

ACADEMICIAN OF THE YEAR



PROFESSOR TAN SRI DATUK DR GHAUTH JASMON

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Professor Tan Sri Datuk Dr. Ghauth Jasmon his academic career began as a lecturer in the Department of Electrical Engineering at the University of Malaya in 1982. He was appointed as the Head of the Department of Electrical Engineering from 1986 to 1988. Through research, publications, and consultancy work, Prof. Ghauth was promoted to Associate Professor in 1989 and Professor in 1992. In the same year, he was appointed as the Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and held that position until August 1995. During his tenure as dean, he introduced the Environmental Development Program, which included degrees in Engineering, Quantity Surveying, and Soil Science, as well as new engineering degrees such as Materials, Telecommunications, Manufacturing, and Environmental Engineering. In August 1995, Prof. Ghauth was appointed as the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Development).

Subsequently, Prof. Ghauth was invited by Telekom Malaysia to establish and develop Universiti Telekom (the first private university in Malaysia) in October 1996 and assumed the position of President in December 1996. In March 1997, the government requested him to establish Multimedia University (MMU) in the Multimedia Super Corridor (MSC), Cyberjaya. MMU in the MSC was envisioned by the government to be a catalyst for ICT development, similar to the role played by Stanford University in Silicon Valley. By June 2007, MMU had 22,000 students, 1,600 staff members, 7 faculties, and a Foundation Center. MMU also had 3,800 international students from 81 countries, academic staff from 30 different countries, and collaborated with numerous foreign companies and agencies.

Tan Sri Datuk Profesor Dr. Ghauth Jasmon concluded his service as the President of MMU at the end of December 2007 and assumed the position of Chief Executive Officer at Unity International College (UCI). He took on this role because he was offered the opportunity to oversee the transformation of UCI into a private university, expected to be completed by the end of 2008. The new university would be located in the heart of Petaling Jaya, and he aimed to shape this urban university into a world-class, high-tech institution.