FACT SHEET

For immediate release

Total: 6 pgs including this pg

Media contact
Sophia Lim, Assistant Director, Corporate Communications Office
Tel: 6790 6684; Mobile: 9683 4733; Email: Sophia_Lim@pmail.ntu.edu.sg

Singapore, 10 August 2006

Citations of NTU Public Administration Medal winners

Professor Er Meng Hwa

Prof Er Meng Hwa is the Acting Provost of NTU. He was Deputy President from 1998 to 2006, and is a Professor with the School of Electrical & Electronic Engineering (EEE) since 1997. He obtained his PhD degree from the University of Newcastle in 1986.

Prof Er joined the faculty in 1985 and has held several key appointments at NTU. He was Dean of the School of Electrical & Electronic Engineering (EEE) from 1996 to 2005. Under his leadership, EEE strengthened its research collaboration with leading institutions, both locally and abroad and further developed state-of-the-art teaching and research facilities. Today, the school is one of the largest and most established engineering schools in the world, with some 5,000 students and 600 faculty/staff. As Dean of College of Engineering from 2001 to 2004, he promoted multi-disciplinary education and research among the five engineering schools. He was the Founding Director of the Centre of Signal Processing, a national research centre funded by the then National Science and Technology Board.

As Deputy President, he oversaw the New Undergraduate Experience (NUE) initiative, which was launched in 2003 to provide a holistic and all round education to students. He initiated and successfully completed a number of major projects, including:

- Re-organising the academic calendar year to create a “summer term” whereby students can pursue a number of academic activities to enhance their learning experience.
- Introducing the General Education Requirement (GER) as part of broadening the curriculum across all academic programmes.
- Implementing Minor Programmes from 7 in 2003 to 23 in 2005. Students are now spoilt for choice to pursue their interest.
- Restructuring the Industrial Attachment (IA) programme to include options like 10-week Industrial Orientation and 30-week enhanced IA.
- Conceptualizing and implementing the GPA and Honours Classification System as part of the NUE initiative.
• Proposing a framework for offering double degrees and double majors. This allows for schools to mount inter-disciplinary programmes easily.

Pro Er serves on numerous committees at the national level and is on the Board of Directors for a number of companies in Singapore. He serves as a member of the Board of Governors of Singapore Polytechnic and the Board of Directors of Singapore Technologies Electronics Limited, SP PowerGrid Ltd, NTUV Pte Ltd, BITwave Limited, DSO National Laboratories, and Centre for Strategic Infocomm Technologies.

His research interests include array signal processing, satellite communications, computer vision, optimization techniques and DSP applications. His intensive and extensive research works over the past 20 years have resulted in over 200 publications in international journals, and conference proceedings and 5 patents.

Prof Er was conferred the prestigious title of Honorary Fellow by the London-based Institution of Electrical Engineers in 2005 for his outstanding contribution to engineering research, education and public service. He was the first Singaporean to receive this award.

Professor Pan Tso-Chien

Prof Pan Tso-Chien is the Dean of College of Engineering and School of Civil and Environmental Engineering (CEE).

Prof Pan joined NTU in September 1985. He spearheaded the establishment of the NTU-Mindef Protective Technology Research Centre and was appointed its Founding Director in April 1998. As Director, his major contributions were in formulating inter-school R&D projects in protective technology for defence applications. Prof Pan was appointed Dean of the School of Civil & Environmental Engineering in June 2005.

Prof Pan obtained his PhD degree in Earthquake Engineering and MSc in Civil Engineering from the University of California at Berkeley, USA in 1983 and 1978, respectively.

As Dean of CEE, Prof Pan further strengthened NTU’s core-capability in environmental and water technologies. In recognition of his leadership in the area of national strategic interest, Prof Pan was recently appointed as a member of the Executive Committee on Environmental and Water Technologies, National Research Foundation, Singapore.

Prof Pan has provided strong academic leadership in academic administration as well as academic research. His academic research achievements are highlighted in two major areas: **Protective Technology and Effects of Long-Distance Major Sumatra Earthquakes.**

Under his leadership as Director of MINDEF-NTU Protective Technology Research Centre (PTRC), the centre developed into a leading centre of excellence in underground technology and rock engineering. For the excellent R&D results in 2004, he was awarded the Prestigious Engineering Achievement Award by the Institution of Engineers, Singapore. He also led a PTRC research team to complete a milestone study on the response of high-rise commercial buildings to blast loading.
Prof Pan is the founding President of the Earthquake Society (Singapore). He serves as the chairman of a working group on Seismic Loading for Building Design under the Singapore Productivity and Standards Board. Besides serving several professional organisations in Singapore, he has also been active in the international professional communities. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the World Seismic Safety Initiative (WSSI). WSSI is an undertaking of the International Association for Earthquake Engineering in response to UN’s call on “International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction”.

Resulting from his leading role in the unique research area on the effects of long-distance major earthquakes on high-rise buildings, Prof Pan was recently elected, during the 13\textsuperscript{th} World Conference in Earthquake Engineering in Vancouver, Canada, as Director of the Executive Committee, International Association for Earthquake Engineering. He was also invited by the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) to be an Associate Editor for its prestigious Journal of Structural Engineering.

Professor Goh Eck Soong, Angela

Prof Angela Goh is the Vice-Dean (Academic) of the School of Computer Engineering.

In addition to teaching and research, Prof Goh’s responsibilities include curriculum development, accreditation, and other college/university-level academic matters. She is the Chairman of the School’s Course Management Committee and has been in charge of at least four major curriculum revisions, including new undergraduate and graduate degree programmes. Apart from introducing various quality assurance procedures, she was in charge of academic audit and accreditation exercises involving external and international parties, including the Institution of Electrical Engineers (UK) and the Engineering Accreditation Board, Institution of Engineers Singapore. She was also involved in numerous university-level and national committees relating to curriculum development.

Prof Goh was the Head of the Division of Software Systems from 1995 to 2001. Her duties included faculty recruitment, appraisals and staff development matters. As head, she brought out the best in her staff through a relationship of trust and mutual respect.

Prof Goh has been actively involved in public service. She was a Council Member of the National IT Standards Committee (ITSC) from 1995 to 2004, and Chairman of the Plugfest 2004 and Plugfest 2002 Technical Evaluation committee. One of her roles was to liaise with various Institutions of Higher Learning to promote the awareness of IT standards. She was chief editor for the inaugural and second issues of Synthesis, the journal of ITSC. In 2005, she was awarded the SPRING Outstanding Achievement Award in Standardisation, a recognition given to individuals who have displayed outstanding performance in leading standardisation initiatives.

In addition, Prof Goh also contributed to other professional bodies such as IFIP Working Group 3.4 (Vocational Education and Training) and the British Computer Society. She also serves as a member of the Advisory Council on Community Relations in Defence (ACCORD). She is an Advisory Committee Member of the School of InfoComm Technology of Ngee Ann Polytechnic, and an External Assessor for Senior Faculty Positions of the Faculty of Computer Science and Information Technology of Universiti Malaya.
In the area of research, Professor Goh has been active in several database topics including active database, workflow, and agent technologies. She has published more than 100 internationally-reviewed journal and conference papers, 3 book chapters and 2 edited books. She is currently the associate editor of Journal of Web Engineering, and an editorial review board member of Journal of Database Management.

Professor Thambipillai Srikanthan

Prof Thambipillai Srikanthan is Director of the Centre for High Performance Embedded Systems (CHiPES) and of the Intelligent Devices and Systems Cluster at NTU. He has made significant contributions to teaching, research and administrative duties at the School of Computer Engineering since 1991. He was instrumental in establishing and developing embedded systems expertise at NTU. He is an excellent teacher who was nominated and won the ‘Best Teacher’ award in 2002.

Prof Srikanthan made significant contributions to all aspects of the curriculum development and operation of the undergraduate and post graduate programmes. In 2003, he proposed and developed a Master of Science course in embedded systems engineering to provide advanced training in this emerging field of computer engineering. This timely contribution towards skilled manpower training was highly recognized by the Economic Development Board. He has published more than 200 technical papers in peer-reviewed journals and conferences. His specific research contributions have led to the design and development of a number of innovative embedded solutions for consumer market.

Prof Srikanthan’s international standing in the area of embedded systems is demonstrated by his tireless contributions to CHiPES as its founding director. CHiPES is internationally known for its leadership in basic research as well as industry collaboration. Within the university, he worked hard to ensure that CHiPES provides an invaluable infrastructure resource for academic research at various levels. Over the years, CHiPES has grown significantly to become a prominent research Centre within the international community. Prof Srikanthan has recently taken on an even greater responsibility – to head the Intelligent Devices and Systems cluster, which comprises 7 research centres at NTU.

Associate Professor Lee Kim Eng, Christine

Assoc Prof Christine Lee joined NIE in 1983. She was the Vice-Dean of the School of Arts from 1997 to 2000 and Head of Humanities and Social Studies Education from 2000 to 2006. She was appointed as the Head of the new Curriculum and Teaching Unit in Jan 2006.

Assoc Prof Lee is an outstanding staff who responds well to the demanding changes in her Academic Group and NIE. She consistently maintains high standards in her work; she is well-organised, conscientious and reliable in administration. She heads a very well-managed, cohesive Academic Group whose staff members are highly committed to educational goals. Despite heavy administrative duties, Assoc Prof Lee has managed consistently high research/development output especially in innovative teaching methods.
Assoc Prof Lee not only mentors her staff, she also leads by example. She works well with all her staff and is able to rally them for the Academic Group.

**Associate Professor Berinderjeet Kaur**

Assoc Prof Berinderjeet Kaur is with the Mathematics & Mathematics Education Academic Group at NIE. She is a well-known mathematics educator of international standing and has made significant contributions to mathematics education in Singapore.

Assoc Prof Kaur designed mathematics trails for the Singapore Zoo and Jurong Bird Park. This activity promotes these two well-known Singapore attractions to local and overseas tourists and helps them understand how mathematics is used in daily life.

She was rewarded the Fellow of Teachers Network twice, first in 2003 and then in 2004 for her strong contributions to the work of the Teachers Network of the Ministry of Education.

Assoc Prof Kaur provided consultancy to SINDA (Singapore Indian Development Association), Singapore Sikh Education Foundation and schools to inform parents and teachers on how to improve the learning of mathematics among our students. She was a member of the Charity Gold Organizing Committee for Raffles Girls School (Secondary) in 2004 and 2005. These community services are on top of her normal responsibilities.

She is the President of the Association of Mathematics Educators, Singapore. Under her guidance, the Association published a “journal booklet” that students can use to reflect on their mathematics learning, to support the Ministry of Education’s move to include journal writing as an instructional tool. She initiated the first Mathematics Teachers Conference in 2005 and the Association is planning the second one in 2006.

Assoc Prof Kaur’s research includes international projects such as TIMSS, Kassel, IPMA, and Eight-Nation Science and Mathematics Study. She has delivered keynote addresses at international conferences to raise awareness about Singapore mathematics education among the international mathematics education community. This has helped to raise the profile of Singapore as a country with strong mathematics achievement.

**Associate Professor Goh Yeng Seng**

Assoc Prof Goh Yeng Seng obtained his B.A. in Chinese language and literature from National Taiwan University and a Ph.D. in linguistics from the School of Oriental & African Studies, University of London. He is a bilingual and bicultural scholar specializing in the field of bilingualism, an area of great relevance and importance to a multi-racial society such as Singapore.

Assoc Prof Goh made significant contributions to the system of bilingual education in Singapore when he was appointed academic advisor to the Ministry of Education in 2001 to pioneer a novel experiment of “Bilingual Approach to Teaching Chinese”. The unprecedented pilot project was implemented in 11 primary schools whereby teachers were empowered to make full use of English as a supplementary tool to facilitate the teaching of Chinese at the initial stage.
He was also the Chinese tutor to three Singapore top government leaders and a two-time member of the sub-committee on pedagogy and examinations of the Chinese Language Curriculum and Pedagogy Review Committee. Going beyond the field of bilingual education, Assoc Prof Goh crossed over to make his own contribution to industry and the private sector when, recognising his unique expertise in bilingualism, the Ministry of Trade and Industry specially invited him in 2003 to sit as a member of the Translation & Interpretation Steering Committee to seek his advice on the promotion of Singapore as a global multi-lingual translation and interpretation hub.

Assoc Prof Goh’s academic achievements are numerous: he served as a Visiting Scholar to the Fairbank Center for East Asian Research of Harvard University in 2005, Higher Degree External Examiners of University of Malaya and Guangdong University of Foreign Studies, Executive Committee Member for International Association For Chinese Teaching, Chinese Language Society (Singapore) and Singapore Association For Applied Linguistics, Reviewer for numerous internationally refereed journals. He has also published his several academic papers in leading journals and edited books by established publishers from USA, China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Germany and South Korea.

His contribution to the field of teaching is equally outstanding: he is a 4-time recipient for the NIE Excellence in Teaching Award and an experienced supervisor of BA (Hons) students, MA research students and PhD research students.

Assoc Prof Goh currently holds a number of key coordinating appointments and has been appointed as chairperson of special committees for numerous assigned projects. He has done an excellent job as Coordinator of the Chinese Division, at the same time taking charge of the Master of Education (Chinese) and the Diploma in Departmental Management (Chinese) programmes.