

Asia Pacific Clinical Nutrition Society Award for 2016



E-Siong Tee KMN, AMN; BSc (Hons), MSc, PhD; FNSM, FMSA, AMIC

President, Nutrition Society of Malaysia

Adjunct Professor, School of Biosciences, Taylor's University Malaysia

Born on 16 February 1947, in Seremban, Malaysia, E-Siong Tee completed his basic BSc (Hons) in biochemistry from the University of Malaya in 1972. He went on to obtain a Diploma (1975) and an MSc (1978) in Applied Nutrition from the University of Indonesia. Working on a part-time basis and pursuing his postgraduate studies, he obtained his PhD from the University of Science Malaysia in 1991.

Dr Tee started his career as a nutritionist in the Division of Human Nutrition, Institute for Medical Research (IMR) in 1972. He was promoted to Head of the Division from October 1984. When the IMR was re-structured, he was appointed as Head of the Cardiovascular, Diabetes and Nutrition Research Centre, from June 2001. He retired from the IMR in February 2002 after serving for 30 years. During this period, he contributed to several fields of nutrition research including community nutritional status and the nutritional value of foods as well as to nutrition intervention strategies and programmes. He was also actively involved in national and international food regulation through his role as chair or member of several Ministry of Health Malaysia sub-committees on food regulations and Codex Alimentarius.

Upon his retirement from the IMR, Dr Tee continued to be actively involved in promoting nutrition science and community nutrition. Many of his aspirations have been realised through the Nutrition Society of Malaysia (NSM), which he co-founded in 1985. He was elected President of NSM from 1996, a post that he still holds. Through NSM, he has been able to promote nutrition science amongst its professional members and encourage healthy eating and active living in the community. He has also been Chair of the National Steering Committee for Nutrition Month Malaysia since 2002.

For over 3 decades, Dr Tee has contributed to Technical Working Groups in the Ministry of Health Malaysia including the Food Safety and Nutrition Council, National Coordinating Committee for Food and Nutrition (NCCFN) and the Technical Working Groups for Recommended Nutrition Intakes, the Malaysian Dietary Guidelines and the National Plan of Action for Nutrition of Malaysia.

Dr Tee has contributed to regional nutrition science and community nutrition, notably through the Federation of Asian Nutrition Societies (FANS). For almost 20 years, he served on the Board of Scientific Directors of the International Life Sciences Institute (ILSI) (Southeast Asia Region). To foster regional collaboration among nutrition scientists, he enabled the formation of the Southeast Asia Public Health Nutrition (SEA-PHN) Network and was elected its Founding Chairman on 2 June 2014.

His career of some 43 years has encompassed nutritional epidemiology, public health nutrition, food biochemistry and food regulatory affairs. He now consults through the TES NutriHealth Strategic Consultancy.

Of particular note to clinical nutrition, he organised the First National Symposium on Clinical Nutrition in Malaysia in 1994. The ensuing activities culminated for him and the region as chairperson of the 9th Asia Pacific Conference on Clinical Nutrition held in Kuala Lumpur in January 2015.

Not surprisingly for his long and dynamic career, he has published widely and extensively with many scientific papers, several monographs and also books which have added vital reference material to the fields of nutrition and health. He is well known for his thoughtful and challenging presentations at meetings home and abroad.

His achievements commend him for recognition with the Asia Pacific Clinical Nutrition Society Award for 2016 and its tradition of identifying those who make outstanding contributions to the nutritionally-related health and wellbeing of peoples in the region.

Citation by
Prof Duo Li MD PhD
President
Asia Pacific Clinical Nutrition Society