

Prof Andrew Nee to be President of CIRP in August 2011

THE PARIS-BASED International Academy for Production Engineering (CIRP) elected Prof Andrew Nee, Department of Mechanical Engineering, as Vice-President (Elect) at their recent senate meeting in August 2009.

Prof Nee, who is also Director of the Division of Research Administration, Office of Deputy President (Research & Technology), will be Vice President in August 2010 and President of CIRP from August 2011, which will make him the first ethnic Chinese (and Singaporean) to hold the position in the 60 years of history of CIRP (since its establishment in 1951).

CIRP is the foremost international academy dedicated to production engineering research. It currently has some 170 Fellows and Honorary Fellows who are internationally recognised scientists elected to be CIRP Fellows for life. The number of living Fellows is restricted to 150 worldwide. Due to this stringent condition to ensure high quality, the election of a Fellow is a lengthy, rigorous process ensuring the highest possible academic standards.

CIRP also includes some 130 Associate Members who are well known scientists and researchers with high potential, elected typically for a period of three years with the possibility of renewal. A number of Associate Members may eventually become Fellows. Some Associated Members may also come from fields related to Manufacturing.

In 2002, Prof Nee was awarded the degree of Doctor of Engineering by his alma mater, the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology (UMIST) for his achievements in precision and manufacturing engineering research. In the citation for the degree, mention was made of his leadership of the 1994 CIRP General Assembly in Singapore, as well as his prolific publications in refereed journals and conferences as well as his many Editorial Board memberships of international refereed journals. He currently holds six honorary and advisory professorships from China and is the regional editor of two established international journals as well as some 20 editorial board memberships. He has 10 authored and edited books and over 450 papers in journals and conferences.

Prof Nee is also noted for his work on the computer-aided design of fixtures, metal stamping dies and plastic injection moulds. For stamping die research, he and his team members won the ASTAR National Technology Award in 2002. The mould design technology developed has led to the founding of Manusoft Technology Pte Ltd in 1997. He also led a team from the Department of Mechanical Engineering with Assoc Prof Ong Soh Khim in Augmented Reality (AR) based assistive technology. Their project, Augmented Reality Assistive Keyboard which enables the disabled and the elderly to make full use of the computer as well as to control household items, won the Samsung DigitAllHope Award in 2005.

Since joining NUS in 1974, Prof Nee has held several administrative positions at the Faculty of Engineering, first as Head of the Mechanical Engineering Department, and later as Dean of the Engineering Faculty. At the University level, he held positions as Director of the Office of Quality Management, CEO of the Design Technology Institute, Co-Director of the Singapore-MIT Alliance, as well as Dean of Admissions. For his contributions in administration, he received the National Day Award in the category of Public Administration Medal (Silver) in 2007.



Prof Andrew Nee, recognised for his contributions in the manufacturing engineering field.