

Mr Lin Cheng Ton

The title of Honorary Fellow was conferred in absentia upon Lin Cheng Ton at the ceremony held in Singapore on 29 November 1996.

Citation

Presented by the Vice-Chancellor and Principal, Professor Gavin Brown

Chancellor

I have the honour to propose Lin Cheng Ton for the conferring of the title of Honorary Fellow (in absentia).

Mr Lin, Foundation Principal and Chief Executive Officer, Nanyang Polytechnic, Singapore, is a graduate of the University of Malaya and holds the degree of Bachelor of Engineering (Hons) in Mechanical Engineering.

In recognition of his contribution to international educational developments, Mr Lin was made a Chevalier dans L'Ordre des Palmes Academiques in 1987 and subsequently, in 1991, elevated to Officier of the same order by the French Government. In 1996 he was awarded the Officer's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany. In 1988 he received the National Day Honours Award of the Public Administration Medal (Silver) from the Singapore Government. Along with membership of current Statutory Boards, Mr Lin has for a number of years been a member of the Governing Council of the Singapore Institute of Management with which the University has an active partnership.

Mr Lin was initially appointed as Principal of Nanyang Polytechnic in 1992 by the then Senior Minister of State for Education, Dr Tay Eng Soon, on secondment from the Singapore Economic Development Board where Mr Lin was Director of the Manpower Development Division.

Mr Lin has been involved in the development of the co-operative programme between The University of Sydney, through its Faculty of Health Sciences, and the Polytechnic since 1991. Earlier negotiations resulted in the signing in February 1992 of a Memorandum of Understanding between the two institutions. This co-operative programme has involved the secondment of University Faculty staff and provision of consultants to establish a School of Health Sciences. In 1995, the first cohort from the Nanyang Polytechnic, School of Health Sciences, graduated with Diplomas in Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Nursing and Radiography.

The initial Memorandum of Understanding between the institutions which terminated on 30 June 1995 proved to be an outstanding success. The present Memorandum of Understanding provides for similar co-operation between the institutions for a further period of three years. The greatest achievement of the Memorandum of Understanding has been the successful introduction of tertiary education programmes in health sciences in Singapore.

Mr Lin has consistently maintained a direct and very personal interest in the association between the University and the Polytechnic and his involvement has significantly fostered the development of health sciences courses. His support has been fundamental to the programme's success and to the very favourable international reputation it brings to The University of Sydney. He is a worthy recipient of the title of Honorary Fellow of the University.