

SINGAPORE YOUTH AWARDS 2004
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (INDIVIDUAL)

DR ONG SOH KHIM



“When I really want to achieve something, I’ll go after it. I will work doubly or even triply hard and never give up, as there is always another way to achieve the objectives.”

Dr Ong Soh Khim has gained international recognition for her contributions in manufacturing engineering, a predominantly male area of study. Dr Ong’s main research area is Life Cycle Engineering (LCE). LCE has the potential to integrate environmental factors into product life cycles to achieve eco-efficiency of products and processes. Dr Ong’s research has great potential of helping local industries develop products that can qualify for the Green Label and thus gain larger market shares in countries that have strict environmental regulations.



Dr Ong’s co-authored paper was selected to receive the Norman A. Dudley Award from over 200 published papers by authors worldwide in 2002. Her team was the first in the Asia-Pacific to have won this award, which is presented annually by the International Journal of Production Research to the paper judged to have the most potential for making the greatest contribution to the advance of manufacturing practice.

In recognition of her significant achievements and leadership in the field of manufacturing engineering, Dr Ong was named the 2004 M. Eugene Merchant Outstanding Young Manufacturing Engineer. She was the first woman in ASEAN to receive this prestigious award from the US-based Society of Manufacturing Engineers. Dr Ong was also the only Singaporean to be invited as a Formal Active Core Member of the Asia Youth Forum on Advanced Manufacturing in 2002.



Dr Ong is a dedicated educator who inspires her students to excel, and is actively involved in student development beyond the lecture hall. Dr Ong is currently Chairperson of the NUS Faculty of Engineering's Student Self-Development Advisory Committee. As the advisor to the Faculty's Students Engineering Club, Dr Ong is a mentor to the students, and also acts as their link to the Engineering

Deanery. She is also a regular speaker at talks organised by the Engineering Faculty for junior college and polytechnic students.

For her scientific excellence and her efforts in promoting manufacturing engineering, Dr Ong Soh Khim is conferred the Singapore Youth Award 2004.