

RESEARCH FUNDING IN SINGAPORE

Bernhard Schmidt
3 December 2010



Main Funding Agencies/Institutes

- National Research Foundation
- Ministry of Education
- Agency for Science Technology and Research (A*STAR)
- Ministry of Defence / Defence Science Organisation



National Research Foundation (NRF) Funding

- RCEs, Research Centres of Excellence (100-200M)
- CRP, Competitive Research Programme Funding Scheme (max 10M per programme)
- NRF Fellowship (US\$ 2 million over five years, single PI)
- Strategic Programs (e.g. Interactive & Digital Media, start-up support)
- CREATE, Campus for Research Excellence And Technological Enterprise (international collaborative research centers)

Ministry of Education (MOE) Funding

Academic Research Fund (AcRF): \$1.55B per year

- **AcRF grants:**

Tier 1: 5 – 500K total for max 3 years

**Tier 2: 250K – 1M total for max 3 years,
high quality investigator-led research**

**Tier 3: 3M to 5M per year over 5 years, academic-led basic
research**

- **Research Scholarship Block
(recently more emphasis on industry-relevant PhDs)**

Agency for Science Technology and Research (A*STAR)

Research programs supported by

- Biomedical Research Council (BMRC) (?)
- Science & Engineering Research Council (SERC):
 - Data Storage Institute (DSI)
 - Institute for Infocomm Research (I²R)**
 - Institute for chemical & engineering sciences (ICES)
 - Institute of high performance computing (IHPC)
 - Institute of materials research and engineering (IMRE)
 - Institute of Microelectronics (IME)
 - Singapore Institute of manufacturing Technology (SIMTech)
 - A*Star Computational Resource Centre (A*CRC)

Defence Related Funding

- **Defence Science Organisation (DSO):**

**Nanyang-DSO Postdoctoral Fellowship
("cyber security" is one theme)**

- **Ministry of Defence:**

Defence Innovative Research Program (up to 600K)

**MINDEF – NTU Joint Applied R&D Co-operation Programme
(up to 50K)**

Merlion Programme

**Supports small France-Singapore collaborative projects
(French Embassy & Singapore Universities/Research Institutes)**



Recent Singapore Initiative: Research, Innovation, Enterprise 2015

- Singapore government will spend S\$16.1B over 2011 to 2015
- This is a **20% increase** over the S\$13.55b from 2006 to 2010
- 70% of the S\$16.1B are geared towards economic outcomes