

Institute of Advanced Studies

Brief Newsletter

Greetings from the Institute of Advanced Studies (IAS) at NTU, Singapore! I am pleased to share with you the following updates of IAS:

- a) **Former Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr George Yeo** has kindly accepted our invitation to be a Patron of IAS (NTU). This is an important step to enhance the international networking of NTU, as Mr Yeo will be able to connect IAS better to the international community for future collaborations, and also provide constructive advice for the overall development of IAS. This invitation is supported by Mr Koh Boon Hwee (Chairman of NTU Council) and NTU President Prof Bertil Andersson. Mr Yeo has served in various Singapore Ministries in the Cabinet from 1991 to 2011. These included the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Information, Communications and the Arts, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Trade and Industry, and Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He currently chairs the International Advisory Panel of the Nalanda University Governing Board and is a Visiting Scholar of the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy.
- b) **Prof Shu Chien** (*University of California, San Diego and one of the International Advisors of IAS*) has received the United States National Medal of Science from President Barack Obama at an award ceremony held at the White House on 21 Oct 2011. The medal is the highest honour bestowed by the U.S. government to scientists, engineers and inventors. A bioengineering professor based in the USA, Prof Chien is a world leading researcher on the impact of blood flow and pressure on blood vessels. He was awarded the prestigious honour for his pioneering work in cardiovascular physiology and bioengineering.
- c) **Prof Kerson Huang** (*MIT Professor of Physics Emeritus and IAS Nanyang Professor*) delivered a series of outreaching lectures at Junior Colleges like Raffles Institution and Pioneer Junior College in relation to his visit to Singapore this year. Prof Huang, a global authority on particle physics, intrigued the students with how he amalgamated both his passion and training as a physicist, with his latest multi-disciplinary research approach to explain and predict how a biological process of protein folding occurs. The students were enlightened by his dedication towards greater interdisciplinary in research to address pivotal challenges in the 21st century. The Physicist-Poet also delivered public lectures on "The Roots of Chinese Civilisation" in both English and Chinese last year while he was in Singapore.
- d) **Prof Dan Shechtman**, winner of 2011 Nobel Prize in Chemistry, will be visiting IAS in January 2012. Prof Dan Shechtman will also participate in the 4th International Science Youth Camp held in Singapore.

For your information, please.

Best regards,

K K Phua (Professor)
Director
Institute of Advanced Studies
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Institute of Advanced Studies 简讯

南洋理工大学高等研究所

现谨将南洋理工大学高等研究所(IAS)近况通知于诸位:

1. **前外交部长杨荣文**已正式接受IAS邀请, 出任本所顾问。杨先生的加入不仅将加强IAS同国际社会的联系, 增加合作机会; 也将为IAS的全面发展提供更多建设性意见。这也是南洋理工大学(NTU)在国际化上迈出的重要一步。该聘请同时也得到NTU校董会主席许文辉先生及校长Bertil Andersson的支持。1991至2011年期间, 杨先生曾出任新加坡多个部委要职, 包括在财政部、新闻信息及艺术部、卫生部、贸易与工业部及外交部。目前, 杨先生既是纳兰托大学(Nalanda University)理事会主席, 也是李光耀公共政策学院的客座学者。
2. **加州大学圣地亚哥分校及IAS国际顾问钱煦教授**, 于2011年10月21日在白宫获得奥巴马总统亲自授予的美国国家科学奖章。该奖项是美国政府授予科学家、工程师和发明者的最高荣誉。钱讲授在美国专研生物工程, 目前在血液流变学和微循环动力学的研究上处于世界领先地位。此外, 钱教授对心血管生理学所作的开拓性贡献也获得过声誉极高的奖项。
3. **麻省理工学院著名物理学家及IAS南洋客座教授黄克孙先生**, 于今年在新加坡的多个初级学院开展了一系列讲座, 包括莱福士学院和先锋初级学院等。作为粒子物理学领域的一位国际权威, 黄教授讲述了自己在研究中如何有效地结合兴趣和学术素养, 并举例提到近期在探测蛋白质折叠过程中所采用的跨学科研究方法。在解决21世纪诸多重大挑战上, 黄教授一直推崇多学科的交叉应用。除了在物理学界享有盛名外, 黄教授也是一位诗人。去年停留新加坡期间, 黄教授用中英双语发表了题为“中华文明之根源”的公开演讲。
4. **2011年诺贝尔化学奖得主Dan Shechtman教授**将于2012年1月到访IAS, 并将参加为期一周的第四届国际科学青年营活动。

谨此告知。

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高等研究所所长
南洋理工大学