

## **SNIC Distinguished Chemistry Service Awards 2011**

**Dr Koh Lip Lin**

*President of the Singapore Association for the Advancement of Science*

Dr Koh received his B.Sc. (Chemistry) from Nanyang University in 1960 and Ph. D. (Chemistry) from Boston University in 1964. He taught Chemistry at Nanyang University from 1964 to 1980 and was appointed as Dean of the College of Science from 1973 to 1975 and Head of Chemistry Department in 1978. After the merger of the two universities in Singapore to become National University of Singapore (or NUS for short), Dr Koh was the first Dean of Science of NUS from 1981 to 1985 and he retired from NUS in 1996 after 32 years of academic life. He was a Co-editor of the international journal *Acta Crystallographica* from 1994 to 1997.

Apart from his immense contributions to the two universities, Dr Koh also provided his service to the public. He was Member of Parliament for Nee Soon from 1979 to 1988 and Nee Soon South from 1998 to 1996. Dr Koh was conferred the Public Administration Medal (Silver) in the 1978 National Day Award.

Dr Koh is currently the President of the Singapore Association for the Advancement of Science and continues to contribute, through an adjunct appointment at NUS Chemistry, to research and teaching at the

NUS Chemistry Department with his expertise in crystal structure and molecular structure.

Dr Koh is a notable pioneer in structural and crystallographic chemistry in Singapore. His deep insight in this area has contributed significantly to the advancement of Singapore in an area of fundamental importance in science.

Many outreach projects of SNIC, notably the “Chem.Com” (then Chemistry Speech Contest) and “Singapore National Crystal Growing Challenge”, have blossomed under the guidance, advice and assistance of Dr Koh.

In recognition of his significant contributions to the development of chemistry research, education and public services in Singapore, SNIC has the honour to confer the SNIC Distinguished Chemistry Service Award to Dr Koh Lip Lin.