



“Gh. Asachi” Technical University of Iasi, Romania

Event

DOCTOR HONORIS CAUSA TITLE AWARDED TO PROFESSOR YUSUF CHISTI FROM THE INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AND ENGINEERING, MASSEY UNIVERSITY, NEW ZEALAND



On 23 September 2006 the Senate of the “Gh. Asachi” University of Iasi, Romania, in its open celebratory session, was privileged to award the honorary title of *Doctor Honoris Causa* to **Prof.dr.eng. Yusuf Chisti**. The proposal for the *Doctor Honoris Causa* award was initiated by the Department of Environmental Engineering and Management - Faculty of Chemical Engineering and Environmental Protection based on the existing

cooperation with Professor Chisti and for his leadership in many aspects of biochemical and chemical engineering. The ceremony took place in the Senate Hall of the Technical University of Iasi in the presence of distinguished guests, staff members of the International Institute for Industrial Environmental Economics (IIIEE) at Lund University, Delft University of Technology, University Claude Bernard Lyon 1 France, Technical University of Denmark, Lingby, Technical University of Iasi, Politehnica University of Bucharest, Al. I. Cuza University of Iasi, researchers, Ph.D and M.Sc. students from the same universities.

Yusuf Chisti is Professor of Biochemical Engineering at the Institute of Technology and Engineering, Massey University, New Zealand. His previous appointments were with the University of Almería, Spain; ChembioMed Ltd, Edmonton, Canada; the University of Waterloo, Canada; and The Polytechnic, Ibadan, Nigeria. He is a Chartered Engineer, CEng, and Fellow of the Institution of Chemical Engineers (FIChemE), UK.



His each step was driven by aspiration – *I wanted to get into something ‘hot’.*

Prof. Chisti holds a BSc (Chemistry) degree from University of Jos, Nigeria, a MSc (Biochemical Engineering) degree from the University of London, England, a PhD in Chemical Engineering from the University of Waterloo, Canada.

Professor Chisti spent nearly three years in the Canadian biotechnology industry where he used animal cells to make biopharmaceutical proteins. He continues to work closely with colleagues in Spain and Canada, and makes frequent visits to both countries to catch up with research projects that he is still involved.

His work addresses many aspects of biochemical and chemical engineering, applied biotechnology, and environmental technology. Prof. Chisti is one of the most visible and renowned researchers in this field and is considered as the lead researcher at Massey. His research areas also include bioreactor design, downstream bioseparations, microbial fermentations, enzyme technology, animal cell culture, bioremediation and bioconversion of wastes, and transport phenomena.



Based on its research and educational merits, Yusuf Chisti has been invited as visiting professor by the following universities:

- Department of Chemical Engineering, Kasetsart University, Bangkok, Thailand.

- Faculty of Pharmacy, Chiang Mai University, Thailand.
- Department of Chemical Engineering, University of Almeria, Spain.
- Department of Chemical Engineering, University of Waterloo.



Also, he acted as a Supervisor within the Biological Production Department, CHEMBIOMED Ltd, Edmonton. Designed, where he procured and commissioned a \$ 1.9M monoclonal antibody plant to cGMP requirements.

He was the 2004-2005 New Zealand National Representative on the International Organization for Biotechnology and Bioengineering.

Prof. Chisti is a member of several professional and academic bodies including:

- Institution of Chemical Engineers, UK (Fellow, FICHEM; 03/04–).
- American Institute of Chemical Engineers (Member; 10/90–).
- Society of Chemical Industry, UK (Member; 03/81–).
- American Chemical Society (Member; 10/98–12/01).
- New York Academy of Sciences, USA (Member; 12/92–12/96).
- National Geographic Society (Member, 01/96–).
- University of London Convocation, UK (Member; 81–).
- Asian Institute of NanoBioScience and Technology, Korea (Member; 01/03–).



Prof Chisti has over 200 publications including one book, 100 refereed journal papers, 21 book chapters, and 83 shorter communications. In addition, Professor Chisti has lectured at nearly 140 conferences worldwide. His work addresses many aspects of biochemical and chemical engineering, applied biotechnology, and environmental technology. He is also editor or editorial board member of some prestigious publications:

Associate Editor (01/92–98), **Editor** (01/99–) of the international journal *Biotechnology Advances* published by Elsevier Science, New York.

Associate Editor and Editorial Advisory Board Member (1999), *Encyclopedia of Bioprocess Technology: Fermentation, Biocatalysis, and Bioseparation*, Flickinger, M. C. and Drew, S. W., editors, John Wiley, New York, 1999.

Editorial Board Member (2005–), *Journal of Applied Phycology* published by Springer, Berlin, Germany.

Editorial Board Member (2003–), *Biotechnology Letters* published by Springer, Berlin, Germany.

Editorial Board Member (1997–), *Journal of Biotechnology* published by Elsevier Science BV, Amsterdam.

Editorial Board Member (2002–), *Environmental Engineering and Management* published by the Technical University of Iasi, Romania.

Guest Editorial Board Member (1994), *Resources, Conservation and Recycling*, **11**, 1–339. Special Issue: *Environmental Biotechnology in Waste Treatment and Recycling*.

Editorial Board Member (1994–97), the *Indian Chemical Engineer* published by the Indian Institute of Chemical Engineers.

Editorial Board Member (1994), *Bioproducts Processing: Technologies for the Tropics*, Institution of Chemical Engineers, Rugby, pp. 246.

Professor Chisti's expertise as a **consultant** is highly sought in the global biotechnology industry and he has assisted organizations in Australia, Canada, Cuba, Iran, Malaysia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, Spain, Switzerland and Thailand. Professor Chisti has provided consultancy services to organizations worldwide, including the following:

- United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), Consulting Expert on Good Manufacturing Practices, Centro de Quimica Farmaceutica, Havana, Cuba
- Hoogovens Groep, BV, The Netherlands
- Quadro Process Inc., Canada
- INMARINT Ltd, Canada
- Apotex Fermentation Inc., Canada
- Connaught Laboratories Ltd, Canada
- DSM Deretil, Spain
- Fonterra Research Institute, New Zealand

- Anchor Ethanol, New Zealand
- AgVax Ltd, New Zealand
- Celentis Ltd, New Zealand
- LASRA, New Zealand
- Cawthron Institute, New Zealand
- Invitrogen New Zealand
- Memcor Ltd, Australia
- Hirbodan, Iran
- Vetrepharm Inc., Canada
- Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, Italy



Professor Chisti has published, or otherwise collaborated, with researchers from many academic institutions worldwide, including the following:

- University of Almeria, Spain
- University of Waterloo, Canada
- Massey University, New Zealand
- Kasetsart University, Thailand
- Ilam University, Iran
- National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research, India
- Indian Institute of Technology, New Delhi, India
- Chiang Mai University, Thailand
- University of Granada, Spain
- Murdoch University, Australia
- Gheorghe Asachi Technical University of Iasi, Romania
- Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine, United Kingdom
- ETH Zurich, Switzerland
- Centro de Quimica Farmaceutica, Cuba

Prior informal cooperation with Gheorghe Asachi Technical University, Romania, has involved the following activities: (1) coauthoring of a major internationally published papers; (2) participation on the Editorial Advisory Board of the *Environmental Engineering and Management Journal* (EEMJ) published by "Gh. Asachi" Technical University since 2002; (3) a guest editorial contribution to the EEMJ and promotion of the journal to colleagues worldwide; (4) membership of Scientific Committees of several international conferences held at the Technical University of Iasi since 2002. This collaboration has focused on environmental engineering, sustainability issues and industrial biotechnology.



Professor's Chisti career is remarkable by the link he always made between theory and practical applications, between science and technology. In parallel with Professor Chisti scientific profile and educational contributions to chemical and biological engineering and sustainable development, his

modesty and opening towards co-operation are remarkable for all the people that meet him.

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