

Citation for ICAAS Distinguished Service Award (IDSA) 2006 - Prof Wong Lim Soon

1. I am honoured to give the citation for Prof Wong Limsoon, recipient of the prestigious ICAAS Distinguished Service Award 2006. Prof Wong, affectionately known as just “Limsoon”, has many achievements to his name. I will talk briefly about his professional accomplishments, before elaborating on his contributions to ICAAS.

Professional Accomplishments

2. Limsoon received his Bachelor of Science degree with First Class Honours from Imperial College London. He is currently a Professor in Computing and Medicine at the National University of Singapore. His work encompasses knowledge discovery technologies, with special interest in their application to biomedicine. He has received many awards in recognition of his professional contributions, including the 2003 Far Eastern Economic Review (FEER) Asian Innovation Gold Award and the 2006 Singapore Youth Award Medal of Commendation.

Contributions to ICAAS

3. Limsoon’s service and contributions to ICAAS go back many years. He was an Exco member from 1997 to 1999, Honorary Secretary from 1999 to 2001, Vice President from 2001 to 2002, and President from 2002 to 2005. Under his able leadership, ICAAS has grown from strength to strength.

Raising the Image of ICAAS

4. Limsoon has played a major role in raising the public profile and prestige of ICAAS.

5. Between 2001 and 2002, Limsoon organized the ICAAS-NLB “Life Sciences @ The Courtyard” series of 21 public lectures. About 2000 members of the public benefited from these lectures. The series was launched by Mr. Philip Yeo, Chairman of A*STAR.

6. In February 2006, Limsoon organised the the ICAAS-NLB program known as “Body Parts: The Science of Human Reconstruction” which comprised public lectures, workshops and a panel discussion with Mr Gan Kim Yong, Minister of State for Manpower and Education, as the Guest-of-Honour.

7. Both events were featured in The Straits Times, and brought significant recognition to ICAAS.

Service to ICAAS Members

8. Limsoon has also made many contributions to improve the benefits and activities for ICAAS members.

9. Putting his IT skills to good use, he established an electronic mailing list of ICAAS members and developed the ICAAS website. The website is now an excellent depository of information and provides timely updates on the latest developments in ICAAS.

10. Limsoon also spearheaded many ICAAS networking events and overseas trips. This included trips to Malaysia, Thailand and more exotic places like Mongolia. These trips gave us the opportunity to strengthen our ties with fellow alumni associations overseas.

11. Limsoon also gave strong support for the establishment of the ICAAS Dragon Boat Team in 2005. The dragon boat team trains regularly and has taken part in a number of competitions. This effort has

strengthened the bonds amongst members through an enjoyable sporting activity.

Strengthening Linkages Between ICAAS and ICSS

12. Finally, I would like to mention that Limsoon has been instrumental in strengthening the linkages between ICAAS and the Imperial College Singapore Society (ICSS). He provided strong support to many ICSS activities, including charity events, networking functions and pre-departure camps. Today, he continues to scout around for young blood to join ICAAS, so please do not disappoint him if he approaches any of you tonight.

Conclusion

13. Let me conclude by saying that I have chosen to only highlight Limsoon's key achievements. The list is by no means exhaustive. But what is absolutely clear is that Limsoon is a worthy recipient of the ICAAS Distinguished Service Award 2006. We offer him our warmest congratulations.

14. Thank you very much.