

NUS initiative to help improve lives

The National University of Singapore (NUS) yesterday launched a new community initiative, in which it will work with partners to identify complex community problems and leverage on the university's research and academic expertise to find creative solutions.

The initiative was launched in conjunction with the university's 110th anniversary celebrations, reported The Straits Times Online.

Called NUS Cares (Community Advancement with Research and Education Synergies), it is meant to be a "solutioning platform", said NUS president Tan Chorh Chuan.

"We will... pilot practical solutions and if successful, disseminate the key learning points that would allow scaling up of effective practices."

For instance, NUS is partnering the Central Singapore Community Development Council (CDC) to look into addressing problems faced by elderly and needy residents who need to use wheelchairs. NUS students will try to design a wheelchair that is affordable, robust and easy to use and maintain.

NUS is working with three partners for a start. The other two partners are the National University Health System and the NUS Medical Society.