First for Asia and Singapore - S K Ong Elected Fellow of the International Academy for Production Engineering

During the 62nd General Assembly of the International Academy for Production Engineering (CIRP) on 25th August 2012, Assoc Prof S K Ong was conferred a Fellow. This is indeed a rare honour for Singapore as she is the 4th female in the world to become a Fellow of the Academy, and a first for Asia. The previous three lady Fellows are from North America and Europe.

CIRP is the French Acronym for Collège International pour la recherche en Productique. It was established in 1951 with headquarters based in Paris. CIRP is well recognized as the highest authority in the field of production/manufacturing engineering in the world. Fellows are limited to 15 per country and a total cap of 175 at any one time worldwide. Election to Fellow represents the highest recognition of a scientist in the field of manufacturing engineering. It is a lengthy and rigorous process ensuring the highest possible academic standards due to the limited number of CIRP Fellows. To enter CIRP, one has to present at least one to two papers sponsored by Fellows in a general assembly, together with the overall achievement of the candidate, he/she can be considered for Associate Member. The process involves 3 levels of scrutiny by a panel of Fellows. Each Associate Member is nominated for 3 years, renewable based on contributions and achievements to manufacturing research during this period. To be elected a Fellow, the Associate Member would need to be nominated by a home Fellow together with 3 Fellows from different countries. After the 3-level committee scrutiny, a web-based anonymous voting will be carried out. A successful candidate should receive at least 75% of the positive votes from all the voting Fellows and 50% of all Fellows (including those who did not vote). A Fellow is elected for life.

Assoc Prof Ong has made significant contributions in several areas of manufacturing, the most notable areas are augmented reality research in manufacturing, intelligent and distributed manufacturing, sustainable manufacturing. She has published 5 books, over 102 refereed journal papers with citation over 1100 and an H-Index of 21. In addition to being elected Fellow of CIRP which is her latest honour, she has a long string of much coveted awards including the Singapore Youth Award, the US Society of Manufacturing Engineers Eugene Merchant Outstanding Young Manufacturing Engineer Award, the Outstanding Young Person of Singapore Award 2006, and the US Society of Women Engineers Emerging Leader Award in Academia 2009. She served as a Nominated Member of the Singapore Parliament in 2005-2006. She has brought recognition and honour to Singapore for being elected the first lady Fellow in Asia.

Oct 2009  Emerging Leader Award in Academia 2009, US Society of Women Engineers. First Singaporean to receive this award since the award was established.

Mar 2006  The Outstanding Young Person of Singapore Award 2006, (Science and Technology Category) Junior Chamber of Commerce, Singapore.

May 2004  Singapore Youth Award 2004 (Science & Technology Category), National Youth Council, Singapore.

Nov 2003  M. Eugene Merchant Outstanding Young Manufacturing Engineer Award 2004, Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME). First ASEAN female to receive this award since the award was established.