

**Press Release** from National Tsing Hua University

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**Xiao-Gang He (何小剛) assumed Helm of the Physics  
Division of the National Center for Theoretical Sciences  
(國家理論科學研究中心)**

Hsinchu, Taiwan, January 7, 2012. On January 1, 2012, Professor Xiao-Gang He, a well known theoretical particle physicist and a faculty member in physics of National Taiwan University (國立台灣大學,) assumed the helm of the Physics

Division of the National Center for Theoretical Sciences (NCTS.) NCTS is “housed” on campus of the National Tsing Hua University (國立清華大學 NTHU) in Hsinchu, Taiwan, Republic of China. To serve as director of NCTS, Professor He will be seconded to NTHU as its Visiting Professor of Physics.

NCTS was initiated by the National Science Council (行政院國家科學委員會 NSC) in 1997 and NTHU as well as National Chiao Tung University (國立交通大學 NCTU) were the co-hosts. From the beginning, NCTS had two divisions: mathematics and physics, each has its own division director.

From the start, the physics division directors of NCTS, who also would hold joint appointments with the Physics Department of NTHU, were well renowned scientists. They were

- Professor Tung-Maw Yan (嚴東茂 whose work on the “Drell – Yan process in elementary particle physics” is world renowned) served for one year in 1997;
- Professor Ting-Kuo Lee (李定國,) a well known condensed matter theorist, served from 1998 to 2003;
- Professor Darwin Chang (張達文,) a well known particle theorist, served for six months in 2004;
- Professor Tu-nan Chang (張圖南,) a well known atomic theorist, served from 2005 to 2006;
- Professor Hsian-Nan Li (李湘楠,) a well known particle theorist, served from 2006 to 2007
- Professor Chung-Yu Mou (牟中瑜,) a well known condensed matter theorist, served from 2008 to 2009
- Professor Ling-Fong Li (李靈峰,) a well known particle theorist, served from 2010 to 2011.

*“I am honored that NSC has asked me to serve as the director of the physics division of NCST,”* said Professor Xiao-Gang He. *“There is no doubt that NCST’s*

*physics division has been one of the most important platforms in promoting and propagating theoretical physics in particular, theoretical sciences in general, for Taiwan and beyond.”*

*“I look forward to working closely with the faculty and students of all the universities associated with NCTS, especially NTHU, NCTU and National Central University (國立中央大學 NCU) and National Taiwan University and National Cheng Kung University (國立成功大學 NCKU,) which hosted two branches of NCTS, to ubiquitously grow this important area of intellectual effort,”* said Professor He.

*“It is obvious that in the past fifteen years, under outstanding leaderships of its former directors, the physics division of NCTS has been placed on a solid foundation. Their outstanding contributions certainly render my job as director easier, but not easy,”* concluded Professor He with a smile.

Academician Lih J. Chen (陳力俊,) President of NTHU, was exuberant that NSC selected Professor Xiao-Gang He as the physics division director of NCTS. *“Through developments in breadth and depth, theoretical sciences became the foundations of nearly all sciences, technologies and even soft sciences. NTHU which aspires to educate young men and women to have comprehensive understanding of global environments, be it physical, biological, cultural and even sociological, having a solid understanding of the meaning of theoretical sciences is no longer a luxury, but a fundamental necessity.”*

*“Professor He’s broad interest in theoretical sciences, besides his specialty in high energy physics, will be critical in the development of the Center, I pledge that my administrative team will work closely with Professor He in the coming years to ensure the robust growth of this profound intellectual effort on campus and in the region,”* concluded Academician Lih J. Chen.

### **About NCTS’s Physics Division**

The goals for the Physics Division of National Center for Theoretical Science (NCTS) in Taiwan are: 1) Advance the research in theoretical physics in Taiwan, 2) Recruit outstanding theoretical physicists to come to work in the Center, 3) Encourage interdisciplinary research and collaboration, 4) Increase international cooperation and interaction. In recent years, special attention has been given to 1)

nurturing theoretical physicists in Taiwan, 2) providing environment to encourage active interaction and fostering new ideas and discoveries.