

Obituary For Professor Chun-Jean Lee

Professor Chun-Jean Lee passed on Friday, January 13, 2006, in Taipei, Taiwan. Born in 1930, he became a fellow of the international college of surgeons in 1967 and was an active fellow for 40 plus years. A brief time for such a man - he often said that "time flies like an arrow" and, indeed so, for him. He was a ceaseless advocate for his beloved Taiwan. With an outstanding global reputation for research and transplantation surgery, he was honored in many medical forums around the world.

A taller man in physical stature, Professor Chun-Jean Lee was a giant in the international college of surgeons. Following his being elected to a number of key responsibilities in the parent body governance, he served as ICS World President in 2001 and 2002. His governing demeanor was one of calmness, professionalism, and vision - with gentle firmness. He opened one of his meetings of the ICS governance with a poem by Tao Te Ching, which is a personification of Professor Lee:

Why is the sea king of a hundred streams?
Because it lies below them.
Therefore, it is king of a hundred streams.

His tenure as World President was marked by accomplishment. He presided over significant change in reference to the college. He initiated and actively supported the vision process and brought the vision development process to a conclusion during the latter months of his presidency in Taipei during the 2002 World Congress. And he presided over the change of publishers of the Journal of International Surgery. His presidency culminated in the successful World Congress in Taipei in 2002. He advocated going to the fellows in their respective countries - all fellows, regardless of location, were important to him.

The International College of Surgeons is deeply indebted to Professor Chun-Jean Lee for what he brought to the college. The college was and continues to be his friend and we wish him well.

On behalf of the International College of Surgeons, we express heartfelt condolences to his wife, Mrs. Betty Lee, and to his family, to his colleagues in the Taiwan section, and to all others fortunate to know him at some point during his all too brief time with us.

The home address for Mrs. Betty lee and the family follows:
7 Chung-Shan s. Road, Taipei 100, Taiwan

Respectfully,

Prof. Nadey Hakim
World President

Max Downham
Executive Director