

FEIAP Engineer of the Year Award 2009



ER. PROF. DR. CHEW YONG TIAN (IES)

Prof. Y.T. Chew is the Head of Department of Mechanical Engineering, National University of Singapore. Before he takes up the present post, he was Deputy Director at the Office of Research that oversees research related matters in the whole university. He held various Vice-Dean portfolios in the Faculty of Engineering and was the Founder Director of Bachelor of Technology Programme, a part-time evening degree programme for working polytechnic diploma holders to upgrade and become degree-level engineers.

Prof. Y.T. Chew received his BEng (Mechanical) degree with first class honours and MEngSc degree in fluid mechanics from the University of Western Australia (UWA) in 1972 and 1973, respectively. He obtained his PhD degree from Cambridge University in 1976 under the Hackett scholarship from UWA and Pochobradsky scholarship from Churchill College at Cambridge. After graduation, he worked as a Visiting Assistant Professor at the University of Texas at Austin and Southern Methodist University at Dallas, USA, before joining the National University of Singapore in June 1978 as a Lecturer and was promoted to Senior Lecturer, Associate Professor and Professor in 1981, 1988 and 1996, respectively.

Prof. Chew is also involved in many professional activities outside NUS. He is the Past President of the Institution of Engineers Singapore; Past President of the Biomedical Engineering Society Singapore; Chairman of the Board of Examiners, Singapore Institute of Aerospace Engineers; Member of the Professional Engineers Board; and member of the Engineering Accreditation Board. He was conferred the IES Gold Medal, the ASEAN Honorary Fellow, the SIAE Honorary Fellow and Fellow of ASEAN Academy of Engineering and Technology. He was Singapore's Country Representative for AESEAP (Association for Engineering Education in South East Asia and the Pacific, a sister organization of FEISEAP) from 1991 to 2002. AESEAP promotes engineering education in South East Asia and the Pacific which he played an active role by contributing engineering education papers and presentations at AESEAP's conferences and journals. He was also instrumental in organizing an AESEAP conference in Singapore in 1993.

Prof. Chew is a consultant to several government bodies and firms in Singapore and Malaysia on wind effects on buildings and hydraulic modelling. He pioneered the wind tunnel testing of tall

building in Singapore and has completed more than 70 consultancy projects in Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand and Mauritius. His research interests include turbulence measurements, bluff body aerodynamics, wind effects on buildings and structures, bio-fluid dynamics, hot-wire and laser anemometry, particle image velocimetry, and computational fluid dynamics. He is currently the Associate Editor of the Journal of Fluids and Structures. He has published more than 300 papers in international journals and conference proceedings, and graduated more than 30 Master and PhD students under his supervision.