NATIONAL University of Singapore science don Lim Tit Meng will begin work as the new head of the Science Centre Singapore next week. He takes over from Dr Chew Tuan Chiong, who was the centre’s chief executive for 14 years.

Associate Professor Lim, 49, who is from the university’s biological sciences department, was the centre's assistant chief executive (education programmes) from 2007 to July last year, when he was on secondment there.

Commenting on his experience working with Dr Chew for two years, he said: 'He is always very cool and calm. I have never seen him lose his temper. Being very composed and not emotional over issues is one big lesson I learnt from him.'

Prof Lim was vice-dean of the NUS Science Faculty from 2003 to 2008, and has received many teaching excellence awards.

His current research focuses on the cell death mechanism involved in Parkinson's disease and acute myeloid leukaemia. He will continue with his research while working at the Science Centre.