

## CHANCELLOR'S INSTALLATION CEREMONY

1 August 2019

### **Proclamation of Yang Berbahagia Dato' Dr Lim Thuang Seng as Pro-Chancellor of Wawasan Open University**

*Read by Dato' Seri Stephen Yeap, Chairman of Wawasan Open University Sdn Bhd*

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**Tunku Chancellor**, Yang Berbahagia Dato' Dr Lim Thuang Seng maintains a low profile, something he has managed to do despite his many years spent in the public domain, serving the community, especially the people of Selangor. He has an impressive record of public service through his affiliation with Parti Gerakan Rakyat Malaysia, his leadership role in government, and through his involvement in non-governmental organisations.

We are indeed privileged to have a person of Dato' Dr Lim's calibre and experience to accept our invitation to serve as the Pro-Chancellor of Wawasan Open University.

Dato' Dr Lim takes over the duties from Tan Sri Dr Koh Tsu Koon – WOU's first Pro-Chancellor. No doubt he has big shoes to fill, but let us remember that Dato' Dr Lim not only brings with him the respect, authority and dignity that the position warrants, but also exudes humility and a sincere desire to give his best to his new role and responsibilities.

With great pleasure, I wish to introduce you today to Dato' Dr Lim, an immunologist, and a retired medical researcher. As we get to know him, it is my hope, that 'this will be the beginning of a beautiful friendship!' A friendship between WOU and Dato' Dr Lim!

Dato' Dr Lim, like Wawasan Open University, was born in George Town. He studied at Chung Ling High School, which incidentally is also the alma mater of Tan Sri Dr Koh. In pursuit of academic excellence, Dato' Dr Lim continued his tertiary studies abroad in the United States. His determination and hard work paid off and he obtained a PhD degree in Immunology from the University of Oklahoma.

Upon completion of his doctoral studies, he worked for two years at the Mission Hill Memorial Hospital in Shawnee, Oklahoma. He subsequently joined the teaching staff at Purdue University in Lafayette, Indiana, sharing his knowledge and expertise in the field of immunology, besides undertaking research in nutritional immunology.

He then moved on from Purdue University to embrace new challenges, joining the US Army Medical Research Unit as a research officer. Through his attachment with the Unit, he became stationed until 1989 at the Institute for Medical Research, or IMR, in Kuala Lumpur, which is the biomedical research arm of the Malaysian Ministry of Health.

Politics entered his veins and he engaged himself more actively in the local political scene by joining Gerakan in 1983. At that time, the party president was the late Tun Dr Lim Keng Yaik who later headed the founding of Wawasan Open University and became our second Chancellor, as was mentioned by Tan Sri Dr Koh just now. Dato' Dr Lim has continued to faithfully serve the party at the national level, being a central committee member since 1987 and currently the Chairman of the Party's Immovable Property Committee.

Dato' Dr Lim was the Bukit Gasing state assemblyman for two terms from 1999 to 2008, and served in the Selangor State Executive Council, in charge of the Health, Tourism and Consumer Affairs portfolio, from 2004 to 2008. He also rendered services to the community as a Petaling Jaya Municipal Councillor for six years from 1998 to 2004, and before that, as a Petaling District councillor for four years from 1988 to 1992.

He was appointed as a Justice of Peace (JP) by the Sultan of Selangor in the year 2000 and has been serving in the JP Council since 2014.

Education has been Dato' Dr Lim's strong interest and concern. Since 1993, he has been on the Executive Board of Directors for Heng Ee Primary and Secondary Schools in Penang. He has also been the Patron to Universiti Malaya's Fifth Residential College "Kebatih" Orphanage Programme, where orphans from various states throughout the country were invited to spend a week in Universiti Malaya so that the orphans could experience university life, as an encouragement and motivation to them to excel in their respective studies. Subsequently, he continues to be the Patron for Universiti Malaya's Fifth Residential College "National Blood Donation Campaign," which assists blood banks in the various states to overcome the blood shortage problem and to encourage young people to donate blood.

Dato' Dr Lim continues to use his expertise for the greater good through his active involvement with several NGOs. As Chairman of Friends of Bukit Gasing (FOBG), he champions the rehabilitation of the Bukit Gasing Educational Forest and the gazetting of the Bukit Gasing hill to protect urban green lungs in Selangor.

He is the Charter President of the Rotary Club of Cheras, the first bilingual Mandarin speaking Rotary Club in Malaysia.

Dato' Dr Lim has published numerous research papers in international medical and scientific journals. He was a member of the following academic and honour professional bodies: Sigma XI (International Scientific Research Society); University of Oklahoma Omega Chapter Phi Sigma; American Society for Microbiology; Medical Mycological Society of the Americas; Oklahoma Academy of Science; New York Academy of Science; and Malaysian Society of Parasitology and Tropical Medicine.

He was conferred the Ahli Mahkota Selangor (AMS) award by the Sultan of Selangor in 1990, and the Dato'-Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah (DSIS) award in 2003.

On a lighter note, Dato' Dr Lim likes playing golf, and is into reading, travelling and information technology. They occupy his leisure time, that is when he is not too busy overseeing work as the Managing Director of a holdings company in Kuala Lumpur, with investments in Malaysia and Thailand.

I want to extend the heartfelt appreciation from the entire WOU community, the University's Board of Governors, Senate, staff and students, and look forward to a long association with him.

**Tunku Chancellor, it is our honour and pleasure to now invite Tunku Chancellor to proclaim Dato' Dr Lim Thuang Seng as Pro-Chancellor of Wawasan Open University.**

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