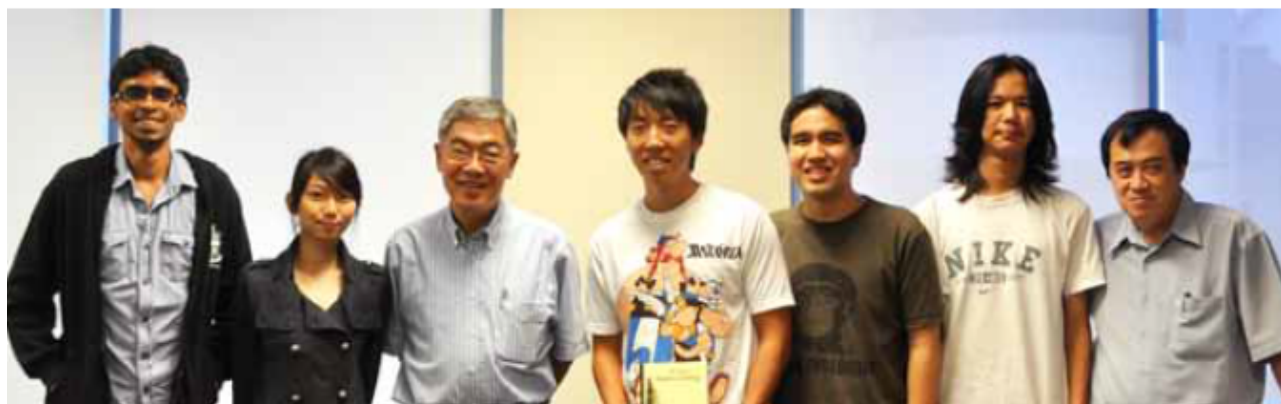


Special Talk for CN Yang Scholars

Prof Harry Lam on **“Our Accelerated Expanding Universe”**



Prof Harry Lam (third from left) in a group shot with some CN Yang Scholars and Dr Low Hwee Boon (IAS Associate Fellow, on the right).

Prof Harry Lam (Ernest Rutherford Professor of Physics, McGill University) gave a special talk to the CN Yang Scholars on 13 February 2012 in relation to his visit to Singapore. “*Our Accelerated Expanding Universe*” was the theme of his interactive talk. According to Modern Cosmology, our Universe came from a primordial state 13.7 billion years ago with no matter. “Where do the stars and galaxies, and everything else in the present universe come from then?” was the mind-boggling challenge that Prof Lam posed to the scholars. He went on to explain the observations and evidences behind the assertion of an almost empty primordial universe. He also shared many fascinating images of the cosmic universe

with the scholars. The talk ended with a tea session and an informal discussion on whether the Universe has a beginning with the big bang.

Prof Lam has served as the Chairman of the McGill Physics Department, the Chair of the High Energy Physics Division of the Canadian Association of Physicists, the President of the Overseas Chinese Physics Association, and Editor of several academic journals. He is now an Honorary Professor at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, and a member of the Advisory Committee of the Institute of Physics of the Academia Sinica.

Source: IAS Newsletter, Issue 13, July 2012, page 11