

Galaxy Forum Southeast Asia

Saturday 1 March 2014

9.00 am – 14.30 pm

Hosted by

Science Centre Singapore &

International Lunar Observatory Association

Programme

08:30-09:00	Registration	Main Entrance, Science Centre Singapore
09:00-09:20	Welcome Address Assoc Prof Dr. Lim Tit Meng Science Centre Singapore	Dalton Auditorium Level 3
09:20-09:30	Welcome Address (video) Dr. Mazlan Othman Fellow, Academy of Sciences Malaysia; Former Director of UN Office for Outer Space Affairs	
09:30-10:00	Galaxy Education, Exploration and Enterprise Mr Steve Durst International Lunar Observatory Association and Space Age Publishing Company	
10:00-10:30	Why Study Astronomy? Dr. Abel Yang National University of Singapore	
10:30-11:00	Future Collaboration of NARIT/SEAAN & ILOA in Galaxy Science Prof Boonrucksar Soonthornthum NARIT, Ministry of Science and Technology, Thailand	
11:00-11:30	A Plan for a New Multi-wavelength Astronomical Observatory in Indonesia Dr. Taufiq Hidayat Bosscha Observatory, Institut Teknologi Bandung (ITB), Indonesia	

11:30-12:00	Refreshment	
12:00-12:30	Vietnam Space Science and Technology Mr Nguyen Vu Giang Vietnamese Academy of Science and Technology, Space Technology Institute	
12:30-13:00	Singapore Space and Technology Association Mr Jonathan Hung Singapore Space and Technology Association	
13:00-13:30	The New Moon for Singapore Muslims Mr Mohamad Faizal Altinak Enrichment Centre, Singapore	
13:30-14:00	Amateur Astronomy in Singapore Mr Albert Lim The Astronomical Society of Singapore	
14:00-14:30	Panel Discussion	
14:30	End of Programme	

(Programme may subject to changes without prior notice)

Talk Synopses and Speaker Bios

Assoc Prof. Lim Tit Meng is the Chief Executive of Science Centre Singapore. He is also a researcher and professor in Department of Biological Science, National University of Singapore.

Welcome Address

Dr. Mazlan Othman, Fellow, Academy of Sciences Malaysia; Former Director of UN Office for Outer Space Affairs

Inspiring the next generation of astrophysicists and space explorers for the benefit and evolution of all human kind.

Dr. Othman is a Malaysian astrophysicist who has served in several roles within her country, and as Director of the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs in Vienna. Her work as founding Director of Malaysia's national space agency ANGKASA led to the launch of the first Malaysian astronaut.

ILOA Galaxy 21st Century Education, Exploration and Enterprise

Mr Steve Durst, International Lunar Observatory Association

Advancing 21st Century Education worldwide via ILOA Galaxy First Light and Galaxy Forum programs to provide greater global awareness, capabilities and action in Galaxy science, exploration and enterprise.

Steve Durst is the Founding Director of the International Lunar Observatory Association (ILOA), and also the editor and publisher of the Space Age Publishing Company. He is an active advocate and supporter of Space and Lunar Enterprise, and 21st Century Galaxy Education.

Why Study Astronomy?

Dr. Abel Yang, National University of Singapore

People who study astronomy or astrophysics are often asked "What is it good for?" This question is even more pertinent in modern times. However, astronomy has often been a stepping stone in developing skills such as quantitative reasoning and analysis which are very relevant and highly valued in industry today. We will explain that the acquired skills in the pursuit of astronomy will prepare one to take on the information age and beyond.

Dr. Abel Yang teaches astronomy and astrophysics at the Department of Physics, National University of Singapore.

Future Collaboration of NARIT/SEAAN & ILOA in Galaxy Science

Professor Boonrucksar Soonthornthum
NARIT, Ministry of Science and Technology, Thailand

Exploring opportunities and plans for future collaboration of NARIT, the Southeast Asia Astronomy Network and ILOA in Galaxy Science programs to advance 21st Century Education in the region, around the world and through observations from the Moon.

Prof. Boonrucksar Soonthornthum is the director of the National Astronomical Research Institute of Thailand (NARIT). He is also an active member of the International Astronomical Union.

A Plan for a New Multi-wavelength Astronomical Observatory in Indonesia

Dr. Taufiq Hidayat

Institut Teknologi Bandung, Indonesia

Searching for and evaluating candidate locations for a new multi-wavelength astronomical observatory in Indonesia.

Dr. Taufiq Hidayat had served as Director of Bosscha Observatory in Lembang, West Java. He also served as Chairman of the Committee of the International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics held in London. He is a professor of Astronomy at ITB.

Space Education in Vietnam

Mr Nguyen Vu Giang, Vietnamese Academy of Science and Technology, Space Technology Institute

Highlighting the projects and programs of the Space Technology Institute and focusing on developments in Space Education and Awareness in Vietnam.

Nguyen Vu Giang is a senior researcher at Vietnamese Academy of Science and Technology.

Singapore Space and Technology Association

Mr Jonathan Hung, Singapore Space and Technology Association

Jonathan Hung is President and Founder of the Singapore Space and Technology Association (SSTA). He has vast experiences in the civil and military sectors, working for both the government and private sectors.

The New Moon for Singapore Muslims

Mr Mohamad Faizal, Alnitak Enrichment Centre

Muslims in Singapore use the pure lunar calendar to determine the proper days of several Islamic observances such as the fasting month, and the two Eids. The new moon is a significant astronomical event to determine these dates. This talk will give a glimpse of how Muslims in Singapore determine the three significant dates and issues linked to it.

Muhammad Faizal is the CEO of Alnitak Enrichment Centre, an education centre that specializes in teaching Mathematics, Science and Astronomy. He actively conducts astronomy lectures to the public and students. His advice is sought to determine the dates of Ramadan, Hari Raya Puasa and Hari Raya Haji in Singapore.

Amateur Astronomy in Singapore

Mr Albert Lim, The Astronomical Society of Singapore

Astronomy education through the eyes of TASOS over the years and Observatories in schools and public institutions will be covered. We will talk about the work done by amateur astronomy in Singapore as well as touch on what can be achieved through modest amateur telescopes and small private observatories in Singapore.

Mr Albert Lim is the Vice President of the Astronomical Society of Singapore (TASOS). He is also actively involved in amateur astronomy in Singapore.