

## ENGINEERING HALL OF FAME

### Y.Bhg. Academician Dato' Ir. Professor Dr Chuah Hean Teik



**Dr Chuah Hean Teik** graduated with a BEng (First Class Honours), MEngSc and PhD in electrical engineering, all from University of Malaya, Malaysia. From July 1988-April 1997, he was on the faculty of the Electrical Engineering Department of UM. From March-Nov 1994, he was a Fulbright Scholar at the Wave Scattering Research Centre, University of Texas at Arlington, USA. From May 1997-January 2008, Dr Chuah was a Senior Professor at the Multimedia University (MMU), during which he held various posts as Vice President (R&D and Academic Development), Dean of Engineering, and Director of Research. From June 2001-January 2008, he also assumed the duty of the Penang State Government Professor of ICT in MMU. He was appointed as President of Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman (UTAR) in April 2008, a position held until today.

Dr Chuah is currently a Consultant Professor to Northwestern Polytechnical University, Xian, China. He is a Professional Engineer in Malaysia, a Chartered Engineer with the Engineering Council, UK; an APEC Engineer, International Professional Engineer and an ASEAN Chartered Professional Engineer. Dr Chuah serves as reviewer for technical papers submitted to international journals and conferences. He is currently a member of the Disciplinary Committee Panel under the Advocates and Solicitors' Disciplinary Board, Malaysia, the Malaysian Engineering Accreditation Council (EAC) and the Civil Aviation Authority of Malaysia; was a Council Member of the Malaysian Qualifications Agency (2008-2012) and Academy of Sciences Malaysia (2007-2011, 2014-2016).

His research interests include microwave remote sensing and applied electromagnetics. He has authored/co-authored more than 260 papers in international journals and conferences. Dr Chuah has received many awards locally and internationally. Among them are the Professor Chin Fung Kee Gold Medal for Engineering Management in 1986, the Inaugural Young Engineer Award by the Institution of Engineers, Malaysia in 1991; Young Scientist Award at the 23rd General Assembly of the International Union of Radio Science (URSI) at Prague, Czechoslovakia in 1990; Young Scientist Award at the 24th General Assembly of URSI at Kyoto, Japan in 1993; Young Scientist Award (Industrial Sector) by the Malaysian Ministry of Science, Technology and the Environment in 1995; Malaysian Toray Science Foundation Science and Technology Award for his contributions in the area of microwave remote sensing in 1999; Sterling Award from the Sterling Group of Universities (research-based universities in UK with engineering faculties) for his services to promotion of engineering profession in 2002; IET Malaysia Outstanding Achievement Award 2011; Rotary Charity Foundation of Kuala Lumpur Research Gold Medal 2012 for excellence in original research and significant achievement in the field of electrical engineering; Distinguished Engineer Award by IEM Penang Branch 2014; Taiwan Professional Education and Culture Medal 2016 for his contribution towards education and cultural exchange between Malaysia and Taiwan; Exemplary Leaders Award (Education Category) by The Federation of Hokkien Associations of Malaysia 2017; Outstanding Engineering Achievement Award by the ASEAN Federation of Engineering Organisations 2017; and the Distinguished Honorary Mentor Award by Myanmar Engineering Council in 2018.

In collaboration with Malaysian Centre for Remote Sensing, his research team working on "Paddy Monitoring and Yield Prediction System using Remote Sensing and GIS Technologies" won a Gold Medal at the 2003 Malaysian Science and Technology Expo, and a Gold Medal at the 32nd International Exhibition of Inventions at Geneva in 2004. In recognition of his valuable services, the Governor of the State of Penang Malaysia conferred upon him an Order of Chivalry, Darjah Setia Pangkuan Negeri, which carries the title "Dato", in July 2005. For his significant contribution in engineering profession, he was awarded Honorary Doctor of Engineering by MMU in August 2013.

Dr Chuah has contributed significantly in education, particularly in engineering education. He was the Founding Dean of Engineering of Multimedia University in 1997 and held the post until he left in 2008. During his first year as President of UTAR, he designed a structured Soft-Skill Development Certification system for all undergraduates so that they can be better trained as whole-some graduates in addition to academic studies. This certification system covers various components including Communication & Language Skills, Complex Problem Solving Skills, Emotional Intelligence Cognitive Skills, Moral & Professional Ethics, Leadership Skills, Lifelong Learning & Information Management, Entrepreneurship Skills, Digital Literacy and Critical Thinking. This has led to an overall 97% employability of UTAR graduates within first 6 months after graduation. He has also initiated New Village Community Projects among the students in UTAR since 2009. The project aims to bring undergraduate students to the new villages for community work, and to set up website to introduce economic activities and products unique to each new village. To-date more than 500 new village projects across the country have been completed. UTAR is now ranked 501-600 in the Times Higher Education University Rankings 2018 and 2019 and top 120 in THE Asia and the Pacific University Rankings in 2018 and 2019. This is by all accounts not a mean achievement considering the fact that UTAR was only established in 2002.

Dr Chuah is an eminent technical leader. He is currently the President of ASEAN Academy of Engineering and Technology (AAET), Past President of the Federation of Engineering Institutions of Asia and the Pacific (FEIAP) from 2011-2015, and current Chairman of FEIAP Standing Committee on Engineering Education, the President of IEM (2009-2011). During his tenure as the FEIAP President, he promoted the FEIAP Engineering Education Guideline which was then endorsed by the UNESCO Regional Science Bureau for Asia and the Pacific Office in Jakarta in 2015. He has been appointed as Mentor/Review for Engineering Accreditation System in Myanmar, Cambodia, Pakistan, Nigeria and Rwanda.

In recognition of his scholarly achievements, Dr Chuah has been admitted as a Fellow of the following Academies and Institutions: Academy of Sciences, Malaysia (youngest Fellow at the point of induction in 2002) and as Senior Fellow who carries the title of Academician (youngest Senior Fellow) in 2011; the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, USA (first and the only FIEEE from within Malaysia as at to-date); Remote Sensing and Photogrammetry Society, UK; Honorary Fellow, The Institution of Engineers, Malaysia; The Institution of Electrical Engineers, UK; Founding Fellow and now Senior Fellow of the ASEAN Academy of Engineering and Technology; The Electromagnetics Academy based in MIT, USA; Honorary Fellow of the ASEAN Federation of Engineering Organisations; Malaysian Scientific Association; Honorary Fellow of Myanmar Engineering Society and Founding Fellow of The Academy of Engineering and Technology of the Developing World.

Due to his technical expertise, he has been appointed to various committees at national level, which include: Member - Civil Aviation Authority of Malaysia, Ministry of Transport (2018-2021); Chairman - klia2 Independent Safety Committee by Ministry of Transport to review safety issues for klia2 Airport in Malaysia (2014-2015); Member - Malaysia Education System Review Panel by the Government of Malaysia to review the Education Blueprint of Malaysia (2012); Member of Selection Committee for Science and Technology Award and Science and Technology Research Grant, Malaysia Toray Science Foundation (since 2012); Member - Audit Committee, Mahathir Science Award Foundation (since 2012); Member of Examination Committee for Science Education Award of Malaysia Toray Science Foundation (2006-2011); and Member of the Cameron Highlands Bus Accident Independent Investigation Panel by Malaysia Government (2011).

For his numerous contribution to the country and the engineering profession as well as his tremendous achievements, the IEM Council at its 416th meeting held on 11 March 2019 approved the admission of Y.Bhg. Academician Dato' Ir. Prof. Dr Chuah Hean Teik in to the IEM Engineering Hall of Fame.