

Press Release  
For Immediate Release  
6 May 2004

### **Leadership Changes at IPS**

After fifteen years, Mr Hsuan Owyang will step down as Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Institute of Policy Studies (IPS) at the end of July this year. He will be succeeded by the current Director, Professor Tommy Koh.

In a letter thanking Mr Owyang for his many years of service, IPS Patron, Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong wrote, "IPS has contributed to our efforts to build a civil society. With a good grasp of national interests, you helped to set the direction for the Institute's research programme, closed door discussions and programme of conferences."

The IPS Board of Governors has appointed Mr Owyang Chairman Emeritus.

The Board has also constituted a search committee for a new director. (The four members of the search committee are Mr Lim Siong Guan, Professor Shih Choon Fong, Mr Hsuan Owyang and Professor Tommy Koh.)

Set up by PM Goh, IPS began operations in 1988 and had as its first director Amb Chan Heng Chee, Singapore's current Ambassador to the United States.

Prof Koh was director from 1991 to 1997, when he left to set up the Asia-Europe Foundation. Dr Lee Tsao Yuan was Director from 1997 – 2000, after which Prof Koh returned for his second stint as IPS Director.

The Institute of Policy Studies is a think-tank dedicated to fostering good governance in Singapore through strategic policy research and discussion. It is the only think-tank in the nation that focuses on Singapore's domestic developments and her external relations. It takes a multi-disciplinary approach in the analysis of Singapore-centric issues, with an emphasis on long-term strategic thinking. To achieve its objectives, IPS undertakes research projects, generates publications, and organises conferences, lectures, seminars, and closed-door discussions.

Attached:

1. Letter from PM Goh to Mr Hsuan Owyang
2. Letter from Mr Lim Siong Guan and Prof Shih Choon Fong to Mr Owyang

*Prime Minister*  
*Singapore*

15 April 2004

Mr Hsuan Owyang  
Chairman  
Institute of Policy Studies

Dear *Hsuan*,

Refer to your letter of 2 April 2004 informing me of your intention to step down as Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Institute of Policy Studies (IPS). I understand that the Board recently accepted your decision, which will take effect from end-July.

Thank you for your significant contribution to the development of the Institute over the course of 15 years. The solid foundation you helped to build will ensure that the IPS continues to grow and contribute to our country.

You have given much of your time and yourself to the Institute. As the second Chairman of IPS, you helped to nurture an infant think-tank into what it is today.

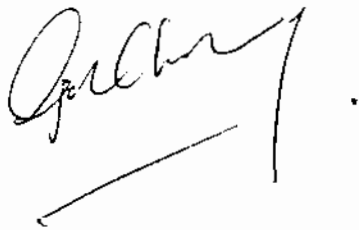
IPS has contributed to our efforts to build a civil society. With a good grasp of our national interests, you helped to set the direction for the Institute's research programme, closed door discussions and programme of conferences.

You steered IPS with a steady hand. With your unassuming manners and sensible voice, you projected a favourable impression of the Institute to corporate members and the thinking public.

I am told that you served as a gentle and wise mentor to younger staff, dispensing advice and giving them encouragement. Whenever you were pleased with the Institute's work, you gave management and staff a pat on the back. Such personal interest in the welfare and development of the IPS team went a long way in lifting spirits.

*With Best Wishes,*

Yours *Sincerely,*

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Goh Chok Tong". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely".

GOH CHOK TONG

13 April 2004

Mr Hsuan Owyang  
Chairman  
Board of Governors  
Institute of Policy Studies

Dear *Hsuan*

Thank you for informing us of your intention to step down as Chairman of the Board of Governors at the end of July this year.

During the last fifteen years, you have given much time and attention to the Institute, as it worked hard to make a useful contribution to Singapore. You can look back with pride because the IPS would not be the respected think-tank it is today without your leadership and wise counsel.

We would like to acknowledge your contributions by appointing you Chairman Emeritus. We hope you will continue to maintain an active interest in the work and future of IPS.

With warm regards.

Yours sincerely

  
**Mr Lim Siong Guan**  
Appointing Governor

  
**Prof Shih Choon Fong**  
Appointing Governor