

**Dr. Chou Loke Ming** retired as Professor at the Department of Biological Sciences, National University of Singapore on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2014 and was appointed an Adjunct Research Professor at both, the Tropical Marine Science Institute and the Dept. of Biological Sciences from 1<sup>st</sup> November 2014. With over 30 years of research experience on marine environment conservation and coral reef biology in Singapore and Southeast Asia, he is recognised for his leadership in the periodic compilation of Southeast Asia's coral reef condition for the global reef status reports since 1998 published by the Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network (GCRMN) of the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI). He also edited the UNEP/COBSEA 'State of the Marine Environment Report for the East Asian Seas: 2009', the first of such an assessment for East Asia. This publication was released by UNEP with an opening statement by Achim Steiner (then Executive Director of UNEP).

In recent decades, his research focus expanded to include reef restoration through his participation in various coral translocation projects in Singapore and the region. Among his numerous professional services to international and regional institutions, he was a member of the GCRMN Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (1996 to 2012) serving as Chairman from 2003 to 2005; and currently serves as member of the Asia Environmental Council Executive Board (since 1998), member of the Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection (GESAMP - since Apr 2010) and member of the roster of experts for the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation Marine Resource Conservation Working Group (since Nov 2010). He served as advisor/expert to regional projects such as the UNEP South China Sea Project (2002-2008) and the GEF/UNDP Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (since 1993).

He received a number of teaching excellence awards at Faculty and University levels and also awards for community and environment work apart from being an Honorary Fellow of the Singapore Institute of Biology and a Fellow of the Singapore National Academy of Sciences. His visiting appointments were for both, teaching (Waseda U, Yale U) and research (Ryukyus U, Chulalongkorn U), and he participated in teaching programmes at Osaka U, City University of Hong Kong, Nanjing U. The undergraduate and graduate courses he taught included 'Environmental Science', 'Marine Conservation', 'Vertebrate Zoology' and 'Global Environmental Change'.

His contributions to the University were at the Department, Faculty and University levels and included serving as Master of Temasek Hall for 16 years since its establishment in 1988. He was appointed Director of the University's new Bachelor of Environmental Studies (BES) programme (2011 to 2014) and has been on the Management Committee of the University's Masters in Environmental Management Programme since its initiation in 2001. As Director of the BES programme, he was heavily involved with all implementation aspects including planning new modules, hiring teaching staff, interviewing students (scholarships, appeals, transfers), chairing the Programme Committee meetings, participating at open houses, dealing with the establishment and programmes of the student committee and the Freshmen Orientation committee, and holding discussions with government, non-government and business agencies. He also developed the module proposal for two summer courses focused on sustainable use of resources using his contacts at University Malaysia Sabah and Vietnam National University (Hanoi U of S&T).

He is co-leader of the ASEANAREAN EXPEDITION SERIES, a private voluntary initiative which commenced in 1997 to document the marine parks of the ASEAN region. This is a major undertaking aimed at strengthening networking and developing research collaboration with

*marine science institutes, local communities and interested sectors throughout the region. The first expedition to Thailand resulted in the publication of the book “The Marine Parks of Thailand” in 1998. The second expedition to Indonesia in 1999 is the first Asian-led expedition to be given coverage by National Geographic Channel Asia. Three half-hour documentaries were aired in September 2002 and a book “Marine Parks of Indonesia” was published in 2013.*

*His H-index from Google Scholar is 29 as at Dec 2014 and he has to date supervised 19 PhD, 30 MSc students and numerous undergraduate research students including visiting scholars from various universities. For research funding, he secured S\$8.15 million (\$1.41m from the University and \$6.74m from external agencies).*

*He provided consultancies to local agencies amounting to \$653,000 as well as to international agencies such as UNEP, FAO, World Bank and WorldFish Center. This included his appointment by United Nations Environment Programme’s Regional Office in Bangkok to review the capacity of Cambodia’s Ministry of the Environment for coastal management and develop a concept project proposal on coastal zone management for the Ministry (one week mission in 1995 to Cambodia for discussion with Ministry officials including Environment Minister, Mr. Mok Mareth), and an appointment by the Technical Advisory Committee of Food and Agriculture Organisation to a 5-member panel to conduct an External Programme and Management Review of the International Center for Living Aquatic Resources Management, a research institution under the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (four week mission covering Solomon Islands and Philippines between Sep 1998 and Feb 1999).*

*He participated in a number of visiting committees and served as external assessor of institution and programme reviews and promotion of individual appointments. He is on the editorial board of a number of journals and participated actively in the organization of local, regional and international conferences. He has been invited to give presentations at many regional and international conferences and participated in the reviews of reports and research projects for many organizations. His contributions to national organizations have been consistent since the beginning of his university career and they cover professional as well as public/community service. He completed his National Service obligations with the Special Constabulary holding the rank of Inspector from 15 August 1973 to 15 September 1981.*