

 Recent Achievements and Events

Building Student Wins Top International Award

*Edwin Chong*

The dissertation of a student from the NUS Department of Building, bagged the first prize in the coveted Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB) 2002 Undergraduate Dissertation Competition. Mr Edwin Chong Chee Wai's dissertation titled "**Models for Predicting the Performance of Design and Build Projects**" won him a Commemorative Medal and a cash prize of 500 sterling pounds. The first runner-up in the competition was from Loughborough University .

Mr Chong will present his dissertation and receive his prize at the CIOB Innovation Awards Presentation in London on 9 April 2003 . His travelling expenses will be sponsored by CIOB.

Mr Chong, who graduated with a first-class honours degree, is currently working in Davis Langdon & Seah Singapore Pte Ltd, the largest quantity surveying practice in Singapore . Winning the UK competition is yet another feather in his cap. He was the recipient of the Singapore Institute of Building Gold Medal (2001-2002).

"My initial reaction to the news was of disbelief although I am delighted to have been awarded the first prize in the CIOB Dissertation competition. I would like to thank Dr Florence Ling whose close supervision and guidance was a major factor in shaping my dissertation" said Mr Chong.

Professor George Ofori, Head of the Department of Building, said of Mr Chong's win,

"We are very proud of Edwin. The CIOB Dissertation Award is keenly contested as some of the submissions are from very good universities in the UK and overseas. Edwin's success is another indication of the high standards we attain in the work we do in this Department. We wish him well in his career, and hope more of our future graduates will win the

CIOB Dissertation Award.”

CIOB

CIOB, which is over 170 years old and based in UK , is the leading professional body worldwide for managers in construction. It aims to establish, promote and maintain standards of excellence in the construction industry. In recent years, it has set the pace globally for the education and professionalism of those who manage the construction of the built environment. It currently has about 40,000 members working in over 90 countries.

CIOB accreditates undergraduate programmes offered by 35 universities in the UK including University College London, University of Liverpool, University of Manchester Institute of Technology and University of Reading. It also accreditates programmes offered by universities overseas including Australia , Canada , Hong Kong , Ireland , Malaysia , South Africa and the United States .

The Competition

The annual Dissertation Competition is open to final-year students on all CIOB accredited programmes. The universities are invited to nominate their entries and submit copies of the dissertations. The student must demonstrate awareness of innovation and research in construction. The dissertation must show a high level of academic attainment, critical analysis, and use of primary and secondary information.

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