

SINGAPORE YOUTH AWARDS 2006
MEDAL OF COMMENDATION

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

PROFESSOR WONG LIM SOON

Professor Wong Lim Soon was conferred the Singapore Youth Award for Science and Technology in 1999 for his international contributions to database theories and the development of the Kleisli query system, which won him the Tan Kah Kee Young Inventors' Gold Award.

Since then, he has continued to excel in bioinformatics where he discovered novel data mining methods. His ground-breaking development of a system that enables doctors to diagnose and better treat acute lymphoblastic leukaemia in young patients won him an Asian Innovation Gold Award by the Far Eastern Economic Review in 2003. In the same year, he co-founded the Association of Asian Societies for Bioinformatics (AASBi) in Tokyo, a collaboration with the bioinformatics societies in Australia, Japan, Korea and Taiwan.

Prof Wong also produced one of the most accurate prediction systems for identifying protein translation initiation sites in genomic DNA and co-developed one of the first solutions to extract protein-/gene-interaction information from literature. In 2004, he was ranked 40th "best nurturer" of computer science research by the Indian Institute of Science in a technical study based on more than 50,000 computer science researchers.

In 2005, Prof Wong was conferred a full professorship by the National University of Singapore, 11 years after obtaining his PhD.

Prof Wong's passion has inspired many – students, teachers, parents and businessmen - to pursue their interest and research in bioinformatics, biocomputing and genome informatics. Internationally, Prof Wong has also been invited to share his knowledge and research findings as keynote speaker at numerous symposiums and workshops.

For achieving, contributing and inspiring youths at significantly higher levels after being awarded the SYA, Professor Wong Lim Soon is conferred the Medal of Commendation 2006.

278 words