BioSpectrum
the business of Bio & Health Sciences
ASIA EDITION

Empowering Asia's HealthTech Innovators of Tomorrow

May 31, 2019 | News

A Special investor forum featuring heavyweight investors Josh Makower and Yoh-Chie lu



Singapore Biodesign organised a special investor forum on 30 May 2019 in Singapore, featuring heavyweight investors Josh Makower, General Partner, New Enterprise Associates (NEA) and Yoh-Chie Lu, founder of Biosensors International Group Ltd, who shared their investing knowhow in the US and Asia respectively.

Mr Josh Makower is leading the MedTech/HealthTech practice in NEA and is also the founder and executive chairman of ExploraMed, a medical device incubator that has created 8 companies over the past 20 years. Mr Yoh-Chie Lu was the Chairman and CEO of Biosensors International Group Ltd from its inception to 2008 and is active in both international and local medical arena as an entrepreneurial angel investor.

Modelled after the established Biodesign Programme at Stanford University, Singapore Biodesign is a capability development initiative that aims to train and nurture the next generation of health technology innovators for Singapore and Asia.

The Special Investor Forum was a part of Singapore Biodesign's outreach to bring the leader's knowledge to benefit the wider community. Hosted by A*STAR, this national talent development platform was focused on nurturing health technology innovation talent and projects, with an emphasis on commercialising innovations with greater relevance for Asia.

The forum focused on healthcare investing from a serial investor's point of view and covered company's impact investing strategy, successes and lessons learned, prospective approaches for emerging industry trends and how they can be replicated for other markets.

Josh Makower, who is also a Co-Founder of Stanford's Biodesign Innovation Program, explained how the US remains a market leader, while Asia is on the rise and targeted to surpass Europe to become the second-largest regional market by 2023.

Speakers further elucidated on high-touch development of HealthTech talent focused on the needs-based approach and quality industry mentoring to accelerate health technology innovation and adoption for Asia's (SG, China, ASEAN) unmet healthcare needs. They also illuminated on accelerating health technologies innovation towards commercialization and adoption.

MedTech industry is among the world's fastest growing industry sectors. In the complex landscape of technology commercialisation, it is important for aspiring inventors and entrepreneurs to have a clear understanding of the MedTech

ecosystem, in order to bring their products to market successfully.