

## Tenth Anniversary of Institute for Mathematical Sciences >>>



IMS Director Louis Chen greets NUS President TAN Chorh Chuan



Smiling guests on a happy occasion

*Great oaks from little acorns grow.* – English proverb

On 24 June 2010, the Institute for Mathematical Sciences (IMS) celebrated its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary in one full-day event with formal speeches, musical performance, video presentation and invited lectures, culminating in an informal appreciation dinner.

The day's celebration began at 9.30 am in the Institute's auditorium with a welcome speech by the Director, Louis Chen who, in his usual concise way, reminded the audience of the origin, mission and modus operandi of the Institute. His somewhat unemotional and methodical expression of appreciation belied the agony and joy that he must have gone through in the past 10 years.

In contrast, the speech of Chi-tat Chong was an intensely personal testimony of a long road travelled in pursuit of a tropical mathematical paradise for research activity. He recalled briefly how the idle canteen discussions regularly indulged in with his colleagues more than 20 years ago ignited the engine that inevitably and inexorably set in motion a collective journey to the west and back in search of an ideal model of a research institute. Finally, he suggested, if not exhorted, that we should start "another round of idle canteen talks" that would propel the Institute forward to the next stage of development.



A charmed memento for the Guest of Honor

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