



Ho Kwon Ping is the First S R Nathan Fellow

On July 3, as former President S R Nathan celebrated his 90th birthday, the Institute of Policy Studies (IPS) announced the appointment of Ho Kwon Ping as the first S R Nathan Fellow for the Study of Singapore.

Mr Ho, 61, is Chairman of the Singapore Management University Board of Trustees and Executive Chairman of Banyan Tree Holdings. As an S R Nathan Fellow, he will pursue research related to public policy and governance in Singapore, and share his ideas at a series of public lectures during the course of the 2014/2015 Academic Year. Known as the “IPS-Nathan Lectures”, they will be held at the NUS Kent Ridge campus, so that they can be easily accessed by undergraduates. The series will subsequently be compiled into a book and published by IPS.

To endow the Fellowship, IPS relied heavily on the generous support of several benefactors, including the IPS Corporate Associates. The Institute raised over S\$3 million (excluding the matching government grant) in 2013.

Mr Ho told *The Straits Times* that his research would look ahead at the next 50 years for Singapore, as the nation celebrates its 50th year of independence in 2015.

“What are some issues that we will face, from politics to civil society, social changes? It is a broad spectrum,” he mused.

His lectures, he said, would seek to get people thinking about key issues facing Singapore in the next 50 years, such as politics, governance and civil society.

IPS will announce details of the first public lecture in an upcoming edition of the monthly e-newsletter. Mr Ho’s bio and media coverage of the S R Nathan Fellowship for the Study of Singapore can be found [here](#).

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