

Pro-Chancellor



YBhg Dato' Dr Gan Ee Kiang
PKT, BCN, JMN, DSPN
PhD (U Western Australia)

Dato' Dr Gan Ee Kiang, the eldest son of a businessman, was born in Alma, a small town in Bukit Mertajam Penang on the 23rd of June 1944. He completed his secondary education in Bukit Mertajam High School and after his Form 5, left for Australia in 1963. There, he completed his matriculation in Coburg High School in Melbourne. He was then admitted to the University of Western Australia where he graduated with an honours degree in Pharmacology. Following this, he was awarded a National Health and Medical Research Council scholarship to pursue his PhD in Pharmacology under the supervision of the late Emeritus Professor M. F. Lockett, the first female professor in Australia and a world renowned Pharmacologist from the University of London. Dato' Dr Gan obtained his PhD in 1972 for his thesis, "Intra-renal secretion of renin".

While still in Australia, Dato' Dr Gan had job offers from the University of Malaya, the National University of Singapore and Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM; then called the University of Penang). He decided to return to Penang to join USM as a Lecturer, and was promoted to Associate Professor in 1977, Professor in 1990 and Senior Professor in 1994. He was later appointed Deputy Dean (1977), Acting Dean (1979), and Dean (1980 - 1995) of the School of Pharmaceutical Sciences. During his tenure as Dean, the School gained international prominence in Clinical Pharmacy Education, as well as a provider of consultancy services, and in research & development (R&D) activities. During this time, he was instrumental in setting up three new centres at USM. These centres are the: (i) Drug Research Centre in 1981, (ii) National Poison Centre in 1995, and (iii) National Doping Control Centre in 1996.

In 1974, Dato' Dr Gan spent 9 months collaborating with the late Professor (Sir) W. S. Peart FRS to research the Renin-Angiotensin system at St. Mary's Hospital Medical School,

University of London. Since then he has published two books as well as over 100 scientific/professional publications and is a co-inventor of two patented inventions. These publications are largely based on his research interests in cardiovascular pharmacology, active compounds from natural products and pharmacy education. He was appointed, on three occasions, as WHO temporary advisor and was an invited speaker at various eminent professional meetings in the USA, Europe and Asia. He sits on the Editorial Board of several professional journals. He was also the first Malaysian member of the "International Health Advisory Panel of the United States Pharmacopoeia Convention (USP)" a position he held from 1990-1995. Dato' Dr Gan was also panel member of the "National Panel for Best Inventor Award MOSTI (Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation)" for almost 10 years, and the Malaysian Drug Control Authority (DCA) for eight years.

Dato' Dr Gan has been conferred three state awards by the Penang State Government, the "Pingat Kelakuan Terpuji (PKT, 1986)", the "Bintang Cemerlang Negeri (BCN, 1997)", and the "Darjah Setia Pangkuan Negeri (DSPN, 2004)", and one by the Malaysian Government, the "Johan Mangku Negara (JMN, 1999)". For his enduring contribution to Pharmacy Education, Dato' Dr Gan was the second person in Asia to be awarded "The Donald C Brodie, PhD Award" by the Pan Pacific Foundation in Honolulu, Hawaii in 1991. This award was given in recognition of his contribution to the "development of exemplary educational and service programmes in pharmacy, which have benefited the profession of pharmacy on a national and international level".

Dato' Dr Gan is the founder of the USAINS Group and served as Managing Director from 1999 to 2013. The USAINS Group is the first company incorporated by a public university in Malaysia with the approval of the Ministry of Finance

and the Ministry of Education. USAINS was incorporated to help USM generate income through technology transfer, the commercialisation of R&D results and to make available University expertise/facilities to serve the public and the private sectors. He was also the founding member of the Malaysian Society of Pharmacology and Therapeutics in the seventies. During his tenure as President, and under his chairmanship, Malaysia hosted the South East Asia and Western Pacific Regional Meeting of Pharmacologists for the first time. Dato' Dr Gan was also advisor to "The Malaysian Society of Pharmaceutical Trade and Manufacturers Association".

Dato' Dr Gan is active in community services. He was Past President of the Rotary Club of Bayan Baru in Penang which led many charitable projects. Currently, he is a Trustee of a Foundation that awards scholarships yearly to needy students and supports deserving poor patients needing medical assistance. He also sits on the Board of Directors of several limited companies. He has been consultant on many occasions to banks and venture capitalists for their investments and is currently advisor to several companies. He has been a member of the Board of Governors, International Medical University since January 2004.

Dato' Dr Gan Ee Kiang is married to Lilian Yeoh Beng Guat, and has two children, a daughter and a son as well as four grandchildren. His daughter, Datin Michelle Gan, is a double degree holder in commerce and in law, and his son, Dr Michael Gan holds an MD degree, but pursues corporate activities in Malaysia and in the Asia Pacific region. Dato' Dr Gan used to play golf but now mainly enjoys cooking Italian and French cuisine. He is also an avid gardener.

Ladies and gentlemen, I have the privilege and honour of presenting Dato' Dr Gan Ee Kiang, for installation as the new Pro-Chancellor of the International Medical University.