

FACULTY PROFILE: PROFESSOR LIEW KONG YONG,

Physical Chemist

Liew Kong Yong was born and raised in a small town in Perak in 1946. He received his early education in a Chinese medium school, went on to the big city of Ipoh to finish high school and then to Universiti Malaya to obtain his B.Sc. in mathematics and chemistry. After being a teacher for a year immediately after that, he then embarked on a research career beginning in Queen's University of Belfast in Northern Ireland, obtaining a Ph.D. in physical chemistry in 1973. He then joined Universiti Sains Malaysia as a lecturer, became a senior lecturer, associate professor and professor until the ripe old retirement age. After that he worked as a consultant to an electrochromic and liquid crystal display manufacturer in Penang for two years helping to develop their research and development laboratory. When offered a position as a professor on special appointment by South Central University for Nationalities in China in 2004, he decided that as a university professor is more his cup of tea and left Malaysia. He then returned to Malaysia as a professor in Universiti Malaysia Pahang two years ago as he thinks Malaysia being his home is forever greener.



Professor Liew loves and enjoys his works as a university professor and derives great pleasure in research and teaching, learning and exploring new frontiers. Moreover, being a Malaysian professor also has advantages such as visiting different places attending conferences, meeting and doing exciting research in engaging in meaningful discussions with fellow scientists of like minds, working in their laboratories as well as in the company of young developing scientists and students,

guiding and advising them on their future career. He worked as a research scholar, a teacher and visiting professor in a number of universities and research institutions around the world including USA, Canada, Australia, UK and China. Professor Liew works as a physical chemist, beginning on the redox properties of oxide catalysts, went on to work on the physical properties of liquids, surface properties of solids, and the applications of surfaces in oils and fats as well as on wastewater treatments. He has diverse research interest and more recently is working on the synthesis of nanomaterials, nano-composites and their applications as catalysts for fuel production. Professor Liew published extensively in scientific journals, wrote a number of undergraduate texts as well as school textbooks. He has supervised and graduated a large numbers of M.Sc. and Ph.D. students.