, ABC Pte Ltd - Industry Collaborator

5. NTU Faculty Supervisor *

6. Letter of Endorsement from NTU Faculty Supervisor (can be submitted later)

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Upload file

File number limit: 1 Single file size limit: 100MB Allowed file types: Word, Excel, PPT, PDF, Image, Video, Audio

7. Concise CVs of All Applicants (Non-anonymous question) *

Please upload CVs (max. 2 pages) of all applicants (principal investigators, co-investigators and collaborators).

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Upload file

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General Grant Info

This grant awards seed funding for three to six months to build and leverage interdisciplinary networks with the aim to produce a community-relevant outcome. The outcomes of this collaborative project will lead to creating powerful public impact through a series of workshops, focus group discussions, forums, citizen science, close work with community or testing their earlier research developments. Above all, this grant musters a strong, interdisciplinary network of the brightest young minds, united in a call towards a better future.

- Validate a novel research idea or approach that aims to contribute to solving an important societal challenge;
- Support the creation of new, inclusive research partnerships and sustained global networks that span technical and non-technical fields with a common interdisciplinary, multidisciplinary or transdisciplinary interest for solving pressing societal needs;
- Foster community building among researchers from academia, industry, government, and members of civil society across Singapore; and
- Seek novel approaches in communicating interdisciplinary research to educate and cultivate interests, knowledge, and competencies among stakeholders in NTU and community at large.

The following questions will help us better understand how your proposal meets these objectives.

Proposal

Submitted proposals should have an interdisciplinary focus at their core, explore new approaches and research topics, and include other communities (i.e., researchers from academia, industry and civil society). Pls must clearly define their proposed new research topic and related societal challenge, the novelty of the thematic research topic, area or field, justify the proposed overall approach, indicate and justify the activities they are seeking to have supported, identify experts they will engage, specify the goal, objectives, expected outcomes, desired impact and how the impact will be measured.

NISTH encourages interested ECRs to approach us if they have ideas, but face difficulties in putting together the requirements to meet this grant call (e.g., finding a co-PI).

8. Proposed Research Topic(s) *

In no more than 300 words, define the research topic, and highlight the novelty of the thematic research topic, area or field.

9. Societal Challenge *

In no more than 100 words, provide a statement of the societal challenge that the team will address.

10. Objectives and Expected Outcomes *

In no more than 200 words, specify the goal, objectives and expected outcomes.

11. Approaches *

In no more than 200 words, provide and justify the overall approach(es) in the research.

12. Interdisciplinary Nature of Proposal *

In no more than 200 words, indicate how your proposal will leverage on different disciplines, and the experts or communities (i.e. researchers from academia, industry and civil society) that the team will engage with.

13. Potential Impact *

In no more than 200 words, specify the impact and how the impact will be measured.

14. Keywords *

Please provide a maximum of 6 keywords

Budget and Timeline

The use of the grant can include but is not limited to:

- Organising events such as seminars, research study groups, symposia, research or community workshops, community engagement studies or conference;
- Citizen science activities, such as conducting strategic scenario planning workshops involving different stakeholders (i.e., citizens, academia, government, NGOs, and industry) or creating resources useful for planning and running citizen science projects;
- Creating communication platforms or media to engage and educate the community, such as visualisations, visual abstracts, videos, animations, open-access database, publication, or website to involve community into decision making or to solve community immediate needs; and
- Academic publishing, including reports.

Applications will be considered for funding of up to \$5,000 for the entire research project with a duration period of three to six months.

15. Total Funding Requested (in SGD\$) *

Please enter a number less than or equal to 5000

16. Proposed Budget Outline *

Provide an overall budget of the main activities to seek funding. For each proposed activity, indicate the requested amount and, in 1-2 lines, justify why it should be supported. Only expenses directly related to the proposed project are accepted.

17. Duration of Project (in Months) *

Please enter a number less than or equal to 6

18. Proposed Start Date *

Please input date (dd/MM/yyyy)



Certification by PI and Co-PIs

In submitting this Grant Application, the Principal Investigator and all Co-Investigator(s) CERTIFY that the information submitted in this application form is true and correct.

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