

Illumina, Sequoia Capital to boost genomics startup ecosystem in China

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Partners Announce Sequoia Capital China Intelligent Healthcare Genomics Incubator



Illumina, Inc, the global leader in DNA sequencing and array-based technologies, and Sequoia Capital China, a leading investment firm, announced a collaboration to catalyse the startup ecosystem in China with the launch of the Sequoia Capital China Intelligent Healthcare Genomics Incubator, Powered by Illumina. The company creation engine will focus on building life sciences startup companies advancing breakthrough applications in genomics.

Sequoia Capital China Intelligent Healthcare Genomics Incubator, Powered by Illumina will leverage the expertise of Illumina for start-ups in building genomics companies with the unparalleled track record of Illumina Accelerator in San Francisco Bay Area and Cambridge, UK Sequoia Capital China will dedicate to this genomics incubator its investment expertise and unmatched community of entrepreneurs to advance genomics founders, which marks another strategic step following the launch of Sequoia Capital China Digital Intelligent Incubator.

Francis deSouza, Chief Executive Officer, Illumina. "Together with Sequoia Capital China, we will now partner with leading entrepreneurs in China to build genomics startup companies that unlock powerful breakthrough genomics applications and clinical sequencing solutions that harness the unique strengths and dynamic markets in China."

Neil Shen, Steward, Sequoia Capital, Founding and Managing Partner, Sequoia Capital China said, "Together with Illumina, we aim to build a genomics innovation platform to discover and nurture founders in the field of genomics in China. We also look forward to working together with many more leading healthcare companies to jointly promote the development of human well-being."

During two six-month funding cycles per year, the genomics incubator will provide selected startups with access to investment and business guidance from Sequoia Capital China, access to Illumina sequencing systems and reagents, as well as genomics expertise, and fully operational lab space in Shanghai, China. The inaugural funding cycle of the genomics incubator will begin in Fall 2021.

Li Qing, Vice President and General Manager, Greater China, Illumina said, "Sequoia Capital China Intelligent Healthcare Genomics Incubator, Powered by Illumina will fuel genomic start-up creation and demonstrates Illumina's development and commitment in China."

Applications for the inaugural funding cycle of Sequoia Capital China Intelligent Healthcare Genomics Incubator, Powered by Illumina, are open until June 1, 2021.