



National Institutes of Natural Sciences
National Institute for Basic Biology



News Release

Temasek Life Sciences Laboratory Signs MOU with Japan's National Institute for Basic Biology

Temasek Life Sciences Laboratory (TLL) is pleased to announce the commencement of partnership with Japan's National Institute for Basic Biology (NIBB), part of the National Institute of Natural Sciences (NINS). Both parties have recently signed an MOU on 16 August 2010. This five-year academic cooperation includes the promotion of joint research activities, hosting of visiting researchers, and graduate student exchange, with focus on collaborative research projects involving model organisms such as *Arabidopsis*, *Drosophila*, zebrafish, and Medaka.

Since inception, TLL has established extensive experience with these model organisms, with many research groups using them to understand the basic mechanisms that underlie the development of these model plants and animals. With the objective of addressing both the basic and strategic needs of the life sciences research community as well as industry, research at TLL strives to achieve a high level of collaboration with world-class research institutes, universities, and multinational corporations.

NIBB has been at the forefront of plant and animal research in Asia and has other international cooperation with leading research institutes in Europe and America. Since 2005, NIBB has participated in a wide reaching exchange program with the European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL) to jointly hold symposiums, exchange research and host visiting researchers. In 2009, while continuing to expand cooperative programs with the Max Planck Institute for Plant Breeding Research (MPIZ) and Princeton University (as part of the agreement between Princeton and NINS), NIBB promoted the globalisation of the biological sciences through the training of graduate students and young researchers with an international outlook. Therefore, the collaboration between TLL and NIBB will strengthen both NIBB's and TLL's position in Asia and establish a triad of international cooperation between Europe, America



National Institutes of Natural Sciences
National Institute for Basic Biology



and Asia to bring about new advancements in biology.

“We are enthusiastic about this MOU with NIBB and look forward to many fruitful scientific exchanges between our two organisations,” says Dr Tan Guong Ching, Chairman, TLL.

“We are delighted to embark on this academic cooperation as this provides us with a platform to extend our research network, giving each other intellectual companionship in plant and animal sciences. We look forward to a fruitful and successful partnership with TLL,” says Dr Kiyotaka Okada, Director General, NIBB.

About Temasek Life Sciences Laboratory (TLL)

TLL is a non-profit organisation established in 2002 to undertake cutting-edge research in molecular biology and genetics utilising a broad range of model organisms. TLL is affiliated to the National University of Singapore and Nanyang Technological University. Our vision is to create an environment which can attract the brightest young minds worldwide, support their research and challenge them to be leaders in their own fields.

About National Institute for Basic Biology (NIBB)

The National Institute for Basic Biology (NIBB) was founded in 1977 as one of the Inter-University Research Institutes to promote and stimulate studies in the field of biology. As a center of excellence (COE), NIBB promotes not only basic biology but also the modern biological sciences by conducting first-rate research on site as well as in cooperation with national, public and private universities and research organizations. Research at NIBB covers a wide variety of biological fields, such as cell biology, developmental biology, neurobiology, evolutionary biology, environmental biology, and theoretical biology, and is conducted to elucidate general and fundamental mechanisms underlying various biological phenomena.



National Institutes of Natural Sciences

National Institute for Basic Biology



For media queries, please contact:

Cheryl Chng

Intellectual Property Office

Temasek Life Sciences Laboratory Limited

Tel: (65) 68727068

Email: cheryl@tll.org.sg