

In Memory of Professor Jack Chao-sheng Lee (1941-2007)

Prepared by the Institute of Statistics
National Chiao Tung University

Professor Chao-sheng Lee can be described as one of the most outstanding people in Taiwan's present statistical community. His 40-year career of teaching and research has resulted in nearly a hundred academic papers in well known international periodicals. The National Chiao Tung University (NCTU) Graduate Institute of Statistics, where Prof. Lee established himself when he returned from the USA, has become a cornerstone for the development of Taiwan's growing statistical academic circles. The NCTU Graduate Institute of Finance, which Prof. Lee helped establish, has provided Taiwan's financial sector with the talent needed for growth and innovation.

Professor Lee graduated from National Taiwan University's department of Business in 1964 and then received his Masters in Economics from the University of Rochester in 1969. He studied under Professor Seymour Geisser at SUNY-Buffalo and received his Ph.D. in Statistics in 1972. Upon completing his education, he began his teaching career at the University of Minnesota and then taught at Wright State University as well as other universities for many years. He then went to Bell Labs and devoted himself to research in Economics and Statistics.

In 1992, Professor Lee was invited by Mr. Chi-Fu Den, the President of NCTU and Mr. Tsang-Hai Kuo, the Dean of the College of Science, to return to Taiwan and take up the post of Chair of the newly established Institute of Statistics. Until stepping down from this post in 1999, he persuaded many top statistical researchers who had graduated from well-known schools to return to Taiwan and teach. He also encouraged the now-common practice of research and acquiring software as well as hardware. His efforts enabled the Institute of Statistics at NCTU to quickly rise to the level of other well established Institutes of Statistics, namely those of National Tsing-Hua University and National Central University.

In August 1995, Professor Lee received the ASA Fellow honor from the American Statistical Association. He was the first academic in Taiwan to receive this honor. Professor Lee had already been selected as a member of the International Statistic Institute in 1990 and elected as the President of the International Chinese Statistical Association in 1992. He was invited on multiple occasions to make speeches around the world in many renowned schools including Harvard,



Columbia, Cornell, University of Minnesota in the USA, Oxford and University of London in England, Hitotsubashi University and Kobe University in Japan, University of British Columbia in Canada, and INSEAD in France, just to name a few.

In order to adapt to the trend of global financial development, Professor Lee participated in the establishment of the Institute of Finance at NCTU in 2002 and took on the responsibility of head of the institute for two years. During his tenure in charge, he was elected as the University Chair Professor of NCTU, in recognition of his dedication and accomplishments as well as his reputation within academic circles.

Professor Lee had published many papers, and his research subjects included many fields in Statistics, including Multivariate Analysis, Time Series Analysis, Growth Curves, Bayesian Inference and Classification and Pattern Recognition. He also published in other areas such as Portfolio Management and Option Evaluation, with particular application to Finance.

Professor Lee conducted his academic studies conscientiously. Since his return to Taiwan, he has supervised numerous exceptional Masters and Ph.D. graduates. He has four Ph.D. graduates who are currently teaching in well known universities and colleges. His Masters graduates have also held pivotal positions in numerous areas of business and academia. His pupils owe much to him, and have the capability to build on his success and to further glorify what Professor Lee has started.

Throughout his life, Professor Lee lived plainly and simply, and his passion for learning never diminished. He, now and always, will be a great role model for

scholars to admire and learn from.

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